



Laval Junior Academy Minutes of the General Assembly of Parents Monday, September 25, 2023

Attendance:

Donna Bibeau	Jennifer Charbonneau	Tiziana Cirigliano	Franco Daniele
Andrea Diaz	Denise Eleftheratos	Jenny Georgiopoulos	Evan Goudis
Edwin Jerez	Dimitra Natsikas	Demetra Papazafiroopoulos	Noella Rego
Nina Rodrigues	Kathy Stavriadis	Olga Tsounis	

Guests:

Principal: Eric Ruggi Vice-Principals: Leslie Aggrey-Fynn and Gloria Cuccarolo Secretary: Effie Kontakos

1. Opening of the Meeting: The meeting began at 7:09 pm. Eric Ruggi welcomed the parents. Parents attending the General Assembly had children attending LJA. The Vice-Principals were introduced Leslie Aggrey-Fynn (Sec. 1) and Gloria Cuccarolo (Sec. 2).

2. Naming of Secretary: Evan Goudis nominated Effie Kontakos as the Recording Secretary for the General Assembly of Parents, Kathy Stavriadis seconded, Effie Kontakos accepted the nomination, unanimous. Effie Kontakos was acclaimed.

3. Approval of Agenda: Franco Daniele motioned to approve the agenda, Jenny Georgiopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried. No additions were made.

4. Governing Board & Parents' Committee: Eric Ruggi shared a Governing Board Presentation. The Governing Board is an organization with functions and powers that gives support to the school in order to respond to the needs of students. It is a shared responsibility. The Education Act divides the school's power between the governing board and the principal. This division of responsibilities between the LJA Governing Board and the principal requires a high level of cooperation from both in order to properly carry out the school's mission and the Educational Project. The guiding principals of the governing board members is to be open and accepting of other's contributions and to do so in a respectful and polite way, having confidence in the group, and a desire to succeed.

4.1 Roles and Functions: The roles and functions of a governing board were reviewed. The governing board has the power to approve, adopt, be consulted, advise, be informed, or make requests on various matters throughout the year. The Governing Board will look at matters determined by law, such as, the Student Supervision Policy, Rules of Conduct, Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan (ABAV), safety measures, rental and use of school premises, Subject Time Allocation, School Budget, School Fees & Supply Lists, field trips, educational activities, and enrichment and adaptation of programs. Every decision of the Governing Board must be made in the best interests of all the students attending the school.

The Governing Board is composed of 16 voting members (8 parents, 6 teachers, 1 support staff, 1 professional staff). Note, 2 Substitute Parent representatives may be elected to replace absent regular parent members. In addition, there are 2 Community Representatives (non-voting) and 2 Student Council Representatives (non-voting). The term is 2 years for regular Parent members, 1 year for Substitute Parent members and 1 year for all other members. Decisions are made by majority vote. Meetings are held every month with a minimum of 5 per year.

Operation of LJA Governing Board: There are 16 voting members on the governing board. To attain quorum, there must be at least 9 members present, of which the majority is parents, requiring it to be 5 parent members. Decisions are made by a majority vote of the members present. If votes are equally divided, the Chairperson has the casting vote. Meetings are open to the public.



4.2 Presentation of the Annual Report 2022-2023: Jenny Georgiopoulos presented the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board Annual Report. The report was distributed to all the parents in attendance. The GB Annual Report is adopted yearly by the governing board. The report lists the LJA Governing Board members, lists the activities of the governing board, and summarizes the school year in terms of activities and events which include the Home & School Association.

4.3 Word from the Parents' Committee Delegate: Jenny Georgiopoulos discussed the SWLSB Parents' Committee. Monthly meetings are held in person at the SWL School Board's head office in Rosemere, the first Thursday of each month. Each school elects a Parents' Committee Delegate and Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate at the General Assembly of Parents. The Delegate informs the governing board of the discussions and information from those meetings.

4.4 Introduction of the Current Members on Governing Board: Returning Parent Representatives on the LJA Governing Board that are completing the second year of their 2-year mandate are Nicole Anastasopoulos, Jennifer Charbonneau, and Jenny Georgiopoulos.

4.5 Precisions Regarding Available Seats & Duration of Mandates: The LJA Governing Board requires 4 Parent Representatives each to be elected for a 2-year term and 1 Parent Representative for a 1-year term. In addition, Substitute Parent Representatives may be elected annually for a 1-year term. Half the parent members are elected on an annual basis.

4.6 Explanation regarding the Election Procedures:

4.6.1 Nomination and Election of Scrutineers: Evan Goudis nominated Leslie Aggrey-Fynn and Gloria Cuccarolo as Scrutineers for the election process, to hand out the secret ballots, collect them, and tally the votes, Franco Daniele seconded, unanimous. Leslie Aggrey-Fynn and Gloria Cuccarolo were acclaimed as Scrutineers of the election process.

