



TJ PTSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

03/09/2023 at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Attendees: Executive Board

President: Yvette Rivers; Second VP of Membership and Fundraising: Yehong Zhou; Third VP of Communications: Laura Marschoun; Treasurer: Neelam Janardhan; Secretary: Qingying Lu; ANGP Committee Chair: Mary Alice Heretick; College Outreach Committee (COC) Chair: Parvathi Rachakonda; Diversity Committee (DC) Chair: Michele Hyde; Health and Wellness Committee Chair: Renee Rodriguez; Principal: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus

Location: Google Meet

Agenda

1. Call meeting to order
2. Review January 12th General Membership Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of January 26th Special EB Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of February 8th EB Meeting Minutes
5. Principal's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Nominating Committee Update
8. General Membership Meeting Planning
9. Committee Updates
10. Printed Directory 2023-2024 Decision
11. Survey Results Initial Planning
12. Other Unfinished Business
 - a. Student 5013c request
 - b. Consultants leading PTSA events (e.g., Educational Connections)?
13. New Business
14. Adjournment

Call Meeting to Order

- A quorum was determined to be present and the president called the meeting to order (@7:03).

Review January 12th General Membership Meeting Minutes

- No feedback
- Ally and Nell will get the minutes ready for posting

Approval of January 26th Special EB Meeting Minutes

- Since the minutes had all been distributed electronically in advance and there was no objection, the minutes were not read aloud during the meeting.
- A correction was identified in one of the speaker names.
- The minutes were approved as amended.

Approval of February 8th EB Meeting Minutes

- Since the minutes had all been distributed electronically in advance and there was no objection, the minutes were not read aloud during the meeting.
- The minutes were approved as presented.

Principal's Report

- Principal virtual fireside chat
 - PTSA will share with minutes with Ann and questions in the chat
- Topic for next GMM – to Share SEL (social, emotional, and motivational) screener results from fall
 - Students' skills & competence at TJ, 68%, far exceed most of other high schools in Fairfax County. 6% increase from last year
 - Support & environment at TJ, 70%, far exceed most of other schools, 8% increase from last year
 - Students' positive and challenging feelings (49%), right at the middle. 14% increase from last year
 - Scores are similar across grades

Treasurer's Report

- Nell gave an update on the budget.
- Nell presented the proposed budget revision to reflect actuals and to increase funding for student club support.
- Nell moved to present the proposed budget revision in the upcoming GMM, to be voted on for adoption by the membership. Seconded by Laura. Approved unanimously.

Nominating Committee Update

- Will elect 5 from 6 candidates at the GMM
- Each candidate will have 2 minutes to speak
- Allow nominations from the floor
- Has invited parliamentarian to the meeting
- One candidate won't be able to attend the meeting due to a business trip
 - Ally: Do we have the capability to do hybrid meetings? Concerns expressed about avoiding technical issues that limit member rights
 - Yehong: Can we allow the candidate to do a pre-recorded video?
 - Ann: there's precedence to show pre-recorded video statements. We should give the option to everyone.
 - Nell: Hybrid meetings could be confusing.
 - Laura: Is there going to be Q&A time for candidates?
 - Nell: having Q&As could help people to make voting decisions
 - Par: should not offer Q&As

- Yvette: Are there any board members who support having Q&A time? No.

General Membership Meeting Planning

- Review Proposed agenda - no updates identified except minor time modifications
- Refreshments will be provided; sign-up included in the newsletter
- Board should arrive by 6:30pm, some earlier
- Yvette will send out logistics over the weekend
- We need to spread the word to encourage people to come
- Yehong in charge of membership & check-in
- Nell will handle membership purchase
- New parliamentarian will serve as the chief teller of the voting and Yvette will appoint members of the tellers committee
- Shoeboxes for ballot voting are in PTSA room
- Yvette will bring the voting cards
- Mary Alice: Do we require prior registration to the meeting? Yvette will check what we did last year.

