

**John Taylor Parent Advisory Meeting**  
**November 25, 2009 6:30 Library**

**Present:** S. Lockhart, R. Gilhuly, C. Simpson, N. Bornn, G. Dyce, S. Muth, L. Muth, L. Sellers, J. Hart, T. Kosovsky, J. Overton, N. Overton, D. Miller, S. Miller, C. Burke.

1. Introduction- Welcome ..... Scott Lockhart
  - Principal Lockhart welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He introduced our AFM (Addictions Foundation of Manitoba) counselor, Ms Candy Burke. Our school division has provided funding for an AFM counselor for all the high schools. Ms Burke will be dividing her time between JT and Westwood High Schools. She will be in our school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
  - Ms Burke reviewed her role as AFM counselor. She has been conducting in-class information sessions to all of our students and will be available to individual students on an as-needed basis. She will also hold a parent information evening at our Parent Advisory meeting in March.
  
2. Minutes of our last meeting
  - Minutes will be posted on the John Taylor Collegiate website.
  
3. Assessment Plans, Policies, Procedures and Practices
  - Principal Lockhart handed out brochures from the Canadian Teachers Federation regarding sound assessment practices. He informed parents that our school and division are focused on providing assessment practices that deal with improving student learning. He identified several key terms relating to student assessment.
  - Assessment is the process in which teachers gather evidence to gain information on student learning. This includes formative assessments such as homework that provides feedback to teachers about a student's understanding of the daily lessons. It also assists teachers in their instructional practices in order to support and improve student learning. As Albert Einstein stated, "Not everything that counts can be counted and not everything that can be counted counts." S. Lockhart pointed out that our Wednesday morning Professional Learning Communities supports teacher dialogues in order to look at both formative and summative assessments to improve student performance. Every department is looking at using a variety of assessment tools including project work, portfolios as well as written examinations. This not only includes meeting the needs of those students who are adapted or modified, but students who need to be challenged and enriched in their educational plan.
  - Evaluation includes these assessment findings as well as scores and marks. S. Lockhart reminded parents that this school year will be the last year for divisional examinations. JT will need to look at our Assessment Plans for the 2010-11 school year and asked for parent input into our Assessment Plans. What will this look like?

4. Restitution – J. Shimoji – January 19, 2010
  - S. Lockhart reported that Joel Shimoji will present at our next Parent Advisory meeting on the subject of Restitution. Joel is an excellent presenter who provides valuable insight as both a high school teacher and parent on teenage behaviour. He has conducted numerous workshops for students, parents and teachers in understanding human relationships. Please mark this on your calendar. Presentation from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
5. Exam Schedule
  - R. Gilhuly reminded parents that our Exam Week will be January 29 to February 4, 2010. Exam schedule will be available on our website and through our email by the first week of December. Morning exams will begin at 8:30 a.m. and afternoon exams at 1:00 p.m. There are no classes during the exam week.
6. Safe Schools
  - C. Simpson provided feedback from the Safe Schools Survey that was completed in May 2009. Two grade 9 classes, two grade 10 classes and two grade 11 classes were surveyed. The survey asked students general questions about how safe they feel in our school and community. More than 90% of students surveyed felt safe in our school. The majority of students surveyed felt comfortable in talking with a staff member if they needed assistance.
  - Discussion ensued regarding the clarification and specifics of certain questions. The next Safe Schools survey will include more specifics and ask students for clarification with their answers.
  - Feedback from students provides the administration with information in order to improve safety in our school. Additional security cameras will be added to the east side parking lot as well as a proposal for additional lighting.
7. Capital D – List of building improvements.
  - S. Lockhart submitted a list of Capital D proposals for the upcoming year. This includes more lighting for the parking lot, speed bumps, sanding and painting of Gym AB floor.
8. New Initiatives for 2009-10
  - S. Lockhart reported on our focus of Philanthropy and Student Leadership; particularly Student Voice. Several leadership opportunities have been provided for students. These include Sustainable Development, TADD, Student Advisory, Student Council, Arts and Philanthropy, Human Rights Group and an Athletic Council.
9. New Business
  - Our next meeting will be January 19, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

## Important Dates

Dec. 4	Grade 9 Heritage Fair
Dec. 10	Variety – Solo Night
Dec. 11	Winter White Out Dance 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14-18	Spirit Week
Dec. 15	Professional Learning Communities – Early Dismissal
Dec. 18	Last day of classes
Jan. 4	Classes resume
Jan. 5	Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal
Jan. 5-9	Piper Classic Basketball Tournament
Jan. 5-8	ELA Provincial Exam
Jan. 13	MA20SA Project Exam
Jan. 14	MA30SA Project Exam
Jan. 18-19	MA40SA Exam
Jan. 19	Professional Learning Communities – Early Dismissal
Jan. 19	Parent Advisory – Restitution Presentation 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	MA40SP Exam
Jan. 20	Winter Band/Choral Concert – Gym 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	MA40 SC Portfolio due
Jan. 21	MA40SC Written Exam
Jan. 29-Feb. 4	Exam Week
Feb. 5	Admin/Inservice – No classes
Feb. 5-5	JV Boys Basketball Tournament
Feb. 9	Staff meeting – Early Dismissal
Feb. 10	Grade 9 Immunization
Feb. 11	Open House
Feb. 12	Senior Years' Reports
Feb. 12	Valentine's Dance
Feb. 15	Louis Riel Day – No classes
Feb. 19-20	JV Girls Basketball Tournament
Feb. 22-25	Spirit Week
Feb. 23	Professional Learning Communities – Early Dismissal
Feb. 26	Admin/Inservice – No classes
Mar. 2	Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal
Mar. 5	Optimist Jazz Festival
Mar. 6 & 12	Club Volleyball Tournament
Mar. 19	Admin/Inservice – No classes
Mar. 19	Grad Fashion Show
Mar. 23	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Mar. 24 – Apr. 3	France Trip
March 26	Gym Blast