October 19, 2021, 730-830pm, via Zoom

**JICS PA – All Parent Meeting**

**PA Executive**

Richard Messina – Principal

Chriss Bogert – Vice Principal

Francois Tanguay-Renaud – PA President

Megan Pearson - Vice President

Deepta Rayner – Past PA President

Shawn Konopinsky – Treasurer

Andrew Cain – Communications Officer (Absent)

Chloe Leon – Communications Officer

Sanaz Mazinani – Volunteer Coordinator (Absent)

Kerry Thompson – Parent Education Coordinator (Absent)

Julia O. – Parent Education Coordinator (Absent)

In attendance: David Sandomierski, Ken Caddock, Sue V, Majorie – grade 3 rep, Mark Hendricks – JK and Grade 2 rep, Allen, Patricia Armstrong, Colette Hou – nursery rep, Reena - JK Parent Rep, Sben-Isahi, Paul Blizzrd, Allison Chris, Salim Dharssi

1. Welcome from Francois
2. What is the PA:
* Support the parents (e.g. parent education)
* Support the school
* Develop community
* Fundraising in order to further support the school
* Supporting equity, diversity and inclusion:
	+ Dr. Belinda Longe has been hired by the PA as a consultant for how to help the PA to support the parents with respect to EDI initiatives
	+ Class reps provided input to Belinda through a survey, which will further inform upcoming consultation session with the PA exec on October 21/2021
* Open discussion with members of the PA about the role of the PA, needs of the PA
	+ No major questions or concerns about the mandate of the PA
1. Parent Education Update:
2. Parent Education Events:
* PFLAG presentation was last week, and is available by a recording which will be sent out in the blog and will be added on the website as well
* Rabia Khokar is a speaker who will be presenting on November 23rd, 2021 from 7-8:30pm, on inclusive book collections for parents and children; it will tie in with JICS Book Night;
	+ [www.rabiakhokhar.com](http://www.rabiakhokhar.com)
* Jesse Wente, author of book Unreconciled, will be coming to speak with the JICS community; this is moving forward on our commitment as a school to Truth & Reconciliation; it might include a book ticket as he is an expensive speaker:
	+ <https://www.cbc.ca/books/unreconciled-1.6090528>
* Spring – planning underway for a mental health panel; particularly about supporting our children when they are outside the school community

All PA members encouraged to contact Julia or Kerry with any PA parent education events

1. Lunch and Learns with Ellie, JICS Social Worker

 – announced through the JICS blog

* + Next event on Thurs. October 21, 2021, at 12:30
		- https://www.jicsfamily.com/events-1/lunch-and-learn-social-media-and-protecting-your-childs-sense-of-self
1. Planning for Research Night is underway
2. Update from Principal Richard Messina:
* Grade 6 posters: Serena Williams’ poster was vandalized (“black icon” – black was crossed out so that it just read “icon”)
	+ It was discussed that the blog post from Richard used the word “racist” to describe the act, and parents wrote in wondering whether it was not necessarily racism but instead was speaking to the idea that Serena Williams inspires ALL people, not just black people; Richard expressed how important it was that parents felt comfortable sharing their concerns
	+ Richard explained to each person who wrote in, that it is important to understand that a poster was defaced and parts of the poster erased, and that this most definitely has impacted members of our community, and we need to support and understand these experiences; he spoke of systems of oppression and our commitment as a school to being actively anti-racist; he encouraged parents bring up any questions or concerns about this even
* Socials: JICS continues to re-assess the ability to safely have social events; there was a question about whether Hot Night could proceed with smaller cohorts – Richard is optimistic and hopeful that some version of socials will be possible this year
* Richard encouraged all parents to consider COVID protocols seriously
	+ Students not to attend school with any COVID-19 symptoms
	+ Ensure COVID-19 screens done daily
	+ Ensure rapid-tests done on Wednesday and Sunday -- The buffer solution for the rapid-tests cannot be replace so use it sparingly and only fill up the test tube to the line
* Question about Lost & Found:
	+ It is in the basement
	+ There is an idea to create a virtual version of the Lost & Found to help parents locate lost items; older students should be reminded to check the lost & found, and teachers could help students in younger grades locate items
1. Celebrating Diversity
* Francois spoke of a budget line item that supports all members of the JICS community to bring celebrations to the school
* There was a question in the chat about Diwali that is upcoming, and how it can be celebrated, especially in the context of COVID restrictions
* Richard clarified that JICS supports all celebrations and wants to ensure all parents are aware and feel comfortable
1. Class Rep Updates
* JKs: Mark updated the PA that they organized a pizza party in Sibelius Park; considering an outing to Canada’s Wonderland
* Grade 2s: Mark updated the PA that he organized a pool party in the summer; considering planning a bowling night for parents; there is also a Casa Loma evening event (for Halloween)
* Nursery: Allen updated that there is a Meet & Greet planned this coming weekend at Sibelius Park
* Grade 1: Patricia organized an afternoon get together at Sibelius Park; it was reasonably well attended but working parents/daycare students could not attend so there will be a weekend option next time to give more people the option to join
* SK: Sue V updated that there was a Sibelius Park get together to celebrate summer birthdays (and also individual birthdays as well); there are plans for an adult event soon
* Grade 4: Sue V updated that there was a get together for new families; there are plans for an adult event soon
* Grade 6: Deepta provided an update – there was a ‘transition to grade 7’ night with Richard which was very helpful; grade 6 parents organized a camping trip in September and was described as a ‘huge success’
1. Financial Update – Shawn Konopinsky (Treasure)- please see Powerpoint slides for reference
* 101% of expected donations so far (expectation is that 68% of parents contribute as it is optional; 60% of parents contributed and generous donations allowed for meeting the donation target)
* Revenue:
	+ Fees + donations: $27000 (already achieved through first round of fundraising)
	+ United Way/Benevity (corporate giving): $5,600 (last year this target was exceeded)
	+ Other (Merch, Shop + Support): $500
	+ Target Revenue: $33,100
	+ Fy21 Carryover: $9000 \*\* Shawn explained that because of COVID-19 the social budget was not used, as such there is a carryover; there are discussions underway with accounting to ensure that this is “above board”, and ideally there is hope to have a small amount of carryover so that initiatives can be supported right away (as opposed to waiting for fundraising efforts to start coming in)
	+ **Target Budget $42,100**
* Funding Key Initiatives:
* EDI program/consultant/celebrations: $16,500
* Events (graduation, social, hot dog nights, etc): $11, 000
* Parent Education: $5000
* School Supplies & Equipment: $3000
* Lice Screening: $1,500
* Event Babysitting: $1000
* Admin (Platform fees, accounting): $4100
* **Target Expenses: $42,100**