**JO PAC Meeting – November 18, 2015**

***Present:*** Anne Montgomery – PAC Chair, Tracey Santos – Treasurer, Tim McGeer – Principal,

18 parents

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with the minutes being accepted from last month.

***South Vancouver Neighbourhood House:***

Valerie spoke about a Heart-Mind Leadership Team that came out of the Dali Lama’s visit to JO last year. With about 20 JO students the Team went into two neighbouring elementary schools to run a program promoting peace and education. This year they are wanting to put a physical literacy spin on the program, facilitating soccer/field hockey for 6-8 weeks in elementary schools in the area one day a week after school. Training sessions with professional athletes to learn how to coach soccer/field hockey will begin December 21st. The SVNH is inviting Gr. 9-11 JO students to join the program and develop their coaching and leadership skills. A letter and business card were left for any interested to be in touch with Valerie at valerie@southvan.org or 604-324-6212

***Principal’s Announcements: Tim McGeer***

***Soccer*** – first time in 40 years that the Sr. Boys Soccer Team is in the Provincials! It’s something that they’re playing at this level.

***New Staff*** – Amy Liu (ELI Teacher) and Michelle Nielsen (Skills Centre) have joined John Oliver.

***STEM Program*** – Gr. 9’s are involved in this program which has an engineering focus. Hoping to expand it to Gr. 10 and 11 next year.

***Mini-Medical School*** – JO is in partnership with UBC and Children’s Hospital (Dr. Tim Overlander, neurologist). JO students have an opportunity to go to the hospital and learn about being part of a medical team. Currently 4 grade 12 students are involved.

***New Curriculum*** – provincial government has added to more ProD days in the Spring (dates TBA) for teachers to better understand the new curriculum and how to roll it out next September 2016. It is moving away from content to competency-based curriculum, focusing on how one learns. It will involve inter-disciplinary work with literacy and numeracy at the base. Teachers will be more autonomous and given freedom to innovate and be creative in teaching the curriculum. Hoping to spark innovation and give students skills to survive in the fast-changing world. BC is the first province to be legislated to implement K-Gr. 9 in September 2016 with Gr. 10-12 in 2017. Provincial exams will be replaced by competency exams. Universities are onboard. Questions around how do we assess it and how do we support it for teachers are unknown. Realistically it will take a number of years to unfold.

***Gr. 12 Breakfast*** – Tuesday December 1

***Winter Concert*** – Tuesday December 1 (7:00 – 9:00 pm) $2 donation

Holiday music by the choir, band and drum line. A fun night.

***Gr. 6/7 Parent Information Night*** – Thursday December 3

***Gr. 8 Breakfast*** – Tuesday December 8

***Van Horne*** – Wednesday December 16 (during periods 3&4) whole school coming to JO for a concert

***Parent Teacher Meetings*** – Thursday December 10 (3:00 – 5:00 and 6:30 – 8:30 pm)

***New Meal Program*** – kids from JO are making meals for kids on the South East side, as part of the cafeteria program. There was an article in 24 Hours about this program.

***PAC Funding Requests:***

Don Jabillo (JO Teacher), Sr. Boys Basketball Coach made a request for 2 sets of new uniforms for the Jr. and Sr. Boys, replacing the existing 8 year-old ones, at a cost of $8,000. Tracey mentioned perhaps finding a corporate sponsor for a one-time donation (Lions or Rotary Club).

Band has requested the purchase of 40 personal recording devices instead of the cello. 40 @ $50 each = $2,000. It was mentioned perhaps buying 4 or 5 to be shared amongst students coming for private sessions.

Eyes of Hope – private donor has given a cheque to cover the hampers.

Photography – lens would be insured for theft under the VSB; looking to see about purchasing a cheaper second-hand one.

Goal is to give more to the Athletics this year. Will wait to see how the fundraising campaigns go before disbursing more funds.

***Direct Drive Fundraising:***

Requests going out next week via email (through Secretaries) and alumni (400 are being asked) ,and paper copies for those without emails.

***Shop Funds Fundraising:***

Forms were distributed last week. Deadline is Wednesday November 25, with completed forms and cheque (payable to John Oliver PAC) dropped off at the office. Cards will be available for pick up from the office the first week of December.

***Bank of Montreal: 48th & Fraser Branch***

John Oliver Secondary School was approached by Anupam Jindal, the Manager of the Bank of Montreal at 48th and Fraser to see about generating some business for the bank and to give money away. The Assistant Branch Manager, Kulsum Husain suggested John Oliver because she is alumni.

John Oliver students are invited to open a chequing/savings account (including on-line banking) and they will receive $50; the PAC will also receive $50. There are no service fees and the only catch is parents must deposit $25/month for 3 months to ensure accounts aren’t opened and immediately closed. If 350 students open an account, PAC will receive $17,500! It is a huge incentive for the school to generate much needed funds. An email will be sent to the parents letting them know when the John Oliver BMO program is ready to go and what information will be needed so the accounts will be tracked.

***Bingo:***

This Mini School fundraiser has been postponed to the Spring so that parents can support current fundraisers.

***Treasurer’s Report:***

Tracey reported that 3 cheques have been written for the benches (promised last year), Drama’s rolling racks and Grad 12 (Dry Grad and Breakfast).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. with the next meeting to be held on **Wednesday, January 20, 2016** at 7:00 pm in the Library, and then on Wednesday, February 17, 2016.