

Principal's Letter

Dear TJ Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students:

Everyone at TJ is thrilled to have semester exams and college applications behind them. Second Semester brings longer days, hopes for warmer weather, and an opportunity for a fresh start academically. Our winter activities program means that our building is fully occupied both day and night. In January, I had the pleasure of seeing our talented young dramatists in "Much Ado about Nothing" and watching many sports activities including wrestling, gymnastics, and girls and boys basketball. We are so fortunate to have so many extra-curricular activities for our students, and all results from having wonderful adults who sponsor, coach, and supervise them. We are one of the few schools in the Region to still have Friday Night Sock Hops where our students can come to have fun. Keeping all these events healthy and wholesome is a constant challenge which falls especially hard on the shoulders of our wonderful teacher sponsors and parent chaperones. We can never have too many Volunteers to help us provide a vibrant and wholesome student activities program. Please contact our **PTSA Volunteer Coordinators** and give the precious gift of your time and talents to TJHSST in 2006.

In December, I was fortunate to be a part of the Atlantic Council's Delegation to Taiwan to discuss relations between the two Chinas. My participation in this exciting experience was made possible by my husband's involvement as President of the Atlantic Council. Our Delegation of 8 Americans (which included a TJ parent) participated in a week of non-stop meetings with the Republic of China President, Chen Shui-Bian, Defense Minister, Foreign Minister, Chairman of the Military Joint Staff and various Yuan legislators, economists and businessmen. I independently had meetings with the Deputy Minister of Education for Taiwan, the Superintendent and Director of Gifted Education for the Taipei City Schools. I also visited their "TJ" which is a selective public high school of 4,000

boys that specializes in math, science and technology. Like TJ, it publishes student research. But unlike our TECKNOS, it produces a thick research book containing all their Senior Research Projects in both math and science! Imagine what fun we will have trying to figure out what they know and how they compare to TJ.

The second week of my China trip involved traveling to Shanghai, Guilin and Hong Kong, places that I had never been. English is now a REQUIRED subject in most Chinese schools starting at second grade. Many people speak it and many signs are in English and yet, I yearned to speak Chinese. I am glad TJHSST is again offering this important language. I was amazed by the vibrancy of the cities I visited. It is clear that they have fully embraced capitalism. The infrastructure of beautifully landscaped highways and the prevalence of gated communities and resorts that looked very familiar to American eyes were also a surprise. My rudimentary survey of current events knowledge about Tiananmen Square and the recent uprisings over power plants revealed a general ignorance of these events by the many well educated people with whom I interacted. My husband delighted in trying to figure out how to out-fox the censures on the internet. The answer was voice over IP. Needless-to-say, I could go on and on about this complex land. I have presented a program to the Cluster 3 principals and will celebrate the Chinese New Year at TJ with some optional lunch presentations to faculty and students who may be interested in my 30 minute slideshow/lecture in early February.

I hope to see many of you at my next **Parent's Coffee on February 1, 2006 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** in the TJ Career Center. I will look forward to seeing you at this and our many other February events.

Happy Valentines Day,
Elizabeth V. Lodal
Principal TJHSST

President's Message

Dear TJ Community:

YOUR SUPPORT CONTINUES TO BE NEEDED!

On January 26th, FCPS School Board approved the current Capital Improvement Plan for 2007-2011. TJHSST continues to be the last school listed on the 2007-2011 CIP for unfunded renovation planning in 2011. We wanted to bring the safety and health issues associated with the school building and on site facilities which affect our students and staff to the attention of the School Board. Members of our community shared these concerns on January 17th at the FCPS Capital Improvement Plan Public Hearing. I would like to thank our students, parents and staff for speaking about these issues and to thank our many TJ supporters who attended the Public Hearing. Our speakers included five students, four parents and one faculty member. We do appreciate their willingness to publicly support TJ by addressing our elected Fairfax County School Board Members and Dr. Jack Dale.

I am pleased to report that FCPS has acknowledged some of our concerns by promising to address the safety and health issues associated with the building maintenance by completing outstanding work orders, replacing all ceiling tiles and

identifying roof leaks, as well as providing science tables and other critical furniture needs.

Facility

Services plans to inspect the building to ensure use of space and sufficient capacity for increased enrollment which will include planning for additional trailer placement, safety issues or internal modifications that would assist the instructional program. We appreciate their responsiveness to these short term goals and the PTSA will monitor this plan of action to keep our community informed of the progress. However, our concerns about the long term goal of renovating our 42 year old building to improve the inadequate electrical system to accommodate our



technology and day-to-day operational needs, replacement of water fountains, replacement of bathroom appliances and stalls, and concerns about the on-site refueling station were not addressed sufficiently. These are still safety and health issues.

Recently, I sent an email to our TJ community with information about our building needs and provided contact information for our Fairfax County elected representatives and neighboring county school boards. I do hope each of you will take the opportunity to **write** your School Board Member and Board of Supervisors representative to voice your concerns and to visit our website in order to sign our **Building Petition**. We would like to thank the TJ supporters who have written their representatives and signed our petition. We now have over 1200 signatures and growing. Join us in our efforts as we organize a parent group to focus on the needs of TJ. Please contact Bernadette Saperstein to volunteer at: [ptsafirstvp at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsafirstvp@tjhsst.edu).

We believe it is important for FCPS to address our building issues and for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to recognize that the success of TJ brings not only recognition to Fairfax County and Northern Virginia, but also families and businesses. The education of our students and providing modern school facilities in Fairfax County is extremely important as these young people will one day be Fairfax County residents and tax-payers. Providing a high caliber public education will ensure that Fairfax County continues to be a leader in academic excellence as well as an economically sound county government recognized throughout the nation. I hope that our elected representatives can appreciate the benefits of making good educational decisions that affect the future of our students and Fairfax County.

Thank you for your continued support of our school, our students and our staff!

Debbie Kilpatrick, PTSA President
[ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu)

The next meeting of the PTSA is scheduled for
February 13, 7:30 p.m. in the TJ library.

What does the future hold for TJ?

To find out, please attend the PTSA Parent Forum on March 22nd, 7:30-9:00 p.m., TJ Auditorium. Mark your calendars!

Topics of discussion will cover Fairfax County's vision of the future of TJ, how TJ can meet the specialized academic needs of its overcrowded student enrollment, on-site placement of additional trailers scheduled for the summer, and coping with needed improvements in the school building.

More information will be available in the March newsletter.

