



TJ PTSA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

3/13/25 at 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Attendees: Executive Board

Executive Committee: President: Neelam Janardhan; First VP of Programing and Events: Catherine Li; Second VP of Membership; and Fundraising: Julia Li, Third VP of Communications: Maggy Li; Treasurer Dinesh Kumar; Secretary: Sanjay Parthasarathy

Committee Chairs and Co-chairs: Academic Support – Tom Stauber, College Outreach and Planning – Radha Somanchi, Health and Wellness – Ann Payne and Liz Das, Hospitality – Priya Dodla, ANGP Committee Chair - Kareena Nair

TJHSST Principal: Mr. Michael Mukai

Location: Google Meet

Agenda

- Call meeting to order
- Approval of prior meeting minutes in draft;
 - EB meeting on Feb 20th
 - EC Vote on Feb 27th for Mara Marshall appointment (College Planning Vice Chair)
- Principal's report
- HRC update and discussion
 - TJHSST committees
- Treasurer's report - Dinesh Kumar
 - Student Support other - \$5,000 check to TJHSST Finance for various student support activities requested by Mr. Mukai and the activities office
 - 40th year - Student achievement wall - Mike Roth to provide estimate
- Committee Updates:
 - Grad Celebration - Kareena Nair & Deepika Sood
 - Academic Support - Tom Stauber -
 - AP Proctor Volunteers and Snacks.
 - College Planning - Radha Somanchi
 - Vice Chair Mara Marshall will be moderating a Junior Packet panel
 - Health and Wellness - Ann Payne
 - Hospitality - Priya Dodla
- Next GMM (March 20) Meetings. Reminder
 - Next GMM Virtual: Thu, March 20th, - 30,45 mins for PTSA business (NC report) and 1:15 for College Q&A Parent experiences with the principal
 - April 29 - Parent Preview
 - May 23 - J Day
- Adjournment
- Q&A with Mr.Mukai if time permits

Call Meeting to Order

- A quorum was determined to be present and the president called the meeting to order (@7:30pm).

Approval of prior meeting minutes draft;

- The committee sought feedback on the draft meeting minutes from past EB meetings held on February 20 and the special EC voting held on February 27, 2025 . These were all approved, with no suggestions or corrections.

Principal's report

- TJHSST students fared well in the Regeneron competition, securing positions in the top 10
- Celebrate TJ!!! initiative
 - Celebration of 40 years of TJ with an 'alumni hall' unveiling in October, 2025. All year books to be digitized. 'Alumni hall of fame' to be showcase nominated TH alums.
 - All TJ alumni weekend to be held every Thanksgiving weekend from Fall, 2026.
 - Request PTSA support and help to staff, offer tours, and enhance the student and parent experience
 - Maggy Li will work with Mike Roth @ TJHSST to create the blog on alumni event, nominations process to the Hall of Fame and other logistics
 - The Jefferson Gallery of achievements at the Auditorium Lobby will be upgraded/replaced as part of the 40th year celebration
- Human Resources Committee (HRC) discussion
 - HRC meets every Wednesday, but lacks means to disseminate the information discussed to parents and stakeholders. Parents do not know what HRC is and who its members are. Suggestion to collect questions before-hand, and have a formal discussion
 - Sanjay moved to vote for PTSA to support HRC by having a representative attend their meetings, and help disseminate the information discussion. The motion was seconded by Maggy Li. The Board discussed and voted unanimously to approve PTSA EB representative(s) attend HRC meetings and help disseminate information.
 - Sanjay moved to vote that PTSA hold off on making any decision on HRC till more information is gathered and analyzed. Maggy Li seconded the vote. The Board unanimously voted to hold off making a decision on HRC for now and to regroup if/when there is more information and discuss at the April 24th meeting if needed
 - Meanwhile, PTSA requests a wide range of students to attend the "replacement for HRC" meetings. Suggestion that PTSA can collect questions, Mr. Mukai triages and invites the right staff to the meetings, and reports out the discussions as 'Principal' FAQ'
- Mr. Mukai invited the EB to highlight any issues/recurring patterns observed. EB members mentioned:
 - Counsellor's excessive workload and muted responsiveness – sometimes parents are afraid to bring up anything about counsellors so suggestion is to escalate with Sara Gentin if no response in 2 days,
 - Grading differences between teachers – Governance committee has weighed in on uniform grading and retest policy
 - Sensitive information on teachers, counsellors will necessitate a responsible leader of the Administration
 - Request by parents for crossing guards/left turns on Braddock Rd. This is difficult and will need FCPD and city engagement
- Nell suggested Maggy collate FAQs from past principal Q&As and upcoming parent questions and publish on PTSA website after approval by Mr. Mukai

Treasurer report – Dinesh Kumar

- Revenue goal to-date was surpassed. The year-end balance is projected to be \$45K-\$48K for PTSA and \$20-\$25K for ANGP
- Actual spending is in-line with budget, and all book-keeping activities are up-to-date.
- Mr. Mukai requested \$5K for support to student activities from the allocated & approved PTSA budget (with funds from the cancelled 'Beginning of school bash' being re-purposed for this effort). Motion to write a cheque was unanimously passed

Committee reports:

ANGP Grad Celebrations (Kareen Nair'25 and Deepika Sood'26): Report sent via email. Preparations are in full swing for the Hershey Park) visit to celebrate our graduating class. 102 tickets sold thus far, and ticket prices are \$95 going forward. The online store for J-cups, yard signs is now closed

Academic support committee (Tom Stauber): Upcoming AP exams in May will need help with parent volunteers for proctors, for snacks to nourish the students. Mrs. Broadhead will coordinate seeking ~180 slots for parent volunteers to fill the AP exam schedule. TJPTSA will facilitate getting the snacks and the volunteers for proctoring

College outreach and planning: (Radha Somanchi) –Mara Marshall was appointed as vice chair via email and will be moderating the 'Demystifying the Junior packet' panell.

Health and Wellness committee (Ann Payne): . Two parent support group meetings are planned for 3/14 on 'Managing Anxiety' and 4/4 on 'Cultural stories and immigrant narratives' Mental Health coalition continues meeting monthly after school on the 3rd Wednesdays.

Friday, March 14 from 9 to 10:30 am, in-person

Anxiety: "Just Breathe" and why that doesn't always work.

Friday, April 4 from 9 to 10:30 am, in-person

Cultural Clash: Defining the impact of your story and utilizing its strengths to build comfort and confidence in parenting.

Hospitality committee (Priya Dodla) Planning is in progress for the Spring luncheon in April, teacher appreciation events and the volunteer appreciation picnic in May, The PTSA will provide finger foods and soda.

Upcoming schedules: PTSA will send request for Principal questions on 3/17 in preparation for the 3/20 GMM. Senior Prom is 3/29; Parent preview for incoming TJ students will be held on 4/29. J-day is 5/23.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Minutes Prepared by Sanjay Parthasarathy, TJHSST PTSA Secretary

Minutes Approved as __X__ Presented on April 24, 2025