



**Laval Junior Academy  
Governing Board Minutes  
Tuesday, April 14, 2026**

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**Present:** Ani Desjardins, Jeffrey Drake, William Evans, Peter Ferentinos, George Foutrakis, Jenny Marlaine Gauvin, Maria Katiforis, Timothy Lyons, Shaun McMahon, Anthony Ortona, Laura Orzea, Maxim Pozdirca, Irene Tsouflikis, and Marianne Kassabian (Community Representative)

Principal: Eric Ruggi

Vice-Principal: Leslie Aggrey-Fynn

Secretary: Effie Kontakos

**Regrets:** Betty Alifiras, Michael Rice, and Peter Papageorgiou

**Guests:** Amit Arora

**0. Welcome / Verification of Quorum / Acknowledgement of the Land:** The meeting was called to order by Peter Ferentinos at 6:33 pm. Quorum was verified and met. The acknowledgement of the land was read in English by William Evans.

“I would like to honour the existence of the First Peoples by acknowledging that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board is on the traditional land of the Kanien’keha:ka or Mohawk Nation. The Mohawk Nation is also known as the ‘Eastern Door Keepers’ and are a member of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, which also includes the Seneca, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Onondaga, and Oneida Peoples. In the spirit of truth, reconciliation, and partnership, we honour our relationship with the Indigenous Community and respect the history, culture, and language of Canada’s original peoples.”

**1.0 Adoption of Agenda:** There was one addition.

*LJA-GB140426-01: George Foutrakis motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to adopt the agenda, with the addition, Maxim Pozdirca seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**2.0 Adoption of Minutes of March 10, 2026:** The Minutes had been emailed to the members and distributed at the meeting. No amendments.

*LJA-GB140426-02: Laura Orzea motioned for the LJA Governing Board to adopt the LJA Governing Board Minutes of March 10, 2026, Ani Desjardins seconded, 11 in favour and 2 abstentions. Motion carried*

**3.0 Business Arising**

**3.1 Science Center Field Trip:** The Science Center field trip scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup> was rescheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>. It conflicted with the Cabane à Sucre field trip.

**4.0 Reports:**

**4.1 Principal:**

- March 10 – Sec. 1 Science Concentration field trip to Armand-Frappier Museum, Teacher Council meeting, Governing Board meeting
- March 11 – Snow Day – School closed (May 8 will be a regular school day 4 in cycle)
- March 13 – Installation of 10 additional cameras
- March 16 to 18 - Dental screening for Secondary 2 students
- March 17 – Practice Lockdown, Home & School meeting



- March 18 & 19 – French Enriched Placement Evaluations, LJA Coin distribution
- March 19 – LR2 students visit LSA
- March 24 – Management meeting
- March 25 – Special Needs Committee meeting
- March 26 – Sport-Études assembly with Alouettes player, Place des Arts field trip for some French classes
- March 27 – Dress Down Day for Pink in the City Foundation (\$700 for Breast Cancer Research)
- March 30 – Volleyball Sport-Études parents meeting, Staffing meeting for 2026-2027
- April 6 – Shakespeare presentation for both grades in auditorium
- April 7 – Teacher Council meeting
- April 8 – Hockey Sport-Études meeting with parents
- April 14 – Governing Board meeting

#### Upcoming

- April 15 – Cabane à Sucre field trip
- April 17 – PED Day
- April 18 – Cheerleading competition in Drummondville
- April 20 – Dental sealants for Secondary 2 students
- April 23 – Maison des Arts field trip (Charron), Pink in the City Mega Bake Sale
- April 24 – Dress Down Day (Student Council), Science Concentration field trip to Montreal Science Center
- April 27 – PED Day, tryouts for Blue & Gold Hockey 2026-2027
- April 28 – Teacher Council meeting, Maison des Arts de Laval field trip, Sec. 1 Assembly with Paul Watson (environmentalist)
- May 5 – Governing Board meeting

#### **4.2 Chairperson:** Report given by Peter Ferentinos.

- No correspondence. Nothing to report.

#### **4.3 Parents' Committee:** Report given by Laura Orzea.

- The PC meeting was held on March 12<sup>th</sup>, and the April meeting was cancelled.
- James Di Sano gave a presentation that explained what the Council of Commissioners is, its guiding principals, its functions, and his role as Chairperson of the Council of Commissioners.
- Focus on next – major policy reform in special education and the safety and security of employees.
- Accomplishments – major reform of policy, strengthen fiscal responsibility, and adopted a balanced budget for 2025-2026.
- Task force for growth of adult services and acquired a second campus.

