

California Junior Classical League  
Executive Board Meeting  
The Harker School  
September 7, 2019 10:45 a.m.

To Do Lists

- I. All Board Members will read the minutes and send corrections to [secretary@cajcl.org](mailto:secretary@cajcl.org).
- II. Student Officers will collaborate regarding social media.
- III. Sophie Reynolds will follow up with schools she has emailed.
- IV. Ethan Yan will revise the Constitution to make the language gender neutral and send the updated document to the Webmaster.
- V. Alexisse Yoo will email the SCL about writing a *Nuntius* article.
- VI. Rupert Chen will update the header photos on the website.
- VII. Ms. Robinson will contact the teachers of students who have yet to use their scholarships.
- VIII. Ms. Masoni will update and send out the financial report.

Important Upcoming Dates

- I. October 11-12, 2019 – Stanford Certamen Tournament
- II. October 26, 2019 – Ludi at Menlo School
- III. November 9, 2019 – SCRAM at Sage Hill School
- IV. January 25, 2020 – CAJCL Winter Board Meeting
- V. March 21, 2020 – Carcer at Miramonte High School and University High School
- VI. April 17-18, 2020 – CAJCL State Convention at University High School

Attendance

- I. In Attendance
  1. Kasra Lekan, '19-'20 Convention President
  2. Sophie Reynolds, '19-'20 1st Vice President
  3. Laila Abolfathi, '19-'20 2nd Vice President
  4. Ethan Yan, '19-'20 Parliamentarian
  5. Isabelle Krochmal, '19-'20 Secretary
  6. Kaleigh Ruegg, '19-'20 Historian
  7. Rupert Chen, '19-'20 Webmaster
  8. Alexisse Yoo, '19-'20 Nuntius Editor
  9. Victoria Wat, '19-'20 Northern Representative
  10. Samuel Cohen, '19-'20 Southern Representative
  11. Athena Davis, '19-'20 NJCL 2nd Vice President
  12. Mia Borlongan, '19-'20 CASCL President
  13. Jordan Lee, '19-'20 CASCL Vice President
  14. Kiana Hu, '19-'20 CASCL Liaison
  15. Ms. Martha Altieri, State Chair
  16. Mr. Kyle Smith-Laird, State Co-Chair
  17. Ms. Lisa Masoni, CAJCL Treasurer, Graphic Arts Chair, and Harker Middle School Sponsor
  18. Ms. Katie Robinson, Scholarship Chair

19. Dr. Brian Briggs, Competitive Certamen Chair and St. Francis High School Sponsor
20. Ms. Dobbie Vasquez, Open Certamen Chair and Menlo School Sponsor
21. Mr. Scott Paterson, Academics Chair and Harker School Sponsor
22. Mr. Jon Gumz, SCL Advisor
23. Ms. Sydney Higa, Social Media Chair
24. Mr. Matt Davis, Miramonte High School Sponsor
25. Dr. Jeffrey Feland, Sage Hill School Sponsor
26. Ms. Grace Curcio, St. Ignatius Preparatory Sponsor
27. Ms. Lana Sum, St. Ignatius Preparatory Sponsor

II. Absent

1. Mr. Josh Davis, University High School Sponsor

Minutes

- I. Call to Order – Laila Abolfathi asked if there were any motions on the floor. Alexisee Yoo moved to open the meeting, and Athena Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed, and Laila Abolfathi called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.
- II. Minutes from the May 11, 2019 Board Meeting – Isabelle Krochmal read the highlights of the minutes from the previous board meeting. Ms. Masoni noted the need to change the word “income” to “profit” in the Convention Presidents’ report. Isabelle Krochmal made this change. Athena Davis moved to approve the minutes, and Kasra Lekan seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved.
- III. Reimbursement Requests
  - A. Ms. Masoni noted that most southern officers had already submitted requests for reimbursement for travel. She reminded the board that the online reimbursement request form does not notify her when requests are submitted, so board members may want to email her when they submit requests so that she can process the requests quickly.
  - B. Mr. Smith-Laird requested \$107.96 for airfare to the board meeting.
  - C. Ms. Altieri requested \$690.78 for airfare to the board meeting and the NJCL Convention.
  - D. Ms. Altieri requested \$232.01 for FileMaker through January.
  - E. Mr. Gumz requested \$90.00 for airfare to the board meeting.
  - F. Mr. Matt Davis requested \$500.00 for airfare to the NJCL Convention.
  - G. Kasra Lekan moved to approve the reimbursement requests, and Alexisse Yoo seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- IV. 2019-2020 Officer Reports
  - A. Kasra Lekan – Convention President
    1. Kasra Lekan sent the working schedule for Convention to the board.
    2. There is now only one testing session, as testing session zero has been eliminated.
    3. Workshop sessions are longer and are no longer back to back. Athena Davis raised the point that this may mean paying professors more for their time.
    4. Kasra Lekan and Dr. Briggs clarified a miscommunication regarding certamen. Open Certamen should not be at the same time as Certamen