Michele left the meeting @7:50pm

Renee left the meeting @8pm

Committee Updates

- ANGP (Mary Alice)
 - Looking for a volunteer coordinator
 - Looking for a lot of square boxes, cassette tapes and VCR tapes, to use as part of the theme decorations
 - ANGP funding allocation clarification – committee is striving to purchase things that could be reused in future years
 - Yvette clarified the importance of dispelling incorrect perceptions of funding restrictions, because the ANGP budget is \$60K, much more than other high school ANGP parties.
- College outreach (Par)
 - Successful alumni panel (200+ attendees)
 - Next alumni panel focusing on career development in April
 - Progress in advocacy for students and parents – UNC & UVA scholarship nomination
 - Met with Ann to share the voices from parents and students
 - Yvette is planning a Junior packet panel by seniors to juniors and underclassmen
- Hospitality (updates provided via email by Colleen)
 - The Hospitality Committee met to streamline year-over-year communication on January 23rd
 - The Valentine's Day teacher appreciation event was a great success. We had many thanks given directly to our volunteers, and via email by the school staff
 - Coming up in May is Teacher Appreciation Week - May 8-12, including a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. Mobilizing the families that donate homemade, cooked food.. Especially hot foods! Will schedule a planning meeting just after Spring Break.
- Health & Wellness (updates provided via email by Renee)
 - On February 21st we had the annual Mardi Gras Celebration. It was a great success - tons of kids coming through. We gave out loads of beads, snacks and the jazz band played. All decorations are in a bin in the PTSA room and can be used again next year.

- On March 1st we had over 20 parents come to the first of our three Parent Support Group sessions. This one focused on supporting students in times of anxiety. Trish Gerstner, the school psychologist ran the session. We will be having the second session on March 29 and it will be run by Danielle Armstrong, the school social worker. This session will focus on executive functioning and helping kids use these skills to manage workload and busy schedules.
- On March 3rd we hosted a chili cookoff for teachers to participate in. Four teachers made chili (others signed up, but weren't able to be there at the last minute) and over 25 tasted and voted.
- Therapy Dogs will be coming to TJ on March 17th and 31st.
- Mental Health Coalition met yesterday. The week of March 27th-31st is going to be 'Belonging Week' at TJ. This is being done in conjunction with INite. Loads of activities for students to foster belonging.

Printed Directory 2023-2024 Decision

- Ann: What does state legislation say? Be good to add it to the background slide; Yvette will try to find the information
- Nell: should we do a survey with members?
- Laura: pdf version of directory could impose more risk – anyone can distribute
- Ally: can create lists of students by zip and grade without detailed student information
- Yehong: some members really like the searching by zip and by grade functions. Oppose polling members specifically about functions.
- Yvette: due to privacy concerns in particular, will require member vote before she signs the contract with AtoZ for printing directory
- Laura: can currently do search by zip code and grade using online tool
- Group agreed without objection to propose to the members at the GMM to not print directories next school year, add clarification to deck for this and use of the online directory, and will suggest having a session on how to use the online directory.
- Yvette will send an updated deck to the Board and will ask for final feedback before sharing with the membership.

Survey Results Initial Planning

- Great response rates and scores, and constructive feedback
- Yvette needs more time to do more detailed assessment of trends in comments and identify recommendations
- Yvette asked everyone (officers and committee chairs) to consider for their areas of responsibility, to review the detailed results, and consider if there are any short-term actions recommended or recommendations for next year, based on the feedback and ideas received
- Yvette shared results with school administration
- Yvette suggested sharing the summary report with next steps in the newsletter and no one objected

Other Unfinished Business

- Student 5013c request
 - Ann: students reached out to the administration about it. School can't make any impression that they are affiliated with the school

- Yvette will send her plan to the board via email and they can reply with feedback if they have any objections
- Consultants leading PTSA events (e.g., Educational Connections)?
 - Will discuss in the next EB meeting

New Business

- None

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

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

Minutes Approved as X Presented or Amended on April 13, 2023