

Principal's Letter

Dear parents/guardians, teachers, and students:

When asked by U.S. News and World Report, "What makes TJ special?", I responded, "The people -- teachers, students, support staff, parents, and volunteers all working together to provide a challenging and nurturing learning environment for everyone in our community." However, it takes more than teamwork to ensure student success. Our students are not only dedicated and focused, but constantly overcome lost opportunities. This month I would like to share a few recent examples that illustrate our students' resilience.

Intel Science Talent Search semifinalists are revered for their science portfolio, including their in-depth research projects. Some students earn advanced research opportunities through special summer programs, such as The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program offered by the Department of Defense labs, and the Research Science Institute offered by the Center for Excellence in Education. Additionally, students interested in the TJ Mentorship Program work with Mr. Matt Pearce to get started in the summer before their senior year. When I met with our Intel semifinalists, however, I learned many of these students have pursued research opportunities even after not being selected in these formal programs. Rather than wait for a school-promoted research opportunity to become available, these students worked with their teachers and their parents proactively to obtain a special research opportunity. These students understand that learning occurs well beyond TJ.

In the second example, the math team faced an unexpected disappointment. At 4:30 a.m. on February 22, we learned our math team could not drive up to Boston to participate in the annual Harvard-MIT mathematics tournament for high school students due to the wintry mix up the East Coast. This was a day when some of our students

were hoping school would not be canceled so they could engage in a challenging competition with other schools around the country (as well as embark on a game of mafia with their peers on the bus). Even though the trip was canceled, the math team bounced back and came into school on Saturday with enthusiasm and plenty of snacks to keep them going. They worked on two competitions remotely from TJ from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., earning several top prizes and a fourth place overall team finish, even without participating in the final event. Now that is dedication!

In the third example, two students pursued a dream to bring a new resource to the school. Senior **William Yang** and Junior **Trey Repetski** are two students who have been interested in bringing Sun Microsystems computers with the Solaris operating system to TJ since their freshman year. At TJ, we believe in using multiple operating systems in addition to Microsoft Windows because many of our students need opportunities to experiment and learn the strengths of different platforms. However, the expense to acquire and maintain a multi-platform network is high, so we are limited to systems supported by FCPS (Microsoft) and those that can be supported at little expense (the student-run Intranet operates Linux which is a free to the public). William and Trey, however, believed TJ could take on Solaris if they could obtain the resources from Sun Microsystems. Since their freshman year, they have been asking for computers and servers through grants and have been denied several times over. This year they tried again and in February we accepted a grant from Sun Microsystems for approximately \$388,000 to establish a Solaris network with new labs and student kiosks. Persistence paid off!

Remarkable stories such as these help me understand why our students make TJ a special place. I know there are many more examples in academics, activities, athletics, and service. Behind all of these tributes stand a teacher, parent, or mentor helping our students learn to be resilient

whenever they face obstacles. Thanks to all of you who make a difference in our students' lives.

Yours truly,
Evan Glazer, Principal

President's Message

For a few of our Senior students, acceptances have started trickling in and the excitement is mounting amongst the Jefferson families, a new beginning is in sight. By April 1, all acceptances will be in and our school will be busy tabulating this year's statistics for future reference. Meanwhile, the All Night Graduation Party (ANGP) committee continues to work on the details of a safe and fun graduation party. Parents from all grades, especially the lower grades, are highly encouraged to volunteer for that night. You will get a unique perspective of what is yet to come.

By April 4, the 2012 TJ applicants will receive their acceptances and will join our TJ community on an exciting journey. Our PTSA cluster reps from Fairfax, as well as the other County reps, will soon gear up to welcome our Class of 2012. Between May and August the reps will host welcome gatherings for our new students and their families. At these informational gatherings current students, parents, teachers, and/or administrators will be on hand to answer questions and help with the transition.

The Directory committee has met in preparation for next year's directory updates, as well as new entries. No, it is not too early. As you know, this school year we managed to produce our directories by Back-to-School Night and the PTSA would like to do the same for next year. This year's periodic PTSA emails helped our TJ community stay informed and up-to-date on the issues that directly affect our school. We are now able to reach almost every TJ family. It is our goal to refine the process of collecting directory information for next year and be able to stay in touch electronically with 100% of our families. We find that asking the parents to input their own information saves us from unresolved error messages. We hope we can count on your support in keeping your information current and your email addresses updated on our PTSA website.

The nominating committee will be presented for approval at the March 13 PTSA meeting. They will immediately begin working on selecting the slate of officers for the 2008-2009 school year. Every year the committee starts with a blank slate and each of the officers' positions are open for self-nomination, nomination by others, or a nomination by the committee. Please consider being part of the process and take a moment to fill out the attached nomination form as you see fit.

In addition, we are also beginning to collect volunteers for the committee chairs on the PTSA board. Among others, we are looking for membership, newsletter editors, and newsletter mailings chairs. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinators at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu) if you are interested in these or any other position.

