



TJ PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

05/23/24 at 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Attendees:

Executive Committees: President: Neelam Janardhan; First VP of Programming and Events: Laura Marschoun; Second VP of Membership and Fundraising: Julia Li; Third VP of Communications: Maggy Li; Treasurer: Seema Lohia Singh; Secretary: Sanjay Parthasarathy

Committee Chairs: Academic Support Committee (ASC) Chair: Partho Banerjee; Health and Wellness Committee (HWC) Chair: Elizabeth Das; Hospitality Committee (HC) Chair: Colleen Bucher; College Outreach Committee (COC) chair: Radha Somanchi; Diversity Committee (DC) Chair: Michelle Hyde

Principal: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus

Parliamentarian: Jeff Neurauter

Others: Academic Support Committee (ASC) Vice-Chair: Sridhar Madduluri; Hospitality Committee Vice-chair: Priya Dodla, SGA leader: Yasmin Kudrati-Plummer; and 34 other members. Total TJ PTSA members in attendance: 50

Location: TJHSST Cafeteria

Agenda:

- I. Call to Order and Welcome: Nell Janardhan (5 mins)
- II. Agenda Adoption: Nell Janardhan (3 mins)
- III. Approval of 2024-04-18 GM Meeting Minutes (5 mins)
- IV. SGA Report (10 mins)
- V. Principal's Remarks: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus (10 mins)
- VI. Officer Election (60 mins)
 - A. Adopting rules
 - B. Nomination of candidates
 - C. Candidate statements
 - D. Voting
- VII. Committee Reports: (35 mins)
- VIII. Treasurer's Report: Seema Singh (10 mins)
- IX. New Business and Announcements: Nell Janardhan (5 mins)
- X. Adjournment

Call Meeting to Order

- A quorum was determined to be present and the President called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
- The President reminded the assembly of the meeting rules that were sent out in advance, and highlighted a few of them:
 - GMM will use Robert's Rules.
 - Please be respectful and courteous at all times.
 - Raise your hand to request being recognized.

- Only speak when recognized by the President.

Agenda Adoption

- The proposed agenda was published on the website and notified via the weekly membership newsletter.
- Motion to limit debate on the proposed agenda to ten minutes was proposed, seconded and adopted with 100% of the votes in favor.
- Motion to approve the agenda was proposed, seconded, and the agenda was adopted with 100% of the votes in favor

Approval of 2024-04-18 GM Meeting Minutes

- The 2024-04-18 GMM draft Minutes were available on the TJ PTSA website, and notifications of the minutes were sent via newsletter posts and dedicated email.
- The President solicited comments/corrections to the minutes. There were no comments nor corrections to the 2024-04-18 TJ PTSA GM Meeting Minutes; and the minutes were approved as presented.

Student Government Association (SGA) Report – Yasmin Kudrati-Plummer

- Mental Health Coalition (MHC) activities facilitated by the Health and Wellness Chair (Liz Das) was much appreciated.
- Kudos to Megan Sawant who was elected as student representative to the FCPS School Board.
- Appreciative of the snack items during the AP exams
- Jefferson Day (J-Day) planning in full swing, and the TJPTSA's support is welcomed
- TJ Stars event, an exposition of senior research projects, was successfully held on 5/21/24

Principal Remarks - Dr. Ann Bonitatibus

- Dr. Bonitatibus appreciated Yasmin's leadership in the SGA, and thanked the PTSA for the teacher luncheons and other smaller appreciation events
- Dr. Bonitatibus recognized the achievements of TJ students, including finalists at the international science and engineering competition in LA (1st place, honorable mentions with all 5 teams getting awards); and several teams progressing to regional and state tournaments indicating a well-rounded student community
- Dr. Gabor commented that this year's TJ Stars was the best yet. COVID forced a hard reset, but the TJ Star committee worked tirelessly to rejuvenate and refine the TJ Stars event. The quality, professionalism, depth and the new ideas were excellent, especially considering this graduating class missed out on the 9th grade IBET cohort construct due to COVID.
- 439 seniors graduating in 2 weeks.
- The last set of TJ admission offers will be sent out by May 24th
- The master schedule and the class schedules for the 2024-2025 academic year should be complete in the next two weeks
- The school will announce retirements and introduce new staff around the end of June

Officer Elections

- Nell Janardhan introduced Jeff Neurauter (parliamentarian) as the presiding officer for the officer election. The motion to have Jeff be the presiding officer was seconded, and approved with 100% votes in favor, and was hence adopted.
- Nell moved to adopt the election rules sent earlier via email and posted on the TJPTSA website. No second was needed since the motion was made on behalf of the Executive Board), and the motion was approved by with 100% of votes in favor, without any debate or questions
- Liz Das representing Nominating Committee presented its slate of candidates:
 - President – Neelam "Nell" Janardhan
 - 1st VP of Programming and Events – Catherine Li
 - 2nd VP of Membership and Fundraising – Julia Li
 - 3rd VP of Communications – Ye "Maggy" Li
 - Treasurer – Dinesh Kumar
 - Secretary – Sanjay Parthasarathy
- Mr. Neurauter asked for any further nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were made from the floor
- Each of the candidates gave a 3-min statement
- A voice vote was held for each office