#### **4.4 Home and School Association:** Report given by George Foutrakis.

- Decorated the staff room for St. Patrick's Day and for Easter and the H&S Oasis room.
- H&S gave students chocolate for Easter.
- Ice cream sales were low, so H&S introduced ice cream sandwiches. Selling well.
- Was considering a car wash fundraiser for the next school year, however it is not feasible. No access to water for the hoses needed.
- Would like to organize a Tattoo staff event. Tattoos will be sold for \$2 to place on participating teachers or to sell to students on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

*LJA-GB140426-03: George Foutrakis motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Tattoo staff event, selling tattoos for \$2 on May 14, 2026, and pending approval at Teacher Council, Ani Desjardins seconded, 12 in favour and 1 abstention.*

*Motion carried*



- Are planning the return of Donut Day on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to give students Krispy Kreme donuts at lunchtime.
- May 29<sup>th</sup> will have a Be U Dress Down Day for Home & School.
- For the end-of-year party celebration on June 4<sup>th</sup>, would like to give hot dogs and chips to students. Will also be planning activities that may include a dunk tank.
- H&S would like to begin planning and preparing for a movie night, a corn roast and a Christmas or Spring Market for the next school year. We would like approval to start organizing these events that would be held after school hours.

*LJA-GB140426-04: Shaun McMahon motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the LJA Movie Night in September, as presented, Maxim Pozdirca seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

*LJA-GB140426-05: Ani Desjardins motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the corn roast for the next school year, organized by the Home & School Association, selling corn at \$2, to be held outside school hours, to bring together the community, as presented, Maxim Pozdirca seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

*LJA-GB140426-06: Jenny Marlaine Gauvin motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve organizing a Christmas or Spring Market for the next school year, outside of school hours, as presented, Shaun McMahon seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

#### **4.5 Treasurer Report:** Tabled.

### **5.0 New Business**

**5.1 Workbook 2026-2027:** Eric Ruggi presented the Workbooks for 2026-2027. The documentation had been emailed to the members for review and distributed at the meeting. All departments were consulted regarding the workbooks, and the workbooks were verified with each department. Students are billed the exact amount of the cost of the workbooks required for their courses. The price of the workbooks will be given at the next LJA GB meeting.

*LJA-GB140426-07: Anthony Ortona motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the workbooks for Laval Junior Academy for 2026 – 2027, as presented, Irene Tsoulikis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**5.2 Student Agenda Pages 26/27 – Student Code of Conduct & Procedures:** The documentation had been emailed to the members for review. The documentation was distributed at the meeting. It was discussed. The new additions to the agenda were the policies for mid-year exams and end-of-year exams.

*LJA-GB140426-08: Jeffry Drake motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the student agenda pages, the Student Code of Conduct, and the procedures for 2026 – 2027, as presented, Ani Desjardins seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**5.3 Concentration Fees 2026-2027:** Eric Ruggi presented the fees for the Concentration Programs for 2026-2027. The Concentration Fees will be approved in advance of the School Budget that will be presented at the next LJA Governing Board meeting. The Ministry may again offer \$300 per concentration program to parents to subsidize the students registering in those programs but it has not yet been confirmed. The students must attend the concentration program for the entire school year to be eligible to receive the Ministry subsidy. The breakdown of cost was reviewed as shown below. The fees for Basketball, Ice Hockey, Soccer, and Volleyball have increased an additional \$50 for each concentration. LJA subsidizes the Ice Hockey Concentration program to maintain the program affordable for parents, to prevent the programs from becoming too expensive, and thereby encouraging student registration.



