



From the Principal

John Stanford International School

May 20, 2009

Dear JSIS Families,

The proposed start and end times for our school, beginning September 2009, will be 9:20 A.M. start and 3:30 P.M. end.

We expect these times to be finalized by June 3. For students eligible for yellow bus service, bus pick-up and drop-off times will be adjusted to fit this schedule. Those eligible for yellow bus service will receive a letter in the mail in August with specific information.

In March the School Board voted to approve new transportation service standards for the District. Following that vote, the District received additional feedback about these changes from families, principals, and staff. Based on that feedback we are proposing a revised schedule that will move up start times for all schools by 10-15 minutes.

Making these start/end time changes will ensure that all elementary students are picked up and dropped off during daylight hours. We are working to finalize proposed times and detailed information for each school. The new transportation service standards will take effect September 2009.

The changes in transportation service standards will reduce ride times for many students, provide more consistency and reliability in schedules, and improve consistency of drivers on each route. These changes mean that Seattle Public Schools will transport the same number of students with 49 fewer buses, saving fuel and reducing the District's carbon footprint, while also maximizing operational efficiency and reducing transportation costs by \$2.2 million.

Next Steps

A motion for the proposed earlier school start times will be introduced to the School Board at its Wednesday, May 20 meeting and the Board will vote on the motion June 3. New school start/end times will be effective September 2009.

We will continue to provide our school community with updates and additional information as it becomes available. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at kearamaki@seattleschools.org or at 206.252.6080.

Sincerely,

~ Mr. Aramaki

Announcements & Reminders:

- **Sock Drive for Migrant Workers** - The 5th grade Spanish class has organized a sock drive as part of a service-learning project to benefit migrant farm workers at a labor camp in Burlington, WA. The 5th graders have been learning about migrant workers and the social justice issues surrounding farm workers rights, wages, and working/living conditions. The camp has requested sock donations because many of

the workers spend up to 15 hours a day on their feet in varying climates, and in most clothing drives, people tend to leave out sock donations. The socks collected here at John Stanford will be taken to Hamilton Middle School, where the 8th grade Spanish immersion students will combine them with food donations they have collected to be taken to the migrant labor camp in Burlington.

5th graders have been visiting each classroom here at JSIS to talk to the other students about the issues and the project. There is a collection box in each classroom, as well as in the main office, where we are asking you to donate new socks. Although most of the workers are men, their families are also in need of socks, so sizes for women and children will also be accepted. The boxes will be collected and taken to Hamilton MS after school on Thursday June 4th. The 5th grade Spanish students have invested a lot of time and hard work into this service-learning project and they would really appreciate your help! Thank you so much for any donations you can manage to give!

Calendar of Events:	
May 21	Grades 2 & 3 to Seattle Children's Theatre
May 22	Special Friends pool party
May 25	Memorial Day No School
May 27	Young Authors Day
May 28	5 th grade Japan trip meeting
May 29	Patrol Party at Fun Forest – Seattle Center