Questions/suggestions: [ptsa.forum at tjhsst.edu](http://ptsa.forum.at.tjhsst.edu)

PTSA Update

Highlights from the January 9 PTSA Meeting

- Treasurer's report: Jacket sales and new membership account for increases in income. Expenses are result of disbursement of approved monies for faculty allocation and hospitality of various events.
- Morning PTSA Meetings: Several parents have requested morning meetings. The PTSA Executive Board will look into feasibility of conducting a morning PTSA meeting. An announcement will be made in next month's newsletter.
- Nominating Committee for 2006-07: Members are: Dorry Emmer, Cindy Carter, Smita Trivedi, Janet Tener, Rich Slivosky (Student Services Coordinator).
- School Building Condition: Health and safety issues were highlighted in a presentation with near-term and long-term corrections identified. All who can help with next steps in putting together a concrete action plan to move forward should contact Bernadette Saperstein, [ptsa.firstvp at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.firstvp@tjhsst.edu).
- Volunteers: Thursday JLC has ongoing need. For other opportunities, please refer to the [Serving the TJ Community](#) page; or, send email to [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu)
- County Council: FCCPTA is in full support of the PTSA's effort with building issues. A position paper crafted by Debbie Kilpatrick has been signed-off by the FCCPTA chair and will be posted on FCCPTA website. Cultural liaisons: All interested in being

part of the group of cultural liaisons should contact Esther Yook, [eyook at umw.edu](mailto:eyook@umw.edu).

- Miscellaneous: * Wireless service for Verizon users has been improved at TJ building * New Director of Safety and Security is Bob McCormick * Governor Tim Kaine has been confirmed as the 2006 Graduation Keynote Speaker.

Membership

The current PTSA membership as of January 21, 2006 is 1434: 1376 family and 58 faculty. We appreciate the support of PTSA members as we strive to bring the needs of TJ to the attention of the Fairfax County community and to all counties with students represented at TJ. The PTSA is working hard to represent all TJ students, staff and parents, including those who are not currently PTSA members. Please show your support of the efforts of the PTSA by becoming a member NOW. Membership dues are \$15 for parents and students and \$10 for faculty and staff. Our TJ voice can be heard even louder with your show of support by becoming a PTSA member and a partner in making a difference in our school. Everyone benefits from your support!

Membership forms are available on this newsletter, on the PTSA website, and by request to: [ptsa.membership at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.membership@tjhsst.edu). Thank you!

Fairfax County Council PTA

The biggest news this month is that our TJ PTSA's building issue has been acknowledged and supported by the FCCPTA! In late December, the FCCPTA asked our TJ PTSA to write a position paper on building health and safety issues. The TJ PTSA leadership worked on this document together and the TJ PTSA representative presented it at the FCCPTA meeting on January 3. The FCCPTA adopted our position paper, made small changes in wording to encompass all FCPS schools, and presented a request for an increase in the maintenance, with particular mention of TJ's urgent problems, at the January 17 Capital



Improvement Plan meeting of the FCPS school board. A big thanks goes to the FCCPTA for listening to our needs and taking action!

Building Initiative – so far.....

Debbie Kilpatrick has brought you up to speed on some of the progress so far in her PTSA President's Letter. Yes, it's been a busy month of meetings, letters and emails! Thanks to all of you who have stepped up to support this initiative.

At this point, I think we need to take stock. We need to figure out our strategy from here and what tools are at our disposal in order to move this initiative forward. We will be holding a brainstorming meeting on Monday, February 6th from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Career Center. We will update you on all the meetings and communications we have had with the "powers that be" and come up with some concrete proposals as to how to proceed. I have a lot of ideas and I am sure others do too. Let me know if you need any more information, Bernadette Saperstein, [ptsafirstvp at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsafirstvp@tjhsst.edu).

Serving the TJ Community

Cultural Liaison Project

The Cultural Liaison Project has been established with the purpose of assisting teachers, students, and staff with communication in various languages, including Arabic, Chinese, French, Korean, and Spanish. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help. Please get the word out to those parents who are hesitant to participate fully in their children's educational process due to linguistic barriers. We are here to assist them!

New volunteer-sign-in procedures

A computer is now available for visitors and volunteers to use in order to sign in. It is as simple as clicking on the appropriate category and following the prompts on the screen. The software does not allow for multiple locations per volunteer, but you can always log out and log back in if you want the records to accurately reflect the hours per location. If you do not find your name in the list, please give it to the secretary in the main office and it will be added for you. Finally, please be sure to sign out at the end of the day when you are

done. We have ordered name tags so one can be generated automatically when you sign.

OPEN GYM Volunteer needed now!

TJ has a dedicated group of parents who supervise Open Gym every day during lunch and on Thursday mornings during JLC. Unfortunately, our regular Friday volunteers can no longer commit, and we are seeking a parent or two to take over. Lunch on Friday is from 11:45 to 12:30. The volunteer just needs to be present in the gym to watch over what goes on. The students are very appreciative! If you can commit to every Friday or every other Friday, please contact Cindy Carter at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu).

Opportunities for 2006 – 2007

Perhaps you are not ready to serve as an elected officer on the PTSA Executive Committee. Not to worry! There are many ways you can contribute to TJ, and now is the time to start thinking about how you would like to volunteer at TJ next year. You may volunteer to be a PTSA committee chair or help that committee without taking on a leadership role. Contact the Volunteer Coordinators, Cindy Carter and Dorry Emmer for more information, [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu).

Speaking of **Volunteer Coordinators**, Dorry Emmer and Cindy Carter will relinquish these coveted positions at the end of the school year. Now is your chance to have the BEST volunteer "job" at TJ! Your job is to fill volunteer positions, and in doing so, you will meet and work with the most awesome parent volunteers and dedicated teachers and staff. The school truly appreciates the hours our volunteers commit. It is gratifying to match the skills and availability of our volunteers with the appropriate volunteer opportunity. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer coordinator or would like additional information, please contact Cindy Carter or Dorry Emmer at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu).

Your PTSA needs you!

It's that time of year when the Nominating Committee seeks nominations for elected positions on the TJHSST PTSA Executive Committee for the 2006 – 2007 school year. Do you want to get involved and make a difference at TJ? Do you want to keep up to date with what's going on and

meet other parents, students, and teachers? Then we have the job for you! Please step forward and volunteer to serve as an officer on the PTSA Executive Committee. The positions are: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. Any PTSA member with a willingness and ability to serve and provide leadership is welcome to apply. (Note: PTSA by-laws require that a person may be nominated for president only if he/she has served on the executive board for at least one term.) PTSA members who want to nominate someone else for an office may do so, with the nominee's permission. **The deadline for nominations is February 15, 2006.** For information, please contact the Nominating Committee at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu). Nomination Forms can be found with this [newsletter](#) and on the PTSA website.

Help the Building Improvement Initiative by Contacting our State Legislators

Put your legislative skills and contacts to work (or gain some!) by helping PTSA President Debbie Kilpatrick in her efforts to inform our public officials about TJ's building needs. As a part of this initiative, the PTSA Legislation Committee needs representatives from each of our participating jurisdictions to help in communicating our needs to our state legislators. These include the Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Fauquier, and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Sign up by contacting Legislation Committee Chair Anne Dewey-Balzhiser at 703-578-3998 or email her at [TJLegislative at cox.net](mailto:TJLegislative@cox.net).

Student Services Corner

Are you blogging?

