



Laval Junior Academy
Governing Board Minutes
Tuesday, November 17, 2020

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

Principal: Eric Ruggi (Interim) Vice-Principal: Sunday Skoufaras

Regrets: Theresa Andrusko, Angie Lucia (Substitute member)

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

1.0 Adoption of Agenda: There was an addition made 5.6 2019-2020 School Budget Final Report.

LJA-GB171120-01: Alexandra Antonopoulos motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, Maria Tsakris seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

2.0 Adoption of Minutes of October 7, 2020: No amendments were made.

LJA-GB171120-02: Pino Alberga motioned to adopt the Minutes of October 7, 2020, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

3.0 Business Arising:

3.1 Parking Lot and Drop Off Area: Parents expressed their concern about the safety of the parking lot and drop off areas at the last GB meeting. Since our last meeting, Mr. Robinson from the Transportation department visited LJA three times to observe the proceedings in the south side for the morning drop off and parking lot area and in the afternoon for pick up and parking lot area. In both the morning and afternoon, there is room for improvement for safety. The pick-up and drop off areas will be redesigned to be safer. Essentially, the redesign is about narrowing the drop off areas to make it safer. There will also be a crosswalk, speed bumps and large concrete blocks will be installed, directional arrows placed. Once the design is finalized, it will be submitted to Material Resources for approval.

3.2 E-votes since the last GB Meeting:

3.2.1 E-vote November 5, 2020 – Fundraiser Bake Sale: Two students requested to have a bake sale to raise funds for a humanitarian cause, to help Armenia preserve their homeland, Artsakh. Basically, the girls would sell store bought goods, all school safe and individually prepacked. All proceeds would be donated to C.A.M.A.M, Centre Assistance Mondiale Armenien de Montreal.

LJA-GB051120-EV01: Theresa Andrusko motioned to approve a bake sale with the proceeds going to C.A.M.A.M, Centre Assistance Mondiale Armenien de Montreal. Maria Tsakris seconded, 14 votes in favour and 1 abstention. Motion carried

3.3 Review and Adoption of Internal Rules of Procedure: The updated Internal Rules had been emailed to all the members for review. In the composition of the members, the non-voting members will be specified. Student Council Representatives are not taken into account for quorum.

LJA-GB171120-03: Laura Wittebol motioned to approve the LJA Internal Rules of Procedure for 2020-2021, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

3.4 Community Representative – Special Needs: The position is still open.



3.5 GB Subcommittee on Sustainability Practices at LJA: No updates to report. COVID restrictions and measures have been the focus. The main accomplishment last year was with the cafeteria recycling and combustible materials. No change there.

3.6 GB Subcommittee on Cell Phone Policy: Tabled. Status quo for the policy. Students can only use their cell phone outside during the second half of lunch. If cell phone is used when it's prohibited, for the first and second offence, it is confiscated and returned at the end of the day. For the third offence, it is confiscated and the parent must pick it up from school.

4.0 Reports:

4.1 Principal:

- Oct. 7 – Governing Board meeting
- Oct. 15 – Announcement of Special Education Renovation Project
- Oct. 16 – PED day
- Oct. 19-26 – Tree Planting Project, 162 trees planted on school grounds
- Oct. 20 – Home and School meeting
- Oct. 22 – Delivery of LJA gear to students
- Oct. 23 – Participated in the SWLSB Resource Allocation Committee
- Oct. 26-Nov. 9 – Terry Fox Fundraiser \$3,125 raised by LJA
- Oct. 27 – School visit by the Director General, Sports Laval Annual Assembly
- Oct. 28-Nov. 9 – Our School Survey completed by students
- Oct. 29 – Halloween at LJA
- Oct. 30 – PED day
- Nov. 2 – Teacher Council meeting
- Nov. 6 – Extended lunch and LJA letters on the field
- Nov. 9 – PED day, staff meeting, Home and School meeting
- Nov. 11 – Online Remembrance Day Assembly & Ceremony
- Nov. 16 – Resource Allocation Committee sub-committee meeting
- Nov. 17 – Governing Board meeting
- It's important to note that LJA has had only 7 COVID cases amongst the students.
- Term 1 will account for 50% and Term 2 will also account for 50%.
- Offer a free tutoring service. Have 30 tutors - some are staff. Hope this will be beneficial for all students.

Upcoming

- Nov. 20 – Terry Fox Presentation, Progress Reports Cards ready on Mosaik
- Nov. 23 – Start of Virtual Scholastic Book Fair, Start of Agape Food Drive
- Nov. 25 – Parent-Teacher Interviews by appointment via Zoom
- Dec. 1 – Teacher Council meeting
- Dec. 11 – End of Agape Food Drive

4.2 Chairperson: No report.

4.3 Parents' Committee: Report given by Evan Goudis.

- Attended the meeting on November 5th.
- Integral part of the meeting was COVID procedures and explaining school closures.
- January 10, 2021 Embracing Diversity free conference.
- February 23, 2021 GB workshop on Budget and Financing
- Adam Gordon was unable to attend tonight's meeting.
- Can forward the Parents' Committee package to members interested.



