

### Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

I hope you enjoyed the holiday season and spent quality time with your families. After a very busy December, I hope you have had opportunities to rest and recharge for a strong finish to the first semester.

In December, we were pleased to announce our partnership with Orbital Sciences Corporation, whereby our students plan to build a CubeSat satellite to be launched by 2008-2009. Students will use their knowledge of electronics and systems engineering to build the satellite with the assistance of TJ teacher Mr. Adam Kemp and scientists from Orbital. Partnerships like this help our students develop a sense of purpose and social responsibility in their projects as well as potential career opportunities through their interaction with real scientists.

Our Junior Ethics Seminars, sponsored by Building a Better Community, were a great success during two teaching advisory periods in December. As a follow up to the Spring Sophomore Ethics Forum, these teacher-led seminars were an opportunity for students to choose their own topic among a large list of societal issues and engage in dialogue with peers that had the same interest. For example, Mr. Strong spoke about electronic piracy, Mr. Lampazzi discussed ethics in stem cell research, Dr. Cammer addressed chemical abuse, and many more. TJ parents and community members also led seminars to help students understand the breadth of ethical issues that affect everyday society.

December was also a time to spend with and learn from alumni. In addition to homecoming, alumni enjoy reconvening right before the holidays since college winter breaks often let out earlier than TJ. Alumni often help TJ by sharing experiences with our current students, either through college counseling or giving guest presentations. Some examples include *Rule of Four* author Ian Caldwell spoke to Ms. Orser's English class, Andrea Frome spoke to computer science classes about her work with Google, and S.R. Sidarth spoke to Topics in Globalization classes about his experiences with former Senator Allen.

Two exceptional teachers retired in December. Social studies teacher Mr. Patrick McCarthy led our Model United Nations club, mentored numerous new teachers, was an exceptional teacher who taught world and European history and will never be forgotten for his crazy birthday dance. Special education teacher Ms. Michele Morris will be remembered for extensive knowledge and skills, her patience and caring, and her calm and understanding manner which she has used to serve our students with special needs. We wish these teachers the very best in their retirement, and they will definitely be missed.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at 703-750-8300 or at [Evan.Glazer at fcps.edu](mailto:Evan.Glazer@fcps.edu) if you have suggestions and ideas to help make TJ an even better place for learning and growing.

Best wishes for the New Year,  
Evan Glazer, Principal

### President's Message

Happy New Year to all! I hope our PTSA volunteers and parents had a good rest over the winter break and are ready for action. Somehow, time seems to fly by as soon as we get past the holidays.

Last month, we had a morning PTSA meeting and were delighted to see a very good turnout of parents, particularly freshman parents. It is really a great thing to see relative newcomers getting involved and keeping themselves informed about what is going on around school. Since there seems to be some demand for it, we will certainly schedule another daytime PTSA meeting in the coming months.

At the meeting, the PTSA board decided that we did need to respond to the change in the juvenile court's procedures which will now put drivers' license ceremonies at 3:15 in the afternoon, instead of 5 p.m. as has been the practice in the past. We passed a resolution respectfully asking that some ceremonies be offered at a time when our students could attend without missing school. Attendance is a state requirement for young drivers who want to receive a license. I explained our request in a letter to the court system and, hopefully, they will understand our situation.

Another issue that came up referred to PTSA efforts to reach out to culturally diverse parents. We are very grateful to Esther Yook, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, for spearheading this effort to connect us better with the very diverse parent body that we have here at TJ. In response to the workshop in November for culturally diverse parents, she has asked Laurie Kobick to lead another workshop on the topic of college preparation at the Career Center on February 14. Additionally, the Principal's message and my message in this newsletter are now translated into several different languages and available on our web site. The TJ PTSA is extremely thankful to Sandy Chou, Mindy Cheng, Janice Kim, Jean Lee, Eun Mee Hong, Yunfang Yu and Lan Chen for their expertise and assistance in this regard. This is a very positive step to help new parents understand how TJ works and where they can get involved and volunteer regardless of language ability.

The spring parent education program will be on the subject of Teens and Driving. I am in the process of requesting a number of speakers and panel members to make this a dynamic program. We did have to change the date to accommodate one of our panelists and the new date will be Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. with a snow date the following week, Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Yes, as I write this, it's hard to believe but we might actually get some winter this year! ☺

I look forward to seeing you at our next PTSA meeting on **Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** in the school library. Please drop me a line if you have any concerns or you would like to bring up an item for discussion.

