**JO PAC Meeting – February 21, 2018**

***Present:*** Sheril Gelmon, Ramandeep Kaurminhas – Co-Chairs, Lara Spence – Communications/Social Media, Jo-Ann Gordon, Wendy Sinclair – Co-Secretaries, Tracey Santos – Treasurer, Lindsay Reynolds – Vice-Principal, Eric Tsang, Jeff Spence, Tanya Findlater (Little Mountain Neighbourhood House) and Marty Dolan (retired VSB teacher), and 9 parents.

The meeting began at 7:00 pm with Sheril reading out the agenda. Approval of minutes from January 17, 2018 meeting by Tracey Santos and seconded by Wendy Sinclair. Sukhminder Guru has stepped down from being Co-Chair.

***1. 2018 Mid-Main MultiFest May 25:*** (Tanya Findlater and Marty Dolan)

Youth-led multi-fest of emerging artists (music, art, dance, edibles) held at a venue in East Van; open to Tupper and JO students and other youth in Vancouver. There are four Youth Councils who have been given roles. Parents and teachers are needed to help coordinate and coach the youth in all areas (committees, finances, event planning, performers). Grants can be applied for by the youth, as well as by the City of Vancouver for a Community Service Event. Tanya and Marty to send a list of what help is needed. MultiFest will take place on **Friday, May 25th from 3-7 pm**.You can email Marty at [splendid@shaw.ca](mailto:splendid@shaw.ca)

***2. Music at JO:*** (Eric Tsang)

Music courses (within the school day timetable) offered at JO include **Bands** (Beginner to Senior), **Guitar**, **Drumline** and Junior and Senior **Choirs**. Everyone is welcome to take a music course, even with no experience. Auditions are held for the new R&B Band, 24 Carrots.

Mr. Tsang covered 20 reasons how music benefits students:

* develops language and reasoning
* mastery of memorization
* improves their work
* increased eye-hand coordination
* sense of achievement
* stay engaged in school
* success in society
* emotional development
* learn pattern recognition
* better academic scores
* fine tuned auditory skills
* builds imagination and intellectual curiosity
* music can be relaxing
* learning an instrument teaches discipline
* prepares for creative economy
* develops creative thinking
* develops spatial intelligence
* learn teamwork
* responsible risk-taking
* builds self-confidence

***3. Principal's report:*** (Lindsay Reynolds VP for Pedro da Silva)

* mid-year Experience Week happened at the end of January; theme was COURAGE; well received by all grades. Other schools are asking about how JO organized the week as it is unique within the district?
* Film Fest - March 14th - Reel Canada comes to school to show independent films. Students see one film in the morning and another in the afternoon.
* Two JO students attended the "Conversations with Michelle Obama".
* Life Skills paintings on "Art of Belonging" (a program funded partially by ArtStarts and JO PAC) were on display in the library.
* **March 8th** - report cards go home.

***4. Auditorium:*** (Jeff Spence)

The lighting and technical aspects of the auditorium (lights, microphones, cables, etc.) mostly date back to 1960. There are many limitations in using the space - teachers do not have access to changing light bulbs; spotlight is too loud (fan noise); squeaky seats; bad acoustics.

Jeff will have an outside consultant come and give an idea on how to change the sound and lighting. Thinking towards portable lighting, with remote control and cyc at the back of the stage (backdrop to shine lights or images onto), as well as sound baffles, and upgrading speakers.

To kick off the upgrades, one of the lighting companies donated $500. Wondering if some of the JO PAC Legacy Fund can be used as it is money to go towards a new auditorium in a new John Oliver School? Perhaps a request can be put in to the VSB Budget for next year, to fund some of the upgrades (deadline is March/April) as money from rental of the auditorium goes to VSB? Anne Montgomery (Past PAC Chair) and Suzanne Smythe (DPAC Rep) to be contacted about this.

***5. Family Bingo Night - Thurs. March 1st:*** (Lara Spence, Sheril Gelmon)

All families are invited to this JO fundraiser and fun family Bingo Night **Thurs. March 1st from 7-8:45 pm**. If able to help with set up, please come to the Cafeteria at 6:35 pm. Donations of food (dessert, drinks, snacks) and prizes are welcome. Clean-up help needed at 8:45 pm. $10 for 2 cards, snacks and beverages. Email lara@laraspence.com with questions or to volunteer.

***6. Treasurer's report:*** (Tracey Santos)

After giving $7,000 to Athletics, there is about $4,000 remaining in the Gaming Account.

Tracey moved to support John Silver's request for $300 for 3 microwaves for the cafeteria. This would allow students to heat up their lunches. Motion was passed.

***7. Fundraising:*** (Sheri Wiwchar, Lara Spence)

*Purdy's Chocolates* - Tracey has still not received the $250 Purdy's cheque from Christmas fundraising. Sheri is following up on it.

***8. JO Staff/PAC liaison:*** (Nancy Paleiko)

Budget of VSB - put in requests for next year as the deadline is March/April. Parents are encouraged to go to board meetings.

BCTF wishlist = Priorities for Public Education

<http://bctf.ca/PriorifitesForPublicEd.aspx>

***9. Teens Quest Course:*** (Sheril Gelmon)

Lara to send an email to JO counsellors and teachers to pass on information about this short course for teenagers. It is based on Gordon Neufeld's work and is being offered by Rebecca Janke.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. with the next PAC meeting to be held **Wednesday, April 18,** 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Library.

To stay in touch and help learn about/share the happenings at John Oliver, please:

* 'Like’ **John Oliver on Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/john.oliver.secondary/>)
* **Follow on Twitter** (@jo school)
* Read the **John Oliver PAC blog** (**John Oliver PAC blog** (<http://jo-online.vsb.bc.ca/pac>)
* (if in Mini) ask to join **Mini School parents**
* Join **FB**(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/620874101402791/>)