



OUR WORLD

A monthly newsletter of the John Stanford International School PTSA

Please note: The regular layout and design of Our World will return next month.

April 8, 2011

April at a Glance:

- [PTSA Board Meeting](#)
Library - Tue, Apr 12 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- [Class Picture Day](#)
Thu, Apr 14 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
- [5th Grade Science Fair](#)
Thu, Apr 14 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm
- [Spring Clean - Earth Day](#)
Fri, Apr 15 (All day)
- [1st Grade Performance](#)
Fri, Apr 15 10:00 am
- [NO SCHOOL - Spring Break](#)
Mon, Apr 18 12:00 am - Fri, Apr 22 12:00 am

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PTSA Meeting with Bree Dusseault

Tuesday, March 29th, with Bree Dusseault, Executive Director for the SPS Northwest Region:

Ms. Dusseault met with parents to describe the process for replacing Principal Aramaki and discuss how parents may participate.

The Hiring Process: It is a three-step process with the District conducting the first screening interviews of candidates, call back interviews with a hiring team that includes JSIS parent representatives, and a final interview with the Superintendent, who makes the final selection. The hiring committee will recommend no more than three candidates to interview with the Superintendent.

Timing: Screening interviews by the District (April 1st, 4th and 5th); Call back interviews (April 11th – 15th, tentatively)

Details:

- All candidates for the position must be asked the same questions, perform the same tasks during the interview;
- The time commitment for parents interested in being on the hiring team is approximately 20 hours;
- No preference is given to internal candidates;
- 85 candidates have applied for 3 principal openings (district wide);
- The District can re-post the position to solicit more applicants, as needed;
- The goal is to have the JSIS hiring team in place by April 4th
- A four person committee (Kerryn Redding, Charlotte Trelease, Janel London, and Charles Klement) will review letters of intent from interested parents;

Desirable Qualifications: Parents identified a number of qualities that would like to see in the new principal

- Someone passionate about bilingual education;
- Someone who can manage/delegate parents with a variety of skills and interests who want to help;
- Someone who can listen, then make a decision;
- Someone who can navigate the system - who knows how to get things done in the District;
- Someone who is approachable;
- Someone who is a strong instructional leader, with high expectations for a highly skilled staff;
- Someone who can manage and delegate, but not micromanage;

Contact information for Bree Dusseault: bndusseault@seattleschools.org

**21st INTERNATIONAL
PERFORMANCE NIGHT at JSIS,
March 25, 2011**

International Performances Night (IPN) was packed with excitement this year. There were lively student performances, some new additions, and a few farewells. "The Flags of the World" introduced the multicultural backgrounds of many JSIS students and families. Students paraded across the stage in national costumes with national flags in hand.

It was special to see the Primary and Intermediate Bilingual Orientation Center (BOC) classes perform at IPN before they move next year. They presented "Hello to All the Children of the World". A solo was performed by BOC student Ran Zhang. Her Chinese dance was titled "Happy Childhood" and represented the Dai people's style of dance. One could hear and see the diversity that the BOC has brought to JSIS.

Before the dancing was complete, JSIS showed its concern and support of the recent disasters in Japan. There was a Moment of Silence for the victims of Japan led in Japanese by PTSA parent Sachiko Crowder- Hasegawa. Following, PTSA parent Amy Young led a Coins of Compassion for Japan announcement and collection by the second grade Japanese students. The fifth graders also shared the good news of their fundraising efforts for Japan and that they would contribute the hundreds of dollars they raised to the 2nd graders' Coins of Compassion cause.

John Morovich, this year's artist in residency (whose family originates from Croatia) has been working with the younger grades. As he played accordion, he performed traditional Croatian folk dances with the first and third graders. The children danced in pairs and performed a series of hand-clapping and dancing in a round.

The fifth graders really showed their dancing skills during IPN. "Waving Flag" performed by the fifth grade Spanish class and led by Senora Priscilla, got

some people moving in their seats. The fifth grade Japanese class asked the audience to chant during parts of "Sorani Bushi" (story of catching fish from the sea). Hearty chants coming from the younger JSIS students encouraged the older students and the fifth grade drummers.