On January 19, the Student Services Advisory Board met with Officer Harrington, Mr. Washer, and Ms. Houston to discuss the hazards of posting on-line. Students today spend great amounts of time on-line communicating with friends...and strangers. As one student said, "the internet is yesterday's playground." Our guest speakers want parents to be aware of the sites that students tend to go to. E-mails, instant messaging, and live journals have been around for awhile now, but new sites like Facebook, MySpace and Xanga offer

children accounts where they can post all kinds of information. Mr. Washer pointed out that the internet is our children's world; they are the natives because they have grown up with it and we, the parents, must try to keep up with them. Talk to your children. Ask them where they go on-line and whether or not they would be outraged or embarrassed if you read their entries. Make them aware that nothing is secure and future college boards or employers will be able to see things that they write today. Not to mention their friends, teachers, and strangers. The bottom line is that the computer is here to stay and it is a good instrument. It is our job, as parents, to teach our children what is and is not acceptable behavior on-line, and then to keep up with what they do when they log on.

- Some on-line safety tips include: establishing rules for internet use, keeping computers in a common room where parents can occasionally look over the child's shoulders, communicating with your children, being informed (POS = parent over shoulder, Imirl =let's meet in real life...), considering safeguarding options.
- Some internet safety web sites: GetNetWise.org, SafetyEd.org, Safekids.com, Netsmartz.org.

The next Student Services Advisory Board meeting will be on March 16, 2006 at 7:30, in the Library. Please e-mail me with suggestions for the agenda. [karen.oconnor at fcps.edu](mailto:karen.oconnor@fcps.edu).

Items from Other TJ Offices

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please be sure that you keep your student's emergency care information up-to-date. We had a recent emergency and found that the numbers on that student's emergency care card were inaccurate. This is extremely important for your student's welfare and our ability to promptly contact you or the person you designate to help your student should you not be available. Any new information should be given to Ms. Margo Stead in the front office.

Attendance 101

Did you know there are laws regarding school attendance? Commonwealth of Virginia's Compulsory School Attendance Law, Code 22.1-258, and FCPS School Board Policy 2232.2 for

Student Attendance at School require students to be in school at TJ from 8:30 am - 3:50 p.m., and the parents to be responsible for their child's school attendance.

To help parents the TJ Attendance office, in collaboration with the Administration, would like to provide these guidelines for your better understanding: Please phone **703-750-8315**, the TJ Attendance Office, whenever your student will be absent or late to school. Either Ms. Pat Groves, the Attendance Officer, or a parent volunteer will take your call, or you may leave a brief, detailed message on the Attendance Line. Please speak clearly: give your student's first and last name (spell it out if need be), their grade, the date of absence, followed by a brief message stating the reason for the absence or late arrival. Excused absences include: illness of the student, death in the family, medical or dental appointment, observance of a religious holiday, or any reasons exempted by the principal in the best interest of the student. Parents may also send a note with this same information to explain an absence, late arrival or early dismissal. Notes are to be handwritten, legibly signed by a parent, and must include the date(s) of absence(s), and parent contact information. Pre-arranged Absence forms can be picked up in the Attendance Office when the student knows he or she will be out for several days.

When the school receives no information, the student is Unverified and a phone call home is made. After 48 hours, if no note or phone call is received from a parent, the absence is Unexcused. There are consequences for Unverified or Unexcused Absences: 3 unexcused or unverified absences from classes will result in a failing grade for the quarter. 5 unexcused or unverified absences will result in referral to Fairfax County Attendance Officer.

Traffic does provide challenges to everyone coming to TJHSST, but **traffic is not an excuse for tardiness**. Parents should remind their driving students to allow plenty of time to get to TJ, especially on JLC Thursdays, when traffic is worse at the later time. The attendance office is aware of major traffic tie-ups and is conciliatory but does not condone repeated occurrences. Teachers of the first class of the day expect late arriving students to have a late pass from the Attendance Office. If the parent has phoned or provided a note with a reasonable excuse, this tardy may be excused. Recurrent unexcused tardies raise red flags and

have academic consequences: 3 Unexcused tardies equal one Unexcused absence.

For more detailed explanations of the attendance policy please review the Student Services Handbook or contact an administrator – they will be very happy to explain the FCPS policies to you.

Academic News

Latin News

- The Latin *Certamen* (Latin Academic game) teams have been very busy competing throughout Virginia. Six teams attended the 'Ad Fontes Certamen' at George Mason University where all teams took home a coveted trophy. The Latin 3 team placed FIRST in their division, the Latin 1 team placed second, the Latin 2 team placed second, and the Advanced level team placed third in their very competitive division. Our second competition, the prestigious Flint Hill Certamen tournament, was held on January 7. The Latin 3 team: Jesse Wong, Zach Mott, George Leef, Shannon Sullivan, and Robin Levy continued to marvel all by once again winning first place. They have certainly become the 'team to beat' in Virginia. Certamen is very popular in Latin 1 and two teams from Thomas Jefferson attended the Flint Hill Certamen! Team A: Steve Kim, Natalie Villacorta, Lucas Carreno, and Maia Wei placed a close fourth to Team B's third place (Team B: Jake Scott, Lily Hsiang, Ellen Huang, and Steven Drodge). The Latin 2 team: Eric Shi, Keith Horita, Samuel Pell earned second place, while the Advanced team: Colton O'Connor, Alexandra Perez, Arvind Ravichandran, and Allie Kerr also earned second place in a very competitive round.

- The **Classical Association of Virginia Tournament** and the **Medusa Mythology Examination** will both take place in early April. Students must register for these exams by mid-February. If you have any questions about either examination, please contact Ms. Conklin. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology has won the Classical Association of Virginia Tournament the past three years. *Bona Fortuna discipulis!*

Spanish News

- The Spanish Honor Society will be sponsoring a *Bulería*, a salsa dance in the cafeteria from 7-11 p.m. on Friday March 3. There will be a

professional dance instructor teaching from 7-8 p.m. ¡Vengan y bailen!

- Several hundred Spanish students will be taking the National Spanish Exam the week of March 27. For the first time the exam is being given on-line.
- Spanish Honor Society students continue to give graciously of themselves, tutoring during JLC Thursdays and during 8th period. ¡Gracias!

Class News

SGA

- The SGA has been hard at work on a number of projects. Foremost on our winter agenda was the Ocean Springs Holiday Outreach Effort, in which the SGA organized a school-wide toy drive to send to the Ocean Springs High School, in a Mississippi area ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.
- In light of recent concerns about the propriety of dancing at TJ, the SGA drafted guidelines explaining and defining the administration's perspective on "dirty dancing." These guidelines were approved, and chaperones are now instructed to use their discretion in monitoring students at TJ dances.
- Also underway is planning for the Winter Chill Out, an annual 8th period event where student bands perform and various clubs and fundraise, sell food, or sponsor entertainment events such as the DDR tournament.
- The SGA recently launched a school-wide Blackboard group for discussion of issues of interest to the TJ community. Current topics include a discussion on replacing the spirit hall homecoming competition. More topics will be added throughout the year. Students are encouraged to contribute to the discussions.