We would like to send special thanks to our committed TJ parents that took the time to write petitions and make appearances in front of our school board members to plead the TJ case on the depot busing and fees (the AP and the activities). You did it; they heard you. Now we have to keep our ears to the ground and hope that the Board of Supervisors finds a way to come up with the money to offset the initially proposed budget cuts.

Finally, at our last PTSA meeting the board approved a resolution to be sent to FCC PTA. The resolution is to change next year's Winter Holiday's start date to December 22 in lieu of December 24 and to have this proposal sent to the FCC PTA for further discussion. The FCC PTA has added the proposed calendar change to their March meeting agenda. We are hopeful that the adjustment can be made to benefit our community with minimal overall changes to the calendar.

Take care,
Nassmah Brooks, PTSA President

Principal's Coffee and PTSA Meeting

The next Principal's coffee and PTSA meeting is **Thursday, March 13, at 9 a.m. (note time change)** in the Cafeteria. Come hear the latest TJ news. The nominating committee for selecting next year's PTSA officers will be presented for approval at the meeting.

The PTSA Forum originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, has been cancelled.

Serving the TJ Community

Volunteers

WANTED!

PTSA Officers -- It's that time of year when the **Nominating Committee** seeks nominations for elected positions on the TJ PTSA **Executive Committee** for the 2008-2009 school year. Do you want to get involved and make a difference at TJ? Do you want to keep up to date with what's going on and network with other parents, students, and teachers? Then we have the job for you! **Please step forward and volunteer to serve as an officer on the PTSA Executive Committee.** The positions are: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. Any PTSA member with a willingness and ability to serve and provide leadership is welcome to apply. (Note: PTSA by-laws require that a person may be nominated for president only if he/she has served on the executive board for at least one term.) PTSA members who want to nominate someone else for an office may do so, with the nominee's permission. **The deadline for nominations is March 25, 2008.** Please contact the Nominating Committee at [ptsavolunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsavolunteers@tjhsst.edu) for information or fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and drop it off in the main office.

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• **Student Directory Committee Help**

• **Wanted:** Although this school year is not over, the Student Directory Committee is starting to work on next year's Directory. Since the Directory needs to be ready for distribution by Back-to-School Night, much of the work is done before school even starts. Help is needed in all areas, but in particular the committee is looking for **help with data gathering and validation.** If you would like to help, please contact [ptsadirectory at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsadirectory@tjhsst.edu).
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Parent Driver Volunteers Needed: Spring has arrived and so have our Japanese exchange students! The Chiben students will be at TJ from **March 9-30.** We are **looking for drivers to transport the students** to/from the Metro or to drive them to various sites. We need drivers on the following dates: Tuesday, March 11; Thursday, March 13; Tuesday, March 18; Wednesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 27. If you can help, please

contact Wendy Hecker at [WendyHecker at cox.net](mailto:WendyHecker@cox.net) or (703)359-1049.

Volunteers Needed for Physicals! We need **medical and non-medical parents** to help make the sports physicals a successful fundraiser! 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 **June 4.** We also need non-medical parents who want to help with working a station or check-in/out desk. Last year this fundraiser provided more than \$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 at fcps.edu](mailto:heather.murphy@fcps.edu).

ANGP

All Night Grad Party 2008 presents:



Countdown to graduation and All Night Grad Party! Graduation will take place on **June 14, 2008**, just three months from now, followed by this year's out-of this-world, action-packed, fun-filled ANGP.

Tickets sales: We anticipate close to 100% participation from the Class of 2008. Tickets cost \$100; no money is required once inside. Order forms are on the ANGP website (<http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/Tickets.html>) and in the TJ Front Office. No student is denied a ticket for financial reasons. If finances are a consideration, please contact your student's guidance counselor, who will arrange for your student's ticket.

Donations Welcomed: Cash contributions and in-kind donations are needed to help fund this year's ANGP. Your generosity will be recognized on the ANGP web site and in the TJHSST newsletter. Donor Levels are: Friend \$50; Patron \$100; Benefactor \$250; Champion \$500. For instructions

on how to make a donation, go to the ANGP website at <http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/Donations.html>.



Class 2008 Display Case

Gift items needed: Best Buy, iTunes, Starbucks gift cards in any amounts; 4 GB flash drives, slushie makers, coffee makers, Foreman grills, iPod clock radios, floor lamps, desk lamps. For large raffle items: small refrigerators, iPods, DVD players, small TVs.

Volunteers: "Handyman" needed! We recycle decorations from year to year, and some are now in need of repair. If you are good with a hammer and nails, we could use your help refurbishing several large props to render them usable for this year.

Underclass parents, we encourage you to join the ANGP fun. It won't be long before you will be planning ANGP for your class! It is a TJ tradition that junior parents "shadow" current ANGP committee chairs to gain valuable on-the-job training for next year. If you don't volunteer, you won't be able to experience ANGP! To find out about volunteer opportunities, contact Sue Anderson, Volunteer Chair, at tjangp.volunteers@gmail.com.

