

**Jackman ICS Parents Association – Annual General Meeting**  
 Monday, October 21, 2013  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees Present:**

25 JICS parents from various classes were present – including the executive  
 Elizabeth Morley  
 Richard Messina

**Parents Association Executive Members**

Tracy Pryce – President  
 Gillian Roberts – Immediate Past President  
 Grant McCutcheon – Vice-President  
 Hina Ansari – Treasurer  
 Steve Rayner – Co-Secretary  
 Honor McLachlin – Co-Secretary  
 Leticia Amaral Nogueira – Co-Volunteer Coordinator  
 Elizabeth Morley – Principal  
 Richard Messina – Vice-Principal

**Regrets**

Sandra Adams – Co-Volunteer Coordinator  
 Marjorie Kramer – Communications

**1. Welcome**

Tracy called the meeting to order at 7:07.

**2. Outline of 2013-2014 Parents' Association Meetings**

There are 3 meetings during the year – the first is the annual general meeting where the budget is passed for the present school year. The second is more of a general meeting and any positions for the following year will be announced and the third meeting is where the new slate of board members will be announced and voted on.

**3. Treasurers Report**

Hina reported that we are close to 100% in collecting the annual dues and there are some very generous donations to the various classes.

*The budget was circulated to attendees. After a brief set of questions and answers (example: why is there budget for lice inspections), **Gillian Roberts motioned to accept the amended budget as outlined by our Treasurer (we revised the 2014 budget for Hot Dog Night to zero from \$2,000). Alyson Court seconded the motion. All accepted and the motioned was carried.***

**4. Volunteer Update**

All the committees are well represented with lots of volunteers with the exception of the Read-a-thon Committee, it could use some additional help.

It was announced that the pizza lunch will not be moving forward for a number of reasons, specifically, parents wanted a healthier choice, therefore, Mr. Sub was tried, but the children didn't seem to like subs, so the fundraiser didn't generate the kind of return on investment to warrant all the effort of this initiative.

**Library Report**

Nick submitted a very thorough report. The highlights were about how well received Dan Yashinsky has been with each of the classes, the upcoming book drive in December for the Children's Book Bank, Jackman ICS Book Night at Indigo Manulife on November 28th at 6:30 at the Manulife Indigo and they are starting to collect gift items.

Nick also reported that if anyone knows any authors, illustrators or storytellers who would like to volunteer by reading or telling stories, to please contact him.

**Parents Education Committee**

Aviva announced that this committee works from January to January to source and organize the events. There is one speaker per term, and they are looking for new ideas as topics. Some of the more popular ones have been diversity, literacy, and math focus (which took place in the morning where you could see the children in the classroom setting working on math through the various grades).

**Patrick Harvie Arts Committee**

After the successful fundraising of last year - through the sale of children's photography produced with last year's artist in residence, Marina Dempster, and a lovely evening and art sale hosted by Ginger Sorbara at her home - this year we take a break from fundraising, and focus on spending!

We are very excited to be co-sponsoring, along with the Library, this year's artist-in-residence master storyteller, Dan Yashinsky. Dan is in the midst of working with all the classes this fall, from Nursery to Grades 5/6, joining the children in their classrooms over the course of four visits to tell and share stories. Working developmentally through the years, Dan increasingly focuses on storytelling technique and how to find one's storytelling voice with the older children.

Dan has received fantastic reviews from both the children and the teachers across the grades, and we all look forward to Dan sharing some spookier tales with us at the Hallowe'en assembly next Thursday.

**Dean's Advisory Board**

Aviva Aviva Zukerman Schure's term is complete and a new current parent member will be appointed through a nomination process currently in process. It is a small committee with only two or three meetings a year, for the purposes of representing the Jackman ICS parents to the Dean. For more information, please see Elizabeth Morley.

**5. Report from the School**

Elizabeth was pleased to report that regular meetings with the architects continue to take place on a regular basis, and discussions have taken place with the community of neighbours, the University of Toronto, and the city. Acknowledging the interest of parents in the project, particularly surrounding timelines and design, Elizabeth promised to keep everyone posted as new information becomes available.

It was also announced that the new director of the Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study is OISE Associate Professor, Joanne Peskin, previously with Jackman ICS from 1992-2000.

