April 26th, 6pm to 7:30pm, via Zoom

**JICS PA – All Parent Meeting**

**PA Executive**

Richard Messina – Principal

Chriss Bogert – Vice Principal

François Tanguay-Renaud – PA President

Megan Pearson - Vice President

Deepta Rayner – Past PA President

Shawn Konopinsky – Treasurer

Andrew Cain – Communications Officer

Chloe Leon – Communications Officer (Absent)

Sanaz Mazinani – Volunteer Coordinator

Kerry Thompson – Parent Education Coordinator

Julia O’Byrne – Parent Education Coordinator

In attendance: including the JICS PA, 37 households joined the meeting, including David Sandomierski, Patricia Armstrong (Grade 1 rep), Indira Stewart (Grade 4 rep), Adrienne Chan, Karin Treiberg (Grade 6 rep), Allen (Nursery class rep), Susan Vandermorris (SK rep), Marjorie Spencer (grade 3 rep), Sarah Aranha (JK Rep), Kaya (Grade 5 rep), and others

1. Welcome from PA President François Tanguay-Renaud:

* François thanked everyone for joining, and expressed hope that future meetings will be in person
* François reminded parents of the upcoming Hot Dog Night on Tuesday June 7th with a rain date of Wednesday June 8th, and thanked co-chairs Mark Hendricks and Katie Pearson
* François provided a further update about the commitment of the PA to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and that the year began with a consultative meeting with former parent Dr. Belinda Longe, who provided perspectives on future directions as well as inspired further parent education events
* François provided updates about the PA executive in 2021-2022, and that at least one communication representative will be needed; he encouraged parents to approach the PA if interested

2. Finance Update from PA Treasurer Shawn Konopinsky

* Previous Budget Review Updates:
* KPMG verified that funds can be carried over between fiscal years and as such $3500 will be available as a carry-over to enable funding programs right from the start of the school year (as COVID-19 pandemic limited number of events that could be run)
* New budget item for targeted purchases program ($8000 allocated for special requests, including $500 previously allocated)
* JICS Principal Richard Messina thanked the JICS parents for their donations and shared recent purchases included:
  + Korxx Blocks: these blocks are soft materials, and can sustain long-term play and do not need to be put away. When the full shipment arrives, the hope is that each floor will have a collection of blocks.
  + Library: classroom teachers worked to ensure their classroom libraries are vast and diverse, and made updates as needed
* Income: Budget vs Actual to Date:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Budget | Actual |
| Fees & Donations | $27,000 | $28,775 |
| United Way/ Benevity | $3,600 | $2,435 |
| Other (Merch, Shop + Support) | $500 | $0 |
| **Target Revenue** | $31,100 | $31,210 |
| FY21 Carryover | $9,000 | $9,000 |
| **Target Budget** | $40,100 | $40,210 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Budget | Actual |
| Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Program | $11,000 | $8,569 |
| Targeted Purchases Program | $8,000 | $5,769 |
| Parent Education | \*$4,000 | $550 |
| Grade 6 Grad | \*\*$3500 | - |
| Other (Hot Dog Night, Teacher Appreciation) | \*\*\*$4100 | - |
| Lice Screening | $1500 | $1528 |
| Admin (Platform Fees, Accounting, etc.) | $3900 | $2260 |
|  | $36000 | $18, 676 |

\* decreased by $1000 (from $5000)

\*\* Increased $1000 (from $2500)

\*\*\* Shift $1000 from Parent Social to Hot Dog Night

1. Parent Education Update from Kerry Thompson:
2. Parent Education Events:

* Kerry reviewed three successful events to date (PFLAG workshop, Inclusive Bookshelf with Rabia Khokar, Book Talk with Jesse Wente). There are links to past parent education events on the JICS website (https://www.jicsfamily.com/parent-ed)
* Spring workshops: Julia O’Byrne is working on a talk with Dr. Mary Reid on Anti-Asian Racism. Although there were plans underway about a mental health panel, the desired speaker does not appear to be available.