Student Services Corner

SGA

As mentioned in the December update, SGA is currently devoting its energy to two new events this year: **TJ Olympics** and a **TJ Leadership**

Conference for seventh graders. TJ Olympics is a two-week long series of fun competitions ranging from Quidditch to tennis that will take place during lunches and 8th periods from March 3-14. Parents, you are invited to attend the competitions if you would like. Please contact SGA President John Goodwin ([jgoodwin18 at gmail.com](mailto:jgoodwin18@gmail.com)) for a copy of the TJ Olympics schedule or if you have any questions.

The other new exciting event that SGA is hosting is a **leadership conference** for seventh graders from Northern Virginia area public middle schools. The leadership conference will consist of seminars and workshops taught by TJ's own student leaders! The leadership conference will take place on **April 5**. We are in need of **parent chaperones** from **10 a.m.-3 p.m.** Parents should contact SGA sponsor Ms. Schoeplein if they're interested in helping. Any questions about the leadership conference should be directed to SGA Vice President Ariel Lepon ([ariellepon at gmail.com](mailto:ariellepon@gmail.com)).

Guidelines

The latest issue of the TJHSST Student Services Department newsletter, **Guidelines**, is available at:

<http://information.tjhsst.edu/dss/>

Academic News

German News

All German II, III, and AP students took the National German Exam in January. (There is no exam for levels I or V.) Frau Vaden is very proud to report the outstanding results. Fifty-five of the 76 test takers (73%) scored in the top 10% of the nation. **Five of TJ's German students had the best score in Virginia (see names with stars)**, and many more were only one or two answers away from the highest score. The students listed below, having placed at least in the 90 percentile of the nation, can now apply for a free summer study program in Germany, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of German.

Congratulations to these **German II** students, who scored in the **top 10%** in the nation: **Kristina Brant****, **Jake Hermle****, **Kelsey Dressing**, **Cassidy Walsh**, **Nihar Sinha**, **Neal Milstein**, **Chris Carey**, **Kelsey Johnson**, **Katie Mitchell**, **Annie Silverman**, **Emma Ferris**, **Kelly**

Schumann, Spencer Clark, Alex McGlothlin, Robert Carlson, Myles Cook, Lisa Junta, Tracy Esman, Zach Newman, Julie Thatcher, Daniel Schlicht, Nora Vivanco, Alex Stabile, Anna Green, and Sonia Foley.

Congratulations to these **German III** students, who scored in the **top 10%** in the nation: **Erica Curles****, **Mariet Kurtz**, **Tyler Brobst**, **Jimmy Clark**, **Phillip Marlow**, **Rebecca Justice**, **Arda Menzilcioglu**, **Ewan Kay**, **Eric Bomgardner**, **Suzan Ok**, **Nick Ryals**, **Erin Haas**, **Brian Murphy**, **Timur Aleshin**, **Matt Lycas**, **Neha Rathi**, **Kyle Lee**, and **Yasmin Kamal**.

Congratulations to these **German AP** students, who scored in the **top 10%** in the nation on the German IV exam: **Stephen Lam****, **Monica Li****, **Jean Marie Stewart**, **Jessica Shartouny**, **Debjeni Saha**, **Keshav Pillai**, **Rutger Schneider**, **Thomas Bettge**, **Keesu Kim**, **Timmy Galvin**, **Michael Howard**, and **Will Pitler**.

Japanese News

On February 14-15, fifteen juniors and seniors from our program had an opportunity to participate in the workshop offered by a group of Japanese artists, Maywa Denki. It was a part of Kennedy Center's major event, *Japan: Culture and Hyper Culture*. The students created percussion instruments made from common household items such as tin cans, milk jugs, books, and boxes. The students were also invited to be a part of their concert on the Millennium Stage on the 16th. It was a successful and fun three days!

In March, the Japanese program will be welcoming another year of Chiben Japanese exchange students from March 10-28. Please say hello when you see them in the hallway (9 boys and 5 girls: all 16 years old).

We will also be busy preparing for the **National Japan Bowl** in DC (**March 21-22**). Nine students (3 students each from Japanese 2, 3, and AP) will be participating to the tournament this year. The top three teams in the senior group will be invited to a 10-day trip to Japan this summer. We hope our year-long practice will show some good results at the tournament. This year's participants are:

- Level 2: **Jungeun Choi**, **Connie Xie**, and **Brian Yu**
- Level 3: **Andrew Lam**, **Han Kim**, and **Steven Kim**
- Level 4: **Jessica Lee**, **Andrew Baik**, and **Cassandra Xia**

Russian News

On March 14 (Pi Day!) the Russian Honor Society will be selling pizza and pie in the AudLob. Don't miss the opportunity to buy hot pizza and delicious pie!

The **Virginia State Russian speaking contest**, the Russian Language Olympiada for Spoken Russian, will be held on **Friday, April 4**, at the Johnson Center of George Mason University. Students of all levels will have the opportunity to have their Russian tested outside of the classroom while competing in a friendly atmosphere against their peers from other Virginia schools. Advanced level students hope to earn a coveted spot on the National Olympiada team which is scheduled to travel to Russia at the end of June. Eight students from the United States will be selected to compete at the International Russian Language Olympiada held in Moscow every three years. Wish us luck!

