



**JOHN RENNIE HIGH SCHOOL  
GOVERNING BOARD  
Minutes of Meeting 2022-2023 #2  
November 16 2022  
Meeting Held in Person**

**Parent Reps:** D. Bensimon, C. Boyarchuk, S. Hassanien, K. Leonard, E. Schultz

**Staff Reps:** A. Cooper, M. Fuga, R. Lobaton, K. Pellegrino, A. Sayfy, S. Sievers, S. Vann

**Administration:** J. Kurta, J. Armstrong

**Student Rep:** G. Grenier-McDermott, R. Lizarraga Santamaria

**Community Rep:** M. Venturino

**Commissioner:** A. Saunders

**Public:** No Public in Attendance

**Secretary:** S. Day

**Regrets:** L. Brabant, C. Chabot, E-M Durand, W. Kogan, M. Larocque, S. Legore, D. Spinner, C. Veillette

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

- D. Bensimon called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm
- Territorial land acknowledgement was recited by D. Bensimon

**2. Approval of the agenda**

22-23-10: The agenda was approved unanimously, via a motion moved by A. Cooper & seconded by A. Sayfy

**3. Approval of the Minutes from October 26 2022**

22-23-11: The minutes from October 26 2022 were approved unanimously, via a motion moved by M. Fuga & seconded by S. Sievers

**4. Question Period**

- No public was present therefore no questions were asked

**5 Business Arising From the Minutes**

- No business arising was mentioned

## **6 Consultations**

- Please refer to the link below for the School/Center Name & External Property Name Policy

[School-Centre Name & External Property Name Policy Consultation](#)

## **7 New Business**

### **7.1 Summary of Decisions Taken at Council of Commissioners Meeting on November 1 2022**

- Please refer to the link below for the above-mentioned summary  
[November 2 2022 - Summary Report](#)

### **7.2 Date for First Dress Code Subcommittee Meeting**

- Goal of the first meeting of the Dress Code Subcommittee meeting is to set up a timeline
- Meeting will be taking place on Zoom on Monday November 28th beginning at 4:30 pm - Zoom link to follow

## **8 Fundraisers**

### **8.1 GSA Jr Fundraiser**

- Taking place during junior lunch on November 22 & 23 2022 in the Grand Hall

### **8.2 Life Skills Bake Sale**

- Taking place on during both junior & senior lunch on December 9 2022
- Goal is to raise funds for various Life Skills projects

22-23-12: The GSA Jr Fundraiser as well as the Life Skills Bake Sale were both approved unanimously, via a motion moved by R. Lobaton & seconded by A. Sayfy

## **9 Field Trips**

### **9.1 Montreal Science Center - 2 Trips (grade 11)**

- Taking place on December 7 from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

- 175 students/9 adults
- Free of charge
- Transportation: school bus

### **9.2 Robotics Trip - PCHS (grade 9)**

- Taking place on December 2 from 8:00 am - 3:15 pm
- 15 students/2 adults
- Free of charge
- Transportation: carpool

### **9.3 Montreal Fine Arts Museum - CFER**

- Taking place on December 16 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
- 21 students/4 adults
- Free of charge
- Transportation: bus

### **9.4 Leadership Camp - Camp Bon Depart (grade 7-11)**

- Taking place on May 2-5
- 160 students/16 adults
- Cost: \$350
- Transportation: school/coach bus

### **9.5 Life Skills Bowling - Valois Lanes (Lifeskills)**

- Taking place on various dates throughout the year
- 2 students/1 adult
- Free of charge

### **9.6 Elementary School Music Tour - (grade 9-11)**

- Date change to December 8 2022
- Taking place from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at the following elementary schools:  
St John Fisher, Dorval & Terry Fox
- 40 students/4 adults
- Cost: \$20 per student
- Transportation: School bus

### **9.7 Ukrainian Student Outreach Visit - LCCHS**

- Taking place on December 9, period 2 & period 5
- Cost: \$6.50, return bus fare
- Transportation: STM bus
- 14 students/2 adults

22-23-13: All of the above-mentioned field trips were approved unanimously,  
via a motion moved by A. Cooper & seconded by M. Fuga

## **10 Reports**

### **10.1 Principal**

#### **BUILDING UPDATES**

- The CFER workspace is more or less complete & the program will be audited for 3 ISO standards in late November
- The teachers have officially moved into the new Resource wing

#### **REPORT CARDS**

- The term 1 reports will be available to parents through Mozaik as of Friday November 18th

#### **PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

- Interviews will be online on November 24th & 25th
- Parents can begin booking their time slots through Mozaik as of Friday, November 18th

## **STUDENT TEACHERS**

- Our first year McGill students began their 3-week observation period today with a breakfast organized by the teachers on the welcoming committee

## **ENRICHED EXAM**

- Students in Grade 6 wrote the enrichment exams at their Elementary Schools on November 11th & around 100 out of board students wrote at JRHS on November 12th

## **ADMIN PD**

- The administrators of the LBPSB went to a one-and-a-half-day retreat in Montebello where we heard from a speaker named Amen & engaged in many team-building activities.
- This experience provided some good reminders about self-care & the importance of having colleagues to rely on.

