



**John Rennie High School
Governing Board**

**Minutes of meeting 2023-
2024 #2**

27 November 2023, 6:30 P.M.

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Parent Reps: D. Bensimon, C. Boyarchuk, P. Giakoumatos, N. Lawand, A. Sanchez (alternate), C. Santaguida, E. Schultz, C. Veillette

Staff Reps: T. Bingham, M. Fuga, R. Lobaton, K. Pellegrino, A. Sayfy, S. Sievers, S. Vann, G. Youness

Administration: S. Ashraf, E.M. Durand, J. Kurta, J. Pinto

Student Reps: J. Haim

Community Rep: Absent

Commissioner: Absent

Public: None

Secretary: G. Youness

Regrets: I. Friedman, V. Malaxianakis, A. Saunders

1. Call to Order / Verification of Quorum / Territorial Acknowledgement

- D. Bensimon called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
- Territorial land acknowledgement was recited by D. Bensimon.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- **23-24-9:** The agenda was approved unanimously, via a motion from C. Veillette & seconded by A. Sayfy.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the last meeting

- **23-24-10:** The minutes from the meeting held on 26 October 2023 were approved unanimously, via a motion from C. Santaguida & seconded by P. Giakoumatos.

4. Question Period

No questions were raised from the public.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Standards and Procedures Document
 - Standards and Procedures Document: this item was tabled until the next meeting.
- Responses to 4 consultations sent in on 27/28 October 2023
 - Enrolment Criteria Policy: It was noted in the response sent in that the policy does not address students registered through the International School. Some students' status can change from international placements to regular students if the parents obtain a work or study permit, giving them temporary English eligibility. This can, in turn, affect their priority of enrolment. The board responded that when an international student chooses to reside within the territory of the school board, the enrollment criteria become applicable. This policy thus ensures that all students, regardless of their nationality or origin, are subject to the same set of requirements and standards for admission and enrollment.
- Nominee for community representative
 - There is still no replacement for Massimo Venturino, the last community representative on the governing board. D. Bensimon commented that there can be two reps if necessary. He invited anyone who learns of individuals interested in this position to let him know, but mentioned that the positions do not need to be filled.

6. Consultations

- None.

7. New Business

- Modification to student hours during exam week in January 2024
 - J. Kurta wanted to seek permission from GB to modify the student schedule for exam week. Exams will occur from Monday January 22, 2024 to Thursday January 25, 2024. Friday January 26, 2024 will be a pedagogical day. Buses will come at 1 p.m. instead of 3:35 p.m. The students will have a shortened day.

The above was approved unanimously following a motion by M. Fuga, seconded by R. Lobaton (23-24-11)

- The following dress-down dates were presented to the meeting:
 - 21 December 2023: Ugly Christmas/ Holiday sweater contest
 - 22 December 2023: PJ day
 - 16 January 2024: Tropical Tuesday, wear a Hawaiian shirt

- 14 February 2024: Wear Valentine colors
- 28 February 2024: Pink Day (Anti-Bullying Day)
- 15 March 2024: Wear Green for St. Patty's Day
- 12 April 2024: Formal Friday (dress to impress)

The above were approved unanimously following a motion by P. Giakoumatos, seconded by N. Lawand (23-24-12)

8. Fundraisers

- The following fundraisers were presented to the meeting:
 - **December 14, January 17, February 21, March 20, April 18, May 15:** Yearbook Fundraiser to sell sweets, raise funds for the Yearbook. The cafeteria staff have been consulted. The event will be in conjunction with pizza sales. The products will be sold through the Snack Shack.
 - **Date TBA:** The Spice Age fundraiser for Home & School, they will be selling spices and hot chocolate for the holiday season. The purchase of the items will be online.

The above were approved with all in favour following a motion by R. Lobaton, seconded by A. Sayfy. (23-24-13).

9. Field trips/activities

- **1 December 2023:** Grade 9 students will carpool to PCHS for a Robotics Challenge, no cost to students, 1:15 adult/student ratio.
- **5 December 2023:** Grade 10-11 students will take a trip by bus to St. John Fisher and Terry Fox schools, the cost is 25\$/student, 1:10 adult/student ratio.
- **8 December 2023:** Grade 11 students will take a trip to Wellesley Senior Residence for holiday celebrations, there is no cost to students, 1:15 student/teacher ratio.
- **19 January, 2 February and 15 March 2024:** Grades 7-11 will travel by bus to Mont Saint-Sauveur and Mont Olympia, the cost is 23-75\$ per student, 1:15 adult/student ratio.
- **1 February 2024:** Grade 9 students will travel to Pointe-à-Callière museum by bus, there is no cost to students, 1:15 adult/student ratio.
- **8 February 2024:** Valentine's Day dance at JRHS, open to grades 7-11, the cost will be 10\$ in advance and 15\$ at the door, from 7:30 p.m. until 11:00p.m.
- **29 April - 2 May 2024:** Leadership camp in Wentworth, QC,

students will be traveling by bus, the cost is 375\$/student, 1:10 adult/student ratio.

- **17-19 June 2024:** Grade 8 students will take a trip to Boston and Salem by bus, the cost is 905-1025\$/student, 1:10 adult/student ratio.
- **Various dates:** Students from the Budgeting & Shopping Cooking Class will walk to Metro Plus in Pointe-Claire, there is no cost to students, 1:23 adult/student ratio.

The above were approved with all but one in favour following a motion by C. Veillette, seconded by C. Santaguida (23-24-14).

10. Reports

- **Principal:** The [report](#) was uploaded to the shared drive for the meeting.
- **Staff:** The [report](#) was uploaded to the shared drive for the meeting.
- **Students:** The [report](#) was uploaded to the shared drive for the meeting.
- **LBPSB Parents Committee Representative:** The [report](#) was uploaded to the shared drive for the meeting.
- **Commissioner:** The commissioner was absent, and no report was submitted.

11. Correspondence

- D. Bensimon informed the meeting that a summary of the Council of Commissioners Meeting on 30 October 2023 was available on the [shared drive](#).
- The meeting was informed that the November 2023 edition of the Pearson News was available at <https://pearsonnews.ca/>.
- The meeting was informed that there is an Equity, Diversity, Dignity and Inclusion [video](#) available.

12. Varia

There was a question about providing parents with two suppliers when purchasing the school top. Although John Rennie only provides one supplier, the use of JRHS patches at the cost of 5\$ is equivalent to having two suppliers. Parents have the option to order JRHS tops with MONI or to apply the patches on a shirt of their choice. Some students are pinning the patches on their shirt but they should be in conformity with the school uniform and ironed or sewed on. The school has a

machine to hot press these patches if necessary.

13. Date and location of Next Meeting

- The next governing board meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 December 2023, 6:30 p.m. in the school library.

14. Adjournment

- **23-24-15:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by N. Lawand at 7:21 p.m. & was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by *Ghada Youness, Secretary, John Rennie Governing Board*

Approved _____
J. Kurta, Principal

Approved _____
D. Bensimon, Governing Board Chair