



From the Principal

John Stanford International School

September 23, 2009

Dear JSIS Families,

What better way to enter into our tenth year as the John Stanford International School than by being honored as one of the 5% highest improving schools in the state of Washington!

Our school is one of 55 elementary schools across the state to receive the **2009 Great Schools Award** sponsored by the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) and Phi Delta Kappa Washington State (PDK-WA). Formerly called the *School of Distinction Award*, this award recognizes the top 5% highest improving schools in the state over the past seven years in the combined areas of reading and math.

This is a true testament to the dedication and hard work of the staff at JSIS as well as the support and dedication of the families, all of whom support our great kids! In addition, this award also reinforces what we know at JSIS as the incredible success and effectiveness of language immersion programs.

Congratulations to all of you for you have been and will continue to be an integral factor in helping JSIS be the “best of the best”.

Sincerely,

Mr. Aramaki ~ Señor Aramaki ~ あらまきせんせい

Announcements and Reminders:

- **WASL Reports are going home today for 4th and 5th graders.** Please check your child's backpack for his/her report.
- **Sept. 30 - Curriculum Night Schedule:**
 - 1:30 **Early Dismissal from School**
 - 6:15 – 6:45 Session 1: Visit your child's **MORNING** class
 - 6:50 – 7:20 Session 2: Visit your child's **AFTERNOON** class
 - 7:25 – 8:00 Options: **Repeat of sessions 1 or 2** if you have more than one child -or- visit one of the **specialists or learning support teachers** –
 - Katie Raschko (Music) in 320
 - Joanne Uhlenkott (PE) in the gym
 - Pat Dailey (Special Ed) in 332B
 - Kathleen Gillespie (Library) in the library
 - Dan Turner (Counselor) in 316
 - Margreet de Leeuw (Math Specialist) in 316
 - Nicole Titus (English Language Support) in 403
 - 6:15 – 7:25 **BOC families** will meet in the Library
- **PTSA General Meeting** – Our first PTSA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6th from 7 – 8:45pm in the Library. Please come as we talk about JSIS entering its 10th

year of excellence. We'll have conversations around where we've been as well as where we're headed. We'd love to hear your comments and ideas so please join us!

- **The Move-a-Thon (PTA activity & fundraiser)** – The JSIS Move-a-Thon is coming on Saturday, October 17 from 10 am to 2 pm. Mark your calendars now for the first big fun event of the school year, and get ready to help support JSIS PTA scholarships and other vital programs. Complete info and pledge sheets are available at jsisweb.com.
- **Advanced Learning Packets Now Available** – If you are interested in having your child tested for advanced learning, application packets are now available in the main office. Parent and teacher forms are due October 8th. Please give teachers the recommendation forms to fill out at least one week before the due date.
- **Appropriate Clothing for School** – With the continuation of such warm weather here in Seattle (yay!), please refrain from sending your kids in **flip flops**. You'd be amazed at the number of injuries that occur because of beach wear. Also, remember to **write your child's name** in his/her clothing (especially jackets and sweatshirts). Kids tend to peel these items off during school and then they end up in our lost and found.
- **PTA Thanks!** The PTA would like to thank the 14+ parents who came in to help sort the first-day packets and assemble and deliver the Wednesday Packets which includes the principal newsletter. If anybody else wants to help out with the weekly, Wednesday Packet, it's an easy way to volunteer in the school. Just show up in the PTSA room around 9:20 any Wednesday morning. Thanks!

Calendar of Events:	
Thurs., Sept. 24	7:00 – 8:30 Hamilton Int'l School Open House
Wed., Sept. 30	2-Hour Early Dismissal – School dismisses at 1:30 CURRICULUM NIGHT (see schedule above)
Tues., Oct. 6	7:00 – 8:45 PTSA General Meeting (see announcement above)
October 6 – 8	5 th Grade Camp at Camp Kirby
October 9	No School – Teacher Professional Development Day