

John F. Kennedy High School Governing Board Minutes for meeting held on Oct. 19, 2022 at 7 P.M.

Virtual

PRESENCE:

Parents:

Ms. Sophie Camard, Ms. Marlihan Lopez, Ms. Silvy Gomes-Pires

Administration:

Ms. Libroia Amato & Mr. Vito Campbell-Guerriero

Teachers/Staff:

Ms. Nathalie Cloutier, Mr. Anthony Tonin, Ms. Alessandra Zanello, Mr. Gerry Tulio

Community Rep:

None

Student Reps:

Christopher Millioto & Alissa Braccio

Commissioner:

Mr. Agostino Cannavino

PPO:

None

Public:

None

Regrets:

Ms. Gerri Bressier

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented on motion by Mr. Gerry Tulio, seconded by Ms. Nathalie Cloutier.

2. Approval of the minutes of June 2022

The minutes of the meeting held in June 2022 will be approved in the next meeting since there were no copies available.

3. **Business arising from the Minutes**

No business arising from previous minutes.

4. New Business

- 1. Election of Chair for 2022-2023 Ms. Sophie Camard
- 2. Appointment of Regional Delegate Ms. Marlihan Lopez volunteered to be Parent delegate and Ms. Silvy Gomes-Pires volunteered to be the alternate.

3. GB Rules and operation – Ms. Alessandra Zanello motioned to allow the school to go on day trips without coming to the Governing Board for permission, this was seconded by Ms. Nathalie Cloutier, and unanimously approved.

5. Principal's & Vice-Principal's Reports

- 1. <u>Open House</u> will be held on November 3rd at 6:30. The event was posted on social media. A team from JFK has also visited other elementary schools to promote the school and we were also providing bus transportation to elementary schools who were interested in visiting our school. There were treats and flyers given to the students during their visit. The members of the Governing Board were invited to come to the Open House to help with the meet and greet of new parents and students. If you are interested, please call or email Ms. Amato or Mr. Guerriero so they can plan the locations posted.
- 2. <u>Career Fair</u> was held once again at St. Pius X building for students in Sec. 3, 4, and 5 on October 19th. This year JFK is helping students prepare for their applications for CEGEPS which starts in January after the holidays. Both Mr. Gerry Tulio and Mr. Alex Beckford (Guidance counsellor) are joining forces to guide the students in preparation for this. For example, they are learning how to prepare to write their CV's.
- 3. Chocolate Drive was initiated as a fundraiser to collect for student activities. The profits from this drive would allow the school to have these activities without asking for parents to contribute more money. The students were called to the office and asked if they would be willing and able to sell the chocolates. Some students accepted and others declined to take the chocolates. It was not mentioned to parents but there is another option to contribute a donation of 45\$ (profit margin of sale per box) if no chocolates were being sold. The parents from the Governing Board were asked for feedback and they agreed that due to lack of time that this option would be best for them. There will be an update on the sales at the next meeting as well as updates on any expenses occurred during the year. No deadline was established but collections are expected to be at the end of October. There will be gift cards to the top three sellers. The type of gift cards will be chosen by the winners.
- 4. Resource Teachers are preparing the IEP's in time for the Parent/Teacher Interviews. There are two full time resource teachers this year in charge of this task, Mr. Kazamias and Mr. Eric Muoio. Being their first time, they are carefully getting the new IEP's for the new students ready, as well

as the modifications done for the returning students. They are also planning to get laptops for students who don't have. WOTP and Aim High have their own resource teachers to help with this task. Our teachers along with our Guidance counsellor are asked to review, discuss and readjust any modifications done to the IEP reports which are locked away in the Guidance Office.

6. <u>Treasurer's Report</u>

Ms. Alessandra was appointed as treasurer. At this time, there is no amount to present because the school is still waiting on the Budget Report which should be available in November. The amount should remain the same as previous years which is 250\$ plus the roll over from 2021-2022.

7. <u>Teacher's & Staff Report</u>

Ms. Natalie Cloutier reports that teachers are preparing the progress reports which are already available on the Mozaik Portal and are communicating with parents by phone or email. Term 1 is coming to an end on November 4th so marks will be available soon.

Teachers are also getting prepared for the Open House with activities.

Mr. Tonin mentioned that there are several events that involve the staff and students starting Friday, October 21st in the Plaza which will include a fundraiser for Breast Cancer awareness month and for Women's shelter which is led by the CCW team.

Student council is also preparing for Halloween activities, and preparations for the November Food and Toy Drive is also coming along with help from Mr. Tonin, Mr. Kazamias and Ms. Alie our Spiritual Animator.

Our Spiritual Community Animator & Project Development Officer reported on the following:

- Observing and getting to know the school community
- Oasis is opened 2 days a week, it's starting to be frequented by quite a few students!
- Launch Peer Mentoring Program, sec 1 & Aim high matched with sec 5s (32 mentees and 16 mentors signed up so far)
- The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Ribbons for Reconciliation, every person in the building tied a ribbon on our community wreath as a symbol of our remembrance. The wreath was hung outside for the afternoon so our community could see the display.
- Starting a Gender Sexuality Alliance in partnership with the art teacher Ms. Reyes
- Launching a new physical activity for students in partnership with Ms. Ste Croix: Kickboxing for Mental Health
- Developing SEL workshops for AIM HIGH and Sec. 1

Coming up for the Spiritual Community Animator in the next month:

- Launching Peer Mentorship Program, GSA, Kickboxing and SEL activities
- Remembrance Day observation
- Organizing Volunteer opportunities for sec. 5
- Supporting JFK students during the Headstrong Conference

The Project Development Officer, Mr. Gerry Tullio reports on the following:

<u>Kairos Blanket Exercise</u>-On September 21th & 22th, Sec 3 and 4 students participated in the "Blanket Exercise". Through this experiential learning, our students were brought over 400 years or Indigenous history in Canada, from Turtle Island to today.

