

**John F Kennedy High School
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
November 18th, 2025**

Present: S. Dector, L. Fiumidinisi, M. Mancini, H. Michalopoulos, J. Serraiocco, S. Sollazzo, A. Tonin, G. Tullio, J. Venditti, F. Vetrone

Absence: P. Kilian

1. Approval of agenda:

Motion to approve by G. Tullio, seconded by A. Tonin. All in favour.

2. Approval of minutes: tabled.

3. Business arising

3.1 November 27th: Early student dismissal parent/teacher interviews

Motion to approve by S. Sollazzo, seconded by J. Venditti. All in favour.

4. New Business

4.1 Delegate / Alternate

F. Vetrone will be the PC delegate.

4.2 Cadet Boys Soccer

A highlight was that the team won the Championship this fall season after a bit of a hiatus. The boys were celebrated at school with a pizza lunch organized by one of the fathers.

5. Chairperson Report

5.1 – Various items:

Bike Path

Update: Paula has contacted the provincial elected official. Will update us with any further communication.

Lockers

A. Tonin has confirmed that lockers that are in bad shape have been identified and bolted or have been repaired with the help of our caretaker. Special attention has been given to the secondary 1

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and 2 lockers as well. H. Michalopoulos will look into any unused lockers at RTC and adult center. A. Tonin said with WOTP, they can pitch in to remove any lockers to save contractor costs.

Pool

Paula may come visit the facility to get a better understanding, however the costs to repair would be in the millions for both EMSB and city. A. Tonin explained that pool use for Physical Education was minimal and not a major asset to attracting students, and finding lifeguards in the day proved problematic in the past, meaning postponement of activities. Under the conditions and budget needed to have a pool, not worth the investment in his opinion.

5.2 Promotion Committee

H. Michalopoulos will get a marketing committee with teachers in the coming days, and discuss ideas such as getting some testimonials. H. Michalopoulos will also speak with a contact from CTV to see what he can come up with. Will also discuss with the school board if they have any money for marketing to help out the school.

5.3 Canada Helps. Choose JFK High School

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/english-montreal-schoolboardcommission-scolaire-english-mo/>

This can be used for online donations as an official website. H. Michalopoulos points out however that this website keeps 15% of the donation amount, and cheques can still be possible to make and tax receipts can still be made out by financial services at the school board to those who choose this method to avoid the fees.

5.4 General Bathroom Maintenance

Issues arising from soap dispensers and/or sinks not working. Has been brought up with caretaking to look into for the specific areas.

6. Principal/VP report:

- Discussion on Pathways, a program for a select group of students who were struggling and would benefit from smaller group settings in secondary 4 in order to give them a greater chance of passing. Due to government cuts last minute, this was removed for this year. Will discuss with school board for next year to keep the program.

7. Treasurer Report: none.

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8. Teacher's report:

- Term 1 has ended, report cards will be out shortly, and teachers are preparing for the interviews on the 27th.
- IEPs are being updated now that term 1 is over, and the documents will be sent to families to be signed and returned.
- Halloween week was busy with activities and the Soc Hop on the afternoon of Halloween.
- There was a Remembrance day activity with our PDCIA Vince Lacroce with 3 speakers and a traveling museum including old WW2 uniforms. He is also working on a Holocaust museum field trip for our secondary 5 students coming up.
- Fit to Fight program: first session is tomorrow with A. Tonin being the liaison. 20 students will benefit from the program where they will learn how to care for their mental health and physical health.
- Will be taking some students from Fit to Fight and WOTP to PDC Elementary school on December 9th to help with Sox in a Box project where a few thousand pairs of socks are prepared to go to shelters.
- Every year donations are gathered for some JFK families in need, and this year is no exception. The average is usually 20-30 families.
- The Girls Group will continue their annual Shoebox project with Ms. Marietta, and donations will be going to women's shelters. They will put together the boxes by December 1st and the organizations will then come to pick them up.
- Our boys flag football team, with players from secondary 2 to 5, did amazingly well this year despite the other teams having only secondary 5 players. JFK made it all the way to the playoffs and the students had a wonderful experience.
- Many other sports teams are in the works and doing well, both boys and girls teams (volleyball, badminton, etc.).

