

**December Meeting Minutes
JMS Parent's Advisory Council (PAC)**

Date: December 9, 2024

Present: Emma Shehan, President (ES); Sheena Crossman, treasurer (SC); Evangelia Koutsodimos, SPEAC Rep (EK); Kristy Green, Fundraising Coordinator (KG); Tamila Mclean, food coordinator (TM); Meghan Rownd, Events Coordinator (MR); John Mennie, acting principal.

Regrets: Julie Salter, Secretary;

Opening Motions:

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:15 pm, MR Moved, TM Seconded, Approved.

MOTION: To approve agenda. MR Moved, TM Seconded, Approved.

MOTION: To approve November 2024 Minutes with edits noted, MR Moved TM Seconded, Approved.

AMENDMENT: October 2024 minutes - General Account opening balance should read as \$7,183.

POINT OF INFORMATION: No need to motion to approve online vote to Increase Winter Dance budget from \$500 to \$700 to cover the cost of a DJ. The increased amount will come from the Gaming budget under Arts & Culture Events, lowering the total to \$800.

CALL FOR NOMINATION for VP: MR nominated, no other nominations, voted by acclimation.

Principal's Report: John Mennie Reported.

Succession Planning:

Journey has had 10 principals or acting principals over the past 5 years. The district recognises this hardship and has a plan for consistent leadership at Journey. Applications for a multi-year contract will be submitted in January with interviews to be held in February. The new hired principal will begin in March (after spring break) and JM will stay on as co-principal and mentor until the end of the school year. In September the new hire will continue as the principal and a second VP will be hired so that there will be 3 administrators for the following year (two VP and one P).

Questions received from Parents:

- 1.) Can weekly or biweekly communication occur between the school and parents? Same day each time?

Yes this was addressed in the parent email. Moving forward, updates from admin will be made every week or two on Mondays.

2.) We are currently fundraising for a playground. Are we able to move forward with this project?

Yes. Playgrounds need to be age appropriate and not break. Dunsmuir tried spinners and zip lines and they were both broken in a short time. The climbing net at CML is very durable. MR will ask about Sooke Elementary's obstacle course with wood. We are not currently meeting the district standard for infrastructure. We may be able to apply for a Greening Grant.

3.) Safety Concerns: Parents have expressed a desire to change the culture (or perceived culture) of excessive bullying and violence at school.

JM's goal is to have Journey be safe, welcoming and calm. Key factor is restitution and accountability following mistakes. JM is working on school pride such as having graffiti quickly removed from school. Next step is students and staff working on cleanliness. That said, JM has been principal of all middle schools in the district and Journey is not unsafe; it has the same challenges that all middle schools have.

4.) Does Journey have a zero tolerance policy regarding violence?

Teachers try to deal with incidents as much as they can. Teachers can bring in parents to help as well. If issue cannot be solved and it has to go to admin then at that point it is zero tolerance in the sense that there will be some consequences.

Treasurer's Report (SC reported):

All spreadsheets were updated. Gaming balance as of November 30 is \$23,142.27 however there are a number of outstanding approved funding requests so total available is \$14,432.77 As of November 30 General Account is at 7,345.57.

Old Business:

Coupon Books fundraiser (KG reported) raised \$2,134.75 but total would have been higher if all books were returned. 54 books were not returned. Ms. Jankowski's class sold the most books and won the pizza party.

Dielmans Fundraiser (MR reported) made \$380.

Winter Dance is coming on Friday Dec. 20th 12:30 - 2:30. Parent volunteers needed for concession.

Pac Fun Lunch update (TM reported) Ordering will be available on Munch-a-lunch for Panago and Subway.

New Business

Culture of Safety Workshop/ Anti-bullying - does the PAC wish to hold the anti-bullying workshop again this year? - Tabled.

Funding requests:

Announcements and and Adjournment

Future meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month from January onwards.

Motion to Adjourn Moved by TM Seconded by KG, Motion approved.