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

## PTSA Update

### *Highlights from the December 11 PTSA Meeting*

- Due to the recent change in the drivers' license ceremonies, the PTSA approved a resolution asking the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to "revise its policies for drivers' license ceremonies and hold at least some of the ceremonies after TJHSST school hours so that our students might be able to attend without missing school.
- First Vice President Esther Yook announced that the notes of the November 9 meeting with culturally diverse parents are now available on the PTSA website in Korean and Chinese, in addition to English.
- The Task Force on TJ's future programs and facilities will issue a third and final survey to stakeholders this month in preparation for a January report to the county

group that is charged with examining options for the school.

- All Night Graduation Party tickets will be available for sale on the PTSA website by clicking on the "ANGP" menu item.
- Marilyn Mutchler reported that letter jacket sales have exceeded targets for the year.
- Principal Evan Glazer wished everyone "Happy Holidays." He reiterated the school's policy that holidays are a break from academics and are not to be used to "accelerate the curriculum." He also announced several staff changes. Josh Strong will become Assistant to the Director of Admissions in January, and a search to fill Mr. Strong's current position is underway. Mary Stetson will switch from Physical Education to Special Education on January 2. Pat McCarthy has retired from teaching. Mindy Owen has recently been hired as a library assistant.

Next PTSA Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2007, in the school library.

## Serving the TJ Community

### *Volunteers*

**Thank you!** Many, many thanks to TJ's wonderful volunteers for taking time from your busy schedules to assist with so many activities at the school. Even though December has been a fairly slow month for volunteer requests, our 'regular' volunteers are still working behind the scenes! Rest up this winter break-we will be asking for help soon!

### **Help wanted:**

**Archivist:** Want a job where you can set your own hours? Look no further! You would be responsible for organizing, preserving and storing various paper and photographic records of life at TJ. Be creative!

If interested, email us at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu). Pat Groves in the front office is also available to provide more information ([pat.groves at fcps.edu](mailto:pat.groves@fcps.edu) or 703-750-8315)

### *Cultural Liaison Report*

**"Culturally Diverse Parent Workshop II: Understanding Summer Internships and College Application Resources"** will take place on February 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Career Center. Mrs. Laurie Kobick will go over the resources available at the Career Center such as summer opportunities and college application resources. Updated sign-up information will be provided on the PTSA website soon. Deadline for requesting interpreters is January 30. Questions? Contact Esther Yook at [eyook at umw.edu](mailto:eyook@umw.edu)

## ANGP 2007 presents "CAsEaN**O** ROYALE."

After graduation on Saturday, June 16, the Class of 2007 will celebrate its accomplishments in style at TJ's own Casino Royale. TJ will be transformed into a magical place with entertainment, delicious food, prizes, games, and lots of memories. If you have never been to an ANGP, it is an awesome sight to behold. There is much to be done to prepare for this event. If you haven't done so already, please:

- Purchase \$90 ticket (includes admission, 1 Senior Highlights video, 1 Jefferson cup). Purchase your ticket before January 15 and your name will be entered in a raffle.
- Volunteer on a committee. Parents of all grades are invited to participate. Remember, if you want to see ANGP in person, you *must* be a volunteer!
- Checkout the ANGP website at [www.tjhsst-angp.org](http://www.tjhsst-angp.org) for information and updates. You can also access the ANGP website from the PTSA link on the TJ website.
- Attend the monthly ANGP meetings held the third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., in the College Career Center. **Next meeting is Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**ANGP ticket sales.** 94 tickets have been sold so far. That is just 25% of the senior class. In past years, almost all seniors attended ANGP, and we expect the same this year. Why purchase your ticket now? Ticket sales are the primary source of revenue for ANGP, and funds are needed now for deposits and other expenses. Please help out and purchase your student's ticket as soon as possible to help fund this incredible event. Ticket order forms are available on the ANGP website and in the TJ Front Office. Thank you in advance for your support!



**"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

## Student Government Upcoming events:

- Winter Sports Pep Rally (January 5)
- Winter Chill-Out (February 16)

As always you can find out what is going on in SGA on our website: [www.tjhsst.edu/sga](http://www.tjhsst.edu/sga).

## Academic News

### French News

The TJ French Honor Society served up a scrumptious dinner to the faculty and staff on Friday evening on December 8. French onion soup, chicken, quiche, salad, the traditional French *bûche de Noël* were the *plats de résistance*. The only thing that marred the event was an unexpected fire alarm that went off just as the staff was filling their plates. Following the dinner, students went caroling in Mme Delfosse's neighborhood.

The TJ French Honor Society members have been very busy since early November. First, they celebrated National French Week by treating the whole staff to a delicious breakfast, served in the front office. *Croissants* and *crêpes*, a delicious *salade de fruits* and other goodies helped everyone start the day with a smile!

### Spanish News

It has been a busy couple of weeks for the Spanish Honor Society. Dr. Cammer came and spoke to the club about cheeses from Spain and we enjoyed a tasting.