1. Updates from Parent Representatives
   * Nursery Rep Allen updated the PA about the Nursery Class enjoying spending time in the courtyard as well as observing the seasonal changes SK Rep Susan
   * SK Rep Susan updated the PA about a recent field trip to the Aga Khan museum as well as many classroom visits from parents
   * Grade 6 Rep Karin Treiberg updated the PA about the Grade 6 class: real-life applications of math; in science, there is a biology focus with lots of growing in the classroom; preparation for music night as well the grade 6 play; preparation for life outside of JICS (e.g. test-taking, homework)
   * Grade 4 Rep Indira Stewart: updated the PA about the turtle tanks, with 3 resident turtles who are very beloved by the students; additionally, the ‘ology’ project has been ongoing all year, where there is extensive research and writing on a specific topic; novel study is also ongoing (5-6 week project that includes homework every week)
   * Grade 1 Rep Patricia Armstrong update the PA: learning about money in math, writing each part of book including the table of contents, reviewing the water cycle in Inquiry; connecting with grade 2 class and together working to grow plants together; Cedarvale outing with Grade 2s for sketching and enjoying the outdoors
   * Grade 3 Rep Marjorie Spencer updated the PA: looking at geometric patterns in math; inquiry is about worms/composting; working on descriptive language
   * JK Rep Sarah Aranha updated the PA: very exciting incubation in the class with concurrent live stream of chicks hatching (including holding the chicks); another inquiry is about light as well as the life cycle of eggs; there is an upcoming field trip to Brickworks focusing on urban creatures
   * Grade 5 Rep: learning about current events/news; novel study is ongoing;
   * Grade 2: François provided an update that Grade 2s really enjoyed taking the subway to Cedarvale Ravine with the Grade 1s; Sarah Aranha provided an update that they are also enjoying the investigating the life cycle of salmon and are working with a community salmon breeder; Richard further detailed that Grade 2s tapped the maple tree as well

4. JICS Principal Richard Messina Updates:

- Richard thanked the PA for their support. He additionally reviewed with the PA that he meets every other week with Francois and Megan, so that they can connect about what is going on at the school and very much appreciates their supports and insights

- Richard welcomed new parents to the JICS community

- Richard expressed pride at the tremendous parent education events that have taken place over the course of the year

- Richard described the excitement about Hot Dog Night, and how it is typically a Grade 1 parent bonding night and due to the pandemic, extending the opportunity to Grade 1-3 parents

- Richard provided COVID-19 updates: due to recent trends, the University of Toronto will require mask wearing until June 30 (for indoor activities where social distancing cannot be maintained); Richard thanked the JICS community for continuing the biweekly rapid screening (and has noted that asymptomatic cases have been picked up); Richard thanked the community for their COVID-19 vaccine uptake, noting that 66% are full vaccinated but there is still 23% of the community where the vaccine status is unknown. Richard updated the community that most private schools also are making COVID-19 vaccination mandatory.

- Richard provided staffing Updates: Victoria McCracken has been with JICS since 2018 after she completed her MA at JICS and will be moving on with her career; Erica (JK assistant) will be leaving the classroom to pursue her Master’s through OISE;

- Classes will be combined for Grade 4 and Grade 5 next year; Richard described the benefits in combined classrooms as outlined in educational literature

- CTBS (Canadian Test of Basic Skills) occurs in May of every year (but was on hiatus the past 2 years due to the pandemic); these tests are standardized tests in math and language arts, and there is no preparation for the students; in the past, this test was used as a measure of ‘giftedness’; it is one of the many ways that students are assessed at JICS but is only one part of assessment

- Lost & Found: there is a bin with unlabeled and unclaimed items; parents are invited to come in with masks, and Paige can direct parents to the location

5. PLANT landscape architects provided an update about the plans for the playground

Meeting Adjourned