9. Student Services report:

- The HOPS program (Hospital Opportunity Program) is starting up. Two of our students were accepted and 1 is on the waiting list. After a lengthy application and interview process, they do their rounds with doctors and get to see first hand how things work at the hospital.
- Gem Star Circle of Excellence Scholarship Program: for black high school students, it is an opportunity to connect with a professional mentor who can guide them through their academic and career journey, a program of success, workshops

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geared to encourage and develop financial, emotional, physical skills and help students to develop professionally for their future careers from October to April. It also comes with a \$1,500 scholarship at graduation. One of our students was nominated and has won the scholarship this year.

- Supplemental exams: Students who have failed ministry exams last year will have the opportunity to retake them in January. Science and History preparation classes after school have been going on for weeks now to help them review for the exams.
- Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi (CJE): There was great participation this year. Amalan presented himself to secondary 3 to 5 students and every Monday he sees a couple students to help them prepare CVs if they are ready to make one, and if not to get involved with some volunteer experiences.
- McGill has a new scholarship program for graduating students, geared to keep English students stay in the community. More information as G. Tullio learns more.
- Arranging a “Know Your Rights” program:
 - Sec 5 – A group is reading “Twelve Angry Men. Will organize a mock trial and do a field trip to the Montreal courthouse.
 - Sec 4 – “Your Rights when stopped by police” and “Civil Rights”
 - Sec 3 – YWCA presentation, “Sexual Violence and Exploitation » and « Healthy Relationships”

10. Student’s report: M. Tonin

Halloween week: activities every day in La Place, as well as raising \$250 at a bakesale which will go towards student council and purchasing prizes and supplies for the Holiday season. On Halloween we had a dance last period which was a success. There will be holiday activities the last week of school before the winter break.

11. Delegate report: F. Vetrone

Discussion of the budget: the parents committee has asked the EMSB to hold a presentation to better understand the impact of the current budget on services to students. The director general was present at the meeting and said they tried as much as possible to avoid impacts on students.

There was a budget for the Parents Committee that was cut. Some of this money went to literacy awards for schools, so this is not available this year unless the PC finds sponsors for this year to keep it alive.

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It was mentioned to report back to governing boards to make sure that a 'to-do' list is followed. For example, governing board should find, review and edit as needed the internal rules, make sure that dates are sent out in advance, and make sure to invite our commissioner.

Bill 94 and enforcement of laicity within the schools was discussed. This can affect students and parent volunteers. PC passed a motion to write a letter to the English Parents Committee Association on behalf of the PC to advocate for the laws to be revoked or altered.

Governing Boards cannot use external email accounts for documents or emails.

A discussion was had about PPOs and how parents become a part of it.

In the PC, there are several subcommittees. F. Vetrone has volunteered to be on the Road Safety Committee.

12. Commissioner's report: none.

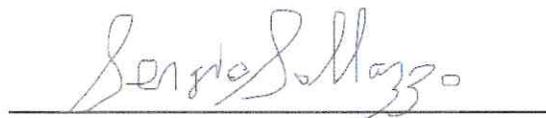
13. Correspondence: none

14. Question period: none

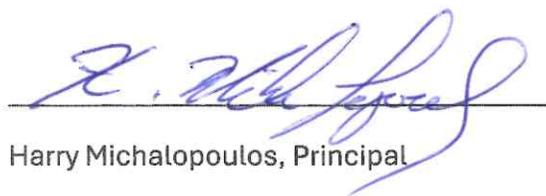
15. Varia: none

16. Next Meetings: December 16th, 2025, with a social / supper at 6 p.m. before the meeting.

17. Motion to end meeting: 8:30 p.m. First by J. Venditti, seconded by F. Vetrone. All in favor.



Sergio Sollazzo, Governing Board Chair



Harry Michalopoulos, Principal