- **Level 1:** The team of **Stephen Boris**, **Michael Crumpler**, and **Timothy Yuan** were voted by their classmates as the in-class winners for presenting the best spontaneous dialogs! They will receive Russian chocolates for their fine performance!
- **Level 2:** **Claire Cundiff**, **Greyson Lewis**, **Andy Mai**, and **Alex Shmorhun** entered the ACTFL Student Video Podcast Contest. The theme for all levels and languages was: *Not Just a Language Class!* The guidelines encouraged using English as the main language, but these students found a clever way to weave in Russian and stick to the use of English rule.
- **Level 3, 4, AP:** Students are scheduling interviews with Russian speaking community members to produce their first set of Podcasts in Russian. These will be hosted locally on our TJ server with the help of our tech students and Mr. Washer.

Class News

2009 – Juniors

The Armory: TJ's new store, The Armory, is located at the end of the physics hallway. This is where all TJ students can purchase classroom essentials such as pencils, notebooks, USB flash drives, index cards, balloons, and locker decorations – all for a small fee. **The Armory hours** of operation are from **8-8:25 a.m.** and **during lunch Monday through Friday.** We hope you'll stop by to see the new store and purchase your supplies! Managers are Toby Lowenstein, Kiara Savage, and Lauren Groskaufmanis.

Mr. Colonial: Mr. Colonial, a fun TJ tradition, will be held **March 7 from 7–11 p.m.** in the Auditorium. This is a competition where guys from all classes dance, eat, sing, and showcase other talents for the ultimate title of Mr. Colonial. Come to this event so you can cast your vote for the male who'll best represent TJ as Mr. Colonial. You must be at the event in order to cast your vote!

Save the Date: Upcoming Junior Class Events --
April 26, 2008, 7-11 p.m. – Spring Premiere
May 30-31 (starting at 4 p.m. on Friday, May 30)
-- **Junior Campout** on the football field

2010 – Sophomores

You should now have received a letter from the sophomore class about **"As Seen on TV"** – the **Silent Auction** scheduled for **Friday, April 25.** The silent auction committee is busy planning a great event, but they need your help. What can you do?

- Discuss your HUM basket donation with your student and send it in to school this month.
- Think about what else you can donate – Tickets? Gift certificates? Services? Round of golf? Sports coaching? Decorating Advice?
- Ask your employer, neighbors and neighborhood businesses for donations.
- Volunteer

Please check out the class website at: www.tjhsst.edu/2010 for detailed information, including donation forms, business solicitation packets, and ideas on what you can donate.

Volunteer opportunities: For this to be a success, the students need your help. We need parents to help Carrie Kilgore and the students with business solicitations. If you are willing to solicit places you know or help with solicitations in general, we need your help now! We also need contacts at local business that might be willing to donate to the auction. We can provide you materials to use or we are happy to solicit them directly.

We will also need parents to help with the "creative packaging" – to organize all of the donated items into fun baskets for the auction (this work will be done the last few weeks before the auction).

We need parents to help the day of the event – with set up (probably from 3–7 p.m.) and during the event (probably between 7-10 p.m.) with food, logistics, clean up, etc.

If you would like to volunteer, you can sign up through the class website or by contacting Ellen Ranard, Class of 2010 Liaison, at ESRanard@gmail.com

2011 - Freshmen

The most recent Guidelines newsletter was published by Student Services and, as always, has useful information in it for Freshman families to consider. Specifically, it notes the dates of SOL exams, AP exams, and SAT subject area exams. Though freshman students most likely will not be taking the SAT, be aware that if your student has taken Pre-calculus they will want to consider taking the SAT subject test Math Level 2. You will find information about the SATs and SAT subject tests at www.collegeboard.com as well as by contacting your counselor.

February was the month where Freshmen signed up for next year's classes. **Changes** can be made until **April 4.** One consideration for next year's classes is to begin to identify the senior labs that your student might be interested in and any prerequisites for those labs. Information regarding summer school will be forthcoming from Student Services. Feel free to contact your student's counselor with any questions regarding next year's class schedule, testing schedules, and summer school.

Speaking of summer, the Lodal Career Center has a wealth of information about summer opportunities for our students. Through the TJ website you can access a listing with links to specific websites by including summer academic, leadership, and service programs. From the www.tjhsst.edu home page: click on "academics;" then "career center;" then "summer opportunities." In the office itself there is a notebook, *TJ Best of Summer 2007*, with student comments regarding their 2007 summer activities. Enjoy the possibilities.

Lastly, we wanted to thank many of you who have emailed us over the months offering to volunteer for the **Freshman Lock In** on **May 2, 2008**. There will be several shifts of volunteers and roughly 120 parent volunteers are anticipated. We continue to add individuals to our list of volunteers and welcome all interested parents to email us of their interest. In late March or early April we will send out more information regarding the Lock In.