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

- At our first meeting in October, we formed our committee and elected the Executive Committee.
- I would like to name the wonderful parents that have joined the Home & School Committee: Effie Kontakos, President, Jennifer Subaihi (Vice-President), Stella Yannoulakis (Treasurer), Isabelle Duguay (Vice-Treasurer), Alexandra Antonopoulos (Secretary), Laura Wittebol (Membership), Patty Marinelli (member), Rima Hanna (member) and Maria Pastis (member).
At our second meeting on November 9, we selected fundraising activities – Adopt a Tree, FlipGive and a Dress Down Day in January – and would like to get Governing Board approval to move forward. All funds raised will be used to benefit students and/or student activities.
- Adopt a Tree – The LJA Home & School Committee, in collaboration with the LJA Green Club, would like to offer the parent community the opportunity to adopt a tree for \$25 for an entire school year. We have 162 newly planted trees that are waiting to be adopted. Each adopted tree will bear the name of the person who adopted the tree or the name chosen in memory or honour of someone. A certificate will be issued with each adoption along with a map to indicate the location of the tree.
- FlipGive – It's an online fundraiser similar to Rakuten & Ebates. We would sign up and create a LJA H&S Team. We will then have a team account number that would be shared with parent population. Parents who wish to support us will download the app and become part of our team (using the code we sent them). Every time they purchase something online, a small percentage is given back to our team. Some of the retailers include Amazon, Indigo (and many more). Kickback also on grocery and gas purchases. We get a cheque or electronic transfer when we are ready to cash in. We can see who is participating in the fundraising effort. We would carry it out until June.
- Dress Down Day – would like to have one in January for 1\$ or \$2.

LJA-GB171120-04: Alexandra Antonopoulos motioned to approve the three Home & School fundraisers – Adopt a Tree, FlipGive and a January Dress Down Day, Pol Christodoulakis, unanimous. Motion carried

- Would like to thank Sunday Skoufaras and Eric Ruggi for their support of Home & School. Their presence and participation is very appreciated.
- Will send the Judicial Forms for parents on the committee to complete and submit.
- Membership is \$20 for the school year for parents. All parents are welcome to attend our meetings.
- H&S email is ljahomeandschool@gmail.com.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7th at 7pm via Zoom

4.5 Student Council: No Student Council.

5.0 New Business:

5.1 Basketball Sport-Études: The Basketball Sport-Études will bring a new opportunity / offer of service. The goal is to offer this program to Laval students & students from other regions. BSE agency applied for the mandate to develop the Basketball Sport-Études. They will develop a training center 10 minutes from LJA (have taken over the Sportium location in Center Laval). This will not affect the Basketball Concentration program students.

LJA-GB171120-05: Betty Aliftiras motioned to approve the Basketball Sport-Études program at Laval Junior Academy, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

Motion to extend the meeting:

At 9:00 pm, a motion was needed to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes past 9pm.

LJA-GB171120-06: Pino Alberga motioned to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes, Domenic Di Stefano seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

5.2 Selection of Meeting Dates for Governing Board: The meetings will be scheduled every second Tuesday of each month. The dates selected - December 8, January 12, February 9, March 16, April 13, May 11 & June 15.



LJA-GB171120-07: Maria Tsakris motioned to approve the selected dates for the LJA Governing Board meetings on December 8, January 12, February 9, March 16, April 13, May 11 and June 15, Betty Aliftiras seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

5.3 Field Trips and ECAs: No field trips and no extra-curricular activities are scheduled at this time.

5.4 Fundraisers: The Terry Fox fundraiser was a success. LJA raised \$3,125 surpassing the goal of \$2500. Domenic Di Stefano would like to thank the parents, staff and community at large for their support in this great initiative.



November 6, 2020 at Laval Junior Academy

December fundraising activities: Would like to have a Dress Down Day for Agape in December and start a food drive in November to end on December 11.

LJA-GB171120-08: Effie Kontakos motioned to approve the Agape Food Drive and a Dress Down Day in December for Agape, Pol Christodoulakis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

5.5 Rentals: No rentals given that we are in the red zone.

5.6 2019 – 2020 School Budget Final Report: The final report for the 2020-2021 School Budget was presented and reviewed.

Motion to extend the meeting:

At 9:15 pm, a motion was needed to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes.

LJA-GB171120-09: Pol Christodoulakis motioned to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

6.0 Question Period for the Public: None.

7.0 Confirmation of Date/Time of the Next GB Meeting: Next meeting is on December 8 at 7pm via Zoom.

8.0 Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 pm.

LJA-GB171120-10: Kellie George-Bernard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm, Maria Katiforis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

Jimmy Abraham
Chairperson

Effie Kontakos
Effie Kontakos
Secretary