

John F. Kennedy High School Governing Board Minutes for meeting held on February 15th, 2023 at 7 P.M. Virtual

PRESENCE:

Parents: Ms. Sophie Camard, Ms. Marlihan Lopez, Ms. Silvy Gomes-Pires, Ms. Gerri Bressier

Administration: Mr. Vito Campbell-Guerriero

Teachers/Staff: Ms. Nathalie Cloutier, Mr. Anthony Tonin, Ms. Alessandra Zanello, Mr. Gerry Tulio

Community Rep: None Student Reps: None

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Commissioner: Mr. Agostino Cannavino

PPO: None

Public: None

Regrets: Ms. Liboria Amato, Christopher Millioto, Alissa Braccio

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented on motion by Nathalie Cloutier, seconded by Silvy Gomes-Pires.

2. Adoption of the minutes of January 18th

The minutes of the meeting held on January 18th were approved unanimously as written on a motion by Gerry Tulio, seconded by Alessandra Zanello.

3. Business arising from the Minutes

3.1 CEGEP applications and Sec 5 orientation – CEGEP application deadline is March 1st. Secondary 5 students are reminded regularly. There are pamphlets available at the Guidance Counsellor's office for both CEGEP and trade programs. Both Mr. Alex and Gerry Tulio have set up appointments to meet the students to help with the process. A committee was formed with Vito Guerriero, Gerry Tulio and Mr. Alex to discuss ideas on how to improve the process to make it easier for students in the future. Important to be more proactive with those students who have not decided on which path they will follow. It was suggested that maybe some feedback from students and parents through a survey would be helpful for next year. Mr. Alex posted all the information on

open houses for all the schools on the Guidance board. Gerry Tulio also makes regular announcements for the Secondary 5 students. Both are always available to help students complete their applications after school. Ms. Gerri Bressier suggested that our tutors help the students on how to apply for CEGEP or even have postgraduates return to give some advice and suggestions about the process. Gerry Tulio added that the trade programs are very popular this year, but students tend to procrastinate and must be pushed to apply. Sophie Camard mentioned that starting the process in Secondary 4 might make it easier for the students when it comes time to choose and apply. A reminder that Secondary 4 students already go to the Career Fair at St. Pius.

3.2 Prom preparations – The prom date was decided to be on June 21st at Plaza Vogue. Everyone was very pleased with this location last year and are negotiating a price. Information will go out to Secondary 5 parents as soon as more details are available. To help with the costs, the students will be having fundraisers such as bake sales during lunch time and the sale of gym bags that were donated by Roots Canada. Every student at the school already received a complementary bag but if they would like to get more, the bags will be selling for 5\$ each. Each secondary 5 student will be given 5 bags to sell. A letter will be sent out to parents advising them of this. When the weather improves, Ms. Hranek is also planning on selling hotdogs and popsicles. The school will also donate candy to sell. The school has challenged the students to whoever can sell the most, will get their prom ticket for free. The fundraising will be to help the costs for the DJ and the photo booth. If necessary, parents will be asked to help with the decorations and balloons.

4. New Business

- 4.1 Budget Building Process 2023-2024– This process allows the school to evaluate the needs of the school and put in place a request to the school board. For example, in the past, we have requested more resource support and Child Care Workers to support our classrooms. This has resulted in getting two resource teachers which never was possible before. As a result of this, the IEP's have been going very well with the extra support. Also, the SSC room is fully operating with two people supporting the students. Here is a summary of last year's Budget Building Process in order of priority:
- 1. Increase literacy and numeracy initiatives for increasing staff and materials resources for English, French, Math and History.
- 2. Increase current staffing for resource personnel (Guidance Counsellor, Child Care Workers, Behavior Technicians, Psychologist, Social Worker, Spiritual Animator, Drug Addiction Counsellor) a. With the ratio of Special needs that we have, it is mandatory that we should have a least 2 full-time resource teachers.
- 3. Increase IT resources (including professional development and technology materials)

- a. With one third of our student population using assistive technologies on a daily basis, we require more service hours from the technicians.
- 4. Increase health and social services professionals to address academic, emotional, social and behavioural issues (behaviour therapists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, psychologists)
- 5. Ensure proper funding for building maintenance, building security, and repair projects (improvements, security and cameras, repair projects and daily caretaking)

We should try to maintain what we already have this year and apply extra support. Maintain a Child Care Worker in each classroom. Request additional IT support for more than twice a week. Always need extra to maintain the building for example the school bathrooms. Our Occupational Therapist, Olivia Colillo comes in once a week and our Speech Therapist is in school 2 – 3 times a week mostly with Aim High. All our professionals are essential and necessary to have on sight. Mr. Cannavino can assist the school if more help is needed urgently.

Projections for next year continues to be consistent between 310 and 320 students. Sophie reminded us that 65% of the school population has an IEP so resources are very much necessary to support our students. There will be 71 students graduating this year and it is still too early to know how many new secondary 1 students we will have. Registrations tend to run a little late which makes it impossible to project. Other factors are the Aim High program which may need to open a third classroom. There is a Mesure Class – Special Allocation 10 to 12 students on waiting list to add to the document. A draft will be presented at the next meeting in March to approve.