You may contact us at [eswoboda at erols.com](mailto:eswoboda@erols.com) and [danielaowen at verizon.net](mailto:danielaowen@verizon.net).

News Round-Up and Awards

Students

Sun Microsystems Grant: Senior **William Yang** and Junior **Stephen Reptski** wrote a grant for Solaris operating system equipment. Due to their persistent efforts, TJ received **\$388,341** worth of donated equipment from Sun Microsystems, including several servers, and nearly 100 workstations for students to use.

The new servers will replace the existing servers which support the Scholl's Computer Science program, and plans are being considered to place the workstations around the TJ campus so that they would be usable by all students. Thanks to Shane Torbert and Richard Washer for their guidance and help.

Science and Engineering Fair: Congratulations to the following award winners in the 2008 TJ Science and Engineering Fair which was held on February 9, 2008. For a list of project names and sponsors, see www.tjhsst.edu

First Place: **Prashasti Agrawal**, Plant Sciences; **Varun Bansal**, Environmental Science; **Sarah Benjamin**, Astronomy; **Ryan Brewster**, Engineering: E&M; **Rebecca Chung**, Cellular and Molecular Biology; **Rohit Dasgupta**, Chemistry; **Francis Deng**, Medicine and Health; **Bo Fan**, Physics; **Sappho Gilbert**, Medicine and Health; **Russell Glorioso**, Biochemistry; **Anish Goel**, Engineering: M&B; **Phil Grisdela**, Environmental Sciences; **Xinmeng (Mimi) Gu**, Animal Sciences; **Nabeen Hashem**, Engineering: M&B; **Christine Hiemstra**, Chemistry; **Arielle Kahn**, Earth and Planetary Science; **Yasmin Kamal**, Plant Sciences; **Samantha Keyser**, Chemistry; **Alexander Kim**, Animal Sciences; **Catherine Kim**, Animal Sciences; **Joy Lee**, Environmental Sciences; **Renfei (Aaron) Liu**, Animal Sciences; **Kevin Lu**, Physics; **Sumit Malik**, Environmental Sciences; **Will McGrath**, Engineering: E&M; **Madhav Nandipati**, Computer Science; **Juyeon Park**, Animal Sciences; **Dawei Qi**, Energy and Transportation; **Kelly Ran**, Computer Science; **Edward Rice**, Cellular and Molecular Biology; **Anne Rohlfing**, Chemistry; **Hannah Saperstein**, Physics; **Anirudh Saraswathula**, Medicine and Health; **Janet Shin**, Animal Sciences; **Jacob Steinhardt**, Mathematical Sciences; **Jack Wang**, Physics; **Evan Warner**, Mathematical Sciences; **Thomas Williams**, Engineering: E&M; **Vangie Xu**, and Animal Sciences; **So-Jung Youn**, Animal Sciences.

Second Place: **Roshan Alemi**, Engineering: E&M; **Anirudh Barthakur**, Engineering: M&B; **Ben Buch**, Chemistry; **Phu-Quy Cai**, Energy and Transportation; **Maggie Cha**, Environmental Sciences; **Jeff Chen**, Computer Science; **Ryan Clubb**, Energy and Transportation; **Abel David**, Engineering: M&B; **Margaret Don**, Animal Sciences; **Casey Enders**, Environmental Sciences; **Paige Engelbrektsson**, Astronomy; **Giannina Garcia**, Environmental Sciences; **Jasteena Gill**, Plant Sciences; **Evan Heflin**, Chemistry; **Glen Hookey**, Medicine and Health; **Michael Howard**, Medicine and Health; **Rishi Iyengar**, Cellular and Molecular Biology; **Byong Han Kim**, Animal Sciences; **David Kim**, Engineering: E&M; **Brian Landry**, Chemistry; **Sarah Larson**, Animal Sciences; **Christine Lee**, Plant Sciences; **Kee Young Lee**, Engineering: E&M; **Katherine Madden**, Animal Sciences; **Maneeshika Madduri**, Chemistry; **Ojas Mainkar**, Engineering: E&M; **Chester Markwalter**, Chemistry; **Amy McCormack**, Earth and Planetary Science; **Kat**

Montgomery, Animal Sciences; **Ankita Nagirimadugu**, Earth and Planetary Science; **Michelle Oresky**, Chemistry; **Jeremy Owen**, Mathematical Sciences; **Aditya Palepu**, Computer Science; **Diane Palko**, Animal Sciences; **Jonathan Park**, Chemistry; **Keshav Pillai**, Chemistry; **Amelia Plunk**, Animal Sciences; **Patricia Rupinen**, Earth and Planetary Science; **Sarah Salino**, Earth and Planetary Science; **Kate Schofield**, Environmental Sciences; **Katherine Sourbeer**, Animal Sciences; **Mimi Stein**, Chemistry; **Kate Turetsky**, Engineering: E&M; **Kathryn Wagner**, Engineering: M&B; **Cayla Wallwork**, Environmental Sciences; **Peter Westman**, Chemistry; **Akshar Wunnava**, Energy and Transportation; **Cassandra Xia**, Medicine and Health; and **Nanfei Yan**, Astronomy.

