

## 2022-2023 TJ PTSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Thank you to all the candidates who self-nominated for the 2023-2024 TJ PTSA Executive Committee slate. The pool and caliber of the self-nominations was very strong. Our candidate selection process included a review of each candidate's self-nomination form and a panel interview. And, based upon majority vote, we are pleased to announce the following slate of 2023-2024 TJ PTSA Executive Committee candidates:

- **President:** Neelam "Nell" Janardhan
- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Karen Monaco
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Julia Li
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:** Ye "Maggy" Li
- **Treasurer:** Seema Lohia Singh
- **Secretary:** Mary Paul

The candidate bios are below. We support these candidates for the 2023-2024 TJ PTSA Executive Committee.

### CANDIDATE BIOS

#### President, Neelam "Nell" Janardhan – Class of 2025 Parent



I'm the parent of a sophomore and a part of the current EC at TJ PTSA. I started as Treasurer in January 2022, have learnt a lot and enjoyed serving on the board. I believe my leadership as Treasurer and as an active member of the Executive Committee has been critical to the success of the PTSA in providing so many valuable and appreciated programs for our community.

Aside from being Treasurer at the TJ PTSA, I have held several leadership positions such as Treasurer, VP operations and fundraising, VP Afterschool activities with PTA and PTSA boards since 2017 (in Loudoun County). Since my boys were in elementary school, I have also been a room mom, an Odyssey of the mind and Science Olympiad coach and coordinator.

I have an engineering degree and an MBA. My professional experience is in HR, financial planning/analysis, operations, risk management and engineering. All these experiences have provided me with opportunities to work in environments with diverse perspectives. We are lucky to have several dedicated volunteers, committee chairs, board, and EC members at our school. If given an opportunity to serve as President, I believe I can continue to foster a stable and collaborative environment.

#### **Vision Statement**

*The current TJ PTSA has worked very hard to bring normalcy to PTSA activities and in fostering community building and unity. This has been an amazing year and our focus has been on students, teachers, staff, and parents. I am nominating myself as I would like to continue to support our vision and I believe that my leadership will provide a stable environment to do so. My extensive PTSA experience, responsible work ethic, and in-depth knowledge of PTSA operations, combined with my strong and collaborative leadership style, would all allow me to be a successful PTSA President.*

#### 1st Vice President, Karen Monaco – Class of 2025 Parent



I am a fifth generation Arlingtonian, mother of two, with a history of educational and civil rights advocacy in Northern Virginia. My daughter, Vivian, is a 10th grader at TJ.

I have a Risk Management background and have served as the Director of Business Systems and Technology for Citibank Community Development. I am a trained facilitator for Challenging Racism: through Stories and Conversations, a nonprofit organization started in 2004 to close the minority student achievement gap in Arlington Public Schools, offering training to inform faculty, staff and parents about race and equity.

I have served on the PTA Executive Board at Drew Model School, and have volunteered for the PTSA at TJ, for appreciation activities, AP Exam proctoring, and organized the African American History Month Celebration in 2022. I am an avid youth sports booster at TJ, and in my community. I am proud to be considered to serve this amazing TJ community as first VP of the PTSA Executive Board.

### **Vision**

*The PTSA has done exceptional volunteer service supporting students, families, and teachers during a challenging period in the school's history. My vision for the PTSA is to follow the current roadmap but expand the governance to include more equitable access to all the incredible resources at TJ for all students. I believe that the executive board should strive to keep the perspective of all children and families in mind. Many of us come from various silos in our communities. We should continue to move beyond those silos and model good community behavior and inclusion for our fellow board, the students, the staff, and the larger FCPS community. I believe I have the time and a unique set of skills to commit to this vision.*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Julia Li – Class of 2025 Parent**



I hold a master's degree in computer science from the University of Maryland College Park Campus and I have gained extensive experience in the technology industry for over 20 years. Currently, I work as a Principal Architect managing the video on demand system at Comcast.

In addition to my professional experience, I am an active volunteer in our community. This school year, I had the privilege of serving as co-chair for the College Outreach Committee at TJHSST, where I successfully collaborated with the Chair to organize the TJ Alumni Panel and TJ Parent Panel. Furthermore, I co-founded and managed a Chinese school in Herndon successfully enrolling over 200 students.

I am passionate about leveraging technology to make a positive impact in our community and beyond, which is why I am eager to serve as Second Vice President in the TJ PTSA. My experience and skills will be invaluable in overseeing membership and fundraising efforts, as well as managing AtoZ and other software selected by the Executive Committee.