A first time Art Walk decorated the walls of the gym, with random samples of visual art collected from each class. One could see hand drawn colorful rainforest animals, pastel drawings inspired by Monet's water lilies, and close up drawings of amoebas, plus much more. Many wonderful art pieces are currently hanging outside classrooms now.

Finally, goodbyes were heard from Ms. Wei of BOC and Mr. Aramaki. They announced their departures at the end of the school year and shared heartfelt comments and thanks to all. The ribbon dancers also performed their vibrant dance for the last time at JSIS. Ms Wei has been working on this dance group for many years. The students, teachers, and staff have been hard at work preparing for this annual event. IPN showcased their talent and shared the international side of our school's creativity in music, song, and dance. A round of applause to all.

-Diane Sandoval-Onikubo



JSIS Annual Fund

With only two weeks left in the Annual Fund campaign, we have made great strides in reaching our goal of \$180,000, but we still have quite a ways to go. Now is the time for us to pull together as a community to show our support to those incredible Instructional Assistants (IAs).

The JSIS community has been presented with an Inspirational Challenge this year to encourage everyone to participate in the Annual Fund. If we can get at least 250 families to contribute, our school will collect \$25,000. That will go a long way in helping us reaching our goal! In the past, donations have ranged from \$10,000 to \$0.50, but only you know the amount that is right for your family. So, please join me and the 70 other families that have already contributed to the Annual Fund. Together, we can make a difference in our children's education!

Alison Parsons

Annual Fund Chair

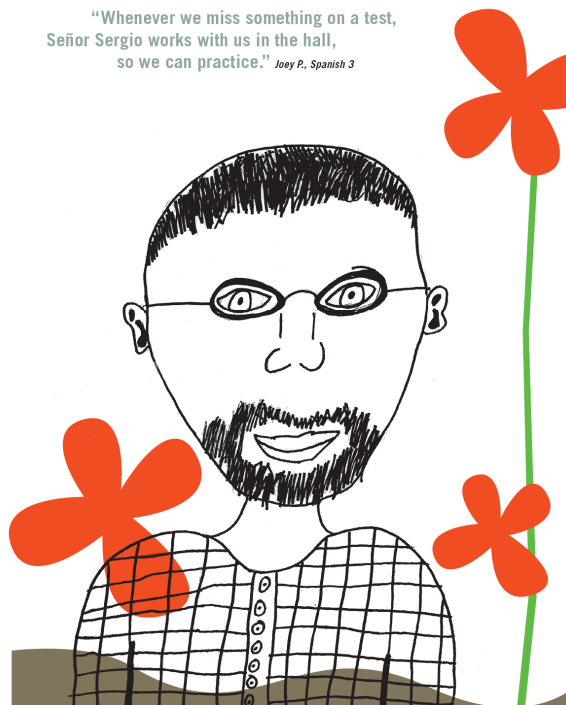
Blog: Save Seattle Schools

Seattle has a great resource for Seattle education information and that's the Save Seattle Schools blog. You'll find news and information there (plus lively discussion) on all things K-12 education. We cover national, state and local issues but especially issues and trends in Seattle Public Schools. We are also happy to publicize school events or honors so let us know what is happening at your school.

Our Mission statement: Debate the issues facing Seattle Public Schools; share your opinions, read the latest news. Organize and work for high quality public schools that educate all students to become passionate, lifelong learners.

Our website is saveattleschools.blogspot.com or if you have questions, Melissa Westbrook, sss.westbrook@gmail.com

"Whenever we miss something on a test,
Señor Sergio works with us in the hall,
so we can practice." *Joey P., Spanish 3*



Our World Deadline

Our World is published and distributed the second week of the month.

