

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the candidates who self-nominated for the 2025-2026 TJ PTSA Executive Committee slate. We acknowledge and appreciate the efforts of each candidate. The pool and caliber of the self-nominations were robust. Our selection process included reviewing each candidate's self-nomination form and a panel interview. And, based upon a majority vote, we are pleased to announce the following slate of 2025-2026 TJ PTSA Executive Committee candidates:

- **President:** Catherine Li
- **1st Vice President:** Kokeb Kassa
- **2nd Vice President:** Ye (Maggy) Li
- **3rd Vice President:** Thomas Stauber
- **Treasurer:** Dinesh Kumar
- **Secretary:** Raji Madhuvana

The candidate bios are below. We support these candidates for the 2025-2026 TJ PTSA Executive Committee.

**President, Catherine Li – Class of 2027 Parent**



I have a boy & girl twins in sophomore year. My kids have studied in FCPS and private schools, and I have volunteered a lot before TJ as class mom, grade parent, chaperone, and mentor. When my kids joined TJ, I boldly took on the TJAB (Academic Boosters) president role as a freshman parent, and we did very well on fundraising goals via membership drive and merchandise sales and greatly supported our Academic competition teams. I also actively contributed to other TJ activities, such as the cultural celebration, homecoming, sports team volunteering, AP snacks, and ANGP planning, and I immensely enjoyed them.

As the First VP in charge of programs and events this year, I have gained a deeper understanding of school dynamics and worked very closely with five committees to organize many events for parents and staff and support the students in various ways. The TJ experience so far has been enriching and rewarding for me. I've learned from many experienced and dedicated volunteers, and I am very grateful for the encouragement and support I received from many parents, which has motivated me to continue serving in PTSA next school year.

In my full-time job, I work as a senior consulting manager for a public high-tech company. I've stayed there for 15+ years and work entirely remotely, which gave me the flexibility to find time to volunteer in school. I also co-chair my company's global Parents ERG (Employee Resource Group), supporting over 800

employees. Beyond work, I also volunteer in community services and leadership roles in other non-profits. In short, I'm an energetic, thoughtful, and natural collaborator; I excel in efficient planning and seamless execution; and I genuinely care about others and work well with people from different backgrounds and cultures.

I'm excited about the opportunity presented to us, and I can serve as a key PTSA officer. PTSA also stands for "Partner Together for Strong Achievement." I look for your support and trust and continue to fulfill our PTSA's mission to enhance the student's educational journey, foster community involvement, and support every member of our thriving TJ family! You are my full commitment, and I'm eager to meet and work with many of you in the coming months!

#### 1st Vice President, Kokeb Kassa – Class of 2027 Parent



Kokeb Kassa and her family have lived in Annandale, VA, in Fairfax County since 2012. Her children attended Wakefield Forest Elementary and Frost Middle School. Her son, Kaleb, is a senior at Woodson, and her daughter, Aden, is in the Class of 2027 at TJHSST.

Kokeb is the AVP for Institutional Funding and Strategy with CARE, one of the longest-serving and largest international assistance groups. CARE has been working in humanitarian relief and development assistance in 60 countries globally since 1946. At CARE, Kokeb leads the USG fundraising team, which generates \$500MM/year from USG agencies for work in agriculture, education, and health. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Cornell University and her MBA from Georgetown University.

Kokeb was born in Ethiopia and came to the US in 5th grade. She has traveled extensively, enabling her to engage with and connect with diverse groups.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Ye (Maggy) Lir – Class of 2026 Parent



My name is Maggy Li, and I am TJ PTSA's current Vice President of Communications. When I served in this role, I focused on increasing awareness of TJ PTSA, promoting its various activities to parents and students, and ensuring an open communication channel among parents, students, and school administration. Communication is key to uniting the TJ community. My experience as the current VP and my wealth of knowledge and skills from my corporate human resources role would benefit the TJ community.

If elected for the next school year, I look forward to enhancing our school's community.

My vision for the TJ PTSA is to serve as a trusted connection point that unites the TJ community, including students, parents, teachers, and school administrators; a catalyst that helps form a school culture that respects each student, encourages diversity, and fosters a positive learning environment.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Thomas Stauber – Class of 2028 Parent



Thomas Stauber is a seasoned entrepreneur, veteran, and advocate for STEM education. As the co-founder of the IT consulting firm Axiologic Solutions (2009), Thomas grew the company from a two-person startup into a large business where his leadership and vision have driven the development of innovative systems engineering solutions supporting national security.

Thomas's career began in the Army, where he developed expertise in leadership, strategic planning, and systems engineering—skills that have been instrumental in his professional and community endeavors. Beyond his business achievements, Thomas is deeply committed to educating and fostering the next generation of innovators. He has led youth STEM programs since 2020, inspiring students to embrace engineering and problem-solving. Beginning this academic year, he served as the Academic Committee Chair of the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology PTSA.

A passionate advocate for STEM outreach, Thomas has partnered with the Northern Virginia Science Center since 2018, championing initiatives that bring science and technology education to underserved communities. From 2016 to 2018, he served on the board of trustees at the Montessori School of Northern Virginia, supporting programs that emphasize hands-on, inquiry-based learning and leading the search to find the next head of school.

Married and a proud father of two high-schoolers, Thomas holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Military Academy and a Master of Engineering degree from the University of Virginia, both in Systems Engineering.

#### Treasurer, Dinesh Kumar – Class of 2027 Parent



Dinesh Kumar is a treasury professional who supports federal and commercial customers in managing treasury financial management solutions. He has served as treasurer at TJ PTSA EC before and has continued his TJ PTSA community support during the past year. He and his wife, Kanthi Kumar, live in Fairfax County and have a Sophomore at TJ. They have been PTSA members since 2016. He likes to improve student, administrator, and teachers' engagement with PTSA activities and support treasury activities across all TJ PTSA programs and beyond.

Vision Statement: I have supported TJ PTSA as Treasurer before (2018-19 and 2019-20), and I would like to support it again during the next couple of years so that the TJ PTSA EC team can support TJ PTSA's mission through well-managed treasury and funding activities promptly, establishing good standing with the IRS, VA PTA, and TJ PTSA's members—parents, students, alums, teachers, and administration staff. I can help file regulatory tax paperwork and provide periodic updates about the financial position of TJ PTSA during PTSA meetings. I will ensure all Treasury operations are performed promptly. I recently supported resolving IRS tax activities to establish TJ PTSA's good standing.

Secretary, Raji Madhuvana – Class of 2028 Parent



I live in Fairfax with my family. I am the mother of two boys, one past TJ student, and another TJ 2028 student. I have played a very active role in their upbringing, supporting them by volunteering at their school and extracurricular activities and as an Eagle advisor at their Boy Scout troop. Professionally, I work at one of the leading consulting firms and have over 20 years of professional experience. I have volunteered at various TJ events for the past 5 years and hope to serve as PTSA secretary during the next school year.

We hope all candidates will continue volunteering with the TJ PTSA and participating in leadership positions.

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

TJ PTSA Nominating Committee