

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

We have finally shaken off the winter school delay, and have been fortunate to take advantage of the nice weather to conduct field experiments. Recently I attended an IBET field trip at Mason Neck Park in Lorton where students studied pond ecosystems. The students experienced the messy (and fun) part of research by putting on hip waders and drudging slowly through the pond as a team, counting the number of salamander egg clusters in each square foot, along with measuring other variables, like depth, amount of plant life, temperature, and color of egg clusters. In addition, students used electronic sensors built in their technology course, to count the number of salamanders.

During the next month, IBET students will work in small teams to write a research paper related to variables they have studied in biology literature and data they have collected over the course of the year. Trips like this show the interdisciplinary nature of the IBET course, the emphasis on inquiry and intellectual curiosity, and the development of good research skills in an authentic environment. After IBET, students are encouraged to pursue their own area of research through the support of our electives leading to the senior year research experience. During the senior year, students have opportunities to enter their research in national competitions, including those sponsored by Siemens-Westinghouse and Intel.

Our very own Sarah Marzen was one of the top 40 Intel Science Talent Search finalists in the country with a project titled, *A New Model for Hydrophobic Hydration*. I was pleased to see a lot of TJ students visit the Intel Science Talent Search open house in March at the National Academy of Sciences building in Washington, D.C. Students from around their country shared their projects from many scientific disciplines, including topics from TJ senior science and technology labs, and additional areas like social sciences and mathematics. Many parents and students might wonder what type of

research it takes to be recognized by the Intel Science Talent Search, so I have spent time talking with our 14 TJ Intel semi-finalists and their teachers, to learn more about their experiences. What have I learned?

1. *Research skills do not develop overnight.* IBET is an exciting start to research, but it needs to be nourished with other opportunities. Try to get involved in research projects during 8th period and over the summer. Many of our Intel winners started off with the same skills as everyone else, but have continued their efforts to new projects before their senior year.
2. *Great projects are not always complete at the end of a term.* Some of the Intel projects have involved repeated experiments and improvements over several years. These are students who kept pursuing their curiosity after the class had ended. For example, our summer mentorship students who were Intel semifinalists kept working into the fall term.
3. Many of our Intel students worked with college professors and teachers with an understanding of advanced research skills and project ideas. If you dedicate your time and effort to work with these mentors, they will help you tremendously.



The Intel Science Talent Search is one of many science competitions. In fact, this spring many of our students will participate in the state and international science fairs with projects created in less than one year. I am pleased to see our students embrace research as early as IBET and continue to use these skills in different disciplines through their senior year. Through research, our students apply a systematic and rigorous process to test creative ideas aimed to advance knowledge and influence society. This is a skill set and mindset that students use many years following graduation in different careers.

If students are seeking research experiences this summer, they can learn about many opportunities in the Lodal College and Career Center, talk to their science

teacher, or talk to our mentorship coordinator. If you are aware of research opportunities for our students, please do not hesitate to contact me by email ([Evan.Glazer at fcps.edu](mailto:Evan.Glazer@fcps.edu)) or phone (703-750-8306) to make TJ an even better place for learning and growing.

Thank you for helping our students and research program.

Sincerely,
Evan Glazer, Principal

President's Message

We were very fortunate this month to have had such an experienced group of presenters at our TJ PTSA education program on Teens and Driving. Many thanks go to our guest speaker, Judge Grodner, and also to our panelists, Dr. Harrington, Ms. Stetson, Ms. Smith and Mr. Potoker. The contributions from their unique perspective were compelling and informative. It was certainly an eye-opening discussion about the issues involved and the very real problems that can befall teenage drivers, particularly in our area. I've already received positive feedback from parents and I did promise to follow up with details on some items that came up that evening.

Firstly, the 40 hour Parent/Teen Driving Guide can be downloaded [at: http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/PE/40hour.pdf](http://www.pen.k12.va.us/VDOE/Instruction/PE/40hour.pdf). Secondly, the program that was discussed by Dr. Harrington for training in techniques to help avoid serious accidents is a one day program offered by the Fairfax County Police Department (Youthful Driver Program). It costs \$200 and is held on a Saturday. Please check the PTSA web site for the registration form and a detailed description of the course, <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/> Lastly, the very useful sheet that Mr. Potoker mentioned to keep in your car at all times in case of an accident or other emergency has also been uploaded to the PTSA web site if you would like to use it for your family. It gives you a step by step process for you and/or your teenager to follow in the case of an accident. When an incident occurs, it's often hard to think clearly and it is a real benefit to just have this in the glove compartment of the car so that you can refer to it.

Soon, we will be welcoming the new freshman class to TJ. If you are a freshman parent reading this for the first time, please make a note to visit our web site to receive your invitation to a local TJ gathering and to be added to the directory <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/welcome.htm>. We want to include you in our plans as soon as possible!

The next TJ PTSA meeting will be a day time meeting by "popular demand"! I have invited Mr. Washer, a member of the Leadership Team at TJ for Information

Technology, to make a short presentation. He is going to give us an overview of the intranet and security issues at home and at school. If you're fairly new to TJ, here's your chance to ask questions about the school system that all the students use. We will meet on **Monday, April 16, 2007, at 9 a.m. in the school cafeteria.** All are welcome to attend.

I look forward to seeing you there. Please drop me a line with your suggestions or comments.

Bernadette Saperstein
President, TJ PTSA
[Ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu](mailto:Ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu)

First Vice President's Message

Language Minority Parents' Meetings: FCPS and TJ

The FCPS Task Force for Communicating with Language Minority Parents had its second meeting on February 8 and broke up into subcommittees, which met again on February 22. As the TJ representative, I am on the Vision Statement subcommittee with two principals. I will keep you updated on this effort, as it links in very well with our own efforts to reach out to the language minority parents here at TJ.

Fourteen language minority parents attended Workshop II: The College Application Process and Summer Opportunities, presented by Mrs. Laurie Kobick, Career Center Director, on February 21. We received packets of information and the session was interpreted simultaneously, via the brand new LIS (Language Interpretation System) system. In the future, any event coordinator can request this system to the Guidance Department for official meetings of this nature, with a required minimum of 5 families making the request for each language requested. Parents found the session very informative, and picked up some extra packets for their friends who couldn't attend. A big "thank you!" goes to Laurie Kobick and Lisa Moore for their roles as presenter and interpreter coordinator.

At this meeting, we elected a new multicultural leadership team comprised of Weifen Zhang (Chinese), Clara Choi (Korean), Jean Lee (Korean), Miguel Lafosse (Spanish), and Claudia Llana (Spanish). All were active at previous meetings and have helped out with translations and other jobs this year. Thank you to the new leadership team for stepping up to continue this important work! Thanks also to Janice Kim, Jean Lee, Lan Ge Chen, Mindy Chen, and Roger Hwang, for their efforts in translating the PTSA newsletter into Korean and Chinese.

Esther Yook
First Vice President, TJ PTSA
[eyook at umw.edu](mailto:eyook@umw.edu)

PTSA Update

PTSA Elections

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for elected positions on the TJ PTSA Executive Committee for the 2007 – 2008 school year. Any PTSA member with a willingness and ability to serve and provide leadership is welcome to self-nominate. PTSA members who want to nominate someone else may do so, with the nominee's permission. The committee will present a slate of officers (President, First VP, Second VP, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer) at the April 16 PTSA meeting. Election will occur at the June 11 meeting. If you have questions or want to make a nomination, please email the Volunteer Coordinators, Cindy Doughty and Wendy Hecker, at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu)

PTSA Faculty Allocations

The PTSA Faculty Allocations fund (\$8,600 in 2006-07) provides support to our staff for professional development and for programs or small pieces of equipment that will benefit a large number of students. This spring, funding approvals for the following staff (conference) include: Patricia Gabriel (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics), Alexandra Pou (Institute for Educational Development's seminar for Spanish language instruction), Marsha Masone (American Library Association Conference), Genevieve DeFosse (National Foreign Language Conference), Jennifer Bain (Workshop at the National Gallery of Art), Dianne Konz, Hadan Kaufman, Jennifer Pierce & Carol Rychlik (Governor's School Conference), Marion Billington & Chuck DeLa Cuesta (Teacher Workshop at the National Botball Competition). Two IBET teachers and one counselor were funded to be certified for interpretation of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. The PTSA will also purchase a LaserJet printer for CAD and automatic micropipettes for chemistry classes. The PTSA did not have sufficient monies to fund several important requests. We are VERY grateful to two generous, anonymous donors: A parent (Class of 2006) paid the balance of expenses for Ms. Waterfall and Dr. Cammer's conferences this year (\$933) and another parent funded a competition buzzer system (\$560) for the Certamen, TJ's successful Latin team. We hope to find funding for an underwater digital camera/flash for the oceanography and geophysical systems labs, and a DVD/VCR/speaker system for the physical education and driver's education instructors. Tax-free donations to the PTSA can be made through www.TJGear.com. For more information contact Robin Howard ([kidneedok at aol.com](mailto:kidneedok@aol.com)).

