



**Laval Junior Academy  
Governing Board Minutes  
Wednesday, May 9, 2023**

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**Present:** Betty Aliftiras, Nicole Anastasopoulos, Jennifer Charbonneau, Franco Daniele, George Dimacacos, Johanne Dion, William Evans, Valerio Gazzola, Jenny Marlaine Gauvin, Jenny Georgiopoulos, Jonathan Gray, Helen Morrison, Kathy Stavriadis, Domenica Tortorici, and Costa Tsirbas,

Principal: Eric Ruggi

Vice-Principal: Gloria Cuccarolo

Secretary: Effie Kontakos

**Regrets:** Lauren De Carolis, Michael Rice, and Charles Chagnon

**Guests:** Evangelia Thomas

**0. Opening of the meeting / Quorum:** The meeting was called to order by Jenny Georgiopoulos at 7:07 pm. Quorum was met. The acknowledgement of the land was read in English by Valerio Gazzola.

"The Sir Wilfred Laurier School Board is on land which is traditional territory 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 Haudensaunee Confederacy, which also includes the Seneca, Cayuga, Tuscarora, Onondaga, and Oneida Peoples. All those who gather here are counted as esteemed stakeholders in our community and most importantly friends."

**1.0 Adoption of Agenda:** No amendments were made.

*LJA-GB090523-01: Kathy Stavriadis motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the agenda, Nicole Anastasopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**2.0 Adoption of Minutes of April 12, 2023:** The Minutes were distributed to all members. There was a correction made to the attendance list.

*LJA-GB090523-02: Franco Daniele motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Minutes of April 12, 2023, Johanne Dion seconded, 12 in favour and 1 abstention. Motion carried*

**3.0 Question Period for the Public:** None.

**4.0 Business Arising:**

**4.1 E-votes since the last GB Meeting**

**4.1.1 NextGEN Field Trip to Ottawa - April 24, 2023:** The e-vote on April 14, 2023, was for the LJA Governing Board to approve a request for the NextGEN Assembly of Leaders field trip to Ottawa on April 24, 2023. Students will meet at LJA at 6:15 am, arrive at Parliament Hill at 8:00 am, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm NextGEN Assembly, and return to LJA at 7:00 pm. The NextGEN Assembly of leaders will take place at Parliament Hill in partnership with the Senate of Canada. Politicians from the federal, provincial and municipal governments will work with small groups of student leaders. Each politician will present a dossier that they are currently working on with notes and committee meeting notes to identify the problem and dialogue before the governments. By the end of the day, student leaders will present their ideas and possible solutions to their politicians. This is a live, in-person and virtual event that will take place in Ottawa, Laval, Montreal, Quebec City. Transportation by bus. The cost is \$40 per student.

*LJA-GB140423-EV01: Kathy Stavriadis motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the NextGEN Assembly of Leaders field trip to Ottawa on April 24, 2023, as presented by the principal, Jenny Georgiopoulos seconded, 14 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions. Motion carried*



**4.1.2 Sourp Hagop Visit & Discussion Group:** The e-vote on April 21, 2023, was for the LJA Governing Board to approve the visit to Sourp Hagop Armenian School in Ville St. Laurent. The students from Mrs. Khozian's English class, Sec. 2 Enriched, will participate in a discussion group ('Forgotten Fire' novel) on May 17, 2023. Transportation by bus – 12:45 -2:45 pm – and students will return to LJA by 2:55 pm for the buses. Lunch will be provided.

*LJA-GB210423-EV02: Valerio Gazzola motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the visit to Sourp Hagop Armenian School in Ville St. Laurent to participate in a discussion group on May 17, 2023, as presented by the principal, Domenica Tortorici seconded, 15 in favour, 0 against, and 1 abstention.*

*Motion carried*

**4.1.3 Modification to the 2023-2024 School Calendar:** The e-vote on April 28, 2023, was for the LJA Governing Board to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar. The 2023-2024 School Calendar had been approved at the March LJA Governing Board meeting. However, on April 19, the LJA administration received a notice from the head office that in order to avoid conflicts with elementary school parent-teacher nights, LJA must have their first Parent-Teacher Night after November 24, 2023. LJA Parent-Teacher Night is on November 23, 2023. Therefore, it was proposed that LJA change the November 23, 2023 Parent Teacher Night to November 30, 2023 and that the corresponding PED day be moved from November 24, 2023 to December 1, 2023. The proposed changes were approved by Teacher Council this week. The proposed calendar with the changes was emailed to the GB members.

