



**John Lewis Elementary School
Parent Staff Community Organization (PSCO)**
<https://www.johnlewispsco.org/>

**Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023**

Introductions

- Sarah Lanningham - President
- Shannon Sheridan - Vice President
- Lisa Jackson - Co-Treasurer
- Vita Soto - Co-Treasurer
- Marianne Forrest - Co-Secretary
- Lisa Large - Co-Secretary
- Maya Davis - LSAT Representative
- Candace Koman - Member-at-Large

Vacant Positions

Please email johnlewispsco@gmail.com if interested in the following open positions:

- Co-President
- Co-Vice President
- LSAT Representative (Local School Advisory Team)
 - The Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) is a group of elected and appointed members that exists for every DCPS school. Local School Advisory Teams are a key lever to increasing transparency at DCPS and ensuring decisions affecting school communities are made collaboratively with the help of a diverse group of school stakeholders.
- Staff Liaison

Fishing School Aftercare (Grades 2-5)

- In attendance representing the Fishing School were Nicholas Marshall (aka Mr. Nick) who serves as the Parent Engagement Manager and sometimes fills in as the site manager at JLES; and Meeta Sharma-Holt, COO who previously worked at Fishing School and recently asked to return.
- Fishing School works with Grades 2nd-5th, with an emphasis on academic enrichment through a multitude of ways including STEAM activities, life skills, thematic skills. They may start implementing Small Group Work to help with challenges.
- Parents raised concerns regarding the following:

- What kind of communication is there from FS?
- A desire for enhanced communication regarding programming and incidents that may impact the school community.
- Options for recreational activities.
- The Fishing school responded there are in the process of improving communication methods including biweekly blurbs to highlight recent events and a bimonthly newsletter that highlights students and program.
- The Fishing School is in communication with the administration about how to incorporate recreational time, however they emphasized that their program focuses on academic enhancement.

Harvest Festival

- October 27, 2023, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
- Room parents will coordinate activities across grade levels. Please email activities to Sarah or Shannon.
- We are still seeking volunteers to help with the Inflatable Obstacle Course, Sack Race, Guess the Pumpkin Weight and Face Painting. Please sign up for [volunteer opportunities here](#).
- No admission fee, but we welcome monetary donations (see QR code on the attached handout)
- We are looking for lighting ideas for the field - do you have any ideas or lights to donate? Please share!
- Good Trouble T-shirts and Tote Bags will be sold at this event. Attendees encouraged to bring cash for purchases.
- J&J Taqueria's food truck will be serving food and thanks to a profit-sharing arrangement, all purchases that evening will benefit the school.

Holiday Fundraisers

- We are planning to partner with LAMB's PTA on a Christmas tree sale fundraiser in December, likely the weekend of December 2nd and 3rd. More details to come, but buy your tree from us to help the school.
- PSCO is considering participating in the holiday market at the Upshur St. Craft Fair. Decision and details TBD.

School Play

- Play weekend will be May 31-June 2, 2024. Audition schedule will be released soon, there will also be stage design opportunities available.
- A big fundraising effort will be made for this year's play to fund staff stipends for our wonderful teachers who work with our students to make this event happen
- Parent support is key to the success of the play.
- If you know anyone with a love of theater (such as college students) who may need volunteer hours, please spread the word about our production - we would welcome their support.

Treasurer's Report

- So far, we have received \$1,384 in donations.
- Due to an increase in student population, there has been an increase in using supplies including costly ones such as photo printer toner. PSCO donations can be used to fund these supplies and continue to give students access to wonderful tools.
- Payment for field trips or other classroom donations can **USUALLY** be made via the [PayPal link](#) and designated for specific uses. Due to the size of the Butler's Orchard field trip, it was deemed easier to have people pay in cash. At the request of parental input, PSCO will work to implement an account solely designated for receiving Field Trip funds.
- When paying for events such as Teacher Appreciation Days, classes are encouraged to collect donations, give them to PSCO and then pay using PSCO funds so the purchase can be tax exempt.
- Treasurer's report attached.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the Cafeteria.

Calling All JLES Parents & Community!

Parents
Staff &
Community
Organization



So many ways to get involved and support

PSCO Meetings



- Join us at our next meeting on October 17th
- More details to come

Be A Room Parent

- A perfect way to support your child's classroom and get more involved.
- Room parents help with communication, plan play dates, help coordinate necessary supplies, and act as the parent liaison for their child's teacher.



If interested please email
JohnLewisPSCO@gmail.com

Harvest Festival



Save the date:
October 27th

- The event will take place after school and will feature moon bounces, food trucks, crafts, and more!
- Volunteer support will be needed. Please look out for the signup genius.
- We also welcome all donations to help make this event amazing for the kiddos!

Giving

With your help, the John Lewis PSCO can ensure every child has the opportunity to experience all that our wonderful school can offer! Including events like the Harvest Festival and school play!

Please help if you can through donations of any amount, with your time, and spreading the word! Every kind of donation makes a difference for our kids!

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Scan QR code to make monetary donations -->



Contact Us!



JohnLewisPSCO@gmail.com



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Follow us @johnlewisedc



johnlewispSCO.org



¡Llamando a todos los padres y la comunidad de JLES!

Parents
Staff &
Community
Organization



Tantas maneras de involucrarse y apoyar

Reuniones del PSCO



- Ven a nuestra próxima reunión el 17 de octubre
- Más detalles por venir

¿Te gustaría ser padre/madre de salón?

- Una manera perfecta de apoyar el aula de su hijo(a) y participar más.
- Los padres de salón ayudan con la comunicación, pueden planificar citas para jugar, ayudan a coordinar las necesidades de la clase y actúan como enlace de padres para el maestro(a) de su hijo(a).



Si está interesado(a), envíe un correo a

JohnLewisPSCO@gmail.com

Fiesta de la Cosecha



Reserva la fecha:
27 de octubre

- ¡El evento se llevará a cabo después de la escuela y tendrá juegos, camiones de comida, arte y más!
- Se necesitará apoyo voluntario. El registro se compartirá pronto.
- ¡También agradecemos todas las donaciones para ayudar a que este evento sea increíble para los niños!

Donaciones

¡Con su ayuda, John Lewis PSCO puede garantizar que cada niño tenga la oportunidad de experimentar todo lo que nuestra maravillosa escuela puede ofrecer! ¡Incluyendo eventos como el Festival de la Cosecha y la obra de teatro escolar!

Si puede, por favor ayude con cualquier donación de cualquier cantidad o con su tiempo o compartiendo esta información. ¡Cada tipo de donación hace una diferencia para nuestros niños!

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Escanee el código QR para donaciones monetarias -->



¡Contáctenos!



JohnLewisPSCO@gmail.com



Únase al grupo de Facebook de PSCO



Síguenos @johnlewisdc



johnlewispsco.org

