**JO PAC Meeting – January 20, 2016**

***Present:*** Anne Montgomery – PAC Chair, Tracey Santos – Treasurer, Ramandeep Kaurminhas and Jo-Ann Gordon – Co-Secretaries, Tim McGeer – Principal, Farrell Segall– Past PAC Chair, and 10 parents

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with the minutes being accepted from November 2015.

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

***Gr. 7 Breakfast*** – more representatives from feeder schools than ever before; both teachers and Principal are talking to neighbouring school PACs; the reputation of JO having changed is getting out there

***Statistics*** –

• Failing List (students in trouble at school in terms of graduating) ranges from 2.4% (Gr. 8), 3.9% (Gr. 9), 9.4% (Gr. 10), 5.3% (Gr. 11) and 3.2% (Gr. 12)

• Principal’s List (harder to get on) ranges from 3.0 to 4.0% in each grade

• Honour Roll (increased from 75% to 80% average marks to be on it) ranges from 27% (Gr. 8), 30% (Gr. 9), 27% (Gr. 10), 33% (Gr. 11) and 30% (Gr. 12) – nearly 1/3 of the school is on the Honour Roll!

• Effort Honour Roll (must attain a G and E in all subjects – means attaining deeper level of education) ranges from 32% (Gr. 8), 38% (Gr. 9), 24% (Gr. 10), 29% (Gr. 11) and 21% (Gr. 12)

***STEM Program*** – JO has been given an innovation grant to pilot projects.

***All-Star NBA Tour*** – All-Star NBA game is being played in Toronto. Tour is going across Canada and a group of basketball players will be coming to JO Thurs. Jan. 21st.

***Vancouver Opera - StickBoy*** – Thursday, February 18 (1:45 pm)

Shane Koyczan wrote the libretto for the Opera; it’s about bullying; Gr. 8, 9, 10’s will watch it.

***DI Mini School*** – Sun Peaks Trip was a success – fewer injuries this year.

***Mid Year Exam week***  – January 25 - 29

Classes are suspended. Students are in exams or presentations relating to school and education goals. See the schedules students brought home. Some things they will do:

Human Library – come and take out a person instead of a book; will span from New Age to Industrial Age (link between Math and careers)

Grad Transitions, Career Explorations (Jan. 28 from 3:00 – 7:00 pm) is open to public/parents.

***School Play*** – **Little Shop of Horrors** Feb. 11-13 (Thurs. – Sat.)

Ms. Enthoven is re-building the theatre program. Come and enjoy the show – by donation.

***Paramount Pictures*** – in June will be filming “Death Note” at JO.

***School System is changing***:

***• New Curriculum*** – training has begun with staff; enacted in K-Gr. 9 in September 2016; what is assessment/report cards going to look like? Apparently all schools will have coding classes!

With more collaborative time this year (Thursdays) teachers are finding encouraging ways to have high standards, and are focusing on relationships with students first.

***• Seismic Upgrading*** – JO has been waiting for 12 years and has gone through 3 different design processes. Facilities Review is underway. JO must present an Interim Plan by Jan. 31 and then it is up for review for a year, so it will be 2017 until we know more. JO is no longer a high priority for seismic upgrading. Government would like to see schools maximizing space to 95%. JO is currently at 83%.

CBC News (January 2016) - <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/earthquake-pacific-northwest-big-one-1.3411659>

The New Yorker (July 2015) - <http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/07/20/the-really-big-one>

***PAC Funding Requests:***

Band has requested $1,500 to pay for half the cost of a tuba. They have been doing ongoing fundraising this year but are still short. Further requests from other groups will come in February.

***Direct Drive Fundraising:***

Requests going out soon via email (through Secretaries) to current families and alumni (400 are being asked), and paper copies for those without emails. Perhaps on the form there can be an option for people to add where they would like their donation to go, i.e to Band or Athletics, etc.

***Shop Funds Fundraising:***

Raised $100 from mainly Gr. 8 and 9 families participating. Need to change to another company that allows on-line ordering. Lara Spence has the name of one. Someone is needed to come forward to run it.

***Scholarship in the name of Thomas Harapnuick:***

VanCity has donated $250 towards a scholarship, with perhaps another $250 coming.

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

Anne has been trying to reach the Manager, with no luck. She will continue pursuing this.

***Bingo:***

As the Mini School has had successful fundraisers this year, the Bingo Night will be school-wide. Prize donations take the most time and effort, and those wanting to help before, during and after the Bingo Night, please contact AnneMontgomery@yahoo.com

***Treasurer’s Report:***

Tracey reported that cheques have been written for the Bench, Drama Club, Safe Teen and Grade 12 (Dry Grad and Breakfast), and $7,000 has been allocated to Athletics. This leaves $6,500 in our account, some of which will be dispersed in February.

***Teachers Appreciation Lunch:***

A date to be set in April. Volunteers are needed to bring in food, and arrange for donations from vendors on Fraser Street.

***UBC Engineering:***

Many events are happening in January, February and March. Check the Facebook.com/UBCEngineering or their website for more information.

***100th Anniversary Legacy Fund for JO:***

Farrell Segall spoke about the 100th Anniversary of the school (2012) which was a success and raised $40,000 mainly from alumni. From the money raised $10,000 was set aside for scholarships and the remainder ($17,000) is to go towards keeping the auditorium (when JO is seismically upgraded) or for building improvements on the auditorium.

The committee meets once every few months. A letter has been drafted to be sent to alumni groups when they are getting together to mark anniversary milestones. The letter asks if the event would consider making a donation to the legacy. The mandate of the committee is to “celebrate the past, showcase the present and support the future.”

In 1967 a time capsule was buried in front of the school, to be dug up in 2067. Farrell is suggesting digging it up in 2017 (50 yrs. after being buried) and then re-dedicating it for a further 50 yrs. If we wait the school may no longer be here, and there are graduates from 1967 that are interested in seeing what is in it. The opening of the time capsule will need to be coordinated with the VSB, who will provide the digging equipment.

Anne presented Farrell with a token of appreciation for all he’s done for the school since 2010.

***PAC Chair or Co-Chair:***

Anyone interested in helping out with being a PAC Chair or Co-Chair please contact AnneMontgomery@yahoo.com. Coming on board now will make for an easier transition next year.

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