We welcomed Mrs. Lopez from a charity who came to speak to us in *español* about donating items to immigrants and their families. Our members were very generous in donating clothes and enjoyed hearing about this worthy outreach program.

Our tutoring during JLC and 8th period are well underway. *¡Feliz Año Nuevo!*

### Japanese News

The Japanese program has been busy:

- Receiving a group of four high school students from Kokutaiji HS (designated by their government as one of the "Super Science Schools) who presented a DNA study on the rare Giant Salamanders and had a lively discussion with TJ students.
- Hosting a successful celebration of the Japanese New Year. There was food (Japanese curry and snacks), crafts (origami and fan), music, a rice cake-making demonstration; and custom-made "bear with kimono" costumes. Thank you to JNHS members, the Japanese Embassy, Mrs. Keiser, Mr. McMullin, Mrs. Doi, and Mr. & Mrs. Kang for helping to make the event so successful.
- Working on the New Year's Card contest hosted by the National Conference of Japanese Language Teachers. Eunju Park, Andrew Baik, Tessa Zeng, Nabeem Hashem, Holly Trebing, and Min Hee Kim were selected to enter the nationwide contest.
- Preparing for the 2007 Japan Bowl. The students will be busy studying various aspects of Japan other than the language. The winner in the senior level will be awarded a trip to Japan this summer. Mrs. Doi, a former TJ parent, offered to help us starting in January.

Please note that this year's contest will be held during the weekdays (April 12 and 13).

- Planning for the various scholarship and summer programs. Deadlines for many programs are coming up in early January. Please go to the Blackboard site to check out the types of programs that are available. The program to visit Chiben HS is still open. Please contact [koji.otani at fcps.edu](mailto:koji.otani@fcps.edu) for more information.

- Organizing logistics for hosting for the Chiben families. As soon as information is received there will be a lunch meeting. The number of students may be increased from 10 to 14 (plus one teacher). Please let Koji Otani know if any family is interested in hosting the teacher. The homestay period is March 4 - 25.

### **Chinese News**

Twelve principals from the city of Da Lian, China, visited Chinese I class. The principals were so impressed that the students could speak and write Chinese so well after learning that they had been having Chinese lessons for only a few months. The students also asked the principals questions about high schools in China and the life of high school students there. This visit provided a great opportunity for the students to know more about China and increased their interest in learning Chinese.

## **Class News**

### **2007 – Seniors**

Happy holidays to everyone! First semester is almost over, but there are still plenty of 2007 events in the works. If you didn't make senior parent night (November 29<sup>th</sup>) then feel free to check the class of 2007 web site at <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/2007/>. Please send all your questions and/or comments concerning graduation to [TJgraduation2007 at gmail.com](mailto:TJgraduation2007@gmail.com).

Forty seven (47) people still have not given the Balfour representative their cap and gown orders. Most seniors filled out these forms Monday, November 27 at a class meeting held in the auditorium. The final in school opportunity to order products from Balfour such as graduation announcements, caps and gowns is **January 29**.

**January 5** the senior class will hold the annual **RTC dance**: when the **upperclassmen ask the underclassmen**. Had your eye on an underclassman? Now is your chance. Parent chaperones are still needed, so please get in touch with a council member, officer or sponsor if you or someone you know would like to donate a few hours of their time to help make this dance a success.

The annual school wide **talent show** is officially scheduled for **Friday, March 16**. We have all heard about how talented the Jefferson student body is. Now see it in action! If you have an act that you think is

worthy of the TJ talent show, keep an eye out for announcements with audition information in the coming months.

### **2008 - Juniors**

Happy Holidays 2008 parents! We hope this season finds you busy, cheerful, and well. Though 2008 has no major events planned during December and January, our time to shine is fast approaching, and we need your help! There are several opportunities for parents to serve, among which is helping to chaperone at an event. We'll appreciate your help! On February 23, the juniors will be sponsoring the Mr. Colonial Competition, followed by a soc hop. On Saturday, April 28, we'll be putting on Spring Formal, which is sure to be a success. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, on Friday, May 18, the class of 2008 will be hosting Junior Campout. Remember Freshman Lockin? This event will be just as much of an endeavor as that was, except outside. Thus, we hope to have at least 50 chaperones serving in four 3-hour shifts throughout the night, from 7 p.m.-7 a.m. This may seem like a lot, but remember any help you can give us is greatly appreciated. Again, Happy New Year from the Class of 2008!

### **2010 - Freshmen**

The Class of 2010 is ready to get down to business, having just chosen its 35 council members. The officers and council will start planning for lock-in when they come back from winter break.