Serving the TJ Community

Volunteers

Thank you TJ Volunteers: TJ volunteers have been busy the last month! Many of you have driven for various field trips, sometimes on a moment's notice. Some have proctored French exams. We are so grateful to have such willing volunteers.

The **PTSA Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon** is scheduled for **April 19 at 11:30 a.m.** in the **College Career Center**.

Two Volunteer Coordinators Needed!!!

Job description: BEST volunteer job at TJ! Match the skills and availability of TJ volunteers with the appropriate volunteer opportunity. Much of the work can be done via email and telephone. Computer skills helpful but not necessary. Current coordinators available to answer any questions. Please contact Wendy Hecker and Cindy Doughty at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu).

8th period Driver: Urgent need for a volunteer to drive students during 8th period. The current driver is unable to continue.

Landscaping Volunteers: The Landscaping Committee needs more hands to beautify TJ at Spring Clean Up Time. Our weekend weeding sessions are Sundays, April 15, 22, 29, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Bring gloves and gardening tools, if you have them. If you are a student in need of *community service hours* we can give you all the hours you could possibly want! Please contact Michele Pitler, PTSA Landscaping Co-Chair **Mb1955 at aol.com**.

!!Plant Donations Needed!!

The Landscaping Committee is planning to establish herb/butterfly and native species gardens. If you can donate from your garden, or would like to purchase plants from a nursery and donate them, we could use your help. If you belong to a Garden Club, perhaps you could even ask your fellow gardeners for plant donations. **Only the following plants are needed:** Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*); Bee Balm (scarlet) (*Monarda didyma*); Blazing star (*Liatris spicata*); Butterflyweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*); Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*); Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*); Germander (*Teucrium chamaedrys*); Lavender (*Lavandula* species); Lemon verbena (*Aloysia triphylla*); Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*); Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*); Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*); Sage (*Salvia officinalis*); St. John's wort; Thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*); and Yarrow (*Achillea* species). Plant drop off dates are April 15, 22, and 29. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Dale at [Roeper at cox.net](mailto:Roeper@cox.net). Thank you so much for helping us to beautify the school grounds!

Library Chaperones: Students have shown interest in being able to use the library after school hours. The PTSA is looking for parents who would be willing to watch students in the library on Monday and Wednesday afternoons (late bus days). The time would be 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. We would like to have 2 parents each day. We would like to begin this as soon as possible, and, if it seems to work, add this to the volunteer opportunity checklist for next year. If interested, please contact Vicky Linnell, who has agreed to coordinate this, at [VLinnell at GateTechnology.com](mailto:VLinnell@GateTechnology.com).

AP Proctors: Parents are needed during AP testing which will be held May 7-18. We need volunteers for the morning and afternoon sessions on all days. The morning shift will need to arrive at 8:00 a.m. and the afternoon shift at noon. Instructions will be provided.

If interested in any of the volunteer positions, please contact us at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu). We always have a need for volunteers, so let us know how you could help!

ANGP

All Night Grad Party (ANGP) – Saturday, June 16

It's hard to believe that we are in the final quarter of the school year and that graduation and ANGP are truly right around the corner. ANGP planners have been hard at work putting together a great ANGP. Now we really, really need parents of all grades to step forward and volunteer their time and talents to make this event extra special.

Senior parents: Where are you? Come on! ANGP is not possible without the support of all senior parents. Don't let your student talk you out of it! You do not want to miss the opportunity to be part of this memorable event celebrating your student's TJ journey. If you haven't already signed up, please don't wait a moment longer.

Underclass parents: It won't be long before you will be planning ANGP for your class. This is your chance to experience first hand how to stage this awesome event. It will make your job so much easier when your turn rolls around (and it arrives faster than you think!). **Important:** it is customary for Junior parents to "shadow" ANGP committee chairs to gain valuable on-the-job training for next year's ANGP. Volunteers are especially needed to shadow the current ANGP chair (Bob Hobart) and treasurer (Rick Bowman). There are only two months left to learn from them!

Volunteer Opportunities: Please visit the ANGP website at

<http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty> to learn about volunteering and to obtain a signup form. Or contact Dianne Struckmeyer, Volunteer Coordinator, at [tjangp.volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp.volunteers@gmail.com).

ANGP will begin at approximately 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 16, following graduation exercises. There will be **two volunteer shifts** to provide coverage for the duration of ANGP: **10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.**, and **2:00 a.m. to 5:30 a.m.** Volunteers can indicate their shift preference, and we will try to honor it. (Senior parents, you may sign up for the early shift even though you will not get to TJ by 10:00.)

The following committees are seeking volunteers for both shifts:

Activities: great entertainment is planned for the graduates to enjoy. **Lots of help is needed to run the activities, about 40 parents per shift.** Please sign up to help with activities during either shift. For more information, contact the Activities Chairs, Betty Parks ([epparks at cox.net](mailto:epparks@cox.net)) or Lynne Hamrick ([dlkbhamrick at cox.net](mailto:dlkbhamrick@cox.net)).

Casino: this is a popular activity and volunteers are needed on both shifts. Training will be provided for all games. Cashiers are also needed. Contact Ken Hopke via email [Kbhopke at aol.com](mailto:Kbhopke@aol.com).

Food: volunteers are needed to make sure our seniors and parent volunteers are properly fed during ANGP. Parents are needed to chair three food stations: Carnival, Kitchen, and Volunteer Room. We also need 90 parents to work at fifteen different food stations throughout the night. Pick your station and shift! Please contact Cerasela Cristei at [CCristei3 at yahoo.com](mailto:CCristei3@yahoo.com) or Mellissa Madden at [mmmadden at cox.net](mailto:mmmadden@cox.net).

Security: needs 11 more parent volunteers, from any class, to work one of the two shifts the night of the party. If you can help, please email [rogenaharris at cox.net](mailto:rogenaharris@cox.net).

Decorations Committee: parents are needed now to join design teams for planning creative ways to decorate TJ. Decorating will occur on Friday, June 15, and Saturday afternoon, June 16. With out-of-town guests and graduation, this is a very busy time for senior parents, and the assistance of underclass parents is greatly appreciated. If you would like to volunteer for decorating, contact Susan Cameron at [soozc at cox.net](mailto:soozc@cox.net).

Ticket sales: The **deadline for purchasing tickets is June 1. Tickets will not be sold at the door!** Ticket order forms are available by the Senior Bulletin Board; in

the Front Office; and on line at <http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty>.

Raffle news: Two \$25.00 Best Buy gift certificates will be raffled off. All seniors who have purchased a ticket by Friday, April 13 are eligible to win.

Ice Cream party: the first Geosystems class to have 100% participation by April 30 will be treated to an ice cream social in June – featuring the most extraordinary Coldstone ice cream. Come on, seniors, make your class the first to have 100% participation.

ANGP meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the College Career Center. The remaining meetings are **April 17, May 15, and June 5.** Information regarding ANGP is at <http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty>.

ANGP Baby Photo Contest: The Classic Senior ANGP Baby Photo Contest is back! Dig out those old photo albums and bring in your cutest baby pictures for everyone to see! We'll be collecting your (4x6) baby photos (0-5 yrs. old) accompanied by your wallet-sized senior picture starting this month.

Look for the poster on the Senior Bulletin Board and drop your photos into the marked envelope.

Remember to print your name on the back of each photo. No originals please; these pictures will not be returned. **Photos will be collected through Friday, June 1.** All pictures will be displayed at the ANGP. Any questions, contact Barbara Hillenbrand, [bnp.hill at verizon.net](mailto:bnp.hill@verizon.net), 703-730-7935.

