California Junior Classical League
Executive Board Meeting
Virtually Held
January 9, 2021, 9:00 a.m.
1 • IX • MMXXI

To Do List:

All Board Members will:
- Check their emails regularly.
- Read the minutes and send corrections to secretary@cajcl.org.

Rupert Chen will:
- Find a cause/organization to work with for State Service
- Continue running the Service Spotlight
- Work on preparing the student-acted JCL play

Sonia Agarwal and Ahna Kim will:
- Prepare for State Convention
- Make any necessary changes to the schedule for State Convention

Ava Tynan will:
- Continue working on setting up JCL buddy pairs
- Work on writing the CAJCL proclamation

Elizabeth Casey will:
- Send an email at the end of January to schools with Board application material
- Form the Nominations committee
- Prepare application materials to send in mid-February

Sadie Almgren will:
- Continue running Photo of the Month and Iocus competitions
- Write her article for the Nuntius
- Continue submitting to NJCL’s Photo of the Month contest

Jamie Kim-Worthington will:
- Publish the minutes on the website
- Post an abridged version of the minutes on the CAJCL Instagram

Kabir Ramzan will:
- Redesign the CAJCL logo to include the A
- Create a CAJCL State Convention Discord server
- Reorganize the constitution to a more legible format
- Create an archive Google Drive account
- Create an archive on the CAJCL website

Kaleigh Ruegg will:
- Publish the winter edition of the Nuntius in February

To-Do List for Adults:

Ms. Altieri will:
- Shorten the Dramatic Interpretation and Latin Oratory Passages
- Write five-line Sight Latin passages with the translations

Dr. Briggs will:
- Consult with Mr. Matt Davis about setting up Zoom for Certamen
- Arrange for the finals to be live-streamed
- Get out the information on this year’s competitive certamen in time for the February deadline

Mr. Gumz will:
- Send Ms. Vasquez the Google form for That’s Entertainment!
- Work with the SCL to finalize the method and type of online Olympika for convention

Mr. Laird-Smith will:
- Write the Daily Life test with 75 questions
- Write another test if necessary

Mrs. Masoni will:
- Consult with Ms. Altieri, Ms. Jordt, and Ms. Vasquez about cutting down the number of Graphic Arts categories for this year.
- Send out the changes to the sponsors right away before people start working on their projects.

Mr. Patterson will:
- Find people to write the missing tests
- Find people to proof the tests
- Convert the tests to Google Forms
- Include an opening slide on each test with a statement of honesty for students to sign.

Important Upcoming Dates:
March 6, 2021: CARCER
March 20, 2021: Next Board Meeting
April 9-10, 2021: State Convention at Menlo School

In Attendance:

1. Ahna Kim (Menlo School) – Convention Co-President
2. Sonia Agarwal (Menlo School) – Convention Co-President
3. Ava Tynan (Saint Ignatius College Preparatory) – 1st Vice President
4. Rupert Chen (Harker School) – 2nd Vice President
5. Elizabeth Casey (Sage Hill School) – Parliamentarian
6. Jamie Kim-Worthington (Harvard-Westlake Upper School) – Secretary
7. Sadie Almgren (Menlo-Atherton High School) – Historian
8. Cara Holden (Miramonte High School) – Northern Representative
9. Meghana Krishnan (University High School) - Southern Representative
10. Kaleigh Ruegg (SCHOOL) - Nuntius Editor
11. Kabir Ramzan (Harker School) – Webmaster
12. Ms. Martha Altieri – State Chair
13. Ms. Katie Robinson – Scholarships Chair
14. Ms. Lisa Masoni – Treasurer, Harker Middle School Sponsor
15. Mr. Scott Paterson – Academics Chair, Harker Upper School Sponsor
16. Dr. Brian Briggs – Certamen Chair, St. Francis Sponsor
18. Ms. Sofia Abolfathi – Nuntius Mentor
19. Mr. Jon Gumz – CASCL Advisor
20. Mr. Jordan John Lee - CASCL President
21. Ms. Issy Arroyo - CASCL Parliamentarian
22. Ms. Kiana Hu - CASCL Secretary
23. Mr. Matt Davis – Miramonte High School Sponsor
24. Ms. Grace Curcio – Webmaster Advisor, St. Ignatius Preparatory Sponsor
25. Ms. Lana Sum – St. Ignatius Preparatory Sponsor
27. Ms. Dobbie Vasquez – Open Certamen Chair, Secretary Advisor, Menlo School Sponsor
28. Mr. Josh Davis – Convention Advisor, University High School Sponsor
29. Mr. Jeffrey Feland - Sage Hill Sponsor
30. Mr. Kyle Smith-Laird – State Co-Chair, The Willows School Sponsor