## **GLEE CLUB**

- CTV: 'An incredible opportunity': Montreal glee club singing for MUHC fundraiser
- ['An incredible opportunity': Montreal glee club singing for MUHC fundraiser](#)  
City News: Montreal's MUHC's Got Talent Fundraiser
- [Montreal's MUHC's Got Talent fundraiser](#)
- Montreal Gazette: MUHC's Got Talent Takes to Stage to Raise Money for Hospital  
[MUHC's Got Talent takes to stage to raise money for the hospital | Montreal Gazette](#)
- Global News: John Rennie Glee Club warming up vocal cords for the MUHC's Got Talent  
[John Rennie Glee Club warming up vocal cords for the MUHC's Got Talent - Montreal | Globalnews.ca](#)

## 10.2 Staff

### Leadership Department

- Gearing up for December spirit week activities
- Running two fundraisers: Big Box (greeting cards) & our annual food drive to benefit our local food bank: On-Rock
- Teachers were busy getting their term 1 report cards ready
- Teachers are now preparing for the upcoming parent teacher interviews
- Many teachers & departments are continuing to offer all kinds of activities & field trips
- PIC has also approved a few conferences for teachers to attend for professional development

## 10.3 Students

### Actor's Studio

- Rehearsals are running along smoothly & the crew is making headway on production
- Some set piece designs have been submitted to Mr. Murray's woodshop class for production
- Multiple elementary schools have been scheduled to see the play. Along with some but not all grade levels here at John-Rennie
- Play week is from December 12th - 17th, with the public shows on the 16th & 17th
- To raise money, the sale of advertising in the program to local businesses has been considered, however the logistics of putting together this sales pitch and producing quality advertising slots have proven challenging & no one has had the time to do it. In its current state, it is undecided whether to go through with this fundraising campaign, & looks as though it will be scrapped for this play

### Student Perspective

#### Grade 9 Old Port Field Trip Oct. 28. 2022 (French Class)

- The majority of grade 9 was given the opportunity to attend this field trip
- The outing was very successful, both educationally relating to their French & History curriculum as well as being a fun outing to discover our city of

## Montreal

- Ms. Benami's two French classes were not given the opportunity to attend this trip due to the fact their teacher was on leave for multiple weeks & the class was being run by a substitute
- The students of these classes were not given any notice of this activity & only learned about it from their peers
- They are very upset at this missed opportunity & don't even understand why it happened. It is unclear if their teacher simply did not want to participate or if the organizers of the trip did not include them, in either case it is unacceptable that they be excluded for seemingly no reason
- Lack of brown paper towels in bathrooms:
- In most bathrooms, the paper towel dispensers seem to run out every day after lunch, if they're stocked at all. Other times paper towel rolls are simply left on the counter, & unfortunately are often misused by students. Additionally, the dispensers seem to break or get vandalized often. All in all, the hand drying situation is sub-par

### **New Bathroom Usage Policy**

- The idea is that students should use break times to go to the bathroom, & so during periods that fall adjacent to these times students are not allowed to leave class to use the restroom. (Which ends up being most of the periods.)
- Presumably, this policy is to reduce the amount of stragglers who loiter in the bathrooms or the halls during class
- This change is not very popular among students, it limits the freedoms of everyone for the sake of controlling a loud minority
- Primarily, it sets a precedent for teachers to simply not allow students to use the facilities, without question. Of course judgment can be used to make exceptions when needed, but this only adds more complication to the already uncomfortable question of asking a teacher to use the washroom
- Ultimately, this does not seem to be affecting how likely teachers are to allow someone to go to the washroom, & it depends more on the individual teacher, just like so many other classroom policies

### **Athletics:**

- Boy's Juvenile Volleyball team: The season is over, the team was passionate but not very successful
- The players feel they were not given sufficient practice time even though most of them were extremely motivated to do so. This seems to have been due to a lack of gym access & scheduling
- Boy's Juvenile Flag Football: They had fun but it was not a very successful

### **10.4 Region 3 Representative for the LBPSB Parents Committee**

- General training for new members
- A written report will be submitted for next meeting

### **10.5 Commissioner - Get Report**

- No formal report was submitted
- Newly appointed Student Commissioner was introduced & welcomed
- Student contributions are invaluable to our monthly Council meetings
- We are making great strides regarding accessibility (public & web)
- EDDI (Equity, Diversity, Dignity & Inclusion) work continues at the board
- Tom Rhymes, Assistant Director General, announced his retirement
- Please note that all Council meetings are webcasted

### **11 Correspondence**

- No correspondence was received

### **12 Varia**

- No varia were mentioned

### **13 Date & Location of Next Meeting**

- The next governing board meeting will be taking place in the library on December 14, 2022 @ 6:45 p.m. in person in the school library.



**14 Adjournment**

22-23-14 A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:00 p.m. & was passed unanimously; the next governing board meeting will be taking place in the library on December 14, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Day, Executive Assistant, High School Sector

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

J. Kurta, Principal

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

D. Bensimon, Governing Board Chair