The deadline for the next issue: **May 4, 2011**

Please submit your information to
ourworldnews@gmail.com.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

Editor: **Julie Wittmann**

Graphic Designer: **Jan Nicosia**

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Spanish Translation: **Sonia Pelkowski**

Poetry Aloud on the JSIS Website

Every Friday, as part of morning announcements, classes take turns to recite poetry. We are pleased to share your children's poems and recitations with you. To listen, go to <http://jsisweb.com/student-life/poetry>. Clicking on the link should cause the poem to open automatically and play on your media player (Windows, iTunes, etc.). Enjoy!

-Poetry Aloud coordinators Meg Chadsey & Ericka Bigelow

Solutions proposed for District's 2011-12 funding gap

Based on staff recommendations and guidance from School Board members, the School District at a Feb. 16 budget workshop proposed \$35 million in cuts for the 2011-12 school year. The goal was to make cuts first in central office and operations, and to make cuts to school budgets only as a last resort. However, it has not been possible to balance next year's budget without including reductions to schools. Budget development for 2011-12 will continue over the next several months. The final proposed budget for 2011-12 will be introduced to the Board for consideration on June 15. A hearing will be held on June 16, and a vote is planned for July 6.

Watts Basketball Camp

REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

SKILLS. DRILL. GAMES. PRIZES.

Join Husky Legend DONALD WATTS for Spring Break Basketball Camp

We will cover: Ball Handling, Passing, Shooting, Footwork (speed & agility) in an up-beat and exciting environment.*

*Players will work with like ages and skill levels.

Who: Boys and Girls (1-6 grade)

When: Spring Break, April 18-22

Where: Eckstein Middle School

Cost: 5 days \$225, 3 days \$150, 2 days \$100 (t-shirt included)

REGISTER AT: www.wattsbasketball.com

"These drills, philosophies, and principles are developed through my experience as a pro, being trained by the world's greatest players and coaches."
– Donald Watts

"Junko-sensei organizes good activity stations that are fun. She has a really nice laugh." *Isla C., Japanese K*



Support our exchange programs in Mexico and Japan!

JSIS is fortunate to have forged relationships with two sister schools, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico and Kobe, Japan. Maintaining these relationships and planning for the annual trips to these schools takes a lot of effort, but the rewards are many. We are looking for parents to join the PTSA's Education Exchange Committee in fall 2011.

The committee members would support the JSIS faculty trip leaders and encourage involvement of the JSIS community in our sister school programs. Ideally we'd like to recruit two committee members from each language group (Spanish and Japanese), representing a variety of grade levels. If you would like more information about the role of the committee, please contact current Chair, Erin Branigan (braniganerin@yahoo.com).

PTSA Board March Meeting

The JSIS PTSA met for their regular Board meeting on March 15th. The Board approved funds for one more Resident Artist class for each interested class this spring.

The executive committee voted in Squire Dahl as Treasurer to fill in for the departing Treasurer for the rest of the school year. Per PTSA by-laws, he will need to be approved by a general membership vote at the next general meeting.

Julie Pellegrino-Gilbert, Director of Community Building and Fundraising, reported that she is initiating the Flower Power fundraiser and that she is looking for a co-chair for the yard sale. Please contact her if you are interested.

Janel London reported that the Japanese second grade is starting a fundraiser called Coins for Compassion. In this kids-helping-kids effort, the students are collecting money for earthquake relief in Japan.

The next Board meeting is on April 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. Join us!

Anne Phillips, JSIS PTSA Secretary

Volunteer Appreciation Week

National Volunteer Week is April 10-14. As you know, the JSIS community is blessed with involved and enthusiastic families. Many of us volunteer in one aspect or another including in the classroom, on a field trip, organizing events, or behind the scenes. There are many volunteer roles that benefit our students, staff, and families.

This next week is a nationally recognized time when we are encouraged to acknowledge and show our appreciation of volunteers. Though we hope that our volunteers feel appreciated throughout the year, we want to encourage you to reach out during this time to your fellow volunteers and thank them for all that they do. Perhaps you feel especially appreciative of the Green Team coordinators, the After School Activities coordinators and volunteers, Special Friends, the Art Committee, Room Reps, Monster Mash helpers, or any number of volunteers unnamed here. Please take a moment to say thank you and ensure our volunteers here at JSIS are acknowledged by their peers.