Elizabeth also reported that the fundraising focus for this year is tuition support, which alternates each year with other fundraising efforts.

This year's professional development focus for Jackman ICS teachers is Aboriginal learning and culture, specifically focusing on the culture, history, education and politics of First Nations peoples.

**6. Class Reps**

Nursery – the children are getting settled and enjoying Dan’s storytelling

JK – there are 3 new children this year and they are settling in well

SK – the children are enjoying studying the trees and birds and their self portraits

1 – how excited the children are to be grasping reading and their various field trips so far

2 – the children are loving learning about birds and writing their own selfologies

3 – the children are starting cursive writing and were very proud of their Terry Fox efforts as they raised just under \$1,000

4- the children are learning about water, and last week went into the community painting yellow fish near the sewer drains

Ben’s 5/6 – the children are starting to learn algebra and persuasive writing

Amanda’s 5/6 teacher - Sand Banks trip was a highlight and they are looking forward to Ottawa, and are really enjoying being special friends with the JK and SK’s

***Sonia Verma motioned to adjourn the meeting. Laura Miller seconded the meeting. All accepted the motion. The motion was carried.***

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**Jackman ICS Parents Association**  
Monday, January 20, 2014  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees Present:**

20 JICS parents from various classes were present – including the executive Richard Messina

**Parents Association Executive Members**

Tracy Pryce – President  
Gillian Roberts – Immediate Past President  
Grant McCutcheon – Vice-President  
Steve Rayner – Co-Secretary  
Honor McLachlin – Co-Secretary  
Sandra Adams – Co-Volunteer Coordinator  
Leticia Amaral Nogueira – Co-Volunteer Coordinator  
Richard Messina – Vice-Principal

**Regrets**

Marjorie Kramer – Communications  
Hina Ansari – Treasurer  
Elizabeth Morley – Principal

**1. Welcome**

Tracy called the meeting to order at 7:05.

**2. Treasurers Report**

In Hina's absence, Tracy Pryce reported that throughout the first term, the PA Executive has been focused on refreshing an organization that has grown and evolved over time.

Much of our efforts this school year have involved formalizing practices and procedures, better defining roles and ensuring stronger continuity of responsibilities as people come and go.

Along the way, administrative shortcomings have become apparent as a result of frequent turnover of volunteers, growth in activities and a sudden change in bookkeeping services. It was brought to our attention just last week that there are issues with tax filings and the Association's charitable status, which speaks to a weakness in process that is now being addressed.

These issues have more impact on the administration aspects of our operations than our finances, which remain intact and are being well managed according to the budget we reported on at our first PA Council meeting. As part of our review, new banking arrangements better suited to the scope of activities of the PA are being put in place, and these will also simplify reporting to parents.

As a result of this, issuing tax receipts could be delayed due to our status with the CRA. Our goal is to issue the tax receipts in February – we will keep you updated as to the timing of this if it should be further delayed.

Grant affirmed the PA Executive's unanimous support at the PA Executive meeting on Thursday, January 9th, 2014 of the resolution to move the Association's banking to the BNS branch close to the school (Bloor and Spadina) for easier access. The account will be set up with the proper signatory process involving any 2 of the President, Vice President and Treasurer. The PA Executive also recommends more accounts (or sub-accounts) for easier accounting of the various school initiatives it supports (Library Fund, Patrick Harvey Arts Fund etc.), to ensure transparency and continued accuracy.

### **3. Nominations Committee**

The nominations committee consists of the President (Tracy Pryce), Vice-President (Grant McCutcheon), *ex-officio non-voting* members are Elizabeth Morley and Richard Messina plus 2 class parents who DO NOT want to be on the Executive Committee.

Footnote: We've already received our class reps for the committee: Jennifer Baichwal and Nathalie Feiner.