Finals because there will not be enough boards.

5. Latin Oratory has been moved to Saturday, which is when the rest of the speech events take place. Kasra Lekan envisions people being able to move from event to event.
  6. Ms. Robinson noted that the STEM challenge largely overlaps with lunch, as it is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mr. Smith-Laird pointed out that lunch runs until 2:00 p.m. Ms. Robinson still recommended pushing the event to after lunch. Ms. Altieri agreed since this is not an activity that has to be graded for points.
  7. Mr. Gumz noted that the catapult competition was not on the schedule, and that half an hour was too short for the chariot procession and competition. Dr. Briggs agreed, since this is a chapter event that many are eager to watch. Dr. Briggs also noted that in the past the chariot procession has been chaotic. Kiana Hu suggested figuring out a route and storage location for the chariots in advance. Last year there was no place for storage and some schools were unable to find their catapults in time to compete.
  8. Ms. Masoni voiced her concern about Graphic Arts registration. Since she will be driving to Convention, traffic will be an issue, and she may not arrive in time for registration. Mr. Smith-Laird and Ms. Robinson both offered their support. Also, some materials could be mailed ahead of time. Mr. Gumz said that he was driving down and could take the Graphic Arts boxes with him.
  9. Ethan Yan suggested an event where delegates can eat lunch with candidates for state office.
  10. Sofia Abolfathi asked where lunch will be, since the cafeteria may be too small. Kasra Lekan replied that lunch will be picked up and eaten outside. In-N-Out will be served for lunch, and the rest of the meals are still being decided.
  11. A new activity, Mythological Wheel of Fortune, is being added this year.
- B. Sophie Reynolds– 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
1. Emailed the NLE for a list of schools that took the exam.
  2. Sent personalized emails on Wednesday in the middle of the school day asking teachers to join JCL. She has received responses from the Gooden School, Trinity Classical Academy, and Oaks Christian. She will send a follow up email next week.
  3. Is targeting schools near SCRAM and State Convention, since the two events are nearby.
  4. Is also targeting Sacred Heart Preparatory in Atherton.
  5. Plans to reach out to the 70 homeschooled students who took the NLE by mail.
  6. Mr. Smith Laird said there was a school in the San Diego area that was interested in JCL - at last!
  7. Sophie mentioned the need to have a photos folder in the CAJCL Google Drive where all pictures can easily be accessed.

8. Kaleigh Ruegg has created folders and will upload them.
- C. Laila Abolfathi – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
1. Addressed issues regarding communication. Problems have been fixed, so reaching the board to coordinate meetings and any other matters will be simple.
  2. Recognized that California won first place in Spirit at the NJCL Convention.
- D. Ethan Yan – Parliamentarian
1. Reflections
    - a. Would like to institute a note-taking sheet at Candidates Open Forum.
    - b. Suggested honoring teachers committed to CAJCL at Convention like at Nationals.
    - c. Had the chance to meet with other parliamentarians at Nationals.
    - d. Emphasized the importance of California’s voting delegates representing the entire state delegation and suggested that the two not come from the same school
  2. Candidate Recruitment
    - a. Sent an email to all current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who went to Nationals summarizing positions and encouraging them to run for office.
    - b. Had two responses already, but people seem to worry that they may not be qualified, especially if they have not held leadership positions in their local chapters.
    - c. Alexis Yoo suggested adding a Candidates’ Corner to the *Nuntius*, or even creating a separate publication. Information could also be added to the website or to Instagram.
    - d. Ms. Masoni reminded the board that students must be thirteen to legally use Instagram, so she cannot direct her middle schoolers to it.
    - e. Athena Davis suggested encouraging candidates for state office to create similar leadership positions for themselves in their local chapters in order to gain experience.
    - f. Kaleigh Ruegg suggested having potential officer candidates workshops at Ludi, as she found them helpful in the past. Workshops could also be held at SCRAM, if a southern officer worked with Ethan Yan to offer them.
    - g. Drafted and sent a letter to sponsors regarding students running for office.
  3. The Constitution
    - a. Renamed the document “Constitution and By-Laws.”
    - b. Changed the fiscal year.
    - c. Created a document tracking amendments to the Constitution.