If you have questions or comments, please email the TJ SGA at tj__sga@hotmail.com (two underscores).

2006 – Seniors

- Please pay your graduation fees! Each senior needs to pay their \$20 graduation fee to either Mrs. Little in room 238 or Mrs. Parnell in room 239. Make checks payable to TJHSST and put the student's name in the memo line. (Cash is OK, too!) These fees must be paid by March 1st, and earlier is even better!
- Powder Puff/Sadie Hawkins: It's role reversal time! The girls hit the gridiron and ask the boys to the dance afterward. Girls, be sure to ask the boy of your choice! The *almost* annual powder puff game between the

junior and senior girls is March 10th at 7:00. The dance follows afterward.

- This year's Talent Show will be better than American Idol and Dancing with the Stars combined!! Auditions for acts will be Feb 24th and March 1st and they are open to any TJ student. The actual show is March 31 at 7:30. Tickets will be available at the door. Don't miss it!
- In case you are counting the days.... Prom is June 9th at Westwood Country Club. Graduation is June 17th at The Patriot Center at George Mason University. The All Night Grad Party (which is NOT sponsored by the Class of 2006 - See the ANGP section of Techcetera for more information) starts immediately after the graduation ceremony and is held at TJ. Lots of parents are still needed on the ANGP committees!

2007 - Juniors

- Upcoming events are: The Powder Puff Game and Sadie Hawkins dance (March 10), The Capitol Steps are coming to TJ (March 26 at 7:30 p.m.).
- We would also like to thank all of the wonderful chaperones who helped out with both the Mr. Colonial Competition and Soc Hop! Thank you all for your help in what became a very successful event for our class!!
- <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/2007/>

2008 – Sophomores

- In order to help our friends at Ocean Springs High School, the class of 2008 dedicated a Friday afternoon (December 16,) to raise money. Through a movie showing, pizza sale, and a soc hop (co-sponsored with 2007,) over \$800 were raised for Ocean Springs.
- As the 2008-sponsored Valentine's Day Dance approaches (Saturday, February 11th.) the class of 2008 prepares to also sell carnations and chocolates to the student body which they will deliver on Valentine's Day.
- The sophomores are seeking donations for their Silent Auction on Friday, April 28th. Please contact tjhsst08@gmail.com if you have a donation to make or would like to get in touch with the 2008 class government.
- The Sophomore class is fervently working on our largest fundraiser of the year, the Silent Auction, which will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on the evening of April 28. The evening will be centered around a "World Market" theme. If you are willing to make a donation, please contact one of our silent auction chairs at: 08silentauction@gmail.com.

- Also, mark your calendars. You do not want to miss this fun event. Please consider supporting the sophomore class! We are also seeking chaperones for the Valentine's Dance to be held at TJ on Saturday, Feb. 11 from 7:45-11 p.m. Those wishing to volunteer can also email [08silentauction at gmail.com](mailto:08silentauction@gmail.com) and indicate chaperone in the subject of the e-mail.

2009 – Freshman

Chaperones Needed for Freshmen Lock-In: The annual Freshmen Lock-In will be May 12 -13, 7 p.m. - 6 a.m. (tentative times). The theme, *Cities across America*, will bring the Big Apple, Motown, the Windy City, the Big Easy, and more, to TJ corridors for dusk-to-dawn, food and play. Ninety parents will be needed to chaperone in three groups of 30 for the planned shifts: 7 – 11 p.m.; 11 p.m. – 2 a.m.; and 2 – 6 a.m. (tentative times). Each shift will have a volunteer shift supervisor who will oversee the shift's activities and volunteers. Note: In March, there will be a Freshmen Parents' Meeting to present the details, answer questions, and sign-up volunteers. If you are ready to commit to a shift, please e-mail Ann Besson, [bessons at cox.net](mailto:bessons@cox.net). (Please note if you would like to be that shift's supervisor.)

News Round-Up and Awards

STUDENTS

- Congratulations to 12th grade student **Thomas Hay** for being selected as one of only two representatives from Virginia to the 44th Annual U.S. Youth Program (USSYP) March 4 – 11. Tom will receive a \$5,000 scholarship along with an all expenses paid week long program with top leaders from all sectors of the Government.
- The Intel Science Talent Search Program announced on January 11, 2006 seven TJ students who were selected as INTEL Semifinalist: **Abhinay Sawant** (Teacher: Barbara Wood), **Lisa Marrone** (Teacher: Bob Latham), **Winston Yan** (Teacher: Bob Latham), **Justin Solomon** (Teacher: Joshua Strong), **Zixuan Wang** (Teacher: Fred Lampazzi), **Elizabeth Yang** (Teacher: Fred Lampazzi), and **Charlotte Seid** (Teacher: Lisa Wu). They were presented a check for \$1,000 each and \$1,000 per student for the school.
- The Intel Science Talent Search announced on January 25 that senior **Justin Solomon** has been named a finalist. He is one of 40 students

nationwide and the only student in Virginia to be named a finalist. Justin's project, Three-Dimensional Face Reconstruction From Video: Facial Surface Reconstruction and Analysis Using Tensor Algebra and Differential Geometry, competed in the computer sciences category. Intel Science Talent Institute will be held March 9 through 14 in Washington, D.C., where the finalists will interact with top scientists and participate in rigorous judging sessions. Finalists are competing for more than \$530,000 in scholarships; the top prize is a \$100,000 scholarship. Winners will be announced on March 14.

- FCPS School Board Member Kristen Amundsen's Youth Leaders Program includes TJ student **Daniel Muir**, who will spend three days shadowing State Representatives and researching a project concerning the State Legislature January 29-31, '06.



Greg Osborn's Eagle Scout ceremony 11/12/05
TJ seniors Rachel Miller, Katie Gambale, Tom Hay, Seyi Ayorinde, Ryan Baetsen, Greg Osborn and Nam Le, at Greg Osborn's Eagle Scout Court of Honor.

Reflections Program

The Reflections program is almost in its last phase. There will be a reception for all the participants in February. Invitations will be mailed out. We would like to congratulate all the students that took time and participated in this program. All Outstanding Interpretation winners at Council level will be moving on to the next level. The winners at Council level are: **Literature:** Award of Excellence: (2nd place) Zixuan 'Jennifer' Wang. **Music:** Outstanding Interpretation: (1st place) Adam Lederer. **Photography:** Outstanding Interpretation: (1st place) Andrew David Clark. **Visual Arts:** Award of Excellence: (2nd place) Benjamin Kuebrich.

TJHSST Partnership Fund

Happy 20th TJ!