<u>Prevention</u> - October to beginning of November, we are doing a whole prevention campaign. Various organizations will be presenting to all levels.

Presentations are:

Sec 1 & AH- My Independence Matters to Me (drugs) – Maison Jean Lapointe (MJL)

Sec 1 & AH - Anti-vaping - Drop the Vape

Sec. 2 - Beyond the Screens (cyber)- MJL

Sec 2-5 & WOTP: Drug prevention – Focusing on Individual, friends and family – (substance abuse)

Camp Lift

Sec 5 - Matter of Chance - Gambling (MJL)

Headstrong Summit – This is through the Mental Health Commission of Canada, Oct. 25th, 26th and 27th, 12 JFK students will participate for 90-minute presentations with other east end schools, by video conference. They will hear speakers on mental health, stigma, have some activities. After the event, their goal will be to establish a Headstrong committee and to do monthly mental health and anti-stigma campaigns. They will also receive \$1,000 in funding from our community partner REISA. Students will be responsible to fill out the fund request, with their ideas, projects and final report in March, under supervision of a teacher/staff member. Sec 5 students will also receive a letter of recommendation for their CEGEP applications.

<u>Carrefour Jeaunesse Emploi</u> – We have resumed our partnership with CJE. They will be at JFK every Wednesday for students. In last 2 weeks, Alex has already met with 6 students to help write their cv and explain where the job market is. Alex will also be doing some class presentations working with teachers and offering workshops, such as – The Jobs of the Future.

<u>Herzl Family Clinic</u> – On November 1st, the Herzl will be presenting to our sec 2 and 4 groups. These presentations will be done online and cover mental health, sex/sexuality/ substance abuse, and any topic the students bring up. They will send a link a week before where students can ask questions anonymously and also during the presentations a link will be supplied so they can ask during presentations. The presenters are a doctor, medical residents and students.

<u>Public Health</u> – We are continuing the pilot project with Direction de Sante Publique (DRSP), we have four meetings scheduled this year.

Monthly Dignity – Today I re-established our partnership with MD. This is a non-profit that provides menstrual products to help fight "Period Poverty". They will provide us with various products, pads, tampons. We also discussed a pilot project, where they will do presentations to students explaining importance, and new products such as reusable pads, menstrual cups. These are newer products that help economically, environmentally, etc. These presentations would be inclusive, to all students once we pick a level, if approved.

Educaide – reached out to verify if our file is still open or needs to be reopened. This is part of Caisse Desjardins, in the past week could register to up to six students. Those students would get \$500.00 for perseverance. This can be repeat for students. Example, a sec 3 student gets \$500 this year, when they move on to sec 4, we can reapply for same student, until sec 5 and every year replace students in lower levels. Waiting for reply. Gerry explained that the school must nominate a student(s) (up to 6). There are no criteria except that the student must write a letter explaining how they would benefit from this contribution. The deadline for this is sometime in October or November. The money granted can be used to buy the student something they need. Therefore, the student can give a wish list. This can include for example, clothes or a laptop. No gift cards will be purchased with this money. Gerry volunteered to purchase the items on the wish list and the school would later reimburse him.

<u>John Abbott Police Tech</u> – was approached for a pilot project. They would do presentations for our sec 4 & 5 students. The presentation would be about drugs, consequences of using, being arrested in possession. Also, to promote their program. In the spring they would present on the Young Offenders Act, what happens when you get arrested, process, youth rights and also break myths, ex: "Once I turn 18, it disappears – FALSE!

Ms. Marlihan Lopez also suggested that even though these programs are extremely helpful to our students, that there could be other alternatives such as mindfulness programs which have shown to work well with the Art Therapy, especially for AIM High students. Ms. Amato added that these

programs offer great support to their students who already live in stressful times and welcomes any ideas that can offer the same support.

It was also mentioned that the Sex Education classes will return for all students to start in January. The government has provided modules and topics for all levels. This will be brought up to the Governing Board for approval before the holidays.

Ms. Sophie Camard asked if it was possible to have these programs/interventions be added to a calendar on the school's website if not already there.

8. Student's Report

Student council had 35 members participating during Curriculum Night with a Bake Sale. The profit from this came out to \$224.15. There were Halloween prizes already purchased with this money which totaled \$79.78. The balance left is \$144.37. There remains to buy face paint with some of the profits.

There will be Halloween activities in the Plaza between October 25th and 31st during lunch. There will be 7 students per day selling baked goods as well as many other fun activities.

The student council will also be participating in the Open House.

9. PPO Report

No PPO was elected this year.

10. <u>Delegate's Report</u>

The first meeting will be held on October 20th. Ms. Marlihan will share with the Governing Board the key points discussed at the meeting. If there are any voting sessions necessary during these meetings, we trust that Ms. Marlihan will vote in the school's best interest.

11. Correspondence

It was suggested that we replace the title correspondence with emails, and everyone agreed.

12. Question Period - nil

13. Varia

13.1	Meetings will be held on every 3 rd Wednesday of every month either in person or virtually
	at 7 P.M. Members can use the staff parking to park during the meetings.
	The date of the meetings are as follows:
	 November 16th virtually
	 December 21st social get together TBD
	 January 18th, location TBD
	 February 15th, location TBD
	March 22 nd , location TBD

- April 19th, location TBD
- May 17th, location TBD
- June 14th, location TBD
- 13.2 Rules of Conduct will be discussed in our next meeting.

Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 8:25 on motion by Gerry Tulio, seconded by Marlihan Lopez.

Ms. Sophie Camard

Chair

Ms. Liboria Amato (on behalf of)

Principal