The committee will be announced in late March, and the slate will be announced in early April

- March 24 (First Monday following March Break, approximately 6 weeks prior to Spring PA Council meeting) - Email Call for Interest in Executive roles to parents, indicating a two week deadline
- April 7 - 11 (10-14 days prior to Spring Council meeting) - Nominations Committee meet to review nominations submitted for Executive roles
- April 14 (2 weeks prior to Spring Council meeting, present slate in email to parents via class reps, to be voted on a Spring Council meeting)
- April 28 Spring Council meeting, parents vote on the slate at Spring Council meeting

*\*Note: The Spring Council meeting is typically held in May, so the Nominations schedule has been adjusted to accommodate earlier meeting this year.*

### **4. Volunteer Committee**

The Volunteer Committee is seeking a chair to organize/run Photo Day. They can be briefed by Marjorie Kramer, who is the former chair. As well, a few volunteers for Photo Day, and Games Day. Please let Sandra Adams ([adams.oregan@gmail.com](mailto:adams.oregan@gmail.com)) or Leticia Amaral Nogueira ([letiamaral@yahoo.com](mailto:letiamaral@yahoo.com)) now if you would be interested to assist in both these fun days.

And a big thank you for providing the snacks for the meeting tonight.

### **5. Library Report = read aloud by Grant McCutcheon**

Special Activities/Initiatives:

- Getting ready for Read-a-thon, the school-wide reading initiative: all of February
- In the process of booking authors/illustrators to visit in February

Spending

- Sales from Indigo Book Night reached - \$3,123.19, funds that will be used to enhance existing collection, with a focus on sections:
  - First Nations books collection
  - Graphic novels
- Teachers will be consulted about other areas of the library collection that need enhancement (e.g. Cindy requested bird field guides be added to our collection)

Technology Updates

- Grade 4s have 12 new Macbook pros for their classroom, and will begin typing very soon.
- Judith and Nick have purchased a wide range of new iPad apps (math, language, visual-spatial games).

**6. Parents Education Committee – read aloud by Steve Rayner**

We have scheduled Alyson Schaffer, a well-known friend and parenting "guru" to run one of her boot-camp workshops the weekend of April 5/6 here at JICS. The cost and other details are still being confirmed but we are hoping to be able to offer childcare as well. Please watch for more details and thank you to Kyra Clarkson for organizing.

February 20<sup>th</sup> is the morning (9-10:30am) of our yearly in school Parent Ed workshop that focuses on an aspect of teaching here at JICS. This session will allow parents to ask questions and then see what is happening in the classrooms all the way through the grades. In the past we have done math and literacy. This year we will be looking at Inquiry and its role at JICS, as well as Knowledge Forum.

April 28<sup>th</sup> is the new date of our spring Parent Ed workshop in conjunction with the PA Council meeting. We are still finalizing plans but intend to have the evening focus around children's mental health/well being looking at issues such as self-esteem and resiliency. We will post details as soon as they are available.

**9-10:30am annual Parent Education workshop and April 28<sup>th</sup> (spring workshop). Parent Guru weekend workshop is April 5-6 at JICS.**

**7. Patrick Harvie Arts Committee – read aloud by Honor McLachlin**

We had a very, very successful artist-in-residence programme this year. In conjunction with the Library, we hosted storyteller Dan Yashinsky over two months. His inspiring work culminated in a wonderful day during which the children from Grades 5 and 6 visited with mixed groups of children in the earlier grades and told stories which they had worked up for the event. We look forward to continuing our

relationship with Dan, as the residency was so successful at every age level.

The Grade Two's and Cindy are busy taking the lead on organizing this year's Patrick Harvie Dance, which will take place on February 18<sup>th</sup> at the UTS gym. Dancers have again been hired to lead the children in an exciting set of hip-hop moves, while leaving time for more free-form fun at the end.

While this is a non-fund-raising year for the committee, the PHAC monies continue to support the annual purchase of clay and related materials for the art room, as well as funding Music Night in May.

The Committee will be meeting soon to begin planning for next year's artist in residence. If people have an idea for an artist or a genre they would like to have considered, please let us know.

#### **8. Report from the School**

Richard reported that the school wide calendar will be launched in the very near future – this will also include the class calendars, which will be populated by each of the class teachers.

Richard also reported that the new building project on track to begin in (this June/summer) as planned. More details to follow as they become available.

Richard was excited to announce that JICS has been working closely with the Ministry of Education – Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat to share the JICS's inquiry-approach with public school boards across the province. Lab School teachers have participated in Ministry conferences, webinars, and welcomed many Ministry and public school representatives into their classrooms.