Alumni Grandparent Celebrates TJ@20 by Naming TJ's Main Lobby. The Jefferson Partnership Fund is very pleased to announce TJ's first naming gift made by Mrs. Dolores G. Reinsch, Grandparent of TJ 2000 alumna Bridgette Pierce. Mrs. Reinsch's major gift of \$55,000 will support three key TJ initiatives: first, redesign of TJ's Main Lobby area that will become the **Reinsch Pierce Gallery of Jefferson Achievement** featuring a dynamic digital display of highlights of student academic and research excellence. Second, the commission of an original orchestra, band and chorus composition by nationally recognized composer Libby Larsen that will be premiered later this spring. And third, the acquisition of new equipment for the Video Communications Tech Laboratory. Mrs. Reinsch and Bridgette's parents Mrs. Lola Reinsch Pierce, and Al Pierce and brother presented this leadership gift on December 22 to TJ faculty and staff, and Jefferson Partnership Fund's chairman John McCauley and Joan Ozdogan.

For more information on Naming Gift opportunities at TJ, contact: Joan Ozdogan at [jkozdogan at tjhsst.edu](mailto:jkozdogan@tjhsst.edu)

TJ@20 Year End Appeal Achieves New Record for Parent & Alumni Parent Generosity: A record-breaking nearly \$90,000 in gifts and pledges wishing TJ a Happy 20th Birthday! More than 220 TJ families generously donated over \$41,000 in response to our **TJ@20: Great Expectations Year End Appeal**. Additional contributions of \$38,500 were made by current and alumni parent members of the Partnership Fund's Board of Directors, and TJ alumni parents ('89-'05) generously responded with more than \$10,000 in gifts.

Year End appeal donors are now listed on the Jefferson Partnership Fund's Donor Wall at the Main Entrance of TJ. **Special recognition goes to Class of 2009 Parents for achieving the greatest percentage of parent participation; 16.2%!**

We have also heard from numerous TJ parents who have made their gifts through the United Way and Combined Federal (CFC) Campaigns! The Jefferson Partnership Fund will receive their names later this summer along with a report of total designated contributions to #8208 The Jefferson Partnership

Fund; United Way and CFC donors' names will be posted to the Donor Wall at that time!

2006 Epstein Becker & Green (EBG) Fund for Excellence in Health Care and Life Sciences Research Grant Recipients

The "Epstein Becker & Green Fund for Excellence in Health Care and Life Sciences Research" was established to support research in Bioinformatics, Biomedical Engineering, Biometrics, Botany, Environment, Forensics, Genetics, Imaging, Medicine, Nanotechnology, Neurosciences, Oceanography, and Pharmacology in Jefferson's laboratories and classrooms.

The EBG Fund provides modest grants to students in support of their research activities. Awards are made on a competitive basis by the Health Care and Life Sciences Grant Review Committee, and the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Partnership Fund serves as grant program manager and fiduciary agent.

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded "2006 Epstein Becker & Green Fund for Excellence in Health Care and Life Sciences Research" grants ranging from \$600 - \$1,702:

Andrew Li, Eli Chen, Ben Ranard, Victor Zhu, "Effects of Photosynthesis on the Output of Microbial Fuel Cells Using *Chlorella vulgaris*," Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul Cammer. Arjun Khanna, Meliha Skaljic, Rachana Haliyur, and Kartick Verma, "Effect of Omega 3 Fatty Acids on Nerve Regeneration in Leeches," Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul Cammer. Rachel Cackler, Robert MacGregor, William Tarpeh, "Effect of Antioxidant Organisms on the Production of Reactive Oxygen Species," Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul Cammer. Cecilia Esteban, Shreya Kanth, "The Correlation between Telomerase Activity and the Expression of the Cyclin-Dependent Kinase Inhibitor p21," Faculty Sponsor: Larry Gaudreault. Sarah Penney, Elvira Tran, "The effect of sunscreen and green tea Polyphenols on UV radiation induced DNA Damage," Faculty Sponsor: Larry Gaudreault. Allen Zeng, Abhinay Sawant, "Optimization of Power Output from *Rhodferax ferrireducens*," Faculty Sponsor: Larry Gaudreault. Rohit Koppula, Jesse Yang,

"Human Tissue Factor Pathway Inhibitor 2," Faculty Sponsor: Larry Gaudreault. Jay Kim, Amy Zhou, **"Gene Silencing in Caenorhabditis elegans through Targeting of Unc-98 with RNAi Technology,"** Faculty Sponsor: Larry Gaudreault. William R. Kilpatrick, Katarina Nguyen, **"Examining the validity of the MN (II) Theory for Abnormally High Radioresistance in the Deinococcus radiodurans,"** Faculty Sponsor: Larry Gaudreault. Jae Ho Choi, Thushara Gunda, Neel Kotra, **"Maximizing Power Output in Rhodospirillum rubrum in a Microbial Fuel Cell,"** Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Brian Kennedy. Anastasia Crithfield, Katie Gambale, **"The effect of the removal of ampulla from the tube feet of the starfish Asterias Forbesi on chemosensory search behavior,"** Faculty



Sponsor: Dr. Lisa Wu. The 2005-2006 Grant Review Committee comprised on invited health care and life sciences professionals from academia, health care and research institutions, and selected Jefferson faculty received many quality proposals many of which would have received funding if additional resources had been available. To learn more about opportunities to fund Jefferson student research, contact Joan Ozdogan, Jefferson Partnership Fund at (703) 750.8317 or jkozdogan@tjhsst.edu.

Jefferson Partnership Fund is Recruiting Parents for a Special Spring Phonathon: The Parent Committee is making plans for a Spring Phonathon in celebration of TJ@20:Great Expectations. We are now recruiting parent volunteers; *approximately 20 are needed from each of the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes* to act as "Class Captains". Parents will participate in outreach to fellow parents in late

April. Volunteer training will be provided. To volunteer and/or request additional information, contact TJ Parents Janet Tener ('09), 703-242-8858 or [janettener at aol.com](mailto:janettener@aol.com), Nancy Carter ('07), 703-406-0594 or [nacarter at earthlink.net.](mailto:nacarter@earthlink.net), Cora Yamamoto ('08) [ceyama1 at aol.com](mailto:ceyama1@aol.com), or Ernie Isenstadt ('06) [EJILoch at aol.com](mailto:EJILoch@aol.com)

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters

So Many Victories, So Little Reporting Space!

- TJ's **Chess Team** swept the South Metro Area Chess League tournament, winning first place as a team and taking the top five individual awards. In inter-school match play, TJ is a perfect 5-0. The team concludes the season with the Virginia State Championships (defending a streak of seven **consecutive** Virginia State Championship titles) and the National High School Chess Championships.
- TJ **It's Academic Team** just competed at the Virginia High School League District and Northern region tournaments. TJ's team of Neel Kotra, Scott Ylinen, Charlotte Seid, Evan Silberman, Michael Romais, Abhi Kapuria, Keshav Pillai, and Jacob Kohn went undefeated, taking the district title. Jefferson then won the regional competition by defeating Westfield, Edison, and Langley. The team will participate in the State tournament on February 25.
- TJ's **Debate Team** came away with more medals at the January 7 WACFL IV tournament. In the varsity Lincoln-Douglas competition, Nina Ran won the first-place speaker award; Ben Field was the second-place speaker and won first place



overall; Teddy McNeill placed sixth. In the policy competition, additional students now qualified to compete in the March 2006 Metro finals include

Andrew Li, Ashwin Goyal, Lisa Pang, Huan Song, David Dornblaser, and George Leef.