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

Staff Appreciation is this week. There are treats given out during the week and a lunch will be provided on Friday.

Unfortunately, our tubing outing was cancelled because not enough students participating. None the less, the Aim High and WOTP students will still be going to the outing since majority of the students have requested to go. There is a possibility of having another outing to Caban a Sucre in March. More information to come.

The Breakfast Club of Canada in collaboration with Roger Sports Net and WWE is coming to the school to promote the WWE's major event, Smackdown which will take place this Friday. The school will be receiving 4 talented wrestlers who will be talking to our students in the auditorium and giving out breakfast to everyone. Students will be permitted to take pictures with the stars. Tickets for the event were donated to the school and will be randomly given to 10 students on Friday.

6. Treasurer's Report

The balance remains at \$255.00.

7. Teacher's & Staff Report

Nathalie reports that teachers are finalizing the second term marks which are due on Friday, February 17th. Secondary 5 students are finishing with the signing of their grad hoodie. The color chosen was a shade of Red and Royal Blue. The memo will be going out to the parents at the end of the week to place the orders. Each hoodie will cost \$35 and will be delivered by late March. Students are not obligated to buy the hoodie.

Anthony Tonin reports that the graduates are getting their messages ready for the yearbook. Mr. Muoio is giving them time to get them done during Media, English class or at home.

Spiritual Community Animator & Project Development Officer Report:

Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi – Resumed on January 18th 2023. They will be hosting a "Job Fair" next month. We have announced this to students so that they can do cv. Last Wednesday Alice saw 4 students and booked 3 more. Also has been doing presentations in sec 5 classes on "Jobs of the Future".

Camp Lift – Resumed on January 16th. Two groups, juniors' period 3 and seniors' period 4.

YWCA – Will be presenting to our sec 3 groups in February 16. This will be the second part of the relationship presentations, on "Healthy Relationships".

Public Health – Some staff assisted to a presentation on the "Hors Piste" program on February 8th. We have a "hors Piste" committee and will be having a planning session with Santé Publique in April for training in September. We had a meeting with them today and we are looking at planning a training for staff for next school year, the topic "First aid for mental health".

In My Skin – Medical students will be presenting to our sec 2 groups on skin care. They will discuss issues that affect adolescent skin and skin care, eg: acne, psoriasis, eczema, etc. Also, how companies market skin products and what you should be buying, against what they really needed. This program was overseen and approved by pediatric dermatologists,

Mental health – Today (Feb. 15), our sec 3,4 and 5 groups received a presentation on mental health, stigma and how to take care. Great participation from students.

Digital Security – Upcoming after break, our sec 1 and Aim High groups will be receiving a presentation on "Digital Security". We are also arranging a partnership with LMAC to do an online presentation for parents. The parent workshop will also be offered to parents of grade 5 and 6 students from our feeder schools. A night for great information and exposure for JFK.

Improv/acting – With our community partner, REISA, the actors in film club will receive 5 acting classes. This will be after school from 3-4pm. The workshops will be paid by REISA.

Marilhan asked if the school has any events planned for Black History Month. Mr. Guerriero and Gerry assured that the Spiritual Animator is on top of the event. Instead of focusing on one main

presentation, the staff is getting the students involved with Black History everyday by learning about a Canadian Black person from A – Z. Teachers are all getting the students involved in their own classrooms, such as Ms. Hranek with Black Mathematicians and Ms. Trish with Canadian Black authors. Ms. Ally displays social media images of Canadian Black figures, and she has also started a Scavenger hunt which includes history and facts from Black history. Gerry Tulio also mentioned that they are looking to partner up with the Montreal Steppers to create the J.F.K. steppers group. A lunch for the students will be served on Friday, February 24th to honor Black history month. It was suggested that we consider inviting Ms. Josa Maule who is the owner of the Montreal School of Performing Arts and has written and directed many plays such as "When Africa ruled Empires". Gerri Bressier showed her gratitude and also suggested the school looks into the Museum of Fine Arts during Black History Month where they present a variety of Black Canadian contemporary art.

8. Student's Report

No one present to report.

9. PPO Report

No PPO was elected this year.

10. Delegate's Report

Ms. Marlihan reported that the following was discussed at the meeting on February 2nd:

- Presentation on Bill 96 and the impacts on Education
- Budget Building process 23-24
- School Calendar 23-24
- Annual training will be available to all EMSB staff on Bullying

Marlihan mentioned that March is women's month. Focus on gender equality and women's right and movement discussion to bring to the school.

11. Correspondence/Emails - nil

12. Question Period – nil

13. Varia - nil

Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 8:26 on motion by Marlihan Lopez, seconded by Alessandra Zanello.

Ophic Buds

Ms. Sophie Camard

Chair

Mr. Vito Cambpell-Guerrero

Principal