Parents – mark your calendars for Friday, April 13, the date for lock-in. Such a large event cannot be run without help from volunteers. If you are willing to chaperone, keep your eyes out for information on shifts, positions, and times. Over 100 chaperones will be required for lock-in to function. We'll also need your help with set-up, food, and activity coordination.

Thank you! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the class officers at [tjhsst2010 at yahoo.com](mailto:tjhsst2010@yahoo.com).



*Class Officers from left to right: Emma Ferris, Megan Falls, Connor Cotton, Arvin Ahmadi, Sam Zhang, Lyndsey Wheeler and Han Kim.*

## News Round-Up and Awards

### STUDENTS

- Northern Virginia Brain Bee Winners from TJHSST: Congratulations to Morgan Bell and Evan Warner who are winners in the Maryland Regional Brain Bee (an oral contest about the brain) in the Northern VA Brain Bee.
- Paul Norland was selected to the Washington Post's All-Met second team and Richard Prevost honorable mention for cross country.
- Conor Russamano was named to the Liberty All-District team as wide receiver.
- Congratulations to sophomore Naren Tallapragada who won the \$1,000 scholarship in an essay contest sponsored by the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFCMW) and The Washington Post. The contest assignment was to write a short critical response to the Snowdon Lecture on September 18th at Georgetown University by Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. She discussed the role of faith and ethics in international diplomacy and politics. His essay was selected the best in the high school category.
- Two TJHSST students on the US Rowing Scholastic Honor Roll - The US Rowing Scholastic Honor Roll recognizes high school seniors who have excelled in both academics and rowing. Applicants must be US rowing members, have rowed or coxed at least one year and successfully competed at or above the league or regional level. Congratulations to the following TJ Students who made the 2006-2007 Scholastic Honor Roll: Christian Klein – Gold Level Recipient, and Jennifer Lampen – Silver Level Recipient

### ALUMNI

2002 TJHSST graduate Andrew Wright, joined AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps shortly after graduating from Dartmouth College this past spring. Andrew joined the corps to help people in his age bracket and in different parts of the US. On December 13, 2006, Andrew along with 10 other corps members finished a six-week stint at the Recovery School District in New Orleans, to help improve their schools after being damaged by Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005. Another trip is planned in January 2007, when the group will be leaving its home base in Sacramento, CA to join with Habitat for Humanity in Waveland, Mississippi in building houses. Way to go Andrew for making a difference!!

### ***Orbital Partners with Students to Build Satellite***

Dulles-based Orbital Sciences is partnering with Northern Virginia science students to build a small satellite expected to be completed and launched in two years. Orbital and Thomas Jefferson High School for

Science and Technology announced the partnership at a press event at the Alexandria school.



As part of the program, Orbital satellite engineers and technicians will mentor physics and engineering students. Students will design and integrate the payload with the spacecraft platform, integrate all the spacecraft subsystems, develop the onboard software and carry out all necessary pre-launch quality and environmental testing. Orbital will provide the test equipment at its manufacturing facility in Dulles.

The exact launch date for the TJ-SAT satellite has not yet been announced, but it is expected to be in early 2009.

The program is part of the international CubeSat Project, which involves more than 40 universities, high schools and private firms that collaborate on building 10-centimeter satellites with scientific, private and government payloads.

## TJHSST Partnership Fund

**Partnership Fund Helps TJ Students Soar:** The recently-announced partnership between TJ and Orbital Sciences to design and build an independent satellite is the result of many months of hard work by TJ faculty, Orbital executives, and the TJ Partnership Fund. As a result of this exciting and high visibility arrangement, TJ will be the first high school in the U.S. to actually launch a satellite! The Partnership Fund thanks our former executive director, Joan Ozdogan, for her tireless efforts in planning and negotiating many aspects of the project, which Orbital values at \$75,000 in materials and in-kind services.



*Congressman Tom Davis joins TJ teacher Adam Kemp, TJ students, Orbital execs and guests at December 6 press conference announcing satellite partnership*

The TJ Partnership Fund helps create partnership opportunities for TJ that involve in-kind gifts (such as

Orbital(s), cash, and specific grant awards. Please contact us if you think your employer would be interested in advancing educational excellence at TJ through charitable giving! We are knowledgeable and sensitive about making corporate contacts! Please write to Gary Bottorff at [gary.bottorff@fcps.edu](mailto:gary.bottorff@fcps.edu) or call 703-750-8317.

New Year's Resolution: The Partnership Fund wishes all in the TJ community a "Happy New Year" and resolves to remind parents that our students are beneficiaries of the finest high school education in the nation. Please give back to the school that is giving so much to your child's future.

