



Laval Junior Academy
Governing Board Minutes
Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Present: Jimmy Abraham, Pino Alberga, Theresa Andrusko, Alexandra Antonopoulos, Pol Christodoulakis, Valerio Gazzola, Kellie George-Bernard, Evan Goudis, Maria Katiforis, Effie Kontakos, Nathalie Potier, Maria Tsakris and Laura Wittebol
Community Representative: Helen Morrison

Principal: Eric Ruggi (Interim) Vice-Principals: Charles Chagnon and Sunday Skoufaras

Regrets: Betty Aliftiras and Dominic Di Stefano

0. Opening of the meeting / Quorum: The meeting was called to order by Jimmy Abraham at 7:02 pm. Quorum was met. The meeting will be recorded.

1.0 Adoption of Agenda: There were two additions – 4.6 Treasurer’s Report and 5.7 New PED Day.

LJA-GB090221-01: Alexandra Antonopoulos motioned to approve the agenda, Maria Katiforis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

2.0 Adoption of Minutes of January 12, 2021: No amendments.

LJA- GB090221-02: Kellie George-Bernard motioned to adopt the Minutes of January 12, 2021, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

3.0 Business Arising:

3.1 Parking Lot and Parental Drop Off Area: The new changes to the drive-through and parental drop off areas were implemented which represent phase 1 of the changes. Phase two will include signage, lines and a more visual crosswalk. Overall, it is working well. The feedback from parents is positive. It is working well in the morning – the time which raised the most safety concerns. Monitoring the afternoon to improve and find the best solution. Parents need to be reminded not to park and wait in the staff’s parking lot.

3.2 E-votes since the last GB Meeting: None.

4.0 Reports:

4.1 Principal:

- Jan. 13 – Management meeting
- Jan. 18 – Return to in school classes, new sanitary and safety measures
- Jan. 28 – Dress Down Day for Home & School
- Jan. 29 – PED day, Professional development for teachers regarding online teaching, Report cards available on Mozaik, RAC meeting
- Feb. 1 – Virtual school visit with Director General, Gaëlle Absolonne, LJA Honour Roll coins distributed, staff appreciation coins distributed
- Feb. 2 – Home & School Staff Appreciation lunch, Malfunction in ventilation system
- Feb. 3-5 – School closed to students due to ventilation system repairs, online classes
- I thank all the staff for the turnaround those 3 days to deliver the online classes. It’s a testament to their resilience and adaptability. The decision to close the school occurred after dismissal time on February 2nd.
- Feb. 3 – Staff meeting, HS Principals meeting



- Feb. 5 – Conseil d’administration Sports Laval, meeting with Human Resources department for 2021-22 planning, staff meeting
- Feb. 8 – PED day
- Feb. 9 – Student assembly, Teacher Council meeting, Governing Board meeting
- Sec. 1 parents will receive the course selection registration which confirms what courses students are registered for the next school year.
- Re-registration is complete and registration is on-going. There has been an interest for students to attend LJA from outside of Laval. New partnership with Sports-Étude attracting students. All promising.
- Teachers will start doing remediation. It’s expected and required to address the needs of the students at risk during this pandemic. Teachers will recommend students for remediation. A schedule will be sent to parents and posted at the school.

4.2 Chairperson: Nothing to report.

4.3 Parents’ Committee: Report given by Evan Goudis.

- Attended the meeting on February 4th as did Effie being the Alternate Delegate.
- The School Calendar for 2021-22 was presented by Ms Krenn and the guidelines reviewed. There is coordination between school boards and also transportation.
- The Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan was discussed. More specifically, the elements required to create one and the Our School Survey that supplies the data that helps the plan their goals.
- The Director General’s report highlighted the pilot project where COVID testing kits were sent to Hillcrest and St. Paul.
- COVID low risk letters will be sent once a week by the school and COVID close contact letters will be sent with every occurrence.
- Upcoming Parent Workshops – Anxiety on February 9, Occupational Therapy on February 17 and Strategies & Activities to Support Language Development March 9.
- New portal for parents was launched.
- Budget Building Survey officially deposited.
- Next meeting is on March 11th, 2020.