4.6.2 Nominations: Time was allotted to make nominations for parents interested in a candidacy.

For a 2-year Term:

Noella Rego nominated Tiziana Cirigliano, Franco Daniele seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Olga Tsounis nominated Evan Goudis, Kathy Stavriadis seconded. Nomination was accepted
Jenny Georgiopoulos nominated Donna Bibeau, Kathy Stavriadis seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Kathy Stavriadis nominated Denise Eleftheratos, Jenny Georgiopoulos seconded. Nomination was not accepted.
Jenny Georgiopoulos nominated Demetra Papazafiropoulos, Jennifer Charbonneau seconded. Nomination was accepted.

For a 1-year Term:

Tiziana Cirigliano nominated Franco Daniele, Noella Rego seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Jenny Georgiopoulos nominated Kathy Stavriadis, Evan Goudis seconded. Nomination was accepted
Jennifer Charbonneau nominated Nina Rodrigues, Jenny Georgiopoulos seconded. Nomination was accepted.

4.6.3 Candidates Present Themselves: All candidates were given the opportunity to address the parents at the assembly.

4.7 Election of Parent Representatives on Governing Board: There were 4 candidates for the 4 available positions of Parent Representative for a 2-year term. The candidates were each acclaimed for 2-year term as Parent Representatives on the LJA Governing Board for 2023-2025. There were 3 candidates for the 1 available position of Parent Representative for a 1-year term. Parents were allotted a few minutes to cast their votes via secret ballot. The candidate with the highest numbers of votes would be elected to a 1-year term. The remaining two candidates would be elected as Substitute Parent Representatives on the governing board. Eric Ruggi announced the results.



4.7.1 Election of Parent Representatives:

Results:

Donna Bibeau, Tiziana Cirigliano, Evan Goudis, and Demetra Papazafiropoulos were acclaimed as Parent Representatives for a 2-year term (2023-2025) on the LJA Governing Board.

Franco Daniele was elected as a Parent Representative for a 1-year term (2023-2024) on the LJA Governing Board.

4.7.2 Election of Substitute Parent Representatives: Substitute Representatives are expected to attend the meetings to be informed. Substitutes can only participate in discussions when replacing absent regular Parent Representatives.

Results:

Kathy Stavriadis was elected as 1st Substitute Parent Representative for a 1-year term (2023-2024).

Nina Rodrigues was elected as 2nd Substitute Parent Representative for a 1-year term (2023-2024).

4.7.3 Election of the SWLSB Parents' Committee Delegate: The SWLSB's Parents' Committee (PC) is composed of 1 Parent Representative from each school's governing board. The Parent Representative is elected from the 8 Parent Representatives on the LJA Governing Board.

Jenny Georgiopoulos nominated Evan Goudis, Jennifer Charbonneau seconded. Nomination was not accepted.

Evan Goudis nominated Jenny Georgiopoulos, Jennifer Charbonneau seconded. Nomination was not accepted.

Evan Goudis nominated Franco Daniele, Jenny Georgiopoulos seconded. Nomination was not accepted.

Kathy Stavriadis nominated Tiziana Cirigliano, Franco Daniele seconded. Nomination was accepted.

Results:

Tiziana Cirigliano was acclaimed as the SWLSB Parents' Committee Delegate for a 1-year term 2023-2024.

4.7.4 Election of the SWLSB Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate: Out of the 7 remaining Parent Representatives on the LJA Governing Board, one representative needs to be elected as the Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate to replace the Parents' Committee Delegate if the need arises.

Donna Bibeau nominated Demetra Papazafiropoulos, Franco Daniele seconded. Nomination was accepted.

Results:

Demetra Papazafiropoulos was acclaimed as the SWLSB Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate for 2023-2024.

5. LJA Home & School Association: Kathy Stavriadis spoke about the Home & School Association. The differences between a PPO and a Home & School Association were stated. Both organize fundraising activities, organize events for the students and report to the governing board. The PPO is set up by the government and unused funds are returned to the government. However, a Home & School can allocate funds as voted by their association and carry funds over to the next year for their planned events/ projects. The parents at the assembly must vote whether they want a Parent Participation Organization (PPO) or a Home and School Association.

Evan Goudis motioned to maintain a Home & School Association at LJA, Jennifer Charbonneau seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.

A Home & School meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2023, at 7 pm in the library.

6. First Governing Board meeting: The first LJA Governing Board meeting will be held October 10th at 7 pm.

7. Closing of the Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm by consensus.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Effie Kontakos.