"TJ Spirit Events" – APRIL 19 and APRIL 29! Students of all grades, parents, teachers and faculty, please show your support for ANGP simply by **eating at Fuddrucker's and UNOs.** The ANGP receives a percentage of the sales (take out counts, too!). You must present a Fundraising Ticket to the cashier for ANGP to benefit. Fundraising Tickets are available in the Front Office, in the AudLob, and on line at <http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty>. The first "Spirit Event" will be at Fuddrucker's in Annandale, on Thursday, APRIL 19, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. This is perfect for getting a bite to eat and back to TJ in time to see the opening night of TJ's musical, "On the Town!" On Sunday, April 29, eat at participating UNO Chicago Grill restaurants in your neighborhood (Fair Oaks, Manassas, Merrifield, Reston, Sterling, Woodbridge, and WDC's Union Station). Enjoy a meal with family and friends, and support TJ's ANGP at the same time. Remember, you must present a Fundraising Ticket to the cashier in order for ANGP to receive a portion of the sales. Thank you in advance for your support!

Student Services Corner

Guidelines

The latest issue of the TJHSST Student Services Department newsletter, *Guidelines*, is available at: <http://information.tjhsst.edu/dss/>

Academic News

German News

Congratulations to German Students! German Students are making TJ proud. Four students, **Suzan Ok, Tyler Brobst, Rebecca Justice, and Andy Menke** traveled in early March to Ashland, VA, where they were individually interviewed in German by a team of college professors. They were **applicants for the Virginia nomination for a summer scholarship from the American Association of Teachers of German.** (based on their outstanding scores on the National German Exam, and on an application process.) **Tyler Brobst** was selected to be Virginia's applicant to the national committee. We will keep our fingers crossed for Tyler, and hope that he will win the free month long stay in Germany.

Each German student who participated in the Northern Virginia Modern Foreign Language Tournament was judged to be in first, second, or third place. Congratulations to *first place winners* **Kelly Schumann** (German I), **Suzan Ok** (German II), **JeanMarie Steward** (German III), and **Sarah Schmoltner** (German for Native Speakers). We are also proud of the following *2nd and 3rd place winners:* **Nihaar Sinha** (German I), **Tyler Brobst** (German II), and **Jimmy Clark** (German II).

Spanish News

Felicitaciones to the following **new members of the Spanish Honor Society:** Hirsh Sharma, Hannah Ackerman, Spencer Frei, Phu-Quy Cai, Kathy Hutchinson, Dolly Xu, Jacob Hanger, Arvind Rachamadugu, I-Rong Lee, Sudha Guttikonda, Michael Ross, Arjun Khanna, Ben Bloom, Liz Lagerfeld, Tom Smilack, Kaytee Turetsky, Anna Karnaze, Eileen McFarland, Diana Fang, Daniel Markwalter, Logan Gates, Kareem El-Gohary Rourke Willnek, Glen Hookey, Ellie Clougherty, Ojas Mainkar, Sheila Bushman, Nadya Muchoney, William McGarey, Lauren Wolbarsht, Raghav Mattay, Sean Ji, Alexa Silverman, Brian Jang, Ansha Islam, Grace Ko, Patrick Keating, Gina Kim, Kristin Nguyen, Leila Bushman, Carolyn McCallister, Alex Nguyen, Stella Kim, Margarita Esteban, Vivian Cooper, Leila Lam, Katie Zettler, Susan Clark, Srilakshmi Kaiuturi, Mounika Garlapati, Irene Tai, I-Ting Wang, Ami Jo, Matt Shepard, Rosa Goswami, Monica Mowery, Cameron

McCord, Camille Vu, Jordan Kramer, Teresa Ventura, Minna Choi, Stephanie Marris, Joshua Hahm, Sumit Malik, Ester Kim, Meghan Kelly, Alice Chae, Sophia Dudte, Rosa Kang, Zoe Hoffman. Inductions will be held at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, in the Lecture Hall. Parents are welcome.

SHS had a wonderful Salsa Dance called Bulería on Friday, March 2. Gary, a fabuloso professional from ADI, taught everyone how to dance terrific salsa steps. ¡Siempre de Fiesta! Congratulations to the many Spanish students who auditioned for the Modern Foreign Language Oratory Contest that was held on February 10 at Falls Church HS. Our three representatives for level 2, **Rajni Rao, Nicholas Nguyen, and Anirudh Saraswathula**, received first through third place in the order mentioned. ¡Bravo!

Japanese News

Japanese program has been quite active this month participating in various events and activities. First, our 14th annual Chiben exchange program started on March 5. Thank you for welcoming the students in the classrooms, clubs, and various events. They have been having the best time here at TJ. They recently appeared in the Annual Talent Show (March 16) in two different acts that were a big success. The group has also been taking various field trips to DC area during the weekdays. We truly appreciate the support from the PTSA volunteers who provided transportation for some of these trips.

In the midst of this three-week exchange program, we also welcomed Fujishima High School from Fukui, Japan. They are designated as a Super Science High School from the Japanese government. Because their curriculum focus is math and science, the classes they visited gave them a rich experience for their academic interests. Thank you to all the teachers who showed their lessons and labs during the observation.

We have also been involved in several academic contests lately. First, the students learned to make Haiku poem in Japanese. The NCJLT (National Conference of Japanese Language Teachers) will be announcing the winners next month. On March 10, we also participated in the Modern Foreign Language Tournament (MFLT) to recite Japanese poems. All participants did a superb job!

Last but not least, a group of 12 students have been practicing for the **15th Annual National Japan Bowl** for the next month (April 12-13). Team members are Level II: **Sang Lee, Tim Hu, Cynthia Schwab**; Level IIIA: **Samantha Keiser, Jessica Lee, Cassandra Xia**; Level IIIB: **Andrew Baik, Ji Eun Kim, Eunju Park**; and Level IV: **Casto Unson, Cindy Hui, and Elise Ko**.

The national champion team from Level IV will be invited to visit Japan this summer. Good luck to this year's participants!

Class News

2007 -- Seniors

Attention all senior parents: Prom and Grad are coming fast! Prom this year will be held on **Friday, June 8**, at the **Westfield Marriot Hotel** just off Route 28 in Chantilly. The graduation ceremony will be held on **Saturday, June 16**, at the **Patriot Center** at George Mason University. Entrance to Prom and Grad will be free of charge for all members of the class of 2007. Fundraising for these events has been one of the major goals of class government since the beginning, and it is thanks to the generosity of 2007 students and parents that we have come this far. Information concerning senior dues to help make these last few events the best they can be will be sent out shortly.

2008 -- Juniors

Greetings 2008 parents! As we get another month closer to the end of this year, please don't leave 2008 events off of your calendar! May is a big month for both academics and class government fundraisers. Spring Formal is fast approaching as we choose chairs for the event; it occurs on Saturday, May 5. Junior Campout, perhaps our largest event of the year, is May 18-19 (corrected date). Encourage your junior to attend both of these events and get involved in planning them! We cannot stress enough our need for parent volunteers for both of these events; please contact parent liaison Robin Wilson at [robinwilson123 at gmail.com](mailto:robinwilson123@gmail.com) or the class officers at [tjhsst08 at gmail.com](mailto:tjhsst08@gmail.com) if you want to volunteer or have any questions. Thanks again for your continued support!

2009 -- Sophomores

Class of 2009 **Silent Auction Fundraiser** will take place on April 27 in the Cafeteria from 7-10 p.m. The theme of the evening is "**If I weren't a student then I'd be a**" Many internships, services, and learning opportunities have been offered, as well as physical items to auction off. Complimentary dessert and coffee will be served and entertainment will be going on as bidders view auction selections. Proceeds will help defer expenses for prom and graduation in 2009.

We have storage so we would like to have as many of the non-perishable donations as early as possible so we can begin advertising them. If donated items are too big (i.e. treadmills, pool tables) to be moved to school, if not

purchased, a picture or video would be great, along with a note as to whether they would be delivered by the offering parent or needed to be picked up by the purchaser. Some fun items already in our hands are: A basketball signed by all of the Washington Wizards! Two orchestra seats to *Phantom of the Opera*! An electric guitar! A microwave! Art! Jewelry! Several Vacation homes for a week! A father/dentist has offered a Teeth Whitening Treatment valued at \$600! A signed Redskin football! Beauty products, a Panini maker, several books, including a copy of one written by our own Mr. Mike Stueben! Lunch and a tour with a physicist! Please keep items coming in and the sooner the better! We would like all items by April 13. We could use some additional parent help. If anyone has some time to offer, please contact **ANMcCormick at fcps.edu**.