- d. Changed the Constitution to allow a single person to register as a chapter to align with the NJCL Constitution with Mr. Smith-Laird's approval.
- e. Discussed an amendment not being proposed: state officers being required to go to Nationals. This would impose a barrier that would discourage candidates from running for office.
  - i. Sofia Abolfathi suggested having the *Nuntius* editor or historian attend in order to take photos.
  - ii. Ms. Vasquez suggested asking the historians to appoint someone else to take photos if they are not able to attend.
  - iii. Athena Davis noted that it reflects poorly on CAJCL when state officers do not attend Nationals.
  - iv. Ms. Altieri commented that this policy would be difficult to enforce.
- f. Gained the approval of the board to make the language of the Constitution gender-neutral.
- g. Proposals
  - i. Redefining Amendment
    1. This change allows minor changes to be made to the Constitution without the need for formal approval, while establishing that such changes cannot be "substantive." It also clarifies the fact that we may change the CAJCL Constitution to match the NJCL Constitution and/or By-Laws, but we are not required to.
    2. Ms. Altieri pointed out that the Constitution should not have been changed to align with NJCL in terms of membership, since this amendment is not yet in place.
    3. Ms. Masoni said that it is essential for membership to be consistent at the state and national levels.
    4. Ms. Vasquez suggested that the approval requirement for conforming with NJCL documents be changed from "with the approval of the State Chair" to "with the approval of the Board." Ethan Yan made this change.
    5. Ethan Yan moved to place this amendment on the ballot at State Convention. Sophie Reynolds seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
  - ii. State of Emergency
    1. This change establishes a clear process in the event that no candidate earns a majority of the votes. Specifically, the outgoing Board shall interview all eligible students for the position, with the diversity and succession requirements waived.

2. There is general agreement that requiring board members to recuse themselves from interviews in case of a conflict is unnecessary. Board members can be expected to be unbiased and act in the best interest of the state. Additionally, this might exclude a majority of the board from the interview process.
  3. Kiana Hu asked whether all Board members would be required to attend this interview. Ethan Yan confirmed this requirement, since officers must attend all Board meetings.
  4. Ethan Yan moved to place this amendment on the ballot at State Convention. Kasra Lekan seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- iii. Sending Amendments to All Chapters
1. This change would ensure that all chapters are sent copies of proposed amendments to the Constitution, even if they do not attend Convention.
  2. Kiana Hu suggested that the Parliamentarian work with the host school to send out these materials, which would go to all chapters, regardless of Convention attendance.
  3. There was general agreement that an amendment to the Constitution is not needed in this case.
- iv. Open Forum
1. This change clarifies that the Parliamentarian must present proposed amendments and field questions regarding them at Open Forum, conforming with the current practice at State Convention.
  2. Ethan Yan moved to place this amendment on the ballot at State Convention. Alexisse Yoo seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- v. The By-Laws
1. The By-Laws are currently a section of the Constitution, which defeats the purpose of having By-Laws. They need to be removed from the Constitution and placed into a separate document.
  2. The By-Laws should be more easily amendable. This could mean requiring half of the delegates at Convention to approve changes, as is the case at Nationals, or it could mean allowing the board to directly make changes.
  3. Athena Davis emphasized the importance of chapters still having a voice. Kasra Lekan agreed, stating that the electorate must have a voice.

