



## TJ PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

01/12/2023 at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

### Attendees:

Executive Committees: President Yvette Rivers, Second VP of Membership and Fundraising Yehong Zhou, Third VP of Communications Laura Marschoun, Treasurer Neelam Janardhan, Secretary Qingying Lu.

Committee Chairs: Academic Support Committee (ASC) Chair: Haiyan Richter; ANGP Committee Chair: Mary Alice Heretick; College Outreach Committee (COC) Chair: Parvathi Rachakonda; Diversity Committee (DC) Chair: Michele Hyde; Hospitality Committee (HC) Chair: Colleen Bucher; Reflections Committee Chair: Meredith Caldwell; Health and Wellness Committee Chair: Renee Rodriguez

Principal: Ann Bonitatibus; SGA Secretary: Yasmin Kudrati-Plummer,

Other TJPTSA Members and Attendees: 78

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

### Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Welcome: Yvette Rivers
- II. Agenda Adoption: Yvette Rivers
- III. Approval of 11/3/22 GM Meeting Minutes
- IV. SGA Report: Yasmin Kudrati-Plummer
- V. Principal's Report: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus
- VI. Treasurer's Report: Nell Janardhan
- VII. Committee Reports
  - A. Academic Support - Haiyan Richter
  - B. ANGP/Senior Celebration - Mary Alice Heretick
  - C. College Outreach - Par Rachakonda
  - D. Diversity - Michele Hyde
  - E. Health and Wellness - Renee Rodriguez
  - F. Hospitality - Colleen Bucher
  - G. Reflections - Meredith Caldwell
- VIII. 2023 Nominating Committee Timeline: Yvette Rivers
- IX. New Business and Announcement
- X. Adjournment

## **Call Meeting to Order**

- A quorum was determined to be present and the president called the meeting to order (@7:01).
- The president reminded the assembly of the meeting rules that were sent out in advance and highlighted a few of them:
  - Please be respectful and courteous at all times.
  - Use the Zoom function "Raise hand" to request to be recognized.
  - Only speak when she recognizes you.

## **Agenda Adoption**

- The proposed agenda has been sent out and published on the website.
- The Third VP moved to approve the proposed agenda and was seconded by Kerry Cooper.
- The Third VP moved to limit debate on the agenda to ten minutes and was seconded by Haiyan Richter.
- By 100% votes in favor, the motion to limit debate on the agenda to ten minutes passed.
- The president opened the floor for discussion of the proposed agenda.
- As there was no discussion, the president asked the assembly to vote for the main motion.
- With 100% votes in favor, the proposed agenda was adopted.

## **Approval of 11/3/22 GM Meeting Minutes**

- The draft minutes were sent out via email and have been available on the website. Since the minutes had been distributed in advance and there was no objection, the minutes were not read aloud during the meeting.
- As there were no corrections to the 2022-11-03 TJ PTSA GM Meeting Minutes, the minutes were approved as presented.

## **SGA Report - Yasmin Kudrati-Plummer**

- Winter Bash tomorrow night (5-8pm), looking for 1-2 more parent volunteers; food donation to be brought to the cafeteria after 4pm or to main office before 5pm
- Talent Show: mid-feb, looking for parent judges whose kids will not perform
- Three Town Halls planned for Feb: Science/humanities, math/physics, and arts/foreign language, fishbowl style, small group teacher/student discussion
- SGA's position on Commendation Letter incident: unacceptable; call for improvement; SGA has discussed the matter with administration
- Parents can sign up for the SGA newsletter

## **Principal's Report - Ann Bonitatibus**

- Latest updates
  - National Commendation Award - apologized and identified as a one-time error; taking corrective action; can't answer any questions due to ongoing investigation
  - Thanks for the hospitality from parents on the holiday gift card event
  - Looking for ways to innovate; will involve community members
  - Planted six cherry trees - thanks to the Japanese teacher and students
  - TJ Lincoln Douglass Debate team finished first at the Princeton competition
  - STRAP for senior students started last week - seniors leave school 5 minutes before the 8th period ends; a way to honor seniors
  - Four TJ students are named Regeneron scholars
  - TJ Female wrestling team featured on WTOP
  - Received \$30,000 grant for studies on communications