- TJ's **Model UN** team won the Chantilly High School MUN tournament, and 108 team members are competing at the January 26-29 UPenn National MUN Tournament.

Support our great academic teams by joining Academic Boosters. Questions? Contact Boosters' president Andrea Field at afield@hunton.com.

Band Boosters

- **Winter Showcase:** TJ will host the Winter Showcase on February 18. It is a full-day competition featuring the talents of over 50 Winter Guard and Drum Line units. Participants and families come from throughout the region. Spectators welcome from 2 p.m. through late evening; admission is less than \$10. Volunteers needed throughout the day, contact: ReinselT@msn.com. (Please thank the establishments who advertise in the Winter Showcase program by giving them your business. Show them we value their support.)

- **All-District Bands:** Nearly half of our 69 auditioning students were accepted into these selective ensembles. They'll attend music clinics on February 2 and 3, and perform on February 4, at 2



p.m., in a concert at Centreville High School.

- **Valentines Day:** Order candy, gifts, and flags from Innisbrook Wraps, Gifts, and Chocolates. Place order online at www.innisbrook.com. Enter our school number 110170. Shipping is direct and takes only 1 – 6 days.

- **19th Annual Invitational Festival of Winds, Brass and Percussion:** Karen Bullen, Tim Carey, and Michael Gold recently represented TJ at Virginia Commonwealth University. They participated in instrument specific clinics and a concert.

- **Delicious Citrus:** Purchase the freshest, most select **tangerines, temple oranges and grapefruit** available on the market. Order by February 25; receive your order on March 4. For information, or entry on the citrus email list, contact: tjcitrus@hotmail.com, or call (703) 765-4380.

- **Scrip/Gift Cards:** Purchase scrip and/or gift cards at the Winter Showcase, band concerts, during citrus pickup, or contact: PLLEE10@aol.com. See which gift cards are available at: http://www.toward.com/tjbandboosters/Fund_Raisers/scrip.htm

Colonial Athletic Boosters

- The **track teams** traveled to North Carolina for the Eastern Challenge on January 21. Junior Taylor Bostick bested 68 other runners to win the 1000 meter race in a time of 2:34.43.

- Congratulations to Coach Jason Boltersdorf, who in his first year of coaching is bringing the freshman boys **basketball team** to a victorious season. Winning 5 games in a row, their record in the Liberty District is 5-3, with an overall record of 7-3. Led by their "big man", Spencer de Mars, the Freshmen Colonials have averaged 42.7 points per game. During the game against Stonebridge they gave up an astonishing 0 points the entire 2nd quarter! The boys are headed towards destiny – to be the best freshman team ever. Come watch a game and be a part of history.

- **Girl's gymnastics** has had a great season so far, placing 1st or 2nd in all their meets. TJ took 1st place out of 14 at the January 21st Washington-Lee Invitational with a score of 105.825. Congratulations to Caroline Grady for placing 1st in the floor and Hannah Wolford for her 1st place finish on the bars.

- Ryan Nicholas has been chosen All- State second team for **football**. We believe this is a first for a Jefferson football player and a wonderful recognition of Ryan's hard work. Congratulations!!

Please join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Mark your calendars for the winter sports banquet on March 2nd and the chance to meet and hear about spring sports on March 8th.

Crew Boosters

As you read this, the TJ Crew will be completing winter training and looking forward to getting out on the water. Practice on the Occoquan will begin later this month. The Crew has had great attendance

for winter training, even though it's an optional activity for rowers. They know how important conditioning



is--that it is the difference between winning and losing races during the season. The work ethic of TJ rowers goes well beyond their competition and should ensure the "Winning Tradition" of TJ Crew continues this year.

An informative all-family meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the TJ Cafeteria. Current rowers and their parents should plan to attend. There are still opportunities to join this



year's Crew. If you'd like to know more about membership requirements, you're encouraged to attend this meeting. If you have other questions about Crew, contact Head Coach Matt Shoop at [shoop2 at cox.net](mailto:shoop2@cox.net).

If you have any general questions about the team or the Crew Booster organization, please check out the team web site at <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew/> or contact Mark Peterson, Crew Booster President, at [markpusafb at gmail.com](mailto:markpusafb@gmail.com).

Choir Boosters

As the third quarter gets underway, we would like to call your attention to some of the activities coming up for the TJ Choir program. Things get started with a performance of Faure's Requiem on

January 31 at 7:00 p.m. in the TJ auditorium. District Choir takes place February 9-11 with the culminating concert to be held at Woodson.

We would like to congratulate the following students for qualifying for District Choir: Keith Ainsworth, Stephen Ammann, Jacqueline Andros, Adrienne Arditti, Peter Ban, Lillian Blotkamp, Amanda Cain, Emma Fuller, Erin Godla, Paul Grimm, Michael Hill, Timmy Hunter-Kilmer, Kate Kirschner, Diane Lee, Casey Little, Stephanie Marris, Emily Miller, Alex Pham, Patricia Rupinen, Sarah Salino, Jean-Marie Stewart, Katie Tyson, Pooja Vinayak.

The Pre-Festival concert will be held on March 13, at 7:00 p.m. at TJ and the Festival will be held on March 24.

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the following exciting accomplishment: TJ Choir student Ari Cukierman was winner of the **2005 Alexandria Choral Society Carol Competition**. He submitted a newly composed carol in November. The carol was selected as the winning submission. In his honor the Alexandria Choral Society made a donation of \$250 to the TJ Choral Department. Way to go TJ Choir!

Orchestra Boosters

The Orchestra and Orchestra Boosters held a wonderfully successful

Viennese Ball on Dec. 2nd. The cafeteria was transformed into a Winter Wonderland



of snowflakes and chandelier lighting. Refreshment tables were laden with an array of hot appetizers and sweet treats, served and replenished throughout the evening. The Ball started off with a dance lesson followed by continuous waltzing to the graceful music provided by the TJ Orchestra, under the direction of Allison Bailey.

From the lovely strains of classical music, to the linen



tablecloths, lavish spread of food and spouting water fountain, to the elegant swirling of the dancers, this was indeed a classy event. Another Viennese Ball will be held on June 2nd, with a Spring theme – be sure not to miss it!