2010 -- Freshmen

Thank you to the 150+ freshman parents who emailed us to volunteer for the **Freshman Lock-In on April 13 from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.** We are pleased that all shifts are now filled, with more parents standing by to fill in if necessary. The students are lucky to have such supportive parents. We still need volunteers to staff the clinic – a physician, nurse or someone with medical training. If anyone is available, please email.

Closer to the date of the Lock-In, we will send emails with more details about chaperoning. However, the event is entirely student run so we don't have to do too much! The class is busy planning the activities, decorations and food for "Froshopoly" (based on the board game Monopoly). Permission slips were due March 23. **In addition, every student will need to send in an emergency care card (you can download this at: <http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/forms/se3.pdf>).** Tickets also are available at the door, but you will not be guaranteed a T-shirt. Please contact us if you have any questions about the event: Ellen Ranard, **ESRanard at aol.com** or Sheryl Markham, **tmarkham at verizon.net**.

Parents have asked whether their child may arrive late or leave early. Students are encouraged to stay for the entire Lock-In, but if a student has an activity (e.g., soccer game, orchestra concert, crew regatta, etc.), the student is permitted to attend after the event or leave the Lock-In early. For those special circumstances, you must email **TJHSST2010 at yahoo.com** to let the class officers know. Also, parents must come into the school and sign their student in or out of the Lock-In. (If you aren't in the PTSA directory and have not received any email about the Lock-In, you might want to input your directory information on the PTSA website. You don't need to have the information printed in the yearly

directory, but you will receive emails from time to time from the PTSA.)

News Round-Up and Awards

Students

Regional Science and Engineering Fair: On March 18, 2007, TJ students competed in the Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Congratulations to the winners and to all of the students who participated!

The following **Grand Prize Winners** will go to the International Science and Engineering Fair in Albuquerque, NM, in May: **Alexander Kim**, Grade 10, Sponsored by Lisa Wu, *Agonism Between Two Epibenthic Freshwater Decapods*; **Erin M. Hopke**, Grade 12, Sponsored by Adam Kemp, *Ceramo Metallic Materials: ZRB2+MO and ZRB2+W*; Team--**Eli Y. Chen, Andrew A Li, and Benjamin Ranard**, Sponsored by Dr. Paul Cammer, *Effect of Photosynthesis on MFCs Using Chlorella*; **Aditya Palepu**, Grade 10, Sponsored by Dr. Paul Cammer, *Does the Brain Compute Mathematical Risk*; and **Aleksander Drozdetski**, Grade 12, Sponsored by Robert Latham, *Metamaterials with Negative Indices of Refraction*.

The following **Grand Prize Alternates** may attend the International Fair in case one of the Grand Prize Winners is unable to attend: **Sarah Marzen**, Grade 12, Sponsored by Robert Latham, *New Model for Hydrophobic Hydration*; and **Peiyu (Jonathan) Wang**, Grade 12, Sponsored by Robert Latham, *Cotranslational Protein Folding Lattice Models*.

The following students received **First Place Awards** and were nominated for Grand Prize Awards: **Alexander Kim, Caitlin Sheldon, Victor Zhu, Aditya M. Palepu, Deepti Garg, Avigile Baehr, Sarah Marzen, Joel Shor, Ryan Ward, Erin Hopke, Soumya Nettimi, Ivan Papusha, Frederick Mako, Peter Bojo, HaoQi Li, Raillan Brooks, Aleksander Drozdetski, Peiyu (Jonathan) Wang, William Zeng, Team – Arjun Dayal and Andrew Pyrak, Team – Marta Sparrow, and Lisa Weber, and Team – Eli Chen, Andrew Li, and Benjamin Ranard.** Also receiving **First Place Awards** were: **Byron Smith, Maneeshika Madduri, Anastasia Rumiantsev, and Team – Leo Ahnn and Stephen Ammann.**

A **Second Place Award** went to **Jessica Dobis**, while **Alisha Tuteja, Wei Hao, Caroline Bogdan, and Lauren Ruth** received **Third Place Awards**. A team of **Joo-ho (Andrew) Kim, Karthik Seetharam, and George Krivorotov** received an **Honorable Mention Award**.

Chemistry Olympiad Final Four: The following four students from TJ have excelled through recent

competitions and have been selected as our Chemistry Olympiad Final Four Semi-Finalists: **Leo Ahnn, Meng-Yang Chen, Nadir Ijaz, and Sherwin Yu**. The Chemistry Olympiad rules only allow two students to be nominated by respective schools for competition at the National Level. More than 60 students have been involved through much of this school year in a variety of team-like training sessions, practice sets, and problem-based exams all during 8th periods and after school. There have been various criteria used along the way to select our top chemistry students. Those named above will go through one more round of exams for selection of our two nominees. These will then be invited to take an 8-hour National Exam at American University on April 27, 2007. Based on those results, the top 20 students in the nation are chosen to represent the U.S. and attend a training camp for the International Competition.

2007 Honor Band of America: Congratulations to **Tim Carey** (2007), selected to perform with this 100 piece national ensemble conducted by James F. Keene, Director of Bands, University of Illinois. The Honor Band is part of the Music For All National Festival, presented by Yamaha. The concert was held March 17, 2007, at Butler University, Indianapolis.

All-Virginia Bands and Orchestra: Congratulations to band students Tim Carey, Em Feeney, Karen Hamrick, Stephen Houck, Jin-Ah Kim, Jacob Kohn, Kennan Murphy-Sierra, and Mercedes Taylor who successfully auditioned into these selective ensembles. These students will represent TJ at music clinics and concerts in Newport News, April 12 - 14.

Several TJ students participated in the **Modern Foreign Language Tournament** that took place on March 13 at George Mason HS in Falls Church.

Students from the French, Spanish, German and Japanese programs competed in several categories: recitation of poetry, dramatic interpretation and original skit writing and acting. Congratulations to the following students who received medals at the **MFLT 2007**. In French poetry interpretation, **Corinna Pan** (Level V, First Place), **Divya Srinivasan** (Level III, Third Place). in Spanish dramatic interpretation, **Brittany Fulton, Jessica Dobis, and Emily Matson** (First Place), and poetry interpretation, **Sheila Bushman** (Level IV, Second Place), **Joy Lee** (Level III, First Place), in Japanese **Ji Eum Kim** (Level III First Place), **Samantha Keyser** (Level III, Second Place), **Kristina Horita** (Level II, Second Place), **Andrew Lam** (Level I, First Place), **Han Kim** (Level I, Second Place), and **Brian Yu** (Level I, Third Place).

TJ ROV Team: For the fourth year in a row, the Oceanography Lab at Jefferson is the focal point of an exciting and competitive research project. The goal: to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that can dive underwater, perform specific tasks, and

return to the surface to prepare for the next round, all as quickly as possible. This robot will be entered into a competition sponsored by the Marine Advanced Technology Education Center (MATE), an organization dedicated to advancing education about marine technology. Collaboration is an integral part of this endeavor. Students from the Prototyping Lab and the Robotics Lab have joined the team to bring experience in other fields of knowledge relevant to the project. In addition, the team is also working with Mr. Brandon Cochenour of the Naval Air Warfare Center, who generously provides professional experience and advice to the team. Carillo Underwater Systems from Oregon has graciously donated two camera systems to the team.



ROV Team -- back row (left to right) Andrew Dunfee, Chris Atwood, Andy Parthum, Kevin Wright, Mr. Clint Behling (mentor); front row (left to right) Mrs. Lisa Wu (sponsor), Katie Hsu, Stephen Levin, Margaret Summers (not pictured: Andrew Scholle and Stephanie Volftsun)

The team has been working on its ROV design since September. The design was conceived with flexibility in mind so that it could be adapted to any unexpected challenges. The MATE ROV competition is organized into two stages: regional competitions held throughout the United States and Canada in early spring, and the international competition in June. If the TJ ROV team is successful at the regional competition in Norfolk on April 20-21, it will continue on to the international competition held in Nova Scotia from June 22-24.