I. Call to Order – Rupert Chen (9:02)
a. Rupert Chen moved to open the meeting; Sadie Almgren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
b. The meeting began at 9:02 am.

II. Minutes from May 16th Meeting – Jamie Kim-Worthington (9:03)
a. Jamie Kim-Worthington gave an overview of the minutes from the previous board meeting. This meeting focused on preparing for Ludi and SCRAM.
b. Rupert Chen moved to approve the minutes; Kaleigh Ruegg seconded. The motion passed.

III. Reimbursement Requests – Lisa Masoni (9:07)
a. Ms. Altieri requested a reimbursement of $239.70 for FileMaker payments.
b. Rupert Chen moved to approve the reimbursement request. Elizabeth Casey seconded the motion.

IV. 2020-2021 Officer Reports
Rupert Chen - (Harker School) – 2nd Vice President (9:08)
a. Rupert Chen has run the regional service project. He received 88 submissions throughout California. He also worked with Cara Holden on the Ludi spirit project. He began the service spotlight, which has been running smoothly.
b. Rupert has been working on state spirit ideas, and he requested a student-acted Classics play, for instance Julius Caesar or Medea. The main goals behind his idea are that second VPs could help organize these plays and students could participate to various extents. Mr. Smith-Laird asked how this would function with the quarantine and lockdown, and Rupert answered that he plans on using Zoom. Ms. Altieri asked how he would get the information out, to which Rupert answered that he will be working with teachers and using social media. Mr. Smith-Laird asked how students would submit the video file, to which Rupert answered that most formats would work. Cara Holden asked if the CAJCL officers could do an example to show students how it would work. Rupert Chen agreed and said he would discuss it with the board after the meeting.
c. For the state service idea, Rupert said that he hopes to have students perform random acts of kindness and submit what they did to the state. He said he plans to have the submission form out by the end of January. Ms. Vasquez asked about the possibility of doing something more need-based, considering the pandemic and the issue of homelessness. She brought up a past opportunity when Menlo School made an Amazon registry, to which local homeless shelters added products they needed. This Amazon fundraiser raised a large amount of money for homeless shelters, which is especially pertinent currently. Jamie Kim-Worthington recommended the organization School on Wheels, which provides school supplies for homeless children. Ms. Vasquez recommended organizations that help nurses in Los Angeles. Kaleigh Ruegg recommended writing letters to essential workers.

cara Holden - (Miramonte High School) – Northern Representative (9:23)
a. Cara Holden reported on Ludi and how it went. The attendance was 363 students and 67 adults, which was a satisfactory turnout. All activities were held over Zoom. Youtube Live was used for General Assemblies, which worked well and was the preferred platform over Zoom Webinar.
b. Throughout the day, the events went well (albeit a few technical difficulties). The best attended events were Kahoot, Certamen, and Among Us. Freeze Dance and the JCL mixer were not well attended, and Cara said she would change those events in the future. Events had to be kept shorter so that people participating in Certamen could participate in some events. There were 4 Colloquia speakers in the first session, and 5 in the second session. All were well attended.
c. Additionally, there were over 40 entries to the Spirit contest. Rupert Chen put together a montage for JCL Spirit that was well-received. The budget was $3,630, and the profit is still being calculated (but estimated to be $1,500, and approximately $750 will be donated to the CAJCL scholarship fund).
d. Overall, Ludi was a huge success and Cara thanked the board for their help.