Third Place: **Ved Basu**, Engineering: E&M; **Aaron Bernstein**, Chemistry; **Mingou Fan**, Chemistry; **Christopher Gear**, Engineering: E&M; **Yang He**, Computer Science; **Allison Hegel**, Astronomy; **Aras Jizan**, Chemistry; **Kaitlin Kleiber**, Astronomy; **Sahil Marya**, Astronomy; **Swetha Rao**, Engineering: E&M; **Mary Shaw**, Engineering: M&B; **Anurag Shyamala**, Medicine and Health; **Cindy Wei**, Chemistry; **Keith Willner**, Astronomy; and **Colleen Zhu**, Engineering: M&B.

Honorable Mention: **Nicholas Anderson**, Engineering: M&B; **Christina Beasley**, Astronomy; **Olivia Bonin**, Astronomy; **Ariel Brown**, Chemistry; **Sean Carmichael**, Astronomy; **Steven Chen**, Biochemistry; **Diana Fang**, Astronomy; **Mohit Iyyer**, Biochemistry; **Peter Lee**, Engineering: M&B; **Zachary Mott**, Astronomy; **Thomas Rudelius**, Chemistry; **Jessica Shelton**, Chemistry; **Taylor Stewart-Cannon**, Astronomy; **Ethan Stone**, Microbiology; **Melanie Szwajkowski**, Astronomy; **Michael Tanes**, Biochemistry; **William Xia**, Chemistry; **Sherwin Yu**, Biochemistry; and **Megan Zurowski**, Chemistry.

Harry F. Byrd, Jr., Scholarship Award: Senior **John Goodwin** was awarded the \$10,000 Harry F. Byrd, Jr., Leadership Award. It is given to a student from each of the 11 congressional districts of Virginia. Candidates for the scholarship are nominated by their high school, and then compete with other nominated students in their district with the top three interviewing with a panel that includes Harry Byrd III.

Research Science Institute's Intel Science Talent Search: **Jeff Chen** was named a semifinalist in the 2007 Research Science Institute's Intel Science Talent Search and won \$1,000 for his computer programming project that helps to improve speech recognition systems. The project called *"Dynamic Speech Recognition Language Model Training Via Real Time News Corpus Monitoring"* required 2 ½ months of planning last summer at the Research Science Institute.

AI Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship and Conference: **Sarah Johnna Vogel** has been selected as an AI Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship and Conference Program winner. She will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship and will attend an all expense paid conference in Washington, D.C., March 16-20, 2008. For the first time this year, the conference will take place at the Newseum, and during the conference program she will attend sessions with media professionals and news executives. Sarah will also be part of an audience of media leaders, diplomats, and other distinguished guests at the AI Neuharth Free Spirit of the Year award ceremony on March 19. She will be expected to cover the conference and the Free Spirit of the Year award program as a journalist and write an article or produce a segment for her school newspaper or media project as part of her assignment. She is one of the 102 top journalism students who were carefully chosen to represent all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Congratulations also goes to Ms. Seavey her teacher!

Jeopardy! Winner: **Naren Tallapragada** was one of five teen semi-finalists on **Jeopardy! Teen Tournament** during the weeks of February 11 through February 22 where he and his parents received an all expenses paid trip to Los Angeles. Congratulations Naren on your \$10,000 semi-finalist finish.

American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest: The American Legion National High School Oratorical contest was held in Annandale on January 20, 2008. **Sumit Malik** was the winner of \$500 at the local level (American Legion Post 1976.). He will now compete at the Regional Level. The participants had to speak for 8 to 10 minutes on a prepared speech which covered some aspect of the U.S. Constitution.

Regional Scholastic Art Award Winners: The following students have won the Regional Scholastic Art Award: **Victoria Lee**, Painting; **Holly Trebing**, Drawing; and **Tessa Zeng**, Art Portfolio and Drawing. Congratulations go to the students and Mr. Okazaki!

Minority Day Competition: **Nelson Zhu** won the Minority Day competition held at Microsoft in Washington, D.C., on February 8. Nelson's award included a laptop loaded with the Vista operating system. **Natasha Wallage**, **Keturah James**, **Ashley Afrani-Sakyi**, and **Kiara Savage** also entered essays in the competition. All participating students received a bag, t-shirt and the Student 2007 Microsoft Suite software.

All-Virginia Band and Orchestra: Band members **Ellen Zhong**, **Jin-ah Kim**, **Danielle Murashige**, **Katy Reinsel**, **Joseph Muldoon**, **Adam Christian**, **Brett Anders**, **Lauren Houck**, **Stephen Houck**, **Kennan Murphy-Sierra**, and **Em Feeney** will represent TJ in these highly selective ensembles April 3–5, and perform on April 5 at 2 p.m. in a concert at Harrisonburg HS, Harrisonburg, VA. The concert is free and open to the public.

