



Subject: **19th Annual Dance-a-thon**

Date: **Friday, January 26th 2024**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Physical Education Department at Sir John A Macdonald is extremely proud of the accomplishments our student body has made during our social dance unit. We feel very strongly that students need to develop their confidence in the area of dancing. You would be very impressed to see the respect and social graces that your children have demonstrated towards each other during this unit. We cover a variety of dances from line dancing and jiving in grade 7, to advanced jive, polka, waltz, two-step, cha-cha, mambo, and other Latin dances in grade 8 and 9.

During lunchtime from Tuesday to Thursday during the month of January, we have been offering an open gym time for our students that love dancing, to come in and practice. We have averaged between 150-250 students in the gym per day and are very pleased to see our students excited about social dancing.

It is our desire to continue to celebrate the students who showed strong commitment to our dance program both in class, as well as during the noon hour. Our intent is to invite all interested students who worked hard and demonstrated maturity, responsibility, and enthusiasm during our dance unit to be a participant in our 19th Annual Dance-a-thon. Our belief in the strength and benefits of the dance program at Sir John A Macdonald motivate us to provide your child with this opportunity.

Our Dance-a-thon will take place on **Friday, January 26th from 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm**. All students will be charged either \$10 or \$15 to attend the event. This will help cover the cost of the DJ, water bottle and food (pizza) for the night.. Students must return the parent permission slip by Thursday January 25th.

We have also decided to open this opportunity once again to our Sir John A Macdonald alumni many of which attend Diefenbaker. Students who apply will be carefully screened, and must have been a committed participant in our social dance programs during their tenure at our school.

In order to make this event work, we *may* need approximately 4-6 adult volunteers to chaperone and potentially operate our concession etc. Traditionally volunteers who have helped out in the past have had an awesome time with some hitting the dance floor with students and staff. Please fill in your name on the attached page if you are interested in joining us! All volunteers must be over 18 and must complete a police-screening document through our main office as well as a Volunteer Registration Form.

Please feel free to contact me via email at sdjones@cbe.ab.ca if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Shane Jones

Physical Education & Athletics Learning Leader

Sir John A Macdonald School