*LJA-GB280423-EV03: Costa Tsirbas motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the following changes to the 2023-2024 School Calendar. Move the November 23, 2023, Parent-Teacher Night to November 30, 2023, and move the November 24, 2024, PED day to December 1, 2023, Jonathan Gray seconded, 13 in favour, 0 against, and 3 abstentions.*

*Motion carried*

## **5.0 Reports:**

### **5.1 Principal:**

- Apr. 13 – Student assemblies regarding new cell phone rules
- Apr. 18 – French classes visit Place des Arts, Soccer Concentration students going to CF Montreal game (evening)
- Apr. 14-21 – Grace period for cell phones in Block C
- Apr. 20-21 – Pink in the City Fundraiser
- Apr. 24 – Teacher Council Meeting, Cell Phone ban in Block C begins, Blue & Gold Hockey Tryouts, SWL Advanced Student Leadership field trip to Ottawa
- Apr. 25 – Secondary 1 visits LSA for Beauty & the Beast Dress Rehearsal, Home & School Meeting
- Apr. 26 – Administrative Assistant Day
- Apr. 27 – Pink in the City Day
- Apr. 28 – Regular school day
- May 2 – School visit from Assistant Director-General
- May 3 – Staff meeting
- May 4 – Principals meeting
- May 9 – LJA Governing Board meeting

### **More Important Dates**

- May 12 – Regular school day, front office moving in advance of renovations
- May 15 – DP students visiting LSA
- May 19 – Arbraska Science Concentration Field Trip
- May 25 – Be U Dress Down Day (Home & School)
- May 26 – PED day, LJA hosts Elementary Volleyball Tournament



- May 27 – Cheerleading competition
- Last day of classes June 8, 2023
- June 9 – La Ronde day
- June 10 -11 – Building Blocks Math Exam Tutorials and Review
- Final exam week from June 12- 16, 2023, Make up days June 19 & 21, 2023
- Special education classes end June 16, 2023
- Summer renovations begin mid-May 2023

**5.2 Chairperson:** Heard from some students on how they appreciated the teachers. Every teacher here in attendance made that list.

**5.3 Parents' Committee:** Report given by Kathy Stavriadis.

- Bill 23 is making the news. Not much to report yet.
- On May 11, meeting with EPCA to discuss. English parents have rights
- As part of the collective agreement, cannot take away the term Interim. However, to show unity, the Interim Principal title can be replaced with Principal. Do not foresee a move any time soon.
- Study – will get results to see the number of Grade 6 losing in Secondary 1 and from Secondary 2 to Secondary 3.

**5.4 Home and School Association:** Report given by Kathy Stavriadis.

- In the process of wrapping up the year.
- Adopt-a-Tree delayed due to the frost.
- Will adopt a tree in memory of Nick Giannias.
- Will decide soon on what to do for the students for the end of the year.

**5.5 Student Council:** No report.

## **6.0 New Business:**

**6.1 Approval of Workbooks 2023-2024:** The Workbook list was given to all members It was reviewed and discussed. It was in compliance with the SWLSB Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents.

*LJA-GB090523-03: William Evans motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Workbooks for 2023-2024 as presented by the principal, that are in compliance with the SWLSB Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents, Domenica Tortorici seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**6.2 Adoption of 2023-2024 School Budget:** The documentation was distributed to all members. The School Budget was reviewed.