Eagle Scout Badge: Senior Brian Terrill, Class of 2008, received his Eagle Scout badge from Boy Scout Troop 1347 Scoutmaster John Connors on February 23, 2008, at Burke United Methodist Church. Brian's Eagle Scout Service Project benefited residents of the Newington Station community and Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, and was sponsored by the Mason Neck Lions Club.



TJHSST Partnership Fund

Partnership Fund Steps Up to TJ's Needs!

Between September and December 2007, more than 400 current TJ families donated at a record-breaking level to the Partnership Fund. Already, the Partnership has presented checks this school year totaling \$100,000 to Principal Evan Glazer.

In the photo below, Chair Tom Goodwin presents Dr. Evan Glazer a check for \$50,000 from the Fund during a February faculty meeting. Dr. Glazer and the faculty determine, according to instructional best value, what aging equipment can be replaced.



Thanks to All of Our Contributors!

Congratulations to **William Yang** and **Stephen Repetski** whose grant resulted in Sun MicroSystems' donation of new computer equipment worth more than \$300,000. Training and maintenance are not included, so the Partnership Fund has pledged \$12,000 to cover those costs.

Please Say "Yes, I Can" if you receive a call during the Third Annual Parent-to-Parent Partnership Phonathon on **Sunday, March 9**, from **2:30-5 p.m.** Parent volunteers will call fellow TJ parents to ask for their financial support of the Jefferson Partnership Fund during the current school year. Want to volunteer? Training is provided the day of the Phonathon, along with lots of good food, good company and the opportunity to hear from Principal Evan Glazer. Contact Ellen Ranard at esranard@gmail.com or Janet Tener at jkertener@aol.com if you want to know more.

Do you work for Raytheon or Verizon or know a TJ parent, alumni parent, or graduate who does? If you have information to share, please contact parent Nancy Carter (nacarter@earthlink.net) or Partnership Fund Director of Corporate and

Community Relations Gary Bottorff ([gary.bottorff at fcps.edu](mailto:gary.bottorff@fcps.edu)).

Questions contact Janet Tener at 703-242-8858 or Ellen Ranard at 703-759-4266

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters

On February 9, Academic Boosters held its first phonathon, with more than two dozen TJ parent and student volunteers, plus teacher Pat Gabriel, the teacher liaison to Academic Boosters. Thank you to all the volunteers, and to the dozens of families who collectively donated more than \$6,000 that day.

With more than \$25,000 in donations from the TJ community, Academic Boosters is able to provide more financial support this year than in past years to our academic teams. As of February, Academic Boosters fully funded requests for registration fees for in-school academic competitions and study materials, partially funded requests for out-of-school registration fees, and funded almost all requests for teacher travel reimbursement. Congratulations to all the students who have done so well in fall and winter competitions, and good luck to our many students competing in upcoming state, regional, and national events.

Certamen (Latin): TJ's Certamen team hosted a successful state Certamen on Saturday, February 23. At what may be the biggest Certamen in Virginia state history, 108 teams from more than 40 schools from around the state (and a visiting team from Wisconsin) squared off in the fast-paced competition. TJ players wrote questions, organized the matches, and kept score. They look forward to returning to their regular roles as competitors at next month's Certamen at Woodson High in Fairfax, and, in April, at the state championship.

Chess Team: The weekend of February 16, TJ sent two teams to the World Amateur Team East tournament in New Jersey. The first TJ team, **Aryan Khojandi, Byron Hood, Craig Saperstein, and Emma Pierson**, scored 4 points out of 6, and were ranked the best high school team. The second TJ team, **Jacob Steinhardt, Andrew Rodriguez, Jacob Daniels, and Stephen Drodge**, scored 2 out of 6 points.

So far, 28 TJ students have signed up to play in Virginia's State Championships, which will be held at Lake Braddock SS on March 8 and 9. TJ hopes for its tenth straight win in the State Championships. If you would like to sign up, contact Byron Hood at [tjchessteam at gmail.com](mailto:tjchessteam@gmail.com).

Computer Team: The Computer Team competed in the February USACO contest online over the weekend of February 8-11. This is the premiere contest for high school Computer Science in the world. In the *Gold Division*, **Jacob Steinhardt** was third in the country, **Brian Hamrick** was fourth, **Haitao Mao** seventh, **Jack Chen** twenty-fourth, **Daniel Li** twenty-sixth, and **Tiffany Cai** twenty-seventh. In the *Silver Division*, **Christina Wallin** was eighth in the country, **Tom Georgiou** was tenth, and **William Yang** twenty-first. In the *Bronze Division*, **Casey Mihalow, Daniel Ranard, and Filip Sufitchi** were part of a 79-way tie for first in the world (you can't beat perfection). For complete international results see <http://ace.delos.com/FEB08results>.