- Results: The assembly voted for the following candidates for the Executive Committee of the TJ PTSA for 2024 - 2025.
 - President – Neelam “Nell” Janardhan
 - 1st VP of Programming and Events – Catherine Li
 - 2nd VP of Membership and Fundraising – Julia Li
 - 3rd VP of Communications – Ye “Maggy” Li
 - Treasurer – Dinesh Kumar
 - Secretary – Sanjay Parthasarathy
- The election concluded at 7:54pm. Jeff turned the presiding officer role back to Nell Janardhan

Committee Reports

- **Academic Support Committee - Partho Banerjee**
 - 4068 AP exams were administered in May in 21 sessions over 2 weeks. 100 Parent volunteers helped proctor and provide snacks during exam breaks
- **College Outreach Committee – Radha Somanchi**
 - The college outreach committee has held 3 (virtual) sessions thus far, and an upcoming senior student panel on 6/3/24. They were all well received.
 - The Committee continues to help demystify the college application process, and helps students and parents navigate through college options.
- **Diversity Committee –Michele Hyde**
 - During the 23-24 school year, the Diversity Committee hosted the following celebrations: Hispanic Heritage Month 10/13, Diwali 11/10, Hanukkah 12/13, Lunar New Year 2/2, Black History Month 2/9, Holi 3/15, and Eid al-Fitr 4/12.
 - Michele described the history of the Diversity Committee. Before Michele’s tenure as chair, the Diversity Committee did not host cultural celebrations. In the fall of 2021, when students returned to in-person learning, Michele became the Diversity Committee Chair. As part of a PTSA-wide focus on rebuilding our TJ community, the Diversity Committee began hosting cultural celebrations.
 - The cultural celebrations hosted by the Diversity Committee grew in size and number over the past three school years. Over the same period the PTSA-wide efforts to rebuild our TJ community were very successful. Other committees and events also returned and grew. Relationships among parents, teachers, administrators and students were strengthened.
 - Now our TJ community is thriving. The Diversity Committee’s role in rebuilding is no longer necessary or appropriate. In consultation with those involved in our cultural celebrations over the past school year, the PTSA determined that the leadership of cultural celebrations should return to the students. This will allow students to plan cultural celebrations, which reflect a student-centered vision of inclusion.
 - In February, the PTSA EB voted to eliminate the Diversity Committee with the understanding that all PTSA committees are responsible for promoting diversity and inclusion. The PTSA will return ownership of cultural celebrations to student clubs to foster a culture of engagement among our students and to create additional opportunities for student leadership. The Diversity Committee budget will be transferred to Student Club Support. The PTSA will continue to support cultural celebrations through Student Club Support grants. A grant application system is being developed to help students through the process of leading their own cultural celebrations.
- **Health & Wellness Committee - Liz Das**
 - The Health and Wellness committee works closely with student services to addressing requests that contribute to the mental well-being of our students
 - Liz summarized the events of the year – 2 book club series, parent learning sessions (with title of ‘It’s different now’, and ‘body-doubling’), collaborating with Minds Matter Club, the Mental Health Coalition’; and specific additions like interactive bulletin board and puzzle boards that students can use at any time
 - Look forward to 3 book club series for the 2024-2025 academic year
- **Hospitality Committee – Colleen Bucher**

- Colleen summarized the Hospitality Committee events for the year. From the welcome staff lunch the week before school started, to holiday gift card event, to volunteer appreciation picnic, and ending with spring luncheon and the daily events during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- She thanked Priya Dodla as her co-chair for help and initiative, and Deepika Sood for leading the TAW events.
- **ANGP (All Night Graduation Party) - Michele Hyde**
 - Laura Marshoun, Michele Hyde, and Monica Kumar are co-leading the ANGP committee for the ANGP event to be held on June 8. The timeline has been previously shared for all the events leading up to ANGP
 - Need volunteer parents especially for security detail. Urgent request to underclassmen parents to step up to help during ANGP.

Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget Amendment: Seema Lohia Singh

- Treasurer presented her report. PTSA Revenue was \$1,600 higher than proposed budget; and spending was \$2,600 below proposed spend.
- Treasurer proposed a change in the budget as follows:
 - Reallocate \$2700 from underspent budget from various categories to PTSA office line item to fund the PTSA fridge replacement and other supplies
 - Projected revenue from ANGP ticket sales, fundraising and donations was \$40K. Actual revenue was more than \$10K over the projected amount. In order to reflect the intent of the donations, fundraising and ticket sales for ANGP, we propose amending the budget to allow the committee to spend the additional funds raised this year. Specifically, we proposed increasing the ANGP budget by \$10K to a total of \$60K.
 - Authorize for Fall 2024 start-up spending: \$3,000 on the 2028 regional parties, \$500 on school kickoff events, \$1,000 on the teacher welcome back event, and \$5,000 on the Back to School Bash. The PTSA normally spends on these events in a regular year and parents get reimbursed once the budget is approved. This will enable us to reimburse parents sooner.

The president opened the floor for the discussion of the proposed budget revision. As there was no further discussion, the president asked the assembly to vote for the main motion. By a show of voting cards, the proposed budget revision was approved.

New Business and Announcements

- No requests for items or discussions

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Minutes Prepared by Sanjay Parthasarathy, TJHSST PTSA Secretary.

Minutes Approved as ___X___ Presented or _____ Amended on ___September 19, 2024