On behalf of the PTSA Board and members: Thank You JSIS Volunteers!! We Appreciate all that You Do!!

Página en Español

Reunión del PTSA con Bree Dusseault

Martes, 29 de Marzo, con Bree Dusseault, Directora Ejecutiva de la Región Noroeste de las Escuelas Públicas de Seattle:

La Srta. Dusseault se reunió con los padres de familia para describir el proceso de sustitución del Director Aramaki y conversar sobre cómo pueden participar los padres.

El Proceso de Contratación: Es un proceso de tres pasos. El Distrito llevará a cabo las primeras entrevistas de selección de candidatos. El segundo paso consistirá en entrevistas con un equipo de contratación que incluirá a representantes de los padres de JSIS. Finalmente, habrá una entrevista con el Superintendente, quien hará la selección final. El Comité de contratación recomendará a no más de tres candidatos para la entrevista con el Superintendente.

Fechas: Entrevistas de selección llevadas a cabo por el Distrito (1, 4 y 5 de Abril); Segundas entrevistas del 11 al 15 de abril, tentativamente)

Detalles:

- A todos los candidatos para la posición se les deben plantear las mismas preguntas, y deben realizar las mismas tareas durante la entrevista;
- El compromiso de tiempo para los padres interesados en ser parte del equipo de contratación es de aproximadamente 20 horas;
- No se dará preferencia a los candidatos internos;
- 85 candidatos han aplicado para 3 posiciones de Director (a nivel de todo el Distrito);
- Podemos volver a publicar las posiciones para solicitar más aplicantes, si es necesario;

- Nuestro objetivo es que el equipo de contratación de JSIS sea formado a partir del 4 de Abril
- Un comité de cuatro personas (Kerryn Redding, Charlotte Trelease, Janel London, y Charles Klement) revisará las cartas de padres interesados;

Cualidades Deseadas: Los padres han identificado varias cualidades que consideran importantes para la posición de Director de la Escuela

- Alguien con pasión por la educación bilingüe
- Alguien que pueda manejar / delegar actividades a padres con una variedad de destrezas e intereses y que quieren ayudar
- Alguien que sepa escuchar y luego tomar una decisión;
- Alguien que sepa navegar el sistema – que sepa cómo alcanzar nuestros objetivos en el Distrito;
- Alguien que sea accesible;
- Alguien que sea un buen líder de instrucción, con expectativas altas con respecto a las destrezas de su personal;
- Alguien que sepa manejar y delegar, pero que no quiera “micro-manejar”;

El contacto de Bree Dusseault:
bndusseault@seattleschools.org

Reunión de Marzo de la Junta del PTSA

El PTSA de JSIS se reunió el 15 de marzo. La Junta aprobó fondos para una clase más de Artistas Residentes esta primavera para cada clase que esté interesada.

El Comité Ejecutivo votó para que Squire Dahl reemplace al Tesorero anterior por el resto del año escolar. De acuerdo a las normas del PTSA, esto tendrá que ser aprobado por votación de los miembros generales en la próxima reunión.

Página en Español cont'd

Julie Pellegrino-Gilbert, Directora de Recaudación de Fondos y de la Comunidad, informó que está iniciando el proyecto de recaudación de fondos "Poder de las Flores" y que está buscando un Co-director para organizar la venta. Por favor contacte a Julie si está interesado.

Janel London informó que el segundo grado Japonés está comenzando una iniciativa de recaudación de fondos llamada "Monedas de Compasión". En esta iniciativa, los niños quieren ayudar a otros niños. Los estudiantes están recolectando dinero para ayudar a las víctimas del terremoto en Japón.

La próxima reunión de la Junta es el 12 de Abril a las 7:00 p.m. en la biblioteca de la escuela. Únete a nosotros!

Anne Phillips, Secretaria del PTSA de JSIS