4. Mr. Gumz pointed out that the Constitution may need to be changed for legal reasons, and waiting until Convention to make such changes may become impractical.
  5. Ms. Vasquez suggested placing more power with the board, in order to allow changes to be made in a timely manner.
  6. Ethan Yan began to draft amendments to remove the By-Laws from the Constitution and clarify the process for amending the By-Laws.
- E. Isabelle Krochmal, Miramonte High School – Secretary
1. Compiled and corrected the minutes from the May meeting.
  2. Created and edited the board contact sheet.
  3. Made the CAJCL letterhead and send it to Ms. Vasquez and Ms. Altieri.
  4. Designed and printed nameplates for the meeting.
- F. Kaleigh Ruegg, St. Ignatius College Preparatory – Historian
1. Received a plethora of photos from Nationals even though she was unable to attend.
  2. Uploaded her photos to Google Drive.
  3. Is considering opening a Flickr account.
  4. Designed and ordered the board sweatshirts.
    - a. The design of the sweatshirts was based on this year’s NJCL Convention theme.
    - b. Laila Abolfathi inquired about possibly choosing a different theme for State Convention, but the board opposed this idea.
  5. Has access to social accounts and wants to publicize them more.
- G. Victoria Wat, Menlo School – Northern Representative
1. Selected the theme “*Latina nunc et semper*” for Ludi. The theme highlights how people can use their classics backgrounds in many different ways.
  2. The schedule is much the same as previous years, with a few changes.
    - a) Agora has been added this year.
    - b) Geocaching will replace the Scavenger hunt.
    - c) Hades Games have been added, since Ludi is near Halloween.
    - d) There will be a Candidates’ Drop In with Ethan Yan. Mr. Smith Laird suggested that this not overlap with testing. Mr. Matt Davis suggested having it at lunch.
    - e) Mr. Gumz suggested having shorter sessions for sports and spreading them out so that they do not overlap.
  3. Chose writing letters to inmates who are studying Latin as the service project.
  4. Picked burritos from Taqueria Angelica’s and ice cream sandwiches for lunch. The total cost for lunch is approximately \$6,000.
  5. Confirmed six speakers for workshops. There will be an SCL workshop

- during the second workshop session.
6. The State Convention promotional video will be shown.
  7. The cost of attendance is \$25.
- H. Samuel Cohen, Sage Hill School – Southern Representative
1. SCRAM will have similar events to past years.
    - a. The scavenger hunt and the service project, which is writing letters to service members, will take place all day.
    - b. New events include battleship, toga yoga, and revamped Roman speed dating.
    - c. The STEM challenge will be a different activity from last year's.
    - d. Workshops will be more active, involving activities like dancing.
      - (1) Sofia Abolfathi asked if workshops would be mandatory. Samuel Cohen replied that they would not be mandatory, but would be highly encouraged.
      - (2) Ms. Robinson suggested moving Fugepilam away from workshop sessions.
  2. Lunch will be In-N-Out.
  3. Completed the program and the schedule, as long as the rooms are approved by the host school.
  4. The SCL would like to have a mixer, a liaison, and a dedicated room.
  5. Kasra Lekan will make an announcement about State Convention since there is no way to show a video at assembly
  6. Laila Abolfathi suggested a can drive. Ms. Masoni replied that drives can be difficult since they often already happen at school and bringing items to donate can be difficult.
- I. Alexisse Yoo, Member at Large – *Nuntius* Editor
1. Met other editors at Nationals and is working on coordinating article swaps.
  2. Has been working on layout and content for the upcoming issue of the *Nuntius*.
    - a) Plans to release it in late September or early October.
    - b) Will include introductions of current student board members, as well as goodbyes from former student board members.
  3. Mr. Gumz asked about having an SCL Corner in the *Nuntius*. Alexisse Yoo enthusiastically supported the idea and will email [scl@cajcl.org](mailto:scl@cajcl.org) with details.
- J. Rupert Chen, The Harker School – Webmaster
1. Updated the website as needed.
  2. Created a YouTube channel. There already is a CAJCL Youtube account from the Woodbridge convention. This issue needs to be resolved so that there is only one account.
  3. Compiled a Google document of dates and deadlines.
  4. Looked at the scoresheet from the website contest.
  5. Will update the header pictures on the website.
  6. Mr. Matt Davis suggested embedding more social media on the website.