TJHSST Partnership Fund

Reinsch-Pierce Gallery for Jefferson Achievement: Through a generous major gift from the Reinsch Pierce Family Foundation, the TJ Lobby soon will boast a high tech gallery. Mrs. Lola Reinsch's vision for the "Reinsch-Pierce Gallery for Jefferson Achievement" was developed through a student design competition. The *winning designers*, **Aaron Perman ('07), Sam Eberspacher ('08), Lauren Gilchrist ('06), Lauren Amilie Napier ('08), and Emily Wetzel ('08)**, were challenged to collaborate on the final design, which was presented in

May 2006 during the TJ at 20 Birthday Celebration. Construction will be completed in April.



Podcasting: On behalf of TJ alumni donors Ian Caldwell (TJ `94) and Dustin Thomason (TJ `94), the Jefferson Partnership Fund announced the recipients of the "2007 Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason Fund for Excellence in Drama, Foreign Language and Humanities." This year's \$10,000 grant has been awarded to Carter Vaden, Koji Otani, Genevieve Delfosse, and Besty Sandstrom for their project proposal entitled "*Podcasting: A New Approach to Language Learning.*"

All foreign language classes will benefit! Students will learn to produce foreign language broadcasts (both audio and visual), to be transmitted via Internet as Podcasts available worldwide. The alumni donors believe "the spirit of this alumni gift fund is to encourage teachers to "think big." This, the second Caldwell/Thomas on Grant project, truly has captured their philanthropic intent.

These projects and other advancements to education at TJ are possible only through the gifts of generous individuals and organizations. Your high school offers your child a terrific education and opportunities for the future: **Are you giving back?** Please contact TJ Partnership Fund at 703-750-8316 or visit tjpartnershipfund.org.

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters

It's Academic Team: Congratulations to TJ's *It's Academic* Team for their recent performance at UVA. TJ sent four teams: Team A -- **Allan Fan** and **Keshav Pillai**, captained by **Evan Silberman** and **Mike Romais**; Team B -- **Naren Tallapragada**, **Mohit Iyyer**, and **Bo Fan**, captained by **Phil Graves**; Team C -- **Bali Gupta** and **Greyson Lewis**, captained by **Felix Ruda Zhang**; and Team D -- **Soonwook Hong**, **Josh Hahm**, and **Ting-Yu Hu**, captained by **Raza Mir**. All of the teams did a fantastic job. Team A went 5-0 in the preliminary round robin; Team B was 4-1 (losing to

Gov). **Naren** won an award for third highest scorer in the prelims with the nickname "Vishnu G.," as did the "Mehdi" pseudonym for TJ A. In the playoffs, Team D got into the consolation bracket, from which they emerged in 12th place; Team A went 2-3 in the playoffs, beating TJ Team B and Dorman Team A for 4th place (their overall record in the tournament was 9-3 as well); and TJ Team B was 3-2 in the playoffs, beating Dorman Team A, MLK, and Whitman for 2nd place (overall record was 9-3). Gov Team A won the tournament with a record of 12-0 overall. Excellent performances all around, folks! TJ's *It's Academic* Team plays Walter Johnson this weekend.

Debate Team excelled at the Metrofinals held at Dominion HS on March 17. In LD, **Viola Li**, **Nate Cottingham**, and **Christine O'Donnell** placed 8th, 4th, and 6th respectively at the Junior Varsity level. At the Varsity level, **Teddy McNeill** was the **Metrofinals champion** and **won the first speaker title**. **Lily Hsiang** and **Steven Chen** placed 4th and 5th respectively. Teddy, Lily, and Steven all qualify for the NCFL Grand Nationals. In Policy, the **team of Bryan Chun** and **Dan Holohan** placed 5th at the Varsity level. They both also qualify for NCFL Grand Nationals. **The team as a whole also won both sweepstakes awards, placing 1st in LD and 3rd in Policy.**



At the VHSL Debate Tournament (left to right): Dan Holohan, Franklin Zheng, Teddy McNeill (captain, holding the team's 1st Place Trophy), Mr. Sherwood Williams (faculty sponsor), Lulu Wang, and Rohit Dasgupta.

Biology Olympiad produced **34 semifinalists** at the preliminary **USABO Open Exam** on February 28. The semifinalists were studying for an additional exam scheduled at press time that will choose the nation's top 20 students for a biology training camp over the summer where the nation's top four students will represent the US in the International Biology Olympiad. The following students are to be congratulated for their outstanding performance on the Open Exam and wished luck for the upcoming test: **Jason Besecky**, **Tiffany Cai**, **Yun Ji Choi**, **Rebecca Chung**, **Francis Deng**, **Huanqi Deng**, **Esteban Margarita**, **Erin Glennon**, **Sudha Guttikonda**, **Joshua Hahm**, **Lily Hsiang**, **Min Jang**, **Arjun Khanna**, **Alexander Kim**, **Hee Kim**, **Sarah**

Kim, Stephen Lam, Oleg Lazarev, Sanghun Lee, George Leef, Shu Liu, Katherine McLaughlin, Wooyoung Moon, Monica Mowery, Katie Neitzke, Alexander Nguyen, Emma Pierson, Emily Prentice, Alexandra Ruth, Bruce Sun, Matt Synder, Steven Tan, Cassandra Xia, and Victor Zhu.

For more team information, visit our website at <http://academics.tjhsst.edu/aboosters/index.htm>.

Chess Team: Congratulations to the TJ Chess Team for winning the Virginia State Scholastic Championship for the 9th year in a row.

Computer Team: Congratulations to TJ's Senior Computer Team which **placed second** of forty teams at University of Maryland High School Computer Contest on Saturday, March 3, by solving seven of eight problems. Team members were: **Haitao Mao, Tom Morgan, Jacob Steinhardt, and Jonathan Wang.**

TJ's Senior and Freshman Computer Teams **placed first and second** of sixteen teams at the Virginia Commonwealth University High School Computer Contest on Friday, March 9. Senior Computer Team members were: **Tiffany Cai, Jeff Chen** (11th gr), **Joshua Cranmer, and Stephen Drodge.** Frosh Team members were: **Chris Carey, Brian Hamrick, Daniel Li, and Daniel Ranard.** Both teams solved eight of ten problems, but the Senior Team used less time to earn their score. Shane Torbert sponsors the Senior Team and Steve Rose sponsors the Frosh Team.

Academic Boosters Membership Mail Solicitation: The Academic Boosters are broke. During the 2006-2007 school year, TJ's award winning academic teams -- *It's Academic*, Biology Olympiad, Certamen, Chemistry Olympiad, Chess Team, Computer Team, Debate Team, Future Problem Solvers, Japan Bowl, Math Team, Model United Nations, Ocean Bowl, Odyssey Of The Mind, Physics Team, and Science Bowl -- requested \$25,933 dollars for their planned activities. Academic Boosters raised about half of that amount through memberships, donations, and merchandise sales. We still need \$13,000 to fund the teams' activities through the end of this school year.

At the end of February, we mailed out team-specific solicitation letters, membership forms, and return envelopes to more than 300 TJ families whose children participate in at least one of the teams, but have not joined Academic Boosters. To reiterate, membership donations are our primary source of funds. You can support your children's teams directly by joining Academic Boosters and naming the specific teams on the membership form as the beneficiaries of your donations.

So far, thirty-six families (about 10% return rate) have responded. We need a greater response! Please spare a

moment to check your unattended mail. If you find the letter, please fill out the form enclosed and mail it back with a check. If you no longer have the letter, you can download the membership form at <http://academics.tjhsst.edu/aboosters/membership.htm> or get it on our display board across from the main office. *Your children's teams will appreciate your support greatly!*

Band Boosters

All Things Band Night, April 24, 7 p.m.: TJ band students enthusiastically welcome and invite the Class of 2011 to explore the many programs within our band department. In addition to curricular band, many students participate in the Marching Colonials, TJ's marching band. "Away" band camp in late August provides marchers an opportunity to bond with their classmates. By the time school starts, the freshmen make a smooth transition into TJ life.



Incoming Freshmen, Parents, Alumni, and Fans: Learn about TJ Bands and the Boosters at <http://www.toward.com/tjbandboosters/>. Receive information by subscribing to the Booster Yahoo group (tjbandboosters) at: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/tjbandboosters/>.

TJ License Plate Frames Available: Attention Class of 2011, and other classes, advertise your academic or athletic achievements with pride. Order one or more customized license plate frames -- only \$18. Contact: **Sylvie at wrtc.org**, 703-342-0215. See frame samples at: http://www.toward.com/tjbandboosters/Fund_Raisers/license_plate_frames.htm

District XI Band Festival: Congratulations to the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and combined Symphonic/Concert Band who recently performed in graded concerts, earning ratings of "superior" and "excellent," respectively. Judges provided by the Virginia

Band and Orchestra Directors Association evaluated the bands.