Meghana Krishnan - (University High School) – Southern Representative (9:35)
a. Meghana Krishnan reported on SCRAM’s success. 443 delegates and 25 chapters attended. The events ran smoothly throughout the day. As Ludi did, SCRAM used Youtube Live. At the first general assembly, there were some technical issues, but the second assembly went very well. Meghana highlighted that streaming the Certamen finals was a great touch.

b. The activities were well-enjoyed, especially Roman Kahoot, Dungeons and Dragons, and the gaming tournaments. One event that didn’t work out as well was Roman Rap Battle, mainly because it was designed to be primarily made of pre-submitted videos. Workshops at SCRAM had good turnout, and virtual certificates were easy to send out.

c. Meghana thanked the board, SCL, and the adults who helped for their aid in SCRAM.

Sonia Agarwal & Ahna Kim - (Menlo School) – Convention Presidents (9:42)

a. Sonia Agarwal and Ahna Kim reported on the planning of State Convention and shared the draft of their schedule.

b. For pre-convention, Sonia requested that teacher signatures not be required. Mr. Smith-Laird mentioned that virtual signatures are a possibility. Mr. Josh Davis requested that a student permission slip be made, for students to understand online etiquette. Mr. Matt Davis said that teacher permission is not important - if there is a problem, reach out to the teacher.

c. Ahna Kim asked if they needed chaperones for judging contests, to which Ms. Vasquez asked if they needed chaperones in general. Ms. Masoni noted that in the past, they judged everything in about 12 hours, and that judging this year would be slowed down. Mr. Smith-Laird asked if submissions would be digital, to which Ms. Vasquez replied that they would be. Dr. Briggs brought up Certamen, and how many chaperones would be needed for the event. Ms. Altieri mentioned that the term “chaperone” was obsolete in this scenario, and were instead judges, scorekeepers, etc.

d. Sonia Agarwal asked about doing That’s Entertainment submissions ahead of time, what platform would be rest for receiving submissions, and who in SCL to send submissions to. Mr. Gumz replied that Google Forms would be best. He also said that the advisor email would be the best place to send submissions.

e. Ahna Kim asked about communicating events, and asked Kabir Ramzan if they should use Discord. Kabir said that he could start creating a Discord server after the meeting and have it ready as soon as possible. Mr. Josh Davis strongly recommended using Discord. Ahna Kim said that they planned on using Sched to see when events were, and using Discord for delegates to chat with other JCLers. Mr. Josh Davis brought up problems with using school emails, including registering for Discord using a school email. Kabir Ramzan strongly advocated for using Discord. Ahna Kim concluded that Discord would be used solely for socializing and would be optional, while Sched would be used for links, times, and schedules.

f. Sonia Agarwal brought up testing, and asked if they could make it a 2-hour testing block. In terms of test length, she asked Mr. Paterson how many questions the test should have. Mr. Paterson said that he didn’t have any strong feelings either way. Ms. Vasquez mentioned that the tests were shorter at Nationals. On the topic of what platform to use for testing, Mr. Davis mentioned that Google Forms was incredibly helpful. Meghana Krishnan agreed and elaborated on how useful Google Forms was. The consensus was that Google Forms will be used, and test lengths will be the same.

i. The topic of cheating was brought up; Mr. Josh Davis said that watching people while testing was going on via Zoom was very helpful. Cara Holden said that once they had gotten results, they sent the top 5 scorers to their sponsor to see if there was anything out of the ordinary. Mr. Matt Davis suggested that students write about the test and morals of cheating to prevent any outlawed behavior.

g. Ahna Kim asked about SCL and if they had any ideas for helping with sports competitions. Mr. Gumz mentioned that they hoped to not do too much pre-convention activity. For push-up competitions, he mentioned that pre-submissions were helpful and were a good anti-cheat measure. Ms. Vasquez concluded that both day-of and pre-submissions should be allowed.

h. Sonia Agarwal asked if SCL needed help with any technology (ie. zoom links) or if they could take care of that. Mr. Lee said that they could take care of technology and that they were okay.
i. Ahna Kim asked if Dr. Briggs needed help with competitive Certamen. Mr. Matt Davis said that they needed help; Dr. Briggs said that he was unsure, and that it would be good to hear input from Ludi and SCRAM. Mr. Matt Davis said that the most important aspect was organizing Zoom links, and that Ahna Kim and Sonia Agarwal should set up multiple, extra accounts for students/SCLers to use, as some sponsors don’t have full-access Zoom accounts.