## TJHSST Boosters

### Academic Boosters

- **It's Academic:** In November, the teams participated in the 11th UVA classics Quizbowl tournament and were very successful. Team A, consisting of Evan Silberman, Bo Fan, Phil Graves, and Keshav Pillai, won second place. As a result, the team qualified for the PACE national tournament. Team B, consisting of Abhi Kapuria, Jacob Kohn, Mohit Iyer, and Evan McDonald, won seventh place. In December, Team A won 1st place at the Maggie Walker Governor School 14th annual tournament and in doing so qualified *again* for the PACE national scholastic tournament!

- **Model United Nations:** In November, the club had a very successful trip to the University of Virginia's VAMUN Conference and won the Secretary-General's award for large school. Individual gavel winners of their committees were Aaron Koenig, Arjang Navab, Marina Arnold, Arjun Khanna, Corrina Pan, Dan Metzel, Byron Smith, George Krivorotov, and Michael Romais. In December, the club attended the Prince William Model United Nations Conference at C.D. Hylton High School and won the Secretary-General's award for large school (the top school at the conference). Individual winners of gavels for first place on their committees were: Marina Arnold and Arjun Khanna; Yang He and John Goodwin; Kendrick Castro and Shayan Moosa; Karl Leswing; Jason Garrett-Glaser; Naren Tallapragada; Byron Smith; Emily Hillenbrand; and Michael Romais.

- **Math Team:** In November, two TJ teams (10 students for each team) participated in the Duke Competition and Team A garnered 5th place overall. Haitao Mao, a Junior and Team A member, won the overall individual award by dispatching his opposition with little effort during the tie breaker round. In December, again, two teams competed in the first annual Princeton competition. Team A won 1st place in the proof round and scored 2nd overall. Freshman Daniel Li won 4th in the Algebra test; Junior Haitao Mao and freshman Jimmy Clark won 3rd and 4th respectively on the Geometry test; freshman Brian Hamrick won 4th

in the Number Theory exam; senior Frederick Mako won 3rd on the Calculus test; and junior Jacob Steinhardt won 5th in advanced topics.

- **Debate Team:** In addition to its conscious winning streak at local tournaments, the debate team has been successful at national tournaments as well. At Princeton Classic Invitational, Varun Bansal broke to double octafinals at the JV level. At the Varsity level, Lulu Wang broke to double octafinals and Teddy McNeill broke to quarterfinals and won best speaker award.

We urge TJ families to continue their support for our great academic teams through your membership dues and donations to the Academic Boosters! We ensure that your tax-deductible contributions are spent in support of teams' competitions and your childrens' participation.

### Band Boosters

**Parents, Alumni, Fans:** Learn about the Band Boosters at <http://www.toward.com/tjbandboosters/>.

Receive information and access forms by subscribing to the Booster Yahoo group (tjbandboosters) at: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/tjbandboosters/>.

**TUBACHRISTMAS 2006:** Olivia Walch, John Sherwood, Lisa Anderson, Joey Holloway, Brian Schwenk, Michael Sanders, Jack Brese, and the Brese Family shone in the annual TUBACHRISTMAS concert at the Kennedy Center. They performed with musicians, both students and adults, to exhibit the joy of playing tubas and euphoniums.



**Winter Showcase, February 17, 2007:** TJ Band Boosters will host the Winter Showcase, a spectacular competition featuring the talents of many Winter Guard units. Participants and their families come from throughout the region. The TJ Drum Line will perform in

exhibition. Spectators are welcome. Admission is \$8. Volunteers needed throughout the day, contact: [ReinselT at msn.com](mailto:ReinselT@msn.com).

#### **Advertise in the Winter Showcase Program:**

Business owners and parents please advertise with us. Advertisements (in black & white) and personal messages addressed to Showcase performers will be featured. Ad space is available as follows: 1/8 page, \$20, 1/4 page, \$35, 1/2 page, \$60, and full page, \$100. Artwork and payment are required by January 25, 2007. Contact [TJshowcasead at cox.net](mailto:TJshowcasead@cox.net); an order form will be emailed to you.

**Support Band Fundraisers:** **Citrus:** Ruby red grapefruit, navel oranges, honey bell tangelos – Orders due 1/3/07 – [tjcitrus at hotmail.com](mailto:tjcitrus@hotmail.com); **White House Ornaments** – \$18, [walchmosh at comcast.net](mailto:walchmosh@comcast.net); **Scrip – Gift Cards** – Quiznos, Starbucks, Shell, etc. – [kaycorey at cox.net](mailto:kaycorey@cox.net); **TJ Customized License Plate Frames** – Make memorable photo frames! Only \$18 – [Sylvie at wrtc.org](mailto:Sylvie@wrtc.org); **Innisbrook Wraps, Gifts, and Chocolates** – [bdlauder at earthlink.net](mailto:bdlauder@earthlink.net) – Order online at [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com) (school number 110170).