Chantilly Jazz Festival: In March, Jazz I performed in this festival described as “the premier scholastic jazz competition on the entire East Coast.” Band members competed for scholarships and prizes. Results will be posted here in May.

Support Band Fundraisers: NEW! College Flags, Innisbrook Wraps, Gifts, Chocolates, and Easter goodies – Order online at www.innisbrook.com (school number 110170). Scrip – Gift Cards – Great grad gift! – [kaycorey at cox.net](http://kaycorey.at.cox.net). White House Ornaments still available – \$18, [walchmosh at comcast.net](http://walchmosh.at.comcast.net).

Colonial Athletic Boosters

Officers Needed: CAB needs a Secretary for the 2007-2008 school year. If you can commit to attending a monthly meeting and a good deal of email in between, please contact Charles Hookey ([cfhookey at hotmail.com](mailto:cfhookey@hotmail.com)). Elections are April 11; terms begin in May.

We need a Liaison to local newspapers' sports editors and an Assistant Treasurer immediately. We also need parents to “shadow” rising senior parents to learn the Concessions Chair and Liaison Coordinator jobs and chairs for the three end-of-season Banquet/Awards Ceremonies.

The **Varsity Girls' soccer team** played its first regular season game against the Wolverines of West Potomac to a 0-0 tie in overtime.



Girls' Varsity Soccer Team Begins a New Season

JV boys' soccer is off to a great start winning its opening game on Monday, March 12, against West Potomac. The final score was 2 to 1, with an early goal just minutes into the game scored by forward **Evan Burch**. Midfielder **Taki Nakamura** scored the second goal in the second quarter while a strong TJ defense held off the West Potomac offense.



JV goalie Josh Yoon watches as freshman defender Jeff Pontell (23) heads off the ball and defender Will Tarpeh (5) and midfielder Sean Ji (10) stand by to assist.

Boys' Tennis started strong with a win over Woodson 7-2. The **TJ Girls** did not fare well against Woodson but were doing much better against Langley when winter returned and play was suspended on March 15. TJ is playing its home matches at Wakefield Park this season because trailers are on two of the six courts at school.

Did you know that March was National Athletic Training Month?

It was a great time for our profession to get some recognition for what we do for the active person. Athletic trainers are unique allied health providers specializing in the prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and illness to athletes and the physically active. Athletic trainers work in a variety of medical and athletic settings, including secondary schools, and colleges and universities.

Heather Murphy and Kemba Ford are the athletic trainers for Thomas Jefferson. Heather has been at TJ for 6 years and is now in her second year as a full-time athletic trainer. Kemba has been at TJ for 2 years, but previously was at Annandale HS for 3 years. As part of National Athletic Training Month, Preston Williams, a columnist for the Varsity Letter of the Washington Post, wrote an article on athletic trainers in the March 22 edition of the Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/20/AR2007032001432.html?referrer=emailarticle>). He followed up this article with a blog at <http://blog.washingtonpost.com/varsityletter/> where he requested parents or students share their experiences working with athletic trainers and asked whether the position should be funded for all high schools.

If you have a story/experience/opinion that you would like to share with Preston, please go to the above link and tell him. Perhaps by sharing your experiences, other counties will see how valuable athletic trainers can

be and consider hiring them in their school systems. Thank you!

Heather Murphy, ATC
TJ Head Athletic Trainer

Athletic Boosters Annual Sports Physicals: Parents, want to get your child's sports physical taken care of early for the 2007-08 school year? Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, May 30**, to get your student's annual sports physical at TJ. The Colonial Athletic Boosters are sponsoring this popular at-school fundraiser to ensure that our athletes are ready for the 2007-08 season and also to support TJ's many fine athletic programs. Medical professionals will perform the comprehensive physicals. The full \$50 fee is a donation to support TJ athletics. TJ students, siblings, and friends needing physical exams for sports or summer camp are welcome. Save yourself a trip to the doctor's office! **Just call the TJ Athletic Training room at 703-750-8387 starting May 15** to make an appointment. Appointments will be held May 30, from 4-8 p.m. (no walk-ins after 7:30). Come one, come all, and get your physical at TJ!

PHYSICIANS WANTED...NEEDED...APRECIATED!

If you are a TJ parent and a physician (MD or DO), physician assistant (PA), physical therapist (PT) or nurse practitioner (NP), please consider helping out with the TJ Colonial Athletic Boosters' major fundraiser on May 30. We also need non-medical parents who want to help with working a station or check-in/out desk. Last year this fundraiser provided over \$9,000 in support of our various sports programs. Your expertise and a few hours of your time will greatly benefit our TJ athletes! If you are willing to volunteer, please call or email Heather Murphy, ATC at 703-750-8387 or heather.murphy@fcps.edu.

The next Booster meeting will be Wednesday, April 11, at 7 p.m. in the library.

Visit our websites

<http://sports.tjhsst.edu/boosters/> and
<http://www.tjgear.com/>.

Crew Boosters

The February cold weather froze the Occoquan River resulting in a delay in the on-the-water training. Initial spring practices were held at TJ and when the ice melted, the team was on the water except for the snowy days in March. We are hoping the bad weather is behind us and we can look forward to warm sunny days.

Crew now begins its competition season with our first Regatta scheduled on Saturday March 31 at Sandy Run Regional Park on the Occoquan River. Other Occoquan

Regattas will be held on April 14, April 28, and May 5 (lower boats only), and the Virginia State Championships will be held on May 12. The Team will travel to Middleton, DE, on April 21 and two other regattas are in the Philadelphia area in May. Please join us and witness the TJ Crew Winning Tradition. There is a free shuttle bus from Silverbrook ES to the park. At the park you can either walk 20 minutes to the grandstands or take a van for \$1.



If you have any general questions about the team or the TJ Crew Booster organization, please contact Leslie Norko, Crew Booster President, at lnorko@gmail.com.

Chorus/Choir Boosters

As we go to press, all of the TJ choral ensembles are in the midst of final preparations for their upcoming Festival performances to be held on March 24. This annual adjudicated event is always one of the highlights of the year where our students perform for score, with analysis and recommendations provided by a panel of well-qualified judges. Of course no Festival would be complete without the Pre-Festival concert held on March 20, 2007. In addition to hearing the selections that will be performed, the audience gets to watch an actual sight-reading demonstration by the choir – as this too is a judged event and part of the Festival experience.

Once Festival has passed, the choir will begin rehearsing in earnest for their final performance of the year. This year's Spring Show (Theme: "Places") will be held on Thursday, May 31. **Note:** This is a change from the original scheduled date of June 2 in order to accommodate the Relay for Life in which many students will be participating. No choral season is complete without the final picnic – to be held June 3 in Vienna's Meadowlark Park. Stay "tuned" for details. This picnic is for students and parents alike, as this is when your slate of officers for next year's Booster Board is presented – and this is where we need your help! We still have openings on our team for hospitality (help feed our

students before each performance), wardrobe (gotta make sure they look good too!), and Ways and Means (yeah, it takes some good old-fashioned fundraising to run a choir). Please consider how you can help. **The Booster Board meets the third Thursday of each month** and ALL choir parents are welcome to attend (Truth be told – it's kind of fun!)



Orchestra Boosters

What an exciting month it has been for our Orchestra Programs! Fortunately one day before the heavy snow, a large contingent of TJ students went down to James Madison University and auditioned for All-State Orchestra. The following students were selected: Violin - - **Eli Chen, Yangbo Xu, Justin Wang, Steven Chen, Catherine Hsieh, Erika Lee, Jenny Jones, Biqi Zhang, Andrew Lam, Jeanette Du;** and Cello -- **Mikas Kuprenas.** These students will be practicing at Christopher Newport in Newport News April 12-14, with the concert the afternoon of April 14. Congratulations go out to all those who auditioned and particularly to those listed above for this significant personal achievement. Thanks to your Booster contributions, we were able to cover the student cost for this event!