j. Sonia Agarwal brought up Latin sight reading. Ms. Vasquez said that instead of putting students in a waiting room and giving them 10 minutes, they would be brought into the judges’ room, be given the Latin and the translation, and perform it for the judges. The main distinction between this event and past events is giving the students the translation and focusing instead on pronunciation. Ms. Altieri noted that numbers for sight reading have gone down, but this year’s turnout is still unknown.

   i. Ms. Robinson asked about the content of passages, as JCL has had criticism of our choices of passage. Ms. Altieri said that the content wasn’t relevant, and would make sure that the content wasn’t controversial.

k. Ahna Kim asked about Open Forum/Candidate’s Forum- specifically if the Parliamentarian needed to meet with the candidates. Elizabeth Casey noted that there was an issue with multiple students from the same school applying for office (including 6 from Harvard-Westlake and 4 from Harker). Ms. Altieri said that schools must choose 2 candidates to apply, and no more.

   i. Elizabeth Casey mentioned that she needed members for a Nominations Committee, who specifically didn’t go to a school that has people applying from it. Ms. Vasquez said that it was too soon to think of it, and that application packets would be sent out mid-February. Mr. Matt Davis, Mr. Smith-Laird, and Dr. Briggs all agreed that sending out applications earlier, ie. February 1st instead of mid-February, would be better.

l. Sonia Agarwal brought up awards and the possibility of sending ribbons to award winners. She also suggested doing school overall awards but no individual overall awards. Ms. Masoni said that it would be alright if it was a no-ribbon year. Ms. Vasquez said that they planned on just sending certificates and not sending ribbons or school awards.

m. Finally, Ahna Kim asked how to end Convention; they have Closing Ceremony, World Series of Certamen, and That’s Entertainment. The planned time of ending is 8:15.

   i. There are also two time slots with nothing planned: lunch on Friday and dinner on Saturday. This was generally approved.

n. Ms. Altieri brought up some minor issues with the White Booklet; however, generally the White Booklet will be left as is.

Ava Tynan - (St. Ignatius College Preparatory) – 1st Vice President (11:14)

a. In regards to recruitment, this has been a hard year- almost every school has said that they cannot make a chapter this year, but are interested in being contacted next year.

b. A school called the Gooden School is interested in the CAJCL and attended SCRAM. Ava Tynan asked if there were any scholarships that could be given to them. Ms. Vasquez said that they plan on charging $20, which should cover the costs of convention.

c. In regards to engagement, Ava set up the JCL buddies for SCRAM. She set up 3 pairs during Ludi and SCRAM, and hopes to make more soon.

d. Sophie Reynolds started making a proclamation for CAJCL last year, and Ava Tynan hopes to continue her work. As she finishes the proclamation, Ava will update the board.

Elizabeth Casey - (Sage Hill School) – Parliamentarian (11:20)

a. Elizabeth Casey asked if there was a way to take attendance during the Candidate’s Open Forum. Ms. Altieri said that it was Elizabeth’s responsibility to take attendance and give the correct allotment of votes.

b. Elizabeth’s main actions have been reaching out with candidates who went to the drop-in session at Ludi and SCRAM. There are a lot of repeat schools in the applicant pool. As she is looking for members to be part of the Nominations Committee, she asked for students to volunteer who were not a member of any schools applying for the board.
c. Rupert Chen had a question about running for National office: if there are two candidates running for state board, could another student run for National office? Elizabeth Casey said that she was not sure, and that they should clarify that they are two separate processes. Mr. Smith-Laird said that firstly, Elizabeth needs to email each school to choose two candidates, and secondly, that it is legal to send two candidates to the state board and one to the National office.

d. Elizabeth Casey plans on sending an email to all chapters by the end of January with election material, and application materials along with the convention packet in beginning- to mid-February. Candidate applications will be due early March.

Jamie Kim-Worthington - (Harvard-Westlake School) – Secretary (11:34)

a. Jamie Kim-Worthington took minutes at the September meeting, which were uploaded to the website and emailed to the board. He has written his article for the Nuntius and submitted it on Thursday.

b. He shared a redesign for the CAJCL letterhead, which included changes made to the font, spacing, and decoration. The board approved usage of the new letterhead.

