



From the Principal

John Stanford International School

July 2, 2010

Dear JSIS Families,

Happy 4th of July! I hope that all of you are having a wonderful summer vacation so far. We are wrapping up summer language camp here at JSIS and are getting ready for our own summer vacation. I'm writing this early-summer newsletter to let you know of an exciting opportunity you have to host a Spanish or Japanese intern this year, to introduce you to our new Building Leadership Team for 2010 – 2011, and to update you on our latest staffing changes for the 2010 – 2011 school year. When you have a moment, please take a look at the updates and announcements below:

Host a Japanese or Spanish Intern for 3 months!

For the 2010 – 2011 school year, JSIS is excited to be hosting 2 interns from Japan and 1 intern from Spain. During the school day, these interns will be working alongside the teachers and instructional assistants in the language immersion classrooms to support your child's learning of language and culture. This is an incredible opportunity that JSIS is fortunate to take advantage of this year. To make this work, we need to arrange JSIS host-families for these interns. Host families would commit to having an intern for a 3-month period. As you can imagine, hosting an intern from Japan or Spain would have tremendous benefits for both the intern and the host family. The interns would have a first-hand opportunity to learn more about American culture as well as improve their English language skills. The JSIS students and their families would have the opportunity to build on their language skills outside of school as well as learn more about the cultures of Japan or Spain. If you are interested in hosting an intern or would like more information, please e-mail Mr. Aramaki at kearamaki@seattleschools.org. We are looking for host families for 1) September – November, 2) December – February, 3) March – May, and 4) June – August. We need to secure our first host families as soon as possible. I hope many families will take the opportunity to host an intern from Spain or Japan this year. Thanks!

The JSIS Building Leadership Team for 2010 – 2011

The John Stanford Int'l School Building Leadership Team is comprised of staff members and parents. This team leads the school in developing the School Improvement Plan, developing the budget and staffing plan for the upcoming school year, and conducting any other business that involves guiding the school in delivering on its mission and vision. The BLT parent representatives for the 2010 – 2011 school year are: Margie Butcher (K/1 representative), Chris Rodde (2/3 representative), Charlotte Trelease (4/5 representative), Kerryn Reding (parent representative at-large), and Marta Mazzanti (ESL Family representative). If you ever have any questions or input that you would like to communicate to the school (in addition to

communicating directly with teachers or myself), please feel free to contact one of these BLT parent representatives. We meet monthly to conduct scheduled business and to review parent input. Thank you to these parents for committing to leading our school this coming year. Also, thank you to the 2009 – 2010 BLT parent representatives, which included: Tracy Shigley, Emma LeDu, Mark Harrison, Charlotte Trelease, and Kerryn Reding. This past year, our dedicated BLT members worked hard to get the most out of a significantly tightened budget, as well as helped to navigate and advocate for our school during the process to overhaul the district's student assignment plan.

Staffing Update

I am pleased to announce the latest staffing updates for the 2010 – 2011 school year:

- **Yumiko Abe** – Yumiko Sensei has been hired as JSIS' newest Japanese immersion teacher. After having interned at John Stanford International School in 2003, Yumiko Sensei went on to teach in a Japanese Immersion program in Tacoma for six years. In that time, she has demonstrated excellence in the field of language immersion instruction and even received the "Teacher Who Makes a Difference" Award given by King 5 News and Sylvan Learning Center. Yumiko Sensei was able to teach Summer Language Camp this year with Tamayo Sensei making a smooth transition into our program. She will be teaching both kindergarten Japanese immersion classes this coming fall. (Kayoko Sensei, who taught first grade this year, will be teaching both first grade Japanese classes this coming fall.)
- **Beth Devereaux** – We are extremely fortunate to be welcoming Ms. Devereaux to our school as a half-time first grade teacher. Ms. Devereaux is an innovative and experienced teacher who has most recently been teaching at Wing Luke Elementary. Ms. Devereaux comes with outstanding references from administrators, colleagues and families. She is recognized for her positive energy, her instructional excellence, her heart for all students, and her willingness to go above and beyond for her students and school. Ms. Devereaux is excited to be joining the JSIS team.
- **Kindergarten English Teacher** – We are still in the process of looking for another full-time Kindergarten English Teacher. When that position is filled, I will send another update on the final staffing plan for kindergarten and first grade.

Toward the end of August, I will send out the complete list of which grade levels teachers will be teaching and which classes they will have. I expect that there will be a few changes particularly at the earlier grades, but I want to assure you that any changes that are made will be done with much thought and with the best interest of the students and the whole program in mind.

Have a wonderful summer! Make sure you kids continue to read! And, again, let me know if you're interested in hosting an intern for 3 months this coming year.

Sincerely,

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

Calendar of Events:

Sept. 1	6:00 in LSA – LSA (after-school childcare) Orientation for Incoming Kindergarten Families with students attending LSA.
Sept. 1	6:30 in the lunchroom – Incoming Kindergarten Orientation. Parents learn about the curriculum; students meet their teachers and see their classrooms!
Sept. 6	Labor Day – NO SCHOOL
Sept. 8	First Day of School!