

Parents Council Annual Report 2010-2011

Thank you to the JBS Administration and Staff

A special thanks goes out to Andy Abbott for his support and guidance to the Parents Council. Thank you also to wonderful JBS administration and staff who assist us in so many ways throughout the year. In particular, Ellen Bremner (Director of Communications and Community Relations) should be recognized for sharing her knowledge and wisdom with all the members of the Parents Council Board, and for the tireless support she provides for all Parents Council events and activities.

Parents Council Fundraising

Thanks to the successful fundraising efforts of last year's Parents Council Board, this year's Parents Council was able to donate a total of \$112,000 to John Burroughs School. The breakdown of the allocation of funds is as follows:

Unrestricted Gift	\$ 40,000
Wish List	\$ 47,000
Capital Gift	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
TOTAL	\$112,000

Our funding of the Wish List allows faculty and departments to purchase classroom materials and equipment not requested as part of the school's operating budget. This year's Wish List included gifts to nearly every department. Gifts included upgrades to the JBS Athletics webpage, new mattresses for Drey Land, a Livescribe pen for Academic Support, books for the History department, robotics equipment for Industrial Technology, tree climbing units for Outdoor Ed, a biodiesel lab quest and pressure sensor for the Science Department, photography equipment and much, much more.

This year, the Parents Council chose to allocate the Capital Gift funds to assist with upgrades in the Head of School's office. This project will be completed over the summer. After the successful year our fundraising committees just had, I am confident next year's Parents Council will be able to continue the tradition of giving generously to our school.

Summary of Parents Council Activities 2010-2011

ANNUAL DINNER

Tammy Taylor & Barb Liberman

- Held Saturday, April 30 in conjunction with the JBS Auction. The theme was "Carnivale."
- Andy Abbott delivered a brief "State of the School" address, then announced the new the Master Plan that has been approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Retiring and longtime faculty members were recognized and members of the Board of Trustees were elected.
- JBS Jazz Band I entertained during the dinner.
- A short slide show of the 2010-2011 school year concluded the evening.

AUCTION

Kathleen Rogers & Alex McNett

- Held in conjunction with the Annual Dinner on Saturday, April 30.
- A variety of exciting items and services, class baskets and sign-up parties were awarded to the highest bidders in a casual, low-key environment.

BLUE & GOLD PICNIC**Sally Van Doren & Lana Wright**

- Coordinated a school-wide picnic with SAGE dining service, held on Friday, September 10.
- Following the picnic dinner, the Athletics Department sponsored a pep rally and bonfire as part of Blue & Gold Week.

BOOKSTORE**Isabel Brandt, Carie Kennedy & Liz Weinstein**

- Coordinated, trained and staffed hundreds of parent volunteers for the bookstore.
- Scheduled bookstore window display opportunities for Parents Council committees.
- Organized volunteers for book sale days in August and book buy-back days in June.

COOKIES**Maureen Slaten**

- Worked with parent volunteers from each grade and coordinated the donation of home baked cookies from all JBS families to support the long-standing tradition of providing cookies for sale in the bookstore.

FAMILY NETWORK (FN)**Cheryl Bartnett & Jeanne Maritz**

- Working closely with parents, students and the JBS Counseling Department (Prue Gershman, Director of Counseling, is the FN faculty liaison and mentor), the FN committee provided speakers and resources, and arranged for grade-relevant discussion groups.
- Sub-Committees include:
 - Brown Bag/Coffee Connection Events
 - Held two to three meetings for each grade level on developmentally relevant topics.
 - Book Club
 - Planned four book presentations/discussions led by faculty, and parenting book discussions including a presentation on the book *The Power of Resilience* by Robert Brooks and Sam Goldstein, led by Peggy Fiala, Counseling Department, and a monthly discussion of the book, *Imperfect Control* by Judith Viorst, led by Prue Gershman. In addition, JBS Librarians led a year-end discussion on summer reading choices.
 - Health Days
 - Assisted the counseling department with Health Days for 10th – 12th grades.
 - Mentor Program
 - Matched many new families with current families for mentoring. Provided mentor families with conversation topics for three contacts with their new families.
 - Parent to Parent
 - Sent letters in the fall to parents addressing specific developmental and social issues affecting each grade.
- Other successful events included:
 - Alumni Event - *Letting Go: A Parents' Guide to Understanding the College Years*, November 15
 - Parent Event – *Technology and Your Child*, November 16
 - Conversations that Count – for 8th graders and their parents, March 3
 - Fourth Annual Dad's Event - *Father and Teens: Struggling with Autonomy While Staying Connected*, featuring Doug Pettinelli, May 4

HOSPITALITY**Sameera Malik & Helen Kouvelis**

- Organized volunteers to provide treats and decorations for faculty/staff appreciation days held throughout the school year.
- Planned the menu and decorated for the Parents Council Annual Luncheon on May 19.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE (ISE)**CeCe Mulcahy & Milly Giuffra**

- Fon Norreung, an exchange student from Chiang Mai, Thailand, was hosted by the Brandt family this year.
- Secured host family for 2011-2012; identified and selected appropriate exchange student.
- Worked closely with the ISE student club and its faculty advisors.
- Hosted the International Dinner held on February 18. Food was provided by local ethnic restaurants, SAGE, the JBS Iron Chef Club, the Gourmet Cooking class, and the seventh grade Home Economics classes. JBS students shared their international dance and music talents, and Tango St. Louis gave a demonstration for the second year in a row. The dinner honored Fon and the Brandt Family.