Sadie Almgren - (Menlo-Atherton High School) – Historian (11:38)

a. Sadie Almgren attended Ludi and SCRAM and took many photos; she made recap Instagram posts. She’s continued to run the photo of the month contest and locus contest, and sent NJCL the winning photo of the month photos.

b. Sadie has also submitted to the NJCL Video of the Month contest. As a state, CAJCL has won the September photo of the Month contest and the November video of the month, as well as receiving honorable mention for the December Photo of the Month and Video of the Month.

c. Sadie has made many posts for the CAJCL Instagram, and made posts about Ludi and SCRAM.

d. In terms of the scrapbook, she’s made an outline and has started making art for it.

e. Finally, Sadie is interested in including CAJCL art submissions from JCLers, to make the scrapbook more collaborative. She is planning on writing an article for the Nuntius about asking for art submissions. She hopes to ask for digital art submissions or scans of non-digital art.

Kaleigh Ruegg - (St. Ignatius College Preparatory) – Nuntius Editor (11:45)

a. Kaleigh Ruegg published the Fall edition of the Nuntius. She thanked the board for their contributions. She will be publishing the Winter edition of the Nuntius in February.

b. Kaleigh has also been submitting to the National publication, Torch: U.S.

Kabir Ramzan - (Harker School) – Webmaster (11:47)

a. Since the last board meeting, Kabir has been posting information about convention, as well as convention pages for Ludi and SCRAM. He fixed a few broken links and other spots. He’s been using the website’s landing space as an update hub, to post updates about the convention and registration.

b. Kabir brought up the CAJCL logo. Jamie Kim-Worthington offered the services of Michael Worthington, graphic designer, and suggested adding an A to the logo through him. Ms. Altieri volunteered an old Word file, the original file of the CAJCL logo. The board’s consensus was that the logo should look as similar as possible to the original.

c. Kabir has been looking through the website contest rubrics, and has noticed that archives have been important in judging websites for NJCL. He proposed making an archive of past events using the Internet Wayback Machine. Kaleigh Ruegg agreed and said that most documents are stored in Google Drive.

d. Kabir suggested an archive google drive, as the Historian’s GDrive account is running out. The board agreed that it would be useful, especially for the Historian Sadie Almgren.

e. For photos on the website, Kabir hopes to update them with photos from this year. He asked the board if individual photos were better or if they wanted to use Zoom screenshots. Rupert Chen warned against using the new photos, as they wouldn’t be as dynamic. Sadie Almgren suggested a photo collage, specifically a combination of Zoom screenshots and past year photos.
f. Kabir noted that there were multiple places on the website that were text embedded within images. He plans to transfer those over to text. There are also some style choices that are inconsistent, which he will also fix.
g. Kabir also suggested that he reorganize the Constitution to a more legible format, which the board approved and commended him for the idea.

V. SCL Report – Jordan Lee (12:07)
a. SCL held a Halloween social; they dressed up, played spooky games, and socialized. It was a success and had a large turnout (especially for costumes).
b. They also helped with Ludi and SCRAM. The SCL was glad to help in every way possible; they helped host Zoom rooms for Certamen and other activities, hosted an SCL mixer, and held a Kahoot for slashers.
c. Issy Arroyo was thanked for creating an election document which helped SCLers know what positions they could run for.
d. For future plans, SCL hopes to host an event in early February, and are looking forward to helping with CARCER and State Convention.

VI. Social Media Report – Sydney Higa (12:11)
a. Ms. Higa commended Sadie for helping promote SCRAM and Ludi and using the CAJCL Instagram.
b. The branding was commended; after making a branding guide last year, the Instagram account looked much more professional and cohesive.
c. Ms. Higa also reminded the board that CAJCL has a Youtube account and that they hope to use it.

VII. Certamen Report – Brian Briggs (12:13)
a. Dr. Briggs reported on Certamen updates; he commended the success of Ludi and SCRAM and updated the board on Carcer.
b. Carcer will be held on March 6, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Registration will be due February 19.
   Two major changes are that 1, schools can enter two teams at each level, and 2, only allow the top of those two teams to advance to finals.
c. Dr. Briggs asked the board what the best method would be for parents/teachers to watch the rounds ofcertamen. Ahna Kim suggested a Youtube Livestream for streaming the semifinals or finals. Mr. Matt Davis suggested just streaming the finals. Dr. Briggs concluded that they would just stream the finals and not advertise spectating the rounds.