Visual Arts Concentration Program	\$300	Breakdown: Sketchbook \$15 Specialty Markers \$50 Specialized Materials (clay, acrylic paint, canvas, etc.) \$85 Field Trips, Visiting Artist \$150
Basketball Concentration Program	\$350	Breakdown: Uniform \$100 Field trip & Specialized Coach \$250
Ice Hockey Concentration Program	\$900	Breakdown: Transportation \$600 & Coaching \$300
Science Concentration Program	\$300	Breakdown: Field Trips \$200 & Presentations \$100
Soccer Concentration Program	\$350	Breakdown: Field Trip \$50 Coaching \$300
Volleyball Concentration Program	\$350	Breakdown: Coaching \$250 & Uniform \$100
Football Concentration Program	\$500	Breakdown: Coaching \$300 Equipment \$50 & Transportation \$150

*LJA-GB140426-09: Irene Tsoflikis motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the fees for the Concentration Programs for 2026-2027 (Visual Arts, Basketball, Ice Hockey, Science, Soccer, Volleyball, and Football), as presented by the principal, Shaun McMahon seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

## 6.0 Field Trips

**6.1 Fillactive End-of-Year Field Trip – May 5, 2026 (Parc Maisonneuve):** The Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 girls, 15 students, with two adults will go on a Fillactive End-of-Year field trip to Maisonneuve Park. It is organized to celebrate students' dedication and hard work throughout the year in participating in Fillactive monthly activities. The objective is to encourage positive relationships with physical activity by partaking in a 5 km run/walk, to provide opportunities to participate in a variety of outdoor activities in a fun and supportive environment, and to reinforce the importance of maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle. Departure time from school is 8:45 am and return to school at 2:30 pm. The bus transportation will be covered by Agape. No cost to students will be covered by a Measure

*LJA-GB140426-10: Maxim Pozdirca motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Fillactive End-of-Year field trip on May 5, 2026, to Maisonneuve Park, as presented, William Evans seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**6.2 Volleyball Concentration at Complex Multi-Sports:** The Volleyball Concentration students will be participating in a Beach Volleyball Day Tournament at the Multi-Sports Complex in Laval on May 29, 2026. The objective is to expose volleyball students to different types of volleyball. Transportation is by school bus. There will be 3 staff with 75 students – supervision ratio 1:25. The cost of \$30 per student is covered by the concentration fees.

*LJA-GB140426-11: Maxim Pozdirca motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Beach Volleyball Tournament field trip to the Multi-Sports Complex on May 29, 2026, for the Volleyball Concentration students, as presented, Ani Desjardins seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**7.0 Fundraisers:** None.

## 8.0 Rentals

**8.1 Laval Musique:** Rental of \$1,986.19. For the use of the auditorium for a recital from April 14 to April 18, 2026, for Laval Musique.

*LJA-GB140426-12: William Evans motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the rental of \$1,986.19 to Laval Musique for the use of the auditorium for a recital from April 14 to April 18, 2026, as presented by the principal, Anthony Ortona seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**8.2 Passion Basketball Academy:** Rental of \$11,037.60. For Passion Basketball Academy for the use of the three gyms from June 29 to July 9, 2026, for a basketball summer camp.



LJA-GB140426-13: William Evans motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the rental of \$11,037.60 to Passion Basketball Academy for use of the three gyms for a basketball summer camp, from June 29 to July 9, 2026, as presented by the principal, Anthony Ortona seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

**8.3 Samuel Cappadoro:** Rental of \$11,325.04. For Samuel Cappadoro for the use of 3 gyms for volleyball, from September 18 to December 4, 2026.

LJA-GB140426-14: William Evans motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the rental of \$11,325.04 to Samuel Cappadoro for use of three gyms for volleyball from September 18 to December 4, 2026, as presented by the principal, Anthony Ortona seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

**9.0 Varia:** On days where Laval Junior Academy expects a significant amount of student absences, for LJA to take into consideration not scheduling tests or major assignments.

**10.0 Question Period for the Public:**

1. The possibility of procuring professional sessional services to support Autism awareness, particularly given that the assigned teacher has been on extended leave.
2. Exploring ways to encourage greater student participation in the science fair.
3. Identifying strategies, in collaboration with dental staff, to better communicate the benefits of dental screening and encourage student participation in follow-up sealant treatment.

**11.0 Confirmation of Date/Time of the Next GB Meeting:** The next LJA Governing Board meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2026, at 6:30 pm.

**12.0 Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

LJA-GB140426-15: George Foutrakis motioned for the LJA Governing Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm, Timothy Lyons seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

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Peter Ferentinos  
Chairperson

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Eric Ruggi  
Principal - Laval Junior Academy

*Effie Kontakos*

Effie Kontakos  
Secretary