#### ***Colonial Athletic Boosters***

- **Boys' Varsity Basketball** has produced three different leading scorers over four games: Christian McGuirk (11 pts. Stuart, 12 pts. Falls Church), Will Riedel (15 pts. Chantilly), and Nate Hough (11 pts. Yorktown). Ryan Clubb and Patrick Yaroch have provided strong all around games on both sides of the court. Kareem El-Gohary is the team's offensive spark and second leading scorer.

- **Freshmen girls' basketball** started their season with a 49-12 victory over Jeb Stuart. Shooting guard Allison Kosmacki led all scorers with 18 points. On December 15, Falls Church fell to our Colonials 34-16. Kosmacki and Margaret Tarmann led a relentless offensive attack with 13 and 8 points respectively. Six other players scored for the Colonials. Point guard Nicole Yu (5 steals), Kosmacki (4 steals), and forward Mohima Sanyal (3 steals) led an attacking defense that created lots of turnovers.

- **JV girls' and boys' basketball** started the season with wins over Jeb Stuart and Falls Church.

- **Wrestling** finished with three medalists at the Nova Classic wrestling tournament, which features 32 of the top Virginia wrestling teams. Medalists include Mike Howard (3rd place), Captain Johnny Sando (6th place), and Jamie McConnaughey (7th place). The team finished in 17th place (of 32), up 8 spots from last year. At the Bishop Ireton Tournament, the team won first place! Individual champions include Mike Howard, Johnny Sando, and James McConnaughey.



*Wrestlers Jamie McConnaughey, Mike Howard, and Johnny Sando with their NOVA classic medals*

The next Athletic Booster meeting will be Wednesday, January 3, at 7 p.m. in the library.

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

#### ***Crew Boosters***

As 2007 begins, TJ Crew is in the middle of their winter training regimen to prepare for the upcoming rowing season. Winter training runs Monday through Friday after school from 4 to 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. Some TJ rowers plan to participate in the Mid Atlantic Erg Sprints on Feb 3 at George Washington Middle School in Alexandria.

There are still opportunities for interested students to join this year's Crew. An information meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 in the TJ Cafeteria. Both students and parents are encouraged to attend. Experience and year in school are not factors—anyone can join TJ Crew—most who join have never rowed before. If you have any questions, stop by a winter training practice or 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 TJ Crew Booster organization, please check out our new team web site at <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew/> or contact Leslie Noriko, Crew Booster President, at [lnorko at gmail.com](mailto:lnorko@gmail.com).

#### ***Choral Boosters***

TJ's choral performing ensembles, consisting of Chamber, Men's Choir, Sirens, Freshmen Ladies and Advanced Ladies finished out the year in style by caroling in Old Town Alexandria on December 15. The weather was mild, and the crowds were most appreciative. Nothing puts you in the festive mood like a group dinner at Fuddruckers at the start of the night. From here it was off to Market Square in Old Town

where the choir performed as part of the Alexandria Park's Holiday performance series. When this hour-long performance was completed, our 50 + entourage ambled down to the Torpedo Factory for yet another set. The building's architecture provided excellent acoustics, allowing for a full, rich sound – even without amplification. Comments from the crowds at both performances were most favorable! Many thanks to our parent volunteers for pitching in as drivers/chaperones: Amy Darger Stewart, the Tripps, Scott Prothero, the Brants and the Hanns.



The choir is getting ready for their winter concert to be held at the school on January 23. This year's featured works include Mozart's Coronation Mass and Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols. Timing couldn't be better to get approximately thirty of our singers in prime form for District Choir at the beginning of February. Congratulations to all who passed the audition!

### ***Orchestra Boosters***

Both of the Orchestras presented an outstanding concert on December 14. Our students had the stage decorated very beautifully and it was a great way to celebrate the holiday season. Many thanks go out to all of you who brought a wide and bounteous selection of delicious desserts as well as the many parent volunteers who facilitated the delivery of dinners to the students and the reception support. A very special thank you is given to Keiko Nakamura, our Hospitality Chair, who spearheaded and organized the post-concert festivities. The concert was recorded and ordering information will be provided to you shortly.

As the New Year unfolds our Festival preparations and competition will be on the horizon. Additionally by now you should have seen and returned your confirmation for the Field Trip to Orlando which will be April 26 -29. There is a requirement for chaperones as well. The trip is always a showcase for our students to perform and have fun in an exciting setting. Last year's Boston trip was a wonderful experience. If you did not submit your form for your student or would consider being a

chaperone, please email [lawrencemjones at aol.com](mailto:lawrencemjones@aol.com) immediately.