4.4 Home and School Committee: Report given by Effie Kontakos.

- FlipGive - Patty prepared a memo to send to parents to remind and promote it. It’s ongoing.
- The Be U Dress Down Day on January 28th was a success. It raised \$1154. Thank you to the students that participated.
- Staff Appreciation Lunch – We sincerely hope the staff enjoyed the free lunch on February 2nd to show our (Home & School’s) appreciation for everything they all do. The lunch was provided by Chef Panda Catering and was either chicken brochette or chicken penne with rosé sauce.
- Adopt a Tree – We have had 26 adoptions (\$650) and minus expenses, the balance is \$580 to be shared with the Green Club.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23rd at 7pm via Zoom.

4.5 Student Council: No Student Council.

4.6 Treasurer’s Report: The Governing Board Budget for the year is \$1113. To date, the expenses have been \$220 for the secretary stipend, of which \$165 has been paid out.



5.0 New Business

5.1 After School Tutoring Program: Will launch the registration for the spring session of the After School Tutoring Program on February 10th. Parents will have 10 days to sign up. Teachers are informed and they will recommend it to parents to inform them of the service available. Resources are limited. It will prioritize the students in need / at risk. The first priority will be for students whose first term grade is below 65% and the second priority will be for students whose first term grade is below 70%. The program will run for 3 months March 8th – June 11th. The tutoring will be provided for any of the five major subjects – English, French, Math, Science and Social Studies. In the process of confirming the participation of the tutors. Had 25 tutors in the fall session and many would like to return for the spring session.

5.2 Study Skills and Breathe Program:

Study Skills training – Classes most in need will receive a training (two class periods) to help students be better organized and prioritize so they can be more successful. This has been effective in the past. Will try to provide this for all classes. The target will be the Sec. 1 students since they are returning next year.

Breathe Program – In the spring, students will learn strategies to help with anxiety and stress management. Are confident that this can be introduced to all students in March and April. It will be available for the staff as well.

5.3 2021-2022 Student Agenda: Teachers and the Teacher Council were surveyed if they use the student agenda and if they would like to maintain it for the next school year. The majority of the staff would like to keep the student agenda. The purpose of the survey was to ensure that the student agenda was being used to its full extent and have the greatest benefit for the students.

5.4 Field Trips and ECAs:

5.4.1 Montreal Mural Walk – Art Concentration: A Montreal Mural Walk May 5, 2021 Art Concentration field trip is proposed for the Art Concentration students. It is a 2-hour guided tour. This walk is organized in conjunction museums in Montreal. Students can only participate within their class bubbles and must be separate from other classes, meaning no classes will be combined. All COVID safety protocol will be respected. The cost is included in the concentration fees. Field trips will be possible in a very controlled and restricted setting and by bubble.

LJA- GB090221-03: Maria Tsakris motioned to approve the Montreal Mural Walk Field Trip on May 5, 2021, for the Art Concentration classes, with the stipulation that all safety and COVID protocols are followed (physical distancing and class bubbles respected) and is approved by the school board, Pol Christodoulakis seconded, unanimous.

Motion carried

5.5 Fundraisers: A possible upcoming fundraiser in the spring could be TCBY to sell at lunch. Home & School has a credit with TCBY. It will be discussed at the next H&S meeting in February and presented at the next Governing Board meeting.

5.6 Rentals: None.

5.7 New PED day: The MEES had announced all schools could benefit from 3 PED days to be used for professional development. The first PED day added was January 29, 2021. The second PED day is proposed for March 19, 2021. The third will be determined at a later date.

LJA- GB090221-04: Alexandra Antonopoulos motioned to approve the PED day for March 19, 2021, Maria Tsakris seconded, unanimous.

Motion carried

6.0 Question Period for the Public: None.



7.0 Confirmation of Date/Time of the Next GB Meetings:

Next meeting is scheduled on March 16, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

8.0 Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

LJA- GB090221-05: Pol Christodoulakis motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm, Evan Goudis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

Jimmy Abraham
Chairperson

Effie Kontakos
Effie Kontakos
Secretary