*LJA-GB090523-04: Johanne Dion motioned for the LJA Governing Board to adopt the School Budget for 2023-2024 as presented by the principal, George Dimacacos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**6.3 Approval of Student Supply Lists 2023-2024 / Confirmation of compliance to School Board Fee Policy:** The Student Supply Lists were distributed to all the members for review. The Student Supply Lists were in compliance with the SWLSB Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents.

*LJA-GB090523-05: Valerio Gazzola motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Student Supply Lists for 2023-2024, as presented by the principal, that are in compliance with the SWLSB Policy on School Fees Charged to Parents, Betty Aliftiras seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*



**6.4 Approval of Student Code of Conduct 2023-2024:** The documentation was given to all the members for review. Amendments were made to the section LJA Cell Phone Policy. Highlights – (1) Phones in school must be turned off and remain off. (2) Cell phones should remain in your locker. (3) Audio recording, and/or filming, and/or taking pictures is not allowed within the entire school premises at all times.

*LJA-GB090523-06: William Evans motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Student Code of Conduct for 2023 – 2024, as presented with the amendments, George Dimacacos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**6.5 SWLSB Consultation Program of Studies for Secondary School Policy:** There were no recommendations or changes made to the Program of Studies for Secondary School Policy.

*LJA-GB090523-07: Nicole Anastasopoulos motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the response to the SWLSB consultation that there are no changes proposed to the Program of Studies for Secondary School Policy, Franco Daniele seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

## **7.0 Field Trips and ECAs:**

**7.1 Expo World Press (Art Concentration) – September 29, 2023** The World Press Photo Montreal Exhibition is presented annually at Bonsecours Market. On September 29, 2023, 3,752 photographers from 127 countries present 60,448 images. The objective of this outing is to develop awareness to all cultures from around the world through photography. Transportation is by bus – students will leave school at 9:15 am and return at the end of the day. The cost is \$12 plus tax per student and covered by the concentration fees.

*LJA-GB090523-08: Betty Aliftiras motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the Expo World Press field trip on September 29, 2023, Valerio Gazzola seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**7.2 Armand Frappier Museum (Science Concentration) – May 24, 2023:** The Secondary 1 Science Concentration students will visit the Armand Frappier Museum on May 24, 2023. Students will explore the world of viruses and participate in 'hands-on' activities. The 50 students and three teachers will leave school at 8:45 am, walk to Armand Frappier, and will return at approximately 12:00 pm.

*LJA-GB090523-09: Betty Aliftiras motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the Armand Frappier Museum Science Concentration field trip on May 24, 2023, Valerio Gazzola seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**7.3 Parc Omega (CASP Students) – June 9, 12, or 15, 2023:** Students will visit Parc Omega in Montebello. This is an end of the year activity organized for the students to promote socialization / inclusion in community (life skills) and animal discovery. Transportation is by bus.

*LJA-GB090523-10: Betty Aliftiras motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the Parc Omega field trip on June 9, 12, or 15, 2023, Valerio Gazzola seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

**8.0 Fundraisers:** None.

**9.0 Rentals:** None

**9.1 Entente with Ville de Laval 2023-2028:** The exchange of services agreement is expiring on August 31, 2023. Presently in negotiations for resigning the entente.

**10.0 Varia:**



**10.1 Parking Lot:** Parking Lot rules are not being respected. The morning runs smoothly but the afternoon does not. A suggestion was made to send out a reminder to parents about the rules and expectations for the morning drop off and the afternoon pick up.

**10.2 Laval Sports Hall of Fame:** Congratulations to Valerio Gazzola who will be inducted into the Laval Sports Hall of Fame. Valerio Gazzola will occupy a place of honour within the Place Bell Arena in recognition of his achievements, athleticism, and coaching. Inductees have their plaque on the wall near the main entrance.

**11.0 Confirmation of Date/Time of the Next GB Meeting:** The next LJA GB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 7pm.

**12.0 Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

*LJA-GB090523-11: Valerio Gazzola motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm, Nicole Anastasopoulos seconded, unanimous.*  
*Motion carried*

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Jenny Georgiopoulos  
Chairperson

*Effie Kontakos*  
Effie Kontakos  
Secretary