### **Vision Statement**

*As a parent of a TJ alum and a current TJ sophomore, I have seen firsthand how the TJ PTSA has played a critical role in supporting the academic and social development of the students. As a candidate for this*

*role, my vision would be to continue fostering a collaborative and inclusive environment that prioritizes the growth and success of every student. I believe we should work together to create more opportunities for students to explore their interests, engage with their peers, and receive the support they need to achieve their goals. By building a vibrant and supportive community, we can help our students thrive and reach their full potential.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Ye “Maggy” Li – Class of 2026 Parent**



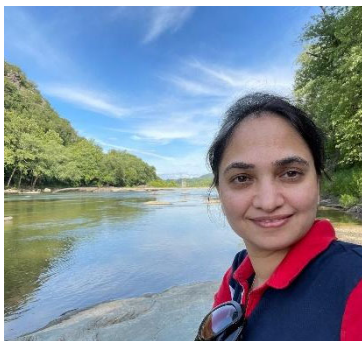
My name is Maggy Li and I am an HR Program Director at Children's National Hospital. As an experienced HR leader, I have a wealth of knowledge and skills that could benefit TJ PTSA. I am very familiar with committee structure and bylaws through my experience directly supporting the People, Culture and Compensation Committee of the Board at the hospital.

I have a passion for diversity and inclusion and have served on the hospital's DEI Committee. I independently manage several key HR programs and utilize various communication tools to help promote the programs that I manage. I am a team player and collaborator and have successfully worked on many project teams. I am also already the parent liaison of Class of 2026. I trust my passion and commitment along with my knowledge and skills will make me a nice addition to the TJ PTSA executive committee.

**Vision Statement**

*As a human resources professional, my role at my organization is to be the catalyst of forming a culture that values compassion, commitment, and connection. As a parent of a 9th grader at TJ, I have the same passion to help TJ PTSA be the catalyst that enables the commitment and collaboration of parents, school administration, teachers, and students to form a school culture that respects each student, encourages diversity, and fosters a positive learning environment. If I am elected as the Third Vice President of the EC, I will utilize my HR skills to help build collaborative relationships and promote the various PTSA programs and resources to the members.*

**Treasurer, Seema Lohia Singh – Class of 2025/2026 Parent**



I was a treasurer at my kids elementary and middle school and would like to volunteer my skills for the betterment of an organization that provides such great learning and development opportunities to my and all other kids. I work as a Budget analyst and have been doing so for the last 25 years.

**Vision Statement**

*To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. I was a treasurer at my kids elementary and middle school and would like to volunteer my skills for the betterment of an organization that provides such great learning and development opportunities to my and all other kids. I work as a Budget analyst and have been doing so for the last 25 years. Additionally, I am also a Scoutmaster for BSA troop GT128 based in McLean VA.*

**Secretary, Mary Paul – Class of 2026 Parent**



I am Mary Paul. I would like to serve TJ PTSA as the Secretary.

A little about myself - I am the mother of two fantastic boys. Ryan Paul, my eldest child, is a freshman at TJ. As a software engineer, I work on projects for the US Department of Education. My job involves organizing meetings and getting people together to collaborate, make decisions, and carry them through.

I took a sabbatical from my profession during my children's formative years so that I could be an involved parent to my children and be able to support the activities at their schools. I have assisted the PTA in a number of their initiatives, including the spirit ball and fundraising activities. Additionally, I have coached elementary school students for the Virginia Science Olympiad, the Odyssey of the Mind, and STEM (coding) programs for elementary school students. I have also co-chaired the debate club at the middle school where my son attended, coached them with debating skills, and set them up for regional and out of state debate tournaments.

I have held the position of treasurer for the neighborhood boy scout troop, and a local cultural organization. Also, I oversaw the books for a small company that handled government contracts. I'm hoping that some of these skills and abilities can be beneficial in supporting TJ PTSA.

#### **Vision Statement**

*The expression "it takes a village to raise a child," which is based on an African proverb, means that many people are required to give children the security they require to grow and thrive as well as the opportunity to realize their hopes and dreams.*

*An excellent parent-school relationship is what makes a school great. A successful educational system fosters a supportive learning environment where students are not only ready for the next grade or academic stage but are also better prepared to participate in their community as active members of society.*

*As a parent volunteer, I want to be a part of creating great changes by contributing significantly to the PTSA and TJ. I want to help make the relationship between the home and the school stronger by getting families involved in promoting student success and ongoing school improvement.*

We hope that all candidates will continue to volunteer with the TJ PTSA and participate in leadership positions.

Please note, the Nominating Committee process is not the only way to be considered for a role on the Executive Committee. Most importantly, we wholeheartedly encourage candidates who did not make this slate to consider running from the floor. Therefore, in addition to this slate of candidates, TJ PTSA members can self-nominate for the 2023-2024 TJ PTSA Executive Committee. Details on this self-nomination process are forthcoming, so keep an eye on the website and your email. Additionally, we encourage you to be apprised of the following next steps:

- **Sunday, April 23th through Monday, May 8th** - Floor Candidate Self-Nomination Submission Period (Google Form will be provided by the President)
- **Wednesday, May 10th** - Notice will be sent to all members with information about all candidates including those recommended by the Nominating Committee and those who intend to run from the floor.

- **Thursday, May 25th at 7 PM in Cafeteria** - Conduct election of officers at the in person General Membership meeting, allowing all candidates to speak up to two minutes.
- To vote in the election, an individual must sign up to be a member before the May 25th General Membership meeting starts.

In closing, again, we thank all the stellar candidates who raised their hands to volunteer their time for our community.

TJ PTSA Nominating Committee