The Festival concert at TJ on March 13 was terrific. Thanks again to Bill Miller and Addie Chang who coordinated the pickup and delivery of dinners and to Keiko Nakamura for her efforts in arranging the post concert reception. Of course thanks as well to the many of you who brought things and those who assisted these folks in set up and clean up. The concert was a perfect warm up for the Festival Competition on March 17. Both of your TJ orchestras were simply outstanding receiving I's from all three judges, as well as in sight-reading, thus achieving the highest rating overall. Well done to everyone and of course to our director, Allison Bailey, who is simply the best.

Thanks to those of you who ordered CDs of last December's and last week's concerts. They should be delivered to the school or mailed to your house, depending on your selected option, in the next few weeks. Additionally, those of you who were whole or half note supporters from last year, the long awaited spring concert CD is now with Ms. Bailey and she is distributing it to your students. Ask if you have not yet received. Many thanks go out to Bill Miller, who has so

skillfully taken this project aboard. **Our next Booster meeting will be in the Principal's Conference Room on Thursday April 19 at 7:30 p.m.** I hope you can join us. As always please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks! Larry Jones ([lawrencemjones at aol.com](mailto:lawrencemjones@aol.com)).

Theatre Boosters

Shakespeare Troupe: TJ Shines at the Folger Shakespeare Festival. On March 13, the TJ Shakespeare Troupe participated in the 2007 Folger Secondary School Shakespeare Festival. The Troupe performed "The Whole World's Blind," scenes from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" and "Othello." Featuring characters who are consumed by revenge, these great dramas teach us that "an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." The Troupe's outstanding performance held the audience spellbound. Five TJ actors were honored for their performances: **Phil Arevalo, Nora Diamond, Jeewon Kim, Patty Rupinen,** and **Michaela Rothschild.** Congratulations to these and all the Troupe members who participated in the Festival.



Hamlet and Laertes duel in "The Whole World's Blind," TJ's offering at the Folger Secondary School Shakespeare Festival

Shakespeare Came to TJ - On Saturday, March 17, approximately 300 first through eighth grade students attended *Shakespeare* at TJ. TJ's Shakespeare Troupe hosted the event, which featured a variety of activities designed to spark interest in Shakespeare and his plays. The Troupe offered acting lessons, demonstrated Elizabethan costumes and make-up, led tours of the stage and backstage areas, and engaged the children in discussions on topics like comedy vs. tragedy and Shakespeare in modern plays and films. The children also gave several mini-performances. Kudos to the Shakespeare Troupe and sponsor Judy Bello for bringing this wonderful program to Fairfax County's children.

For more information about the "Shakespeare in Washington" celebration, visit <http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/festivals/06-07/shakespeare/>.

Drama Club: Rehearsals for our spring musical *“On The Town”* are in full swing. Our students are working hard building sets, working on technical aspects, learning the orchestral score, singing, dancing, and rehearsing scenes. Please join us for a wonderful evening of song and dance by sailors and dames in New York City as they pursue love and adventure in this Bernstein, Green, and Comden show. This year, for the first time, tickets may be purchased in advance by mail using the attached order form. Mail orders will be accepted through April 9.

Drama Club: *On The Town* (musical) April 19 at 7 p.m.; April 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m.; and April 22 at 2 p.m.

Announcements and Information

Arlington/Falls Church Potluck

The Arlington/Falls Church potluck for recently accepted freshmen is scheduled for April 22, 5-7 p.m. at 4904 North 15th Street in Arlington. RSVP and questions: Lynn Borton at [LBorton at aol.com](mailto:LBorton@aol.com).

TJHSST Summer School

Dates: July 9-August 9, 2007

Times for Summer School: *Chemistry class* -- 8 a.m.-3:20 p.m.

All other classes -- 8 a.m.-2:20 p.m.

There will be no breakfast or lunch provided during summer school. Students must bring their own meals and snacks.

Cost of Summer School: One-credit courses, \$650; Half-Credit courses, \$325; Real-world Algebra Refresher course, \$300; Summer Tech Institute, \$100-\$175/class. Fee-waiver information is available through the FCPS Office of Summer Programs.

How to register and deadlines: New for 2007-- Registration forms will be accepted and processed at TJHSST from April 9-April 20. Completed registration packets can be dropped off at the main office or mailed to the school, but they must be received no later than 4 p.m. on April 20, 2007. There will be no exceptions. There will be no priority given to the order in which the registration packets are received. All packets will be processed and reviewed after April 20, 2007. Course offering is dependent upon enrollment and enrollment is dependent on a space available basis. Confirmation of the status of students' Summer School registration will be provided on or before May 15, 2007. For further course and registration information, please go to the TJ website under News and then Summer Programs.

Registration forms will be available in 3 places, starting March 2007:

- TJ Website (check regularly for updates) <http://information.tjhsst.edu/summer.html>



Madame Dilly (Lillian Blotkamp) instructs Ivy Smith (Kate Kirschner) on her singing



Ozzie (Macs Smith) meets Pitkin (Jeewon Kim) in the Museum of Natural History as the two-timing Claire (Eileen Palmer) looks on

Performances

Shakespeare Troupe: Mark Your Calendars for *The Merchant of Venice* May 2 – 4. Details will be available soon on the Theatre Boosters website at <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/shows/index.html>

- FCPS Summer Programs website (check regularly for updates) <http://www.fcps.edu/news/sumsch.htm>
- Encore Book mailed home from FCPS

Special Ed Forum

The Office of Special Education, in collaboration with the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities, is sponsoring the 3rd Annual Special Education Conference: Linking Parents and Schools, on Saturday, April 28 at Marshall High School. The event will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 1:30 p.m. There will be more than 30 workshops as well as information tables representing more than 40 community organizations and agencies.

A light breakfast will be available. If you need accommodations, please allow at least 2 weeks advance notice and note it when you register. There is no charge to attend the conference. Please work with the parent liaison at your school if you need an interpreter. Childcare is not available for this event. For more information, including a list of workshops and information tables, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/ss/SpecialEducationForum>.

Summer Camp -- Save Now!

Camp registration for Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) summer camps has begun, and you can save \$10 for each camp by registering early! Children will enjoy the variety of activities and parents will love the convenient locations.

FCPA camps are held at RECenters, parks, nature centers, and schools throughout the county. Different camp offerings mean something for everyone...from traditional Fun and Sports Camps to Nature or Adventure Camps. Children of all ages can enjoy half- or full-day camps all summer long! For more information, see the latest issue of *Parktakes* magazine, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks, or call the registration hot line during business hours at 703-222-4664.

Microsoft Products Discount

Through a special agreement with Microsoft, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students and staff members can now purchase select Microsoft products for home and personal use at great discounts. In addition, Fairfax County Public Schools adult education students are also eligible to purchase through this program.

Student Select is part of Fairfax County Public Schools Technology at Home program. This program seeks to help students, faculty, and staff members with their home technology needs by enabling them to purchase directly from vendors at educational discount rates. With the latest technology, students, faculty, and staff members can make the best use of instructional and administrative resources from home. For more information on available products, pricing, and how to order, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/techathome/studentselect.html>.

Student Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways that high school students can volunteer their time to help others. The FCPS Career Connections Volunteer Opportunities web site, found at www.fcps.edu/ss/CareerConnections/student/volunteer.htm, offers a list of organizations that have volunteer opportunities for young people, as well as tips on how to become involved in volunteer activities.

KIT Text Message Option

Employees, parents and others interested in emergency messages from the school system can now receive those messages to cell phones and other text message devices. Register for this service at the FCPS home page, www.fcps.edu; choose 'Keep in Touch' on the left hand side. New subscribers should start by entering an email address. Current subscribers should select the "update my profile" link. To receive emergency messages to a cell phone, simply enter the cell phone number in the fields provided. Questions can be directed to Rose Kaspersen in the Office of Community Relations by emailing her at Rose.Kaspersen@fcps.edu.