- K. Athena Davis, Miramonte High School – NJCL 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
  - 1. Has been working on National Classics Week. The theme will include ancient journeys and the journeys of women.
  - 2. Collaborated to create themes for spirit days at Nationals.
  - 3. Will be communicating monthly with state 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents.
  - 4. Is developing Spirit and Service guidebooks.
  - 5. Is working on redefining the Club of the Month contest.
  - 6. Is putting together information about community service. Ms. Vasquez suggested getting this information out as soon as possible.
- V. State Chair Report – Ms. Altieri
  - A. 2019 NJCL Convention
    - 1. Thirteen California schools sent delegates to Nationals.
    - 2. Awards: Novice Certamen got 7th place, Advanced 8th, scrapbook 7th, website 3rd, boys’ relay 3rd, and volleyball 4th.
    - 3. Emailed teachers information about awards.
  - B. Sent out registration renewal information on Wednesday.
  - C. 2020 NJCL Convention will be at the University of Richmond during the last week of July.
  - D. California is hosting Nationals in 2021. Nationals will be at San Diego State University. CAJCL needs to create a promotional video at San Diego State University inviting people to Nationals.
    - 1. Laila Abolfathi, Sofia Abolfathi, and Athena Davis volunteered to take charge of the video.
    - 2. Alexisse Yoo also volunteered to help, as she lives close by.
    - 3. Athena Davis pointed out that others could fly in to help as traveling to San Diego is not too difficult or expensive.
    - 4. The best time to film would be a Friday afternoon. Ms. Altieri will ask the conference coordinator for a few possible dates.
  - E. Social Media
    - 1. Sydney Higa is the new Social Media Chair.
    - 2. She has access to Facebook and Instagram. The Twitter account is registered to the *Nuntius* editor’s email. There are two Youtube channels.
    - 3. It is better for one person to have access to the accounts, instead of every officer having access to them.
      - a) Officers will create content, but Sydney Higa will oversee this.
      - b) Laila Abolfathi suggested countdowns to Ludi, SCRAM, and State Convention.
      - c) Mr. Gumz stressed the importance of posting consistently.
      - d) Sydney Higa suggested creating an image with all social media handles on it to put on pamphlets.
  - F. Clarified that Convention ribbons should have the name of the event, not the name of the host school, on them.
  - G. The board affirmed that delegates need to be in sixth grade or above in order to attend State Convention. Additionally, schools need a school employee as the sponsor if the actual sponsor cannot attend.

- H. Encouraged a student from Marlborough, where the Latin program was discontinued, to recruit younger students who have not yet taken Latin or Greek for JCL. Sadly, several schools have chosen not to continue offering Latin.
- VI. Certamen Report – Dr. Briggs
- A. Carcer will be at Miramonte High School and University High School on March 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - B. Semifinalists, but not finalists, can compete in Open Certamen. The Convention schedule should allow for this.
  - C. At the National level, there are only novice, intermediate, and advanced categories. Students can now compete at the novice level twice as long as they don't advance to finals. States can put forward two novice teams and one team at both other levels.
  - D. Would like to allow schools to bring multiple teams, but this would be difficult due to a lack of readers. Some SCLers might be able to serve as readers.
  - E. Stanford is having a Certamen tournament on October 12, with opening activities on October 11.
  - F. Has not heard from Crossroads about their invitational yet.
- VII. 2019 Convention Financial Report – Athena Davis
- A. The profit from Convention was approximately \$14,000.
    1. This profit was split 50/50 between CAJCL and Miramonte High School.
    2. Miramonte donated \$600.00 to the scholarship fund and \$500.00 to the Trinity Center.
  - B. Meal Costs
    1. Friday dinner was \$8.83 per person.
    2. Breakfast was \$4.77 per person.
    3. Lunch was \$5.38 per person.
    4. Banquet was \$18.73 per person for food trucks.
  - C. Purchased bags, honey sticks, water bottles, and lanyards for registration.
  - D. Miramonte Parents' Club donated \$2000.00 to cover custodial fees.
  - E. Gave cash prizes for That's Entertainment.
  - F. The dance was not well-attended and the DJ was expensive, so having a dance may not be worth it. Ms. Vasquez suggested having karaoke instead.
- VIII. Scholarship Report – Ms. Robinson
- A. Paid out three full scholarships and one half scholarship this summer, for a total of \$7000.00.
  - B. Membership contributions were \$2285.00, and Miramonte High School donated \$600.00.
  - C. The balance of the scholarship account is \$28,350.57.
  - D. In January the board will vote on the number of scholarships to award.
  - E. Updated the application form, which will be due on March 14 if it is mailed or March 20 if it is submitted online.
  - F. Hopes to put announcements in the *Nuntius*.
  - G. Ms. Altieri asked if there were students who had not yet used their scholarships. Ms. Robinson will email their teachers.
- IX. SCL Report – Mia Borlongan