VIII. Academic Testing – Scott Paterson (12:16)
a. Mr. Paterson reported that he already had many of the tests written; there were a few people who signed up for writing tests, but didn’t end up writing them because they weren’t needed. Mr. Peter Brody was emailed to help with editing tests. Mr. Paterson expects to send an email January 10th asking for help writing tests (specifically Grammar 1 and 2 and Reading Comprehension 2). Mr. Smith-Laird volunteered to help edit the Daily Life test.

IX. CAJCL Scholarship Report – Katie Robinson (12:20)
a. Since the last meeting, there have been no contributions to the scholarship account. The CAJCL has paid one scholarship, Anika Zeger’s, on December 9. The current account balance is $26,866.48.
b. In June, Zara Hasanian and Jordan Lee’s scholarships will expire.
c. The CAJCL voted on the number of scholarships to be awarded.
   i. Rupert Chen moved to allow 5 scholarships. Kabir Ramzan seconded the motion.
   ii. The motion passed unanimously.
Ms. Altieri informed the board about JCL’s history and Lura Wallace. Lura Wallace formed the first JCL chapter in California in 1955. The first national convention was held in 1965 at USC. Ms. Lura was instrumental in keeping the spirit of JCL going. From 1957 to 2013, she kept the history of JCL alive. Ms. Lura kept a handwritten history of JCL, which Ms. Altieri has been keeping updated. The history includes registration of every year since 1955, number of delegates of State Convention, and National Convention attendance.

Officer Duties at State Convention
a. The Convention presidents will keep in touch with the board to inform them of their duties and obligations.

Number & amount of CAJCL scholarships to NJCL
a. Because the convention will be online, no scholarships for the NJCL convention will be awarded this year.
b. Due to prior arrangements with University of San Diego, in-person NJCL convention may be postponed for 2-3 years.
c. Dr. Briggs asked to approve scholarships for NJCL just in case the current situation were to change.
   i. Kabir Ramzan moved to approve 10 $500 scholarships. Sadie Almgren seconded the motion.
   ii. The motion passed unanimously.

Submissions to NJCL convention: See Non-Convention Contests at njcl.org
a. Ms. Altieri reminded the board to pay attention to the NJCL contests taking place. She asked that the board submit the CAJCL website, Nuntius, and other media to NJCL contests.

XI. Treasurer Report – Lisa Masoni (12:35)
Update on Number of JCL Chapters and Delegates
a. As a whole, CAJCL anticipated that membership would be down this year. As of January 9, 2021, the CAJCL has 19 chapters and 950 members (nb. most years the membership is around 2,500). There are 7 pending schools and 27 schools who have not renewed. The schools who have not renewed are as follows:
   i. Berkeley HS
   ii. Bishop Montgomery HS
   iii. California HS
   iv. De La Salle HS
   v. Flintridge Prep
   vi. Fresno HS
   vii. Harvard-Westlake MS
   viii. Head-Royce School
   ix. J. Serra Catholic HS
   x. John Adams Academy
   xi. Kehillah Jewish HS
   xii. King-Drew Magnet HS
   xiii. Loyola HS
   xiv. Marlborough School
   xv. Menlo School
   xvi. New West Charter School
   xvii. Newport Harbor HS
   xviii. North Creek
   xix. Pacifica Christian
   xx. Sacred Heart Parish School
   xxi. St. Francis
Schools to target for current year membership
   a. The board’s general plan was to wait until states to see how membership looks, and use the data from April instead of from January to project future numbers.

XII. New Business & Next Meeting Date (12:40)
   a. Ms. Altieri asked if a second meeting, before State Convention, was needed. Ahna Kim said that a brief meeting would be helpful. Ms. Vasquez said that the board would meet March 20, 9:00-10:00 am.

XIII. Adjournment – Rupert Chen (12:49)
   a. Rupert Chen moved to adjourn the meeting. Sadie Almgren seconded the motion.
   b. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Kim-Worthington
CAJCL Secretary, 2020-2021