



**JOHN RENNIE HIGH SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD
Minutes of Meeting 2021-2022 #5
15 March 2022
Meeting Held on Zoom**

Parent Reps: D. Bensimon, S. Golding-Mullings, N. Gupta, S. Hassanien, W. Kogan (alternate), J.-A. Leblanc, E. Shultz (alternate)

Staff Reps: M. Fuga, K. Gardner, R. Lobaton, K. Pellegrino, S. Pelletier, A. Sayfy, K. Vatne

Administration: E-M Durand, J. Kurta, M. Larocque, S. Newton

Student Reps: A. Heron, N. Lakatosh

Community Reps: M. Venturino

Commissioner: A. Saunders

Public: none

Secretary: none

Regrets: C. Chabot, S. Day, S. Ross, K. Santaguida, S. Sievers

1. Call to Order/Verification of Quorum

- The governing board (GB) chair, D. Bensimon, called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m. and read the territorial land acknowledgment developed by the school board. The chair welcomed M. Venturino to the GB as a community representative. He also welcomed alternate parent representatives, who will be regularly invited to attend GB meetings in the future.

2. Approval of Agenda

- 21-22-28: It was pointed out that consultations should be listed under a separate entry for the agenda. That said, the agenda was approved unanimously, via a motion from K. Gardner and seconded by J.-A. Leblanc.

3. Approval of Minutes from February 22, 2022

- 21-22-29: The minutes from the previous meeting were approved, via a motion from J.-A. Leblanc & seconded by K. Vatne. One abstention to the vote was recorded by S. Pelletier, who was absent from the previous meeting.

4. Question Period

- No public attended the meeting and no other question were asked.

5. Business Arising from The Minutes

- None

6. New Business

- None

7. Consultations

- **Policy on Principal Selection Criteria 2022-23**

The meeting was informed that D. Bensimon sent in the response to this consultation to the school board on 1 March 2022.

- **Budget Consultation for 2022-23**

D. Bensimon shared the draft responses that had been formulated based on feedback received at the February GB meeting. J. Kurta further suggested mentioning that it would be important to increase funding to support mental health initiatives. These funds are needed to increase professional services available to students with mental health issues. D. Bensimon indicated that he would add this point and submit the answers before the 31 March 2022 deadline.

- **Consultation on Governing Board Composition for 2022-23**

The meeting was informed that this yearly consultation aims to verify if the current size and structure of the governing boards is satisfactory or if changes are desired. It was mentioned that it has been difficult at times to reach quorum, especially in terms of parent participation and that it may be beneficial to reduce the number of parent representatives (currently at 8). To help increase parent participation, D. Bensimon mentioned that he would be inviting alternate parent representatives to attend meetings regularly. It was also mentioned that diminishing the size of the GB could diminish funding received for this purpose. Given that the feedback received during the discussion on this topic was more in favour of keeping the status quo rather than changing it, D. Bensimon indicated that he would respond to the consultation that the GB wished to remain unchanged.

- **Consultation on Council of Commissioners and Executive Committee Meetings 2022-2023**

D. Bensimon shared the proposed dates for these meetings for the 2022-2023 school year. Since no changes or opposition to these dates was voiced, he informed the meeting that he will reply to this consultation by indicating that the GB approves of the proposed dates.

8. Field trips

- **Leadership camp:** this camp aims to foster school spirit and a sense of belonging through leadership. It is open to about 200 students from Secondary I through V. It will be held on the weekend of 14-15 May 2022 at the school, at a cost of \$100 per person.
- **Place Cartier visit:** On Friday, 18 March 2022 at 10:30 a.m. Place Cartier Adult Education Center will host a tour and information session for students from John Rennie High School. Students will be accompanied to Place Cartier by John Rennie staff members, including the guidance counsellors and members of the administration. Students will be driven to Place Cartier and back to John Rennie following lunch. There is no cost for the 12 students participating.
- **Glee Show:** Students are looking to raise \$200 for the "Just for Kids" initiative.
- **Loyola basketball tournament:** This tournament will be held at Loyola High School at a maximum cost of \$20 per student.
- **21-22-30:** A motion to approve the above field trips was put forward by R. Lobaton and seconded by A. Sayfy and approved unanimously.

9. Fundraisers

- **Bake sale:** this sale will be held during junior lunch on 14 April 2022, just before the Easter break and is organized by the Life Skills Program.
- **GSA bracelet fundraiser:** this sale of beaded bracelets is planned for 31 March 2022, which is International Transgender Day of Visibility. It will take place at lunchtime and bracelets will cost \$1 each.
- **21-22-31:** A motion to approve the above fundraisers was put forward by S. Pelletier and seconded by N. Lakatosh and approved unanimously.

10. Varia

- **CFER start time:** the GB discussed a proposal to make a change to school start times. Students who are part of the Centre de Formation en Entreprise et Récupération (CFER) are provided bussing if they are located off island. As the available buses would have them arrive at school at 7h50, it is proposed to have them start at 8h05, as students in Sports-Études do.
- **JRHS start time:** There is a 5-minute warning bell that rings during lunch, to give time for people to get to their classes. This bell has an impact on the lunch break of teachers, which has to be of a certain length of time. It is proposed to move the start time of the remainder of the student body to 9h00 in order to accommodate this "passing time".
- The Governing Board has to send a recommendation to the transportation committee of the school board in order for the proposal for these start times to move forward. After some discussion, a motion to approve this recommendation was put forward by M. Fuga and seconded by R. Lobaton and approved unanimously (ref. 21-22-32).

11. Reports:

- **Principal:** the report was presented to the meeting and shared with members via the shared drive.
- **Staff:** the report was shared with members via the shared drive.
- **Students:** Auditions for the Black and Gold show are underway. A food drive in support of On Rock Community Services is going on. Planning for the Leadership Camp is taking place. A number of speakers came to the school in February for Black History Month. Casting is taking place for the next play by the Actor's Studio.
- **Commissioner:** It was mentioned that the community still needs healing after the tragic loss of Lucas Gaudet in February. The next meeting of the Parents Committee will take place on 17 March 2022 and topics to be discussed include bullying and procedures for incidents that take place off school property. The next meeting of the Council of Commissioners will take place on 28 March 2022.

12. Correspondence

- None.

13. Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting is planned for Tuesday, 12 April 2022, starting at 6:15 p.m. via Zoom.

14. Adjournment

- 21-22-33: The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m. following a motion by K. Gardner,

which was seconded by K. Vatne and unanimously accepted.

Respectfully submitted by Dov Bensimon, Chair, JRHS Governing Board

Approved _____

J. Kurta, Principal

Approved _____

D. Bensimon, Governing Board Chair