JB CONNECTION**Anjali Kamra & Angela Horwitz**

- Sold JBS logo merchandise during the Headmaster's Picnic, the Alumni Picnic, Unique Boutique, and at home football games.
- Worked closely with Mary Bieker of the Business Office to order and sell items.

LIBRARY**Charles Fremont**

- Coordinated parent volunteers to work in the school library.
- Supported the library staff with the execution of the sixth annual Book Fair, featuring selections for all ages and interests. All proceeds benefited the library.
- Worked with library staff to coordinate the annual tea on May 20 for library and archives volunteers.

LOST & FOUND**Jessie Hoagland & Marcia Matthews**

- Organized volunteers to staff the Lost & Found.
- Coordinated system started last year that gives students 30 days to reclaim their belongings (excluding textbooks) before the items are donated to Potpourri.

MAILING**Nancee Compton**

- Helped prepare the final mailings of the 'paper' JBS monthly newsletter.
- Helped with various alumni office and Parents Council committee mailings.

NOMINATING**Case Baum**

- Requested nominations for the Parents Council Board from the parent body.
- Developed a strong slate of officers for 2011-2012.
- Slate was approved at the Parents Council Annual Meeting and Luncheon on May 19.

PARENTS COUNCIL WEB PAGES**Anjani Chauhan**

- Entered and regularly updated dates, messages, and announcements pertaining to Parents Council activities on the JBS web site.

POTPOURRI**Judy Barenholtz, Lotta Fox & Caroline Sky**

- Held on Saturday, April 23 from 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

- Dubbed the “500 family garage sale,” it takes merchandise that has been donated, sorted and stored by JBS parents throughout the school year, and offers those goods for sale to JBS and the greater St. Louis community.
- Brings together hundreds of JBS parent and student volunteers to unload, organize, display and price merchandise for the General Sale which is held in the Field House.
- During Potpourri Week, special events are held for the students including a restaurant, raffle, bake sale, and pre-sale. The JBS Plant Sale is also a part of Potpourri.
- With more than 100 subcommittee chairs, Potpourri is the largest volunteer effort at JBS.
- Items remaining at the end of the sale are donated to a number of St. Louis charities.

SENIOR STUDENTS/PARENTS’ PARTY

Julie Bearman & Carole Washington

- On May 31, junior class parents hosted a picnic dinner party at JBS to honor graduating seniors and their parents.

STUDENT PARTIES & ACTIVITIES

Linda Smith & Anne Hefler

- Offered a variety of ice-cream treats to students during book sale days in August.
- Worked with students to organize the “Blue & Gold” Dance on November 13.
- Secured chaperones for other student events held throughout the year.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FAIR

Heather Winsby

- Held January 29 at MICDS - annual community service event featuring information about summer educational, recreational, leadership and volunteer opportunities.
- Sponsored annually by Burroughs, MICDS, and Whitfield.
- The Fair's location rotates among the three schools; it will be held at Whitfield on January 28, 2012.
- Host school is responsible for maintaining the Summer Opportunities Fair web site.

THE PRODUCERS

Laurie Garland & Susan Sherman

- This new Parents Council committee was developed with the purpose of creating an interest in and providing assistance for the performing, visual and practical arts at JBS.
- Provided assistance with set building.
- Created promotional posters to promote upcoming performances.
- Sold concessions and provided refreshments at a number of performances.
- Organized a pre-show party before the spring musical *Cabaret*.

UNIQUE BOUTIQUE

Terry Warner & Michelle Wexler

- Held from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on November 20 & 21.
- Featured more than 50 local, regional and national exhibitors offering artistic creations. Also included five JBS parent-staffed booths (The Café, Holiday Plants, Incredible Edibles, JB Connection, Signatures) and items from JBS faculty.
- Planned and executed the event, including securing exhibitors, decorating, set-up, admissions, marketing/PR, mailings, crafts, and more.

GRADE CHAIRS

7 th Grade	Sara & Jeff Bernstein, Kris & Jack Milner
8 th Grade	Jamie & Chris Hesse, Katy & Carl Rowley
9 th Grade	Melanie & Tim Keeney, Suzanne Trotter & Henry Edmonds
10 th Grade	Samantha & Karlos Bledsoe, Anne & Andy Martone
11 th Grade	Meg & Peter Shinkle, Michele & Clark Thomas, Michelle Trulaske
12 th Grade	Pam Bliss, Liz & Tim Philpott, Lynn & Ben Rassieur

- Coordinated class events throughout the year such as parent class dinners and student end-of-the-year parties.
- Recruited chaperones for various events as needed.
- Welcomed new families to the class.

Respectfully submitted by
Susan Murray
President, 2010-2011