The next Booster Meeting is at 7:30 on Tuesday January 9 in the Principal's Conference Room. Your attendance would be most welcome. The Boosters wish all of the TJ family a very happy and fulfilling New Year.

### ***Theater Boosters***

#### **Drama Club**

The Drama Club has selected the four plays it will present for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Knight of One Axe on February 1, 2, and 3. They will be:

- ***Invisible Man*** directed by Lauren Hoy & Suzanne Reed
- ***From the Mouths of Babes*** directed by Jeewon Kim & Lauren Ruth
- ***Hello Out There*** directed by Allie Shea & Brad Wergley
- ***Foreplay, or the Art of the Fugue*** directed by Nora Diamond & Cara Dickason

Rehearsals will begin in January.

The Spring musical *On The Town* has been cast and the list will be posted soon on the website at <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/>

#### **Shakespeare Troupe**

*All's Well That Ends Well* is sometimes called one of Shakespeare's "problem plays." Not quite tragedy, but not completely comedy, this play follows the complex stories of Helena, a woman of low rank, who wins the hand of Count Bertram in marriage in reward for curing the King of an illness. To avoid the marriage, Bertram runs off to war, stating that he will never be husband to Helena until she can bring him the ring he always wears on his finger, along with his child. Although Bertram thinks he has given an iron-clad challenge, Helena outsmarts him, and at the end of the play reveals her cleverness and wins Bertram's heart, and all ends well.

Seniors Jeewon Kim and Macs Smith will direct this production, which will be presented in the TJ Auditorium on January 11, 12 and 13. For more information about this production, and other Drama Club and Shakespeare Troupe news, visit the Drama Club webpage at <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/drama/>, or the TJ Theatre Boosters page at <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/>. The 2006 - 2007 production schedule can be found at <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/shows/index.html>.

Parents of students in the Drama Club and Shakespeare Troupe know that one of the best ways to support their children's love of theater is to join the TJHST Theatre Boosters. Please contact Theatre Boosters VP Margie

Perscheid at 703-799-4945 (evening), 703-645-1292 (day), or [mperscheid at cox.net](http://mperscheid@cox.net) for more information about the positions available in 2007-2008.

## Performances

### Drama Club:

- *Knight of One Axe* (an evening of one act plays selected, cast and directed by students) February 1 (7 p.m.); February 2 & 3 (7:30 p.m.)

### Shakespeare Troupe:

- *All's Well That Ends Well* – January 11, 12 & 13

## Announcements and Information

### *Barnes & Noble Book Fair - Jan 5 – 7*

Support all TJ Band programs by shopping at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore at Tysons Corner or Fair Lakes Promenade; they will donate a percentage of every purchase when made with a special Book Fair voucher. Vouchers are available in this newsletter, the TJ main office, and the band hall. Please share vouchers with others. For more information, contact Sarah Carey, [careyfamil at cox.net](mailto:careyfamil@cox.net).

### *Millennium Courtyard orders*

Orders must be received by March 15 (Go to <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/boosters/millennium2006.php>)

### *Shop with eScrip*

Every time you shop with a card registered with eScrip, you can earn money for TJ. All you need to do is register a card and use it when you shop in person or online at participating merchants.

## Noteworthy Dates

January	February
2 Band Boosters Meeting (6:30 p.m. – Principal's Conference Room)	1 Newsletter mailing party
3 Athletic Boosters Meeting (7:00 p.m. – Library)	1-3 All-District Band – West Potomac HS
4 Newsletter mailing party	6 Coffee with the Principal (6:00 p.m. Cafeteria)
5 Winter Sports Pep Rally	6 Band Boosters Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – Principal's Conference Room
5 RTC Dance	7 CAC Public Forum (7:30 p.m. - Auditorium)
5-7 Band Book Fair – Barnes & Noble – Tysons & Fair Lakes	12 PTSA Executive Board Meeting (7:30 p.m. - Library)
6 All-District Band Auditions – Robinson SS	13 Diversity Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m. - Career Center)
8 PTSA Executive Board Meeting (7:30 p.m. - Library)	13 Crew Information Session (7:30 p.m. - Cafeteria)
9 Diversity Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m. - Career Center)	14 Culturally Diverse Parents Workshop II (7:30 p.m., Career Center)
9 Orchestra Booster Meeting (7:30 p.m. – Principal's Conference Room)	16 Winter Chill-Out
10 CAC Coordinating Group (7:30 p.m. - Career Center)	17 Winter Guard Showcase – TJ Gym I
16 ANGP Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m. - Career Center)	19 Washington's Birthday Holiday
15 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Holiday	20 ANGP Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m. - Career Center)
23 Choral Boosters Winter Concert (7:30 p.m.)	21 Newsletter Submission Deadline
24 Newsletter Submission Deadline	27 Curricular Bands Concert – TJ Auditorium
25-26 Student Holidays	

To shop the "Online Mall," go to the eScrip page and enter the email address, phone number, or credit/debit card information that you used with your eScrip registration. Then shop online at your favorite name brand stores. TJ earns while you do your online shopping!