- On Dec 15, the TJ Orchestras performed their winter concert before a full audience in the TJ auditorium. Both the Symphonic Orchestra and the Concert Orchestra performed major symphonic works as a full orchestra which included winds, brass and percussion.
- On January 6-7, TJ was the host site of the District XI Junior District Orchestra. 82 students and music teachers from 12 schools, and a guest conductor sequestered for 2 days of practice, learning and rehearsals. TJ Orchestra students assisted with the preparation for this event, and the TJ Orchestra Boosters provided meals for the teachers and conductor, and snacks for the student musicians. A TJ Orchestra student designed a first-ever Junior District commemorative t-shirt for the event, which was available for purchase from the TJ Orchestra Boosters. The event culminated in a delightful Saturday afternoon concert program.

TJ Drama

For those of us who remember shoe phones before our students had cell phones, TJ Drama presents *Get Smart*, featuring the antics of secret agent Maxwell Smart and Agent 99 battling KAOS. Kidnapped blondes, diabolical devices of destruction, and wild spy gadgets will keep you laughing and on the edge of your seat. The show is directed by sponsor Vincent Pollet and student director Elizabeth Stone. Performances will be February 24-25 and March 3-4 at 7:30pm.

Theatre Boosters will hold a meeting on Wednesday, February 8 at 5:45 in the Lecture Hall or the Chorus Room. Parents of students participating in *Get Smart* are especially urged to attend and volunteer to support the show. Please send your email addresses to Hazel Osborn at osbornhaz@aol.com for future announcements and news.

Performances

TJ Shakespeare Troupe

The Shakespeare Troupe's production *Much Ado About Nothing* concluded a very successful run in January. The Troupe's Spring Show will be *Antony*

and *Cleopatra*, scheduled for May 17, 18, 19 at 7:30.



Much Ado About Nothing lovers Beatrice (Laura Fletcher) and Benedick (David Blore) decide they are the marrying kind as Friar Francis (Daniel Chavez) and Maid Margaret (Megan Amiratti) look on approvingly.

Announcements and Information

Science and Engineering Fair

The 2006 TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair will be held in the cafeteria on Saturday, Feb. 4. (or February 11, if cancelled by weather event). The schedule is as follows: 8:30 -9:00 a.m., Students set up in the cafeteria and prepare to meet the judges. 9:20 a.m., Judges will begin coming to the cafeteria to talk to participants. 11:45 a.m., Lunch of sub sandwiches, contributed by the PTSA, will be served in order of category. (Categories that have had judging completed will be dismissed to have lunch.). 12:15 p.m. (or upon completion of judging), **Open House for visitors to cafeteria.** 1:30 p.m., Awards ceremony in the Auditorium. 4:00 p.m. (or immediately following ceremony), All projects must be removed from cafeteria.

Students may win first, second, third and honorable mention awards. Some projects in the TJ fair will be selected to compete at the Regional Science and Engineering Fair March 17-19. Students should preserve their displays in case you are chosen to go to the Regional Fair. Scholarships and prizes are awarded at the Regional level. Students will be notified of Regional invitations as quickly as possible, but this information will not be available at the Awards Ceremony.

The Science Fair Judging Guidelines are posted on bulletin board outside 121WK. Students should read them so that they know the criteria that the judges are using to score projects.

Breakfast at TJ

TJ Cafeteria is now offering breakfast daily from 8-8:30 a.m. The menu includes pancake/sausage on a stick, an assortment of cereals, muffins, bagels, Honey Buns, French toast, Pop Tarts, and occasionally fresh fruit and, of course, milk and juice. The cafeteria can also provide ham and cheese biscuits and would welcome any other suggestions. A la carte is \$.80. If your child arrives to school very early, please encourage him/her to visit the breakfast line. It still holds true that the start of a good day is a good breakfast.

Participate in a great TJ tradition

Purchase an engraved brick to be installed in the millennium courtyard!

The **Millennium Courtyard** at TJHSST is a wonderful opportunity to honor and memorialize your son or daughter's TJ experience. The courtyard continues to expand and we invite you to be a part of this great tradition. We are still taking orders for our Spring 2006 installation, but we need all orders in by March!

The Millennium Courtyard is a TJ beautification project located in front of the school between the library and the cafeteria. It was designed to provide a campus-like area for students, faculty and administration, and visitors to the school to relax and socialize. It features an interior brick patio and approaching brick walkways and a raised brick seatwall to enhance the atmosphere and to increase the beauty and usefulness of the courtyard.

Spaces are still available for you to purchase a brick to honor your TJ student. The bricks may be engraved with up to three lines of text and two emblems reflecting your student's achievements, activities, or character. Visit the courtyard and see the unique collection of emblems available and get ideas for designing your brick. The cost of an engraved brick is \$60 and each emblem is \$15.

Show your TJ student how proud you are!

A printable n order form found on the TJ website: <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/boosters/millennium.php>. Questions? Jean Meikle at 202-637-7119, 703-289-6648 (home), [houseofmirth at cox.net](mailto:houseofmirth@cox.net).

Noteworthy Dates

February	March
1 Parent Coffee with Principal (5:00 p.m., Career Center)	1 CAC Coordinating Group (7:30, Career Center)
1 Curriculum Night for Parents (7:30 p.m., Second floor)	3 <i>DGet Smart</i> (7:30 p.m., Auditorium)
2 – 4 All-District Band – Centreville	3 <i>Bulería</i> salsa dance (7:00 for lessons, 8:00 dance)
6 Building Initiative Meeting (7 p.m., Career Center)	4 <i>Get Smart</i> (7:30 p.m., Auditorium)
6 HRC Meeting (4:00 p.m., College Career Center)	4 Winter Guard/Drum Line Performance (Herndon)
7 Band Boosters Meeting (6:30 p.m., Principal's Conference Room)	
8 CAC Coordinating Group (7:30 p.m., Career Center)	6 Band Concert (7 p.m., Auditorium)
11 Winter Guard/Drum Line Performance (Potomac Falls)	6 HRC Meeting (4:00 p.m., College Career Center)
11 Valentine's Day dance sponsored by Class 2008	7 Band Boosters Meeting (6:30 p.m., Principal's Conference Room)
13 PTSA Executive Board Meeting (7:30 - Library)	10 – 11 District Band Festival (Centreville)
14 Diversity Committee Meeting (7:00 - Career Center)	13 PTSA Executive Board Meeting (7:30 - Library)
18 Winter Showcase, Winter Guard/Drum Line (2 p.m., Gym I)	14 Diversity Committee Meeting (7:00 - Career Center)
20 Washington's Birthday Holiday	16 Student Services Advisory Board meeting (7:30 p.m., Library)
21 ANGP Committee Meeting (7:00 - Career Center)	21 ANGP Committee Meeting (7:00 - Career Center)
22 Newsletter submissions due for next issue	22 PTSA Parent Forum (7:30-9:00 p.m., Auditorium)
24 <i>Get Smart</i> (7:30 p.m., Auditorium)	22 Newsletter submissions due for next issue
25 <i>Get Smart</i> (7:30 p.m., Auditorium)	26 Capitol Steps (7:30 p.m., Auditorium)
	April
	7 Student Holiday
	10 to 14 Spring Vacation

Seniors: Call Me Before I Call You...

