



**John Rennie High School**  
**Governing Board**  
**Minutes of meeting #8**  
**Tuesday, 25 June 2024**  
**5:30 P.M., in school library**

**Parent Reps:** D. Bensimon, I. Friedman, P. Giakoumatos, N. Lawand, C. Veillette

**Staff Reps:** T. Bingham, K. Pellegrino, A. Sayfy, S. Sievers, S.Vann, G.Youness

**Administration:** C. Jones, J. Kurta, J. Pinto

**Student Reps:** None

**Community Rep:** None

**Commissioner:** Absent

**Public:** None

**Secretary:** G. Youness

**Regrets:** C. Boyarchuk, M. Fuga, M. Glendon, J. Haim, R. Lobaton, V. Malaxianakis,  
C. Santaguida, A. Saunders, E. Schultz

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

- D. Bensimon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Territorial land acknowledgement was recited by D. Bensimon.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

- **23-24-48:** The agenda was approved unanimously, via a motion from C. Veillette & seconded by I. Friedman.

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the last meeting**

- **23-24-49:** The minutes from the meeting held on 23 May 2024 were approved, via a motion from N. Lawand & seconded by A. Sayfy. No abstentions were noted while voting.

**4. Question Period**

- There was no public present tonight, therefore there were no questions.
- There was a comment regarding budgeting for classroom fans. With the heat wave, the classrooms were extremely hot during ministry/end of year exams and not enough fans were available. There was a recommendation for Home and School to spend some of their funds toward ceiling fans in the classrooms. J. Kurta explained that the budget capital expenditure was spent on desks and chairs, musical instruments, printers, etc. These

expenses were based on teacher requests. The budget is renewed on July 1, some changes are possible for the upcoming school year.

#### **5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- Consultation on Equity, Diversity, Dignity and Inclusion Policy (due 17 June 2024): There were no comments other than it is a well written document.

#### **6. New Business**

- GB parent representatives up for election at AGA (26 September 2024): Staff members will be picked on a yearly basis. Parent representatives are elected on a two-year term, some are in their first year, others are in their second year. There will be another vote at the AGA meeting in September.
- ABAV plan: There are certain legal items that have to be in this document, those items are predefined, there is a section where the school puts their input. The resolution was approved via a motion by T. Bingham, seconded by N. Lawand (23-24-50).
- School Fees: There was comment regarding the significant increase of art school fees from 12\$ to 24\$. Art class is the only course which can charge for consumables. Students cannot be charged for cooking class or woodchop even though they require lots of materials.  
The resolution for all schools fees with the modification of 18\$ for art supplies was approved via a motion from K. Pellegrino and seconded by P.Giakoumatos, with one abstention and a vote against noted while voting (23-24-51).
- Code of Conduct: There were some minor changes to the code of conduct. When a student has three lates per term, they will get detention. Smart glasses were added to the list of items that students cannot bring in class. No cellphones are allowed, even in their pockets. The school will no longer be giving students the school uniform when the student is not wearing it. Plagiarism and cell phone use will not be tolerated during exams. The resolution was approved via a motion from C. Veillette, seconded by T. Bingham (23-24-52).
- Educational Project: The governing board can edit the educational project as time goes on. The resolution was approved via a motion by P. Giakoumatos seconded by I. Friedman (23-24-53).
- Addition of Club D'athlétisme Saint-Laurent Select as mandataire for Sport-Études program for 2024-25: The resolution was approved via a motion from S. Seivers, seconded by T. Bingham (23-24-54).

- Addition of Mandataire Les Clubs De Baseball Les Marquis Ltée for Sport-Études 2024-2025: The resolution was approved via a motion from A. Sayfy, seconded by S. Seivers (23-24-55).
- GB Annual Report: This report will be finalized before the AGA. There were no questions.

## 7. Consultations

- Nothing to report.

## 8. Fundraisers

The following fundraiser was presented to the meeting:

- **September 2024-March 2025**: Cycle 2 students to raise funds for humanitarian trip to Dominican Republic at IGA Kirkland and Provigo Kirkland.

The above fundraiser was approved unanimously following a motion by K. Pelligrino, seconded by C. Veillette. (23-24-56)

## 9. Field trips/activities

The following field trips were presented to the meeting:

- **26 September 2024**: All JRHS students will participate in the Terry Fox Walk. There is no cost to students.
- **23 January 2025**: Secondary 5 students can participate in Snoball at Casa reception. The cost is 65\$/student. 1:10 adult/student ratio.
- **14 February 2025**: Valentine Dance at JRHS.
- **21-23 February 2025**: Grad ski trip to Mont Ste-Anne. The students will be traveling by coach bus. The cost is 550\$/student. 1:10 adult/student ratio.
- **2-3 April 2025**: All secondary 5 students will participate in the Model UN outing to PCHS. They will travel by public transport or their own. There is no cost to students.
- **29 April - 1 May 2025**: Leadership camp. 1:10 adult/student ratio.
- **5 June 2025**: Convocation
- **22 June 2025**: Prom for graduating students. The cost is 160\$/student. 1:10 adult/student ratio.

The above were approved unanimously following a motion by N. Lawand, seconded by I. Friednman (23-24-57).

## 10. Reports

- **Principal**: J. Kurta thanked all GB members for being a great, dedicated,

committed board and for participating in this important process. She appreciated the collaborative board, healthy discussions, where members kept the students' best interest at heart. She explained that there is a lot of bureaucracy behind the scenes, and appreciates those who are mindful of all the work that goes on behind the scenes. She enjoyed her time at JRHS. It was her first time working in the West Island, she has never worked in the adult sector. She is hoping to bridge the gap between the youth and the adult sector.

- **Staff:** The report was uploaded to the [shared drive](#) for the meeting.
- **Students:** No report was presented, as the students reps were absent.
- **LBPSB Parents Committee Representative:** The report was uploaded to the [shared drive](#) for the meeting.
- **Commissioner:** No report was presented, as the commissioner was absent.

#### 11. Correspondence

- D. Bensimon informed the meeting that the summary of the Council of Commissioners meetings held on 28 May 2024 is posted in the [shared drive](#)
- D. Bensimon indicated that the latest issue of the Pearson News was available by clicking on the [Pearson News](#).

#### 12. Varia

- D. Bensimon thanked all staff members and teachers for their hard work. He thanked J. Kurta and wished her the best in her new position. He also thanked all the fellow parents for their commitment and showing up at GB meetings. He also thanked the secretary.

#### 13. Date and location of Next Meeting

- Should another meeting of the Governing Board be required before the AGA, the date of September 18, 2024 was identified, possibly via Zoom.

#### 14. Adjournment

**23-24-58:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by P. Giakoumatos at 8:22pm & was passed unanimously.

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

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

J. Kurta, Principal

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

D. Bensimon, *Governing Board Chair*