Noteworthy Dates

April		May	
2-6	Spring Vacation	2-4	Shakespeare Troupe's performance of <i>The Merchant of Venice</i>
10	Band Boosters Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Principal's Conference Room	3	Last JLC Day
11	Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center (note date change)	5	Spring Formal
11	Colonial Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7 p.m., Library	7-18	AP Exams
12-14	All-Virginia Bands and Orchestra, Newport News	14	PTSA Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Library
13-14	Freshman Class Lock-In, 7 p.m.-7 a.m., TJ	15	Make your annual sports physical appointment for May 30; call 703-750-8387; physical costs \$50
16	PTSA Morning Meeting, 9-10:30 a.m., Cafeteria	21	SOL Testing Begins
17	ANGP Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., Career Center	28	Memorial Day Holiday
18	Rising Freshmen Preview Night (Class of 2011)	30	Sports Physicals
19	PTSA Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Career Center	31	Choir Spring Show, <i>Places</i>
19	Chorus/Choir Boosters Meeting	June	
19 & 29	TJ Spirit Event, support ANGP at Fuddruckers and UNO	4	Spring Sports Banquet/Awards
19-22	Drama Club's production <i>On the Town</i>	8	Senior Prom
20-21	District Instrumental Solo and Ensemble Festival, Stone MS	11	PTSA Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Library
22	Arlington/Falls Church Potluck	11	Rising Freshmen Sports Night
23	Newsletter Submission Deadline	16	Graduation, Patriot Center, GMU
24	All Things Band Night, Welcome Class of 2011, 7 p.m., Auditorium	16	All Night Grad Party
27	Sophomore Class Silent Auction, 7-10 p.m., Cafeteria	18	Last Day of School
28	Special Ed Forum, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Marshall HS		





Congratulations TJ 2011 Freshmen

You and your families are cordially invited to a PTSA *Welcome Gathering!*

To receive your invitation to your local Gathering please contact your TJ PTSA Representative or register online immediately (these Gatherings will be from April till August!!)

Parents: Need to carpool with other parents of new or current students in your area?

Students: Do you have questions for current students about classes, homework, sports, student clubs, IBET, AudLob...?

To get answers to these questions and more, plan to attend the *Welcome Gathering* hosted by TJ's Parent/Teacher/Student Association (PTSA). Each Fairfax County Cluster and other participating Counties has a TJ parent representative that will assist you in making a smooth transition to TJ (see the list below to find your specific Representative).

IMPORTANT:

- ✓ To receive an invitation to the Gathering, contact your Representative without delay.
- ✓ To receive an invitation and be included in the Directory for the 2007-2008 school-year, visit the PTSA website, enter your information and get your password at: <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/welcome.htm>

TJPTSA Representatives New Classes of 2010 & 2011			
Other Counties	Contact	Email	Tel
Arlington/Falls Church	Lynn Borton	LBorton at aol.com	571-244-8828 c
Loudoun County	Yin Yin	yinyinyin at yahoo.com	703-723-0265
Prince William / Fauquier	Nassmah Brooks (<i>PTSA Liaison</i>)*	Nassmah.brooks at verizon.net	571-437-9573 c
Fairfax Clusters**	Contact	Email	Tel
Cluster 1	Louise Epstein	Lepstein at cox.net	703-917-7960
Cluster 2	Padma Kannan	padmakannan at hotmail.com	703-573-5606
Cluster 3	Angie Kirchner	nvappraisals at cox.net	703-278-8316
Cluster 4	Catherine Stebbins	Stebbins5 at cox.net	703-360-5337
Cluster 5	Lynn Dudley	Ldudley at abcstaff.org	703-313-9744
Cluster 6	Beatrice D'souza	philomena_d'souza at freddiemac.com	703-349-1181
Cluster 7	Tricia Cruz	Va_cruz at cox.net	703-266-6748
Cluster 8	Cindy Wagner	cindywagner2 at gmail.com	703-709-0348

**Fairfax County Clusters
Cluster 1--Serves the Herndon, Langley, and McLean pyramids
Cluster 2--Serves the Falls Church, Madison, and Marshall pyramids
Cluster 3--Serves the Annandale, Stuart, and Woodson pyramids and TJ
Cluster 4--Serves the Mount Vernon and West Potomac pyramids
Cluster 5--Serves the Edison, Hayfield, Lee, and South County pyramids
Cluster 6--Serves the Lake Braddock, Robinson, and West Springfield pyramids
Cluster 7--Serves the Centreville, Chantilly, and Fairfax pyramids
Cluster 8--Serves the Oakton, South Lakes, and Westfield pyramids

If you have any questions, please contact **Nassmah Brooks** -- your PTSA Liaison for all Counties and County clusters: [Nassmah.Brooks at verizon.net](mailto:Nassmah.Brooks@verizon.net)
 Translators available upon request: Contact Jean Lee at [tjlanghelp at comcast.net](mailto:tjlanghelp@comcast.net) or call 703-753- 4604.

2007 ANGP Volunteer Form

This year's ANGP "**Casino Royale**" will take place immediately following graduation on **Saturday evening, June 16**

"Not a single grad has been killed or injured in an alcohol related accident on graduation night since the all night grad celebrations began." Northern Virginia Graduation Project

Help us preserve this fact by volunteering. It takes *many* volunteers to plan and staff this event, so we need help from parents of all classes. We especially need help from underclass parents to get things underway while senior parents attend graduation. It's a fun night and a wonderful gift to our students.

THANK YOU for helping to make this year's ANGP a success!

Help PLAN and COORDINATE the event. Indicate your committee choice:

_____Activities _____Food _____Decorations
_____Casino _____Marketing/ _____Security
_____General Store _____Admissions/Passports

Help the WEEKEND of the event:

PRIOR to the event, Friday, June 15 & Saturday, June 16:

____Decorations (will involve working Friday evening and/or during the day on Saturday)
____Logistics/Set up (will involve working during the day on Saturday)

DURING the event, Saturday, June 16 (volunteer assignments will be made in early June):

Indicate preferred shift (we will try to honor your preference)

_____10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. OR _____2:00 a.m. - 5:30 a.m.

AFTER the event (Sunday, June 17):

____Clean up (will start at 5a.m. on Sunday, June 17)

Name: _____ Student(s) grade: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail or email completed form to:

Dianne Struckmeyer

9940 Corsica St.

Vienna, Va. 22181

[tjangp.volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp.volunteers@gmail.com)

CLASS OF 2009 SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM
DUE DATE: APRIL 13

Student Name: _____

HUM Teacher: _____

My family will donate the following to the silent auction:

My family will try to arrange lunch or a meeting with the following person/professional:

Their profession/hobby is

I have a vacation home I would be willing to donate in

Please return this to Ms. McCormick in Learning Cottage 9 by **April 13**.
Questions? Email Ms. McCormick at [ANMcCormick at fcps.edu](mailto:ANMcCormick@fcps.edu)

Silent Auction will be held on April 27

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
TJ Drama Presents:

“On the Town”

Music by Leonard Bernstein
Lyrics by Green and Comden

Sailors! Dames! Singing! Dancing! New York City!

Thursday, April 19, 2007, 7:00 PM

Friday, April 20, 2007, 7:30 PM

Saturday, April 21, 2007, 7:30 PM

Sunday, April 22, 2007, 2:00 PM

Tickets at the door: \$7.00

Tickets in advance (before April 9, 2007): \$5.00

No reserve seating. Doors open one hour before curtain. Arrive early for the best seats!

Please PRINT OUT, FILL IN, and **MAIL NO LATER THAN APRIL 9, 2007**
Ticket Order Reply Form Below

On the Town

___ Thursday, April 19, 2007, \$ _____ = \$ _____
___ Friday, April 20, 2007, \$ _____ = \$ _____
___ Saturday, April 21, 2007, \$ _____ = \$ _____
___ Sunday, April 22, 2007, \$ _____ = \$ _____
Total.....\$ _____

All tickets held for box office pickup
(Include name of person picking up tickets; ID will be requested)

Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Make checks payable to TJ Theatre Boosters. Mail To:

John Clements, Treasurer
6801 Montour Drive
Falls Church, VA 22043

Tech cetera
PTSA Newsletter
TJHSST
6560 Braddock Road
Alexandria, VA 22312

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 6339
Merrifield, VA

Tech cetera is available online on the first of the month at:
<http://www.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/newsletter.htm>

If you would like to **OPT OUT** from this mailing and read or print online, please contact:
[Ptsa.membership at tjhsst.edu](mailto:Ptsa.membership@tjhsst.edu)

Contributions: [ptsa.newsletter at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.newsletter@tjhsst.edu)

Check List

- Freshman Class Lock-In, April 13-14, 7 p.m.-7 a.m.
- PTSA Morning Meeting, April 16, 9-10:30 a.m., Cafeteria
- PTSA Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, April 19, 11:30 a.m., Career Center
- Sophomore Class Silent Auction, April 27, 7-10 p.m., Cafeteria
- Seniors: **You must buy a ticket in advance for ANGP -- Not Sold at the Door!**