Senior Parents: Do you want to be able to see the most amazing extravaganza of your student's time at TJ? You won't be able to even walk in the door at the All Night Grad Party to take a peek unless you are on the official volunteer list. The good news is: we have 150 parents signed up so far. The bad news is: we have only 150 parents signed up. Every parent of a senior needs to volunteer for this event. We need another 300 parent volunteers to work on the All Night Graduation Party (ANGP) pre-party teams involved in Food, Activities, Store, Marketing, Decorations and Mementos. We also need 300 parent volunteers on the day before and the night of the party in order to staff the Security, Food, Activities, and Decorations functions. No one will bear a disproportionate burden if we have lots of help. This party is going to be great fun for all involved, so remember that adult siblings, spouses, and visiting adult family members can all help make a lasting memory for your student. This is not a last minute affair; we need your help NOW. Please contact Cindy Jubinsky (703) 425-5764 or [Beavigator at msn.com](http://Beavigator.at.msn.com) to volunteer, find out more about what your can do, and indicate where you can help.

Juniors: Senior Parents as a Resource: It won't be long before the parents of the class of '07 will be responsible for their own All Night Graduation Party (ANGP). This will be the last chance to learn how to stage the party from veteran senior parents. It will also be the last time to glean insider information from parents who have just finished the college application process. Right now we have 20 volunteers from your class. We need about 75 parent volunteers to work on the pre-party teams involved in Food, Activities, Store, Marketing, Decorations and Mementos, and another 75 parent volunteers on the day before and the night of the party. Key areas needing your help include Security, Food, Activities, and Decorations. We also need support at the end of the party for clean-up, when the Senior parents who went to graduation, hosted out of town guests, and then worked the party are exhausted! Remember, you cannot even walk in the door on party night to take a peek at this extravaganza unless you are a volunteer. Please contact Cindy Jubinsky (703) 425-5764 or [Beavigator at msn.com](http://Beavigator.at.msn.com) to volunteer and indicate where you can help.

Sophomores: Senior Parents and College Visits

Attention!! The All Night Graduation Party (ANGP) needs the attention of sophomore parents so that you can learn how to throw a really great party by the time your kids graduate. There aren't many chances to learn about this event since it only happens once each year. Just think: your college visits will be starting this summer and you can learn valuable insider information from the college application process from senior parents while working on the ANGP team. We need about 50 parent volunteers to work on the pre-party teams involved in Food, Activities, Store, Marketing, Decorations and Mementos. We need another 50 parent volunteers on the day before and the night of the party on Security, Food, Activities, and Decorations. Please contact Cindy Jubinsky (703) 425-5764 or [Beavigator at msn.com](http://Beavigator.at.msn.com) to volunteer, to get descriptions of the various committees and jobs, and indicate where you can help.

Freshmen: Straight Talk for Freshman Parents

The All Night Graduation Party (ANGP) is an event that relies on the help of freshman parents. This is not an event that can be ignored until you are a senior parent because it is an enormous undertaking that parents need to learn how to stage. This party is a gift from the parent to the students; the kids are not involved in planning or staging this party. Since it only happens once each year, parents have few opportunities to get this necessary experience. Many parents have said that they learned more about TJ through volunteering for this event than from their kids because they had close contact with SENIOR PARENTS!!! The ANGP needs at least 50 freshman parents to work on the pre-party teams involved in Food, Activities, Store, Marketing, Decorations and Mementos. We need another 50 parent volunteers on the day before and the night of the party on Security, Food, Activities, and Decorations. Please contact Cindy Jubinsky (703) 425-5764 or [Beavigator at msn.com](http://Beavigator.at.msn.com) to volunteer, to get descriptions of the various committees and jobs, and to indicate where you can help.

Nomination Form for TJHSST PTSA Elected Executive Committee Positions

The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology is currently seeking candidates for six elected Parent, Teacher, Student Association offices for the 2006 – 2007 school year. Any PTSA member with a willingness and ability to serve and provide leadership is welcome to apply. PTSA members who want to nominate someone else for an office may do so, with the nominee's permission.

Candidates are being sought for the following elected positions:

President*
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer

If you have questions about the specific duties of any of these offices, please contact the Nominating Committee:

Dorry Emmer (2006)	703-757-0388	emmerldcg at aol.com
Cindy Carter (2007)	703-455-4067	tjvolunteers at hotmail.com
Smita Trivedi (2006, 2008)	703-425-7216	DivyangT2 at aol.com
Janet Kerr-Tener (2009)	703-242-8858	JanetTener at aol.com
Richard Slivoskey (TJHSST 8 th Period Coordinator)		Richard.Slivoskey at fcps.edu

Please email the following information to [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu), or fill out the form and return it in a sealed envelope, marked "PTSA Volunteer Committee," to the TJHSST Front Office by **February, 15, 2006**.

NOMINEE: _____

For POSITION: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email address: _____

Qualifications or experience: _____

Person making the nomination: _____

If not self, is the nominee aware of the nomination, and willing to serve? _____

* nominee must have served on the executive board for at least one term.

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION (PTSA)

2005-2006 PTSA Membership Form

Please join the PTSA and help support many worthwhile activities that play a vital role in creating a rich and stimulating learning environment at TJHSST. The PTSA memberships and donations are the major source of the PTSA budget. Your financial support will benefit all Jefferson students during the coming school year. The TJ PTSA funds cover the cost of several activities, including the following:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Funding for technology related equipment | Funding for student activities support |
| Funding for Professional Development of Faculty | Funding for substitute teachers |
| Building a Better Community program | Reflections Program |
| Diversity Support and Awareness | Cluster and County outreach programs |
| Cultural Arts support | Grade Level Field Trips |
| Sophomore Ethics Forum Support | Athletic Hotline communications |
| Freshman Shakespeare Festival workshop | Faculty and Staff Appreciation Events |
| Award Receptions for Students | Landscape Enhancement of school grounds |
| Techstravaganza - a student outreach program to encourage an interest in math and science | |

In addition to supporting these valuable activities, your membership benefits will include receiving the PTSA Newsletter by mail delivered to the student's home address. The newsletter will continue to be posted online the first of each month at www.tjhsst.edu/ptsa for those who prefer our online service.

Please check your preference: Please mail me the PTSA newsletter.

I will read the newsletter online.

Student Name _____ Class of 200 _____
First Name Last Name

Student Home Phone Number _____

Member Name _____

Member Name _____

Member Name _____

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total \$</u>
TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERSHIPS @ \$15.00 each	_____	= \$ _____
ADDITIONAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION		\$ _____
<i>Please consider an additional donation in order for your PTSA to continue to support all TJ Students, Staff, and School*</i>		
	<i>TOTAL ENCLOSED</i>	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to **TJHSST PTSA** Mail to: **TJHSST PTSA Membership
6560 Braddock Road
Alexandria, VA 22312**