



Laval Junior Academy

Notes of the General Assembly of Parents

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Attendance:

Jimmy Abraham	Anais Bedard	Panagiota Karvelas	Eliyya Shukeir
Pino Alberga	Pol Christodoulakis	Hasmig Kervokian	Olga Tsounis
Theresa Andrusko	Isabelle Duguay	Angela Lucia	Maria Venieris
Alexandra Antonopoulos	Antonia Figlioulo	Nancy Moniz	Laura Wittebol
Eleanor Augello	Evan Goudis	Loredana Ramacieri	

Guests:

Principal: Eric Ruggi (Interim) Vice-Principals: Sec.1 Charles Chagnon Sec.2 Sunday Skoufaras
Tracy Marak

1. Opening of the Meeting: The meeting began at 7:10 via Zoom Video Conferencing once attendance had been taken. Parents attending the assembly had children attending LJA and were confirmed in terms of identity. The special guests were introduced - Charles Chagnon (Sec. 1 Vice-Principal), Sunday Skoufaras (Sec. 2 Vice-Principal), Tracy Marak (President of Home & School Committee last year) and Laura Wittebol (Chairperson of LJA Governing Board last year).

2. Naming of Secretary: Jimmy Abraham nominated Effie Kontakos as Secretary for the General Assembly, Pol Christodoulakis seconded, unanimous. Effie Kontakos was acclaimed.

3. Approval of Agenda: Evan Goudis motioned to approve the agenda, Olga Tsounis seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.

4. Presentation of last Year's General Assembly of Parents: The minutes taken from last school year's General Assembly was presented.

5. Adoption of Online Election Procedures: In the General Assembly invitation emailed to the parent community, parents had been asked to confirm their presence at the assembly by completing an online attendance form. One per parent of children attending the school. In addition, parents were informed what positions were up for election and asked to indicate which position(s) they were interested in. An external company, eVooXSysteme. processed the candidacies. Candidates may be added if they had not registered in advance. When the elections began, the vote button was made available for parents to be able to vote. Parents were given time to cast their vote.

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLIES
- PRESENCE CONFIRMATION
(ONE CONFIRMATION PER PARENT)

The information provided will be treated confidentially.
Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

SCHOOL
NOTE: If your children attend different schools, you must complete a different form for each school.
* Select the school your child (or children) attend
[View your Academy](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION
* Last name * First name
* Address
* City * Province * Postal code
* E-mail address * QC

CHILD (OR CHILDREN) ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL
Please enter the full name (first name, last name) of your child (or children) to confirm that you are a parent from this school
* Child Name

POSITIONS TO BE FILLED
Please confirm your interest in any of the following positions (more than one position can be selected). It is to be noted that by selecting a position, it will be announced during the online meeting that you wish to be a candidate for the position in question. You may withdraw your candidacy by informing the school principal before or during the meeting.

Parent Representative on the Governing Board
 Substitute - Parent Representative on the Governing Board
 Parent Delegate for the Parents' Committee of the SWLSB
 Substitute - Parent Delegate for the Parents' Committee of the SWLSB

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Normally, the Scrutineers for the elections are the Vice-Principals. This year eVooXSysteme will be tabulating the votes cast.

Jimmy Abraham motioned to nominate eVooXSysteme to be the Scrutineer for the elections held tonight at the General Assembly, Pino Alberga seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.

6. Governing Board:

6.1 Roles and Functions: Mr. Ruggi screen shared a Governing Board Presentation. The LJA Governing Board is an organization with functions and powers that gives support to the school in order to respond to the needs of students. 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, for example: Student Supervision Policy, Safety Measures, Anti-Bullying Anti-Violence Plan (ABAV), School Budget, School Fees & Supply Lists, Rules of Conduct, field trips, Educational Activities, Subject Time Allocation and rentals. 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). In addition, 2 Substitute Parent representatives may be elected to replace absent regular parent members. There are also 2 Community Representatives 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.

6.2 Presentation of the Annual Report 2019-2020: Laura Wittebol presented the Laval Junior Academy Annual Report which is adopted yearly by the governing board. This report is generated yearly. It lists the governing board members and summarizes the school year in terms of activities and events.

6.3 Introduction of the Current Members on Governing Board: Returning Parent Representatives on the LJA Governing Board that were voted last year for a 2-year mandate are Jimmy Abraham, Pino Alberga, Theresa Andrusko and Alexandra Antonopoulos.

6.4 Precisions Regarding Available Seats: The LJA Governing Board requires 4 Parent Representatives each to be elected for a 2-year term. Half the parent members are elected on an annual basis. In addition, 2 Substitute Parent Representatives are elected annually.

6.4.1 Nominations Received Ahead of Time: There were 4 nominations received ahead of time for the position of Parent Representatives for a 2-year term.

Evan Goudis nominated Pol Christodoulakis, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Effie Kontakos nominated Evan Goudis, Pol Christodoulakis seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Alexandra Antonopoulos nominated Effie Kontakos, Laura Wittebol seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Maria Venieris nominated Angela Lucia, Effie Kontakos seconded. Nomination was accepted.