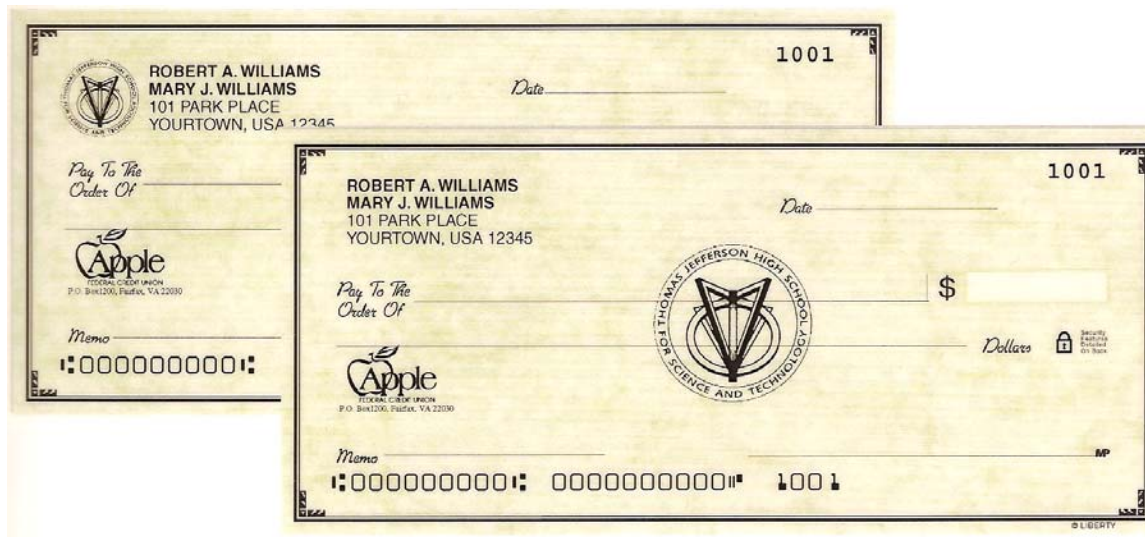
Participating stores include: Eddie Bauer, Barnes & Noble, Circuit City, Lands' End, Staples, Priceline, Apple, New Egg, Godiva, Skype, FTD, and hundreds of others.

To get started, visit the eScrip page: <http://www.escrip.com/program/3ways/index.jsp>. For more information about the program, visit the PTSA website: <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/support.htm#escrip>

### *Senior Transition Workshops*

For the third consecutive year, seniors will have the opportunity to take two different transition workshops during 8th period. Mr. Slivoskey is looking for parents to offer a few of these transition workshops February 2, 2007. A few of the workshops that we have offered in the past have been on cooking, packing, laundry, personal finance and basic car repair. A couple of our younger teachers did a workshop on "what I wish I knew before I entered college". We are open to offering all types of workshops that might prove helpful to our seniors. If you are interested in presenting a workshop Feb. 2 during 8th period (2:20 – 3:00; 3:10 – 3:50), please contact Rich Slivoskey, 8th period coordinator, at [richard.slivoskey at fcps.edu](mailto:richard.slivoskey@fcps.edu). If Feb. 2 is not a good date for you, then perhaps you can offer a workshop April 30 (3:10 – 3:50) and/or June 4 (3:10 – 3:50).

# Do you want checks like these?



If you sign up for a checking account with Apple Federal Credit Union, you can have these unique personalized TJHSST checks.

All parents of TJHSST students are eligible to set up an account. That means you!

We also offer:

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The first 100 checks are given to you free of charge upon activation of your account.

Applications can be found at [www.applefcu.org](http://www.applefcu.org).

To apply, simply fill out the appropriate information on the application, and have your child turn it in at the Jefferson branch along with a copy of your photo.

**Support Our School.**

# Barnes & Noble Welcomes

Thomas Jefferson H.S.  
Band Boosters  
January 6 - January 8

Barnes & Noble in Fair Lakes

12193 Fair Lake Promenade Drive • Fairfax, VA • 703-278-0300

Barnes & Noble in Tysons Corner Center  
7851 L. Tysons Corner Center • Mclean, VA • 703-506-2937



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### Senior Check List

- Purchase All Night Graduation Party ticket
- Volunteer to work for the ANGP. Contact [tjangp.volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp.volunteers at gmail.com)
- January 29: Cap and gown orders must be in
- February 2: Transition to College workshops