

John Adam Memorial School
Governing Board Minutes
Wednesday, April 5, 2023
Teams

Minutes of the proceedings of the Governing Board of John Adam Memorial School held virtually via Teams platform, March 5, 2023.

1. Call to order

The chair established that quorum was met and called the meeting to order 7:06 P.M.

Present:

Steven Carroll
Melinda D'Adamo
Marie-Josée Dumont
Robert Roy
Geneviève Pinard
Josie D'Adamo
Roxane Mariez
Sherry Keddy
Agata Nowicka
Andrew Maroney
Tim Haltigin
Katrina Boismier
Brian Peddar

Regrets:

Sophia Ammendolea

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Wednesday, April 5, 2023, Agenda was adopted

Moved by Robert Roy, seconded by Josie D'Adamo

Unanimous

3. Approval of February 22, 2023 Minutes

Minutes of the February 22, 2023 meeting were adopted

Moved by Sherry Keddy, seconded by Josie D'Adamo

Unanimous

4. Public Forum

No public present.

5. Business Arising

5.1. School Calendar

5.1.1. Riverside Schoolboard has asked the schools to review the 2023-2024 calendar that had been published because our spring break it was not aligned by Marie-Victorin's and it was an issue due to safety (brigadiers), Day camp...

- 5.1.2. 1st day back after March Break, we usually have a ped day and it was changed to the Friday before the break (March 1st). There is also a ped day on the Monday of the same week (Feb 26). This is because the calendar “project” had been published, in which the March Break was the last week of February, and parents had already booked vacation for that week. By having 2 ped days during that week, these kids will only miss 3 school days.
- 5.1.3. Tim asks how many parents have complained because it seems that changing the whole calendar for a few people is very inconvenient, especially because parents will have to cover for 2 ped days in a week then the March Break.
- 5.1.4. One of the 2 ped days might be conditional.
- 5.1.5. For the years to come, are schoolboards planning to communicate better so that this situation does not happen? The Centres de services do a year by year calendar whereas the Schoolboard has a 2-year planning (skeleton calendar).
- 5.1.6. Josie mentions that she works at Lester B. Pearson, which had a different March Break and it was a problem for many reasons.
- 5.1.7. Mme Marie-Josée reminds us that the ped days’ goal is to allow teachers to work and to plan their pedagogical activities. Having 2 ped days in the same week to accommodate parents does not contribute to meeting the objective.
- 5.1.8. School based ped days are often planned when there is a long stretch without days off in the calendar. Normally, JAM plan that day in April or May because it’s an intense period.
- 5.1.9. Next year, no ped day after March break, which is not ideal for teachers because they usually use that day to set up their class and get ready to go back to class.
- 5.1.10. M. Carroll will bring our comments to the next Council of Commissioners’ meeting.

5.2. Field trip

Grade 2 Palais du patin, for both grade 2 classes, and grade 5s will go to help the younger ones with the skates.

Grade 2, trip to Cégep Edouard Montpetit. We will charge a minimum of 5\$ per kid, maybe 10\$, depending on the finances.

Unanimously

5.3. PPO

Spring fundraiser: Colibri. Reusable bags, plastic containers, snack bags, reusable straws...50% return. Online, easy to order and easy to manage by PPO. Fits with our sustainable policy.

Moved by Sherry Keddy, seconded by Robert Roy

Unanimous

5.4. Color Run

Saturday June 3rd.

6. New Business

6.1. Subject Time Allocation

M. Carroll has revised the Subject Time Allocation. Staff and Governing Board are satisfied with various allocations.

6.2. Staffing Update

Wendy Cummings has announced her retirement and the Board Members wish her all the best.

6.3. Field Trips & Fundraisers

6.3.1. Camping Trip

Staff is looking into a bike camping trip for cycle 3 at Iles de Boucherville. There is another possibility in Eastern Townships but a grant would be needed because this option is expensive.

6.3.2. Heritage Visit - February 24, 2023

Heritage pays for transportation, grade 5s are going to Heritage for a vernissage and recital.

Approval moved by Robert Roy, seconded by Marie-Josée Dumont Unanimous

6.3.3. Edouard Montpetit (grade 2) – May 26, 2023

End of year outing at site multisports, bus transportation is already reserved; we are trying to minimize the costs.

6.3.4. Musée des Beaux Arts (K, Grade 1 – June 14, 2023)

The cost of the outing will be covered in majority by the measures for school outings. 5\$ will be charged to the parents for supplementary expenses such as snacks or resources for classrooms.

Approval moved by Robert Roy, seconded by Josie Iannuzzi Unanimous

6.3.5. Cycle 3 Fundraiser (Play & Snacks)

Cycle 3 students and students from Mrs Burton's Drama Club are preparing a play for the parents. Tickets will be sold as a fundraiser for graduation. Will be held on May 19, 2023.

Approval moved by Sherry Keddy, seconded by Marie-Josée Dumont Unanimous

6.3.6. JAM Cookbook Fundraiser

Details will be sent by proxy.

Approval moved by Roxane Mariez, seconded by Robert Roy Unanimous

7. Reports

7.1. Chairperson's Report

Nothing to report.

7.2. Principal Report

- Full at kindergarten level for staffing. We have 8 students over limit, 2 are in process of evaluation for Autism spectrum (which count for more than 1 kid). We are trying to have bigger classes with extra teaching staff.
- K celebration will take place but the date is not determined yet.
- K orientation will be a bit different. Will be like Histoire de famille, parents and kids are coming for an event. A second event will be organized where the parents will have a separate meeting with school team.
- School supplies are not ready yet.
- Staffing: 8 sections of immersions, 6 of English for next year

7.3. Parent Committee Representative Report

Both representatives are absent.

7.4. Daycare Report

Nothing to report.

7.5. Teacher’s Report

- Thanks to the parents and M. Carroll for staff appreciation week.
- Students for drama club have created and presented plays on bullying for younger students. Was really appreciated.

7.6. PPO Report

- March 25, 2023: Cabane à sucre urbaine, community event. Everything will be cooked by kitchen crew. Will be 20\$ per person.
- Spring Fundraiser campaign is coming and Color run in June.

7.7. CLC Report

Nothing to report.

8. Varia

None

9. Date of next meetings

- Next meetings will be held on April 12, 2023 and May 24, 2023.

10. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm

Melinda D’Adamo, Chairperson

Steven Carroll, School Principal