- Curriculum night on Tuesday: videos and other information are posted on [tjhsst.fcps.edu/academics](https://tjhsst.fcps.edu/academics); TJ course catalog is another good source with ability to translate into a few other languages
- [Instruction program design](#)
  - Purpose of master schedule: connects with our school's mission
  - Operational considerations, e.g., shared positions with other schools
  - Course offerings and selections, e.g., critical mass is needed in registration, impact staff livelihood (staffing decision is made around April)
  - Initial course tallies, e.g., might allow combine levels
  - Finalize course tallies, offerings, staffing, e.g., sections may be impacted by seat caps, etc.
  - Run conflict matrix: single most important tool to minimize student schedule conflict
  - Load and run schedule (around May)
  - Schedule verification & Conflict Resolution (about 20% students)
  - Student academic advising - Jan & Feb
  - Course request verification sent to parents - Mid March
  - Staffing decision - April
  - Initial master schedule - beginning of May
  - Publish master schedule - beginning of June
- A parent asked for the list of students transferred out of school in the last four years. From Dr. Bonitatibus: for enrollment trends go to TJHSST School Profile, Click on Membership tab to see this year's enrollment by grade level, and to see previous years, click on Membership History tab. Here is the [link](#).
- A parent asked for a question about mentorship. Dr. B suggested the parent reach out to the school mentorship coordinator, Mr. Bass

### **Treasurer's Report - Nell Janardhan**

- We've met our revenue goal!
- Discussed budgeted and actual expenses this school year to date
- Encourage parents to take advantage of the free money programs to benefit PTSA: e.g, Benevity Fund, Amazon shopping, etc.

### **Committee Reports**

- Academic Support Reports - Haiyan Richter
  - Navigating TJ - Math & Science (Virtual, TBD)
  - Navigating TJ - Humanities (Virtual, TBD)
  - National counselor appreciation week (2/7-11); will provide coffee and refreshments
  - AP Snacks and Volunteers - early May (in-person): requires more than 100 parent volunteers
- ANGP/Senior Celebration - Mary Alice Heretick
  - ANGP ticket early rate closes after tomorrow
  - Tickets will increase price after
  - ANGP volunteer kickoff meeting in cafeteria on Jan. 23rd, 2023: talk about what ANGP is, meet sub-committee chairs, and tour the school; sign-ups and food/drink donations are encouraged

- Volunteer sign-up form - help track all people who are interested;  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfacVmoY1aoHLSxWY0u3O722xqZ0K\\_s6ztXfj3iGRSI46v7eQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfacVmoY1aoHLSxWY0u3O722xqZ0K_s6ztXfj3iGRSI46v7eQ/viewform)
- College Outreach - Par Rachakonda
  - Focus parent education and support school
  - Held alumni and parent panel on College Admissions in Oct.
  - More panels by alumni and parents: college experience in early Feb. (virtual), career destination; senior panel in May
  - Include national merit scholarships information in PTSA newsletter
- Diversity - Michele Hyde
  - Lunar New Year Celebration (1/25)
  - Black History Month celebration
- Health and Wellness - Renee Rodriguez
  - Events for teachers: Painting party & Chili Cookout
  - Annual Mardi Gras party (2/21)
  - Monthly visit by therapy dogs next week
  - Event for parents: how to support students mentally
- Hospitality - Colleen Bucher
  - Successful Thanksgiving Luncheon
  - Gift cards for teachers/staff members
  - Valentine's Day
  - National Teacher Appreciation week (5/8-12)– call for food donations for luncheon
- Reflection - Meredith Caldwell
  - National reflection competition; 16 kids entered this year; film production entry went to state round; dance 2nd; music 3rd

### **2023 Nominating Committee Timeline - Yvette Rivers**

- Special committee
- Timeline:
  - February 9: Nominating Committee Application Form Opens
  - March 7: Nominating Committee Application Form Closes
  - March 9: Email to Membership Announcing Nominating Committee Candidates
  - March 16: Nominating Committee Election at In Person General Membership Meeting
  - April 20: Presentation of Nominating Committee Report at Virtual General Membership Meeting
  - May 25: 2023 – 2024 Officer Election at In Person General Membership Meeting
- Question: Has May GMM date changed from 5/18 to 5/25; Answer: Yes

### **New Business and Announcements**

- The President noted that the PTSA Board has decided to start working on a survey that will allow members to share their perspectives on various topics related to the educational success, health, and well-being of our students. We are meeting next week to work on the

survey and working to determine the survey method because we want to ensure that only members are voting, ensure that members are only voting once, and that the survey is anonymous.

- The President invited members to discuss any other new business, make any announcements, or share any perspectives.
- Helen Miller: Can we post Reflection info on PTSA website; 3rd VP: will include in the PTSA newsletter
- Kareena Nair: When do we start seeing communications in yearbooks? Yvette: we will find out the information and include it in newsletter and post on facebook

### **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned @8:37 pm

Minutes Prepared by Qingying (Ally) Lu, TJHSST PTSA Secretary.

Minutes Approved as   X   Presented or          Amended on   March 16, 2023