- A. SCL has a new Vice President, Jordan Lee, and a new Secretary, Bethany Wingenfeld.
  - B. The SCL website and Constitution have been updated.
  - C. The Letter of the League, which contains updates and details about events, has been sent out.
  - D. SCL had a Northern California summer hangout, and a Southern California hangout is happening next week.
  - E. Ludi rules should be changed to align with NJCL rules. Ms. Altieri will make this change to the white booklet.
  - F. Some Ludi events have had low turnout, especially at the middle school level. These events should not overlap in order to allow more participation in each.
  - G. SCL will send information to Kasra Lekan about Convention activities, such as mixers.
  - H. For That's Entertainment, it is important to have a venue that is neither too small nor too large. Delegates should not be able to go in and out, as it is distracting.
- X. Treasurer Report – Ms. Masoni
- A. Received the Convention check from Miramonte High School.
  - B. Current balance is \$22,540.40.
  - C. Will update and send financial report.
  - D. Since Ludi and SCRAM are on different days, one Northern officer can travel to SCRAM, and one southern officer can travel to Ludi.
    - 1. Kaleigh Ruegg asked to go to SCRAM to take photos. Kasra Lekan moved to approve this, and Sophie Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed.
    - 2. A Southern officer can also attend Ludi. Alexisse Yoo moved to approve this, and Laila Abolfathi seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- XI. New Business
- A. CAJCL Becoming a Legal Entity
    - 1. Ms. Altieri mailed paperwork to the IRS on May 18 and received a letter of receipt on June 20.
    - 2. CAJCL will be notified of its status in November or December.
  - B. Online Files
    - 1. Filemaker is making changes with licensing.
    - 2. CAJCL will continue with three files for \$39.95 a month.
- XII. Amendments Continued
- A. Geographic Boundaries
    - 1. Currently, the Constitution divides the state into Northern and Southern geographical regions and states that the demarcation line will be determined every four years. However, this determination has not happened since 2011 and the division of the state into regions has never been an issue. This amendment would remove this section of the Constitution.
    - 2. Ethan Yan moved to place this amendment on the ballot at State Convention. Victoria Wat seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
  - B. Amending the By-Laws

1. This change would allow the By-Laws to be amended with a simple majority at State Convention.
  2. Ethan Yan moved to place this amendment on the ballot at State Convention. Victoria Wat seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- C. Extracting the By-Laws from the Constitution
1. This amendment removes the By-Laws from the Constitution and establishes the order of precedence for the governing documents of the CAJCL: the Constitution, the By-Laws, and Robert's Rules of Order.
  2. Ethan Yan moved to place this amendment on the ballot at State Convention. Rupert Chen seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- XIII. Next Meeting
- A. The next board meeting will be on Saturday, January 25, 2020.
  - B. Tentative meeting locations are St. Ignatius in the North and Sage Hill in the South.
  - C. This meeting will begin earlier, at 9:00 a.m. or 9:30 a.m.
- XIV. Adjournment – Laila Abolfathi moved to adjourn the meeting. Sophie Reynolds seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Laila Abolfathi adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Isabelle Krochmal  
CAJCL Secretary, 2019-2020