6.4.2 Additional Nominations: Time was allotted to make additional nominations for any parent that had not registered their candidacy earlier. One additional nomination was made at the assembly.

Pino Alberga nominated Laura Wittebol, Jimmy Abraham seconded. Nomination was accepted.

6.4.3 Closing of Nominations: The nominations were closed once all nominations were made.

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



6.5 Election of Parent Representatives on Governing Board: There were 5 candidates for the 4 available positions of Parent Representative for a 2-year term. Parents were allotted a few minutes to cast their votes. The four candidates with the highest numbers of votes would be elected. Mr. Ruggi announced that Pol Christodoulakis, Evan Goudis, Effie Kontakos and Laura Wittebol were the four Parent Representatives elected for a 2-year term.

6.6 Election of Substitute Parent Representatives on Governing Board: Substitute Representatives are expected to attend all the meetings and are copied on all communication to be informed. Substitutes can only participate in discussions when replacing absent regular parent members. The candidate with the least amount of votes would be elected as the Substitute Parent Representative. Mr. Ruggi announced that Angela Lucia was elected as the Substitute Parent Representative for a 1-year term.

7. Parents' Committee:

7.1 Roles and Functions of the Parents' Committee: The SWLSB's Parents' Committee (PC) is composed of 1 representative from each school's governing board and one representative from SEAC. The representatives ensure communication between their governing board and the Parents' Committee. The representative is the parents' voice for the school at the school level. In general, they promote parent participation in the activities of the school board. In addition, they take part in various committees established by the PC, make recommendations to the school board on various matters, inform the school board on the needs of the parents and is consulted on matters such as the school calendar and Commitment to Success Plan. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month, except January, at the school board. This year meetings may be held via Zoom Video Conferencing.

7.2 Election of the Parents' Committee Delegate: Out of the 8 Parent Representatives on governing board, one person needs to be elected as a representative for the Parents' Committee meetings. Evan Goudis and Effie Kontakos had registered their candidacy in advance to be the Parents' Committee Delegate.

Pol Christodoulakis, nominated Evan Goudis, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded. Nomination was accepted.
Pino Alberga nominated Effie Kontakos, Laura Wittebol seconded. Nomination was respectfully declined.

Results: Evan Goudis was acclaimed as LJA's Parents' Committee Delegate for a 1-year term.

As per the Education Act 47: The term of a person elected to the Parents' Committee who is commissioner shall not end until that person's term of office as commissioner has ended. Tony Beliotis is the Parent Commissioner for High Schools, and as such, his term as Parents' Committee Representative for Laval Junior Academy will end officially on November 1, 2020. The High School Commissioner is elected at the Parents' Committee October meeting. Consequently, Evan Goudis may attend the Parents' Committee meetings but will be a voting participant once Tony Beliotis' mandate has ended.

7.3 Election of the Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate: Out of the 7 remaining Parent Representatives on governing board, one person needs to be elected as the Alternate Representative for the Parents' Committee. Effie Kontakos had registered her candidacy in advance to be the Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate.

Pino Alberga nominated Effie Kontakos, Laura Wittebol seconded. Nomination was accepted.

Results: Effie was acclaimed as LJA's Alternate Parents' Committee Delegate for a 1-year term.

8. Formation of a Parent Participation Organization (PPO) or a Home & School Association: Tracy Marak, President of the Home & School Committee last year, informed the assembly about the achievements and goals that the H&S had last school year. The differences between a PPO and H&S were stated. Both organizations organize fundraising activities, organize events for the students and report to the governing board. The governing board approves the fundraisers for both organizations. The parents at the assembly must vote whether they want a Parent Participation Organization (PPO) or a Home and School Association.



8.1 Roles and Functions of a PPO: The purpose of a PPO is to encourage the collaboration of parents in developing, implementing and periodically evaluating the school's educational project and their participation in fostering their child's success (Section 96.2 Education Act). The PPO can organize fundraising events after obtaining Governing Board approval and inform the Governing Board members regarding matters of concern to parents. The PPO meets once a month.

8.2 Decision Regarding the Formation of a PPO: The parents at the assembly must vote whether they want a Parent Participation Organization (PPO) or a Home and School Association. The parents at the assembly were asked whether they wanted to continue with a H&S or have a PPO. The motion carried unanimously to have a H&S for Laval Junior Academy for the 2020-2021 school year.

Pino Alberga motioned for Laval Junior Academy to form a Home & School Association (H&S) for the 2020-2021 school year, Alexandra Antonopoulos seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.

An email will be sent to parents to invite them to attend the first H&S meeting and join the committee. Any parents interested in joining the H&S were asked to stay on Zoom once the assembly had been adjourned.

9. Varia:

9.1 First Governing Board meeting: First LJA Governing Board meeting will be decided at a later date when the members of the governing board will choose a date.

10. Closing of the Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Effie Kontakos motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm, Laura Wittebol seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.