***Nicos Fassler motioned to adjourn the meeting. Deepta Rayner seconded the meeting. All accepted the motion. The motion was carried***

***The Next PA meeting has been moved to April 28<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with The PA Education workshop.***

**Jackman ICS Parents Association – PA Council Meeting**  
 Monday, April 28, 2014  
**Meeting Notes**

**Attendees Present:**

Tracy Pryce – President  
 Grant McCutcheon – Vice-President  
 Gillian Roberts – Past President  
 Hina Ansari – Treasurer  
 Marjorie Kramer – Communications  
 Leticia Amaral Nogueira – Volunteer Coordinator  
 Sandra Adams - Volunteer Coordinator  
 Elizabeth Morley – Principal  
 Richard Messina - Vice Principal  
 Steve Rayner – Co-Secretary

**Regrets:**

Honor McLachlin – Co-Secretary  
 Thecla Sweeney – Treasurer (In Training)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action Items</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Departing Members thanked and given a gifts for their hard work supporting the parents association over the various years.</li> </ul>	
<b>Charitable Status Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refilled application and positive news from a CRA staff indicates the process is on track and they had no concerns with the requested materials provided.</li> <li>Should be re-instated for the fall term</li> <li>Can not issue tax receipts for donations until reinstated and once ready these tax receipts will be retro active.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CRA reviewing the file</li> </ul>
<b>Officer and Committee Reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read at your leisure, info provided during the meeting (short notes on Patrick Harvie, Library council notes show it raised nearly \$3500 and had 5 visiting authors etc)</li> </ul>	
<b>Executive Slate Vote for 2014-15 School Year</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The slate was approved unanimously</li> <li>Leticia moved to accept, Richard seconds, all present in favor</li> </ul>	Approved Slate: President – Tracy Pryce, VP VP – Grant McCutcheon Treasurer – Thecia Sweeney



		Communications Co-Volunteer Co-ord – Leticia Amaral Nogueira Co-Volunteer Co-ord – Sherri Allain
<b>News from the School (EM)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elizabeth provided updates on:</li> <li>Architect update week of April 28 with 2 sessions. The application is with the city so we don't have any timelines yet.</li> <li>Diversity meeting on May 1 - follow up on the meeting with the parents (financial accessibility and what can we do).</li> <li>Spring Gala on May 5 (for tuition support)</li> <li>Music night</li> <li>Hot Dog Night – May 27th</li> <li>Grade 6 Graduation and update on where the grade 6's are going next year – many being sought out but schools and most well placed already.</li> <li>Staff list released – Juila returns from Mat leave, no changes otherwise</li> <li>Math and Parents – currently this every 3 years and looking to do the debrief more frequently than that</li> </ul>	Sign up for Hot Dog Night and plan to attend May 27th
<b>Reports from Grades</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nursery – Nature Walk and Planting. Spadina Library trip is pending</li> <li>JK – The eggs have arrived and JK helped plant with Grade 5-6</li> <li>SK – asked to join Holland Bloorview kids to record a 7 song CD which also includes the appearance of much loved children's singer (from Sharon Lois &amp; Bram fame). Skype practices helped with the practice.</li> <li>Grade1 - Lots of progress on the creative writing and math fronts. At long last the class finally made it to High Park after a series of weather and health delays.</li> <li>Grade 2 – 12<sup>th</sup> Night Shakespeare in rehearsal and the class is going to release their eggs for hatching soon.</li> <li>Grade 3 – Graphic Novels finished, a trip to Pioneer Village and a look at old world life contrasts with work on Planning Cities (maps etc) now underway</li> <li>Grade 4 – Cedarvale Park trip was a hit. Inquiry on Aboriginal Peoples. Kids are doing long division math and will also present some works for upcoming May class breakfast.</li> <li>Grade 5/6 – Going to Ottawa soon with a trip to</li> </ul>	

	Question Period planned and a reunion with the daughter of ex Parent Evan Solomon (CBC Political Affairs guru based in Ottawa) is much anticipated. Grade 6's transitioning for their next chapter in school life.	
<b>Wrap up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting Adjourned,</li></ul>	

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