Debate Teams: Lincoln Douglas Debate -- On February 9, TJ's Lincoln Douglas debate team competed at the last local tournament of the season, WACFL V. In the JV Division, **Emily Yu, Jared Hallett, and Sid Bhatia** were among the top six finalists and **Aman Kansal** was both the first-place debater and first-place speaker. In the Novice category, **Kevin Boehm** placed fourth. This brings the total number of LD debaters who have qualified for the March 7-8 regional Metro Finals to 25 people – a TJ record and a number virtually unmatched in the Washington area. For complete results, see <http://activities.tjhsst.edu/debate/>.

Rohit Dasgupta, Lily Hsiang, Joy Lee, Divya Srinivasan, Jared Hallett, and Elizabeth Denning competed in the Harvard National Invitational Forensics Tournament February 15-18. The same weekend, three debaters competed at the VHSL Liberty Districts tournament. **Christine O'Donnell** "broke" and will compete in the Northern Region tournament on March 29.

Policy Debate: TJ's Policy Debate team attended the Harvard Invitational February 18-19. The varsity team of **Kathy Hutchinson and Lisa Pang** broke into the quarterfinals round with a record of

4-3 in 16th place. Two varsity teams and three junior varsity teams competed at WACFL V at Broad Run HS on February 23, and the varsity team of **Hannah Clark** and **Huan Song** placed fifth.

Public Forum Debate: TJ's Public Forum debate team also attended the WACFL V. In the Varsity division, the team of **Francis Deng** and **Dan Wang** placed 5th and qualified for WACFL Metrofinals. In the Junior Varsity division, the team of **Emily Yu** and **Rebecca Friedman** placed 1st with a perfect 4-0 record, and the team of **Kevin Sun** and **Katherine Helmick** placed 4th, qualifying both teams for JV Metrofinals. Two other teams also qualified for JV Metrofinals: **Cindy Han** and **Akaash Gupta**, and **Lisa Yang** and **Jane Hu**.

It's Academic: TJ's team, consisting of **Phil Graves**, **Keshav Pillai**, **Mohit Iyyer**, and **Naren Tallapragada** finished with a 6-1 record in the VHSL Scholastic Bowl District competition on January 5, sustaining only one loss to Woodson HS. During the Regional tournament, TJ swept all four playoff rounds, including two victories against previously-undefeated Woodson. As VHSL Regional Champions, TJ will advance to VHSL States on March 1 at William and Mary.

TJ *It's Academic* sent five teams to the Gonzaga Academic Tournament on February 9. TJ A, consisting of **Phil Graves**, **Naren Tallapragada**, **Jacob Kohn**, and **Felix Zhang**, despite the absence of two starters, managed an undefeated preliminary record, and finished 3rd place overall. TJ B, consisting of **Tom Smilack**, **Raza Mir**, **Bali Gupta**, and **Brian Terrill**, went 4-1 in the prelims, sustaining a first round loss during the playoffs. TJ C, consisting of **Kevin Casto**, **Michael Eng**, **Alicia Goertel**, and **Harry White** qualified for playoffs, but lost in the first round to eventual tournament champion Walt Whitman High.

Two of TJ's *It's Academic* teams swept the VCU Academic Tournament on February 23. TJ A, consisting of **Keshav Pillai**, **Phil Graves**, **Naren Tallapragada**, and **Mohit Iyyer** enjoyed an 8-2 preliminary record, with one unexpected loss to TJ B, and placed first. TJ A twice defeated Paul M. Dorman HS, the highest-ranked team in the country, which had an undefeated record in the preliminaries and only had one other loss during the entire season. TJ B, consisting of **Tom**

Smilack, **Raza Mir**, **Bali Gupta**, **Felix Zhang**, and **Kevin Casto**, had a 7-3 record, and placed fourth. Two of its losses were by extremely close margins, coming down to the very last question.

Math Team: The Harvard MIT Math Tournament was held on Saturday, February 23. Due to bad weather, the team was not allowed to travel to Boston. However, teams were allowed to participate remotely in two of the three rounds.

In the Individual Round Algebra Subject Test, **Jacob Steinhardt** placed first and **Daniel Li** placed second. In the Calculus Subject Test, **Brian Hamrick** placed first. In the Combinatorics Subject Test, **Brian Hamrick** placed second and **Jacob Steinhardt** placed third. The scores are combined in each of the competitors' two tests and top individual prizes are awarded. Based on these combined scores, **Brian Hamrick** placed first, **Jacob Steinhardt** second and **Daniel Li** tenth.

In the Team Round, TJ placed third. And, even with a 0 in the Guts Round that TJ could not participate in, TJ finished fourth overall.

Model UN: TJ was represented by more than 100 delegates at the Ivy League MUNC conference at the University of Pennsylvania from January 31-February 3. Best Delegate Awards went to **Casey Enders**, **Nabeem Hashem**, **Sumit Malik**, and **Naren Tallapragada**. Outstanding Delegate Awards went to **Marina Arnold**, **Curtis Mills**, and **Hirsh Sharma**. Honorable Delegate Awards went to **Vinitra Rangan**, **Drew Stebbins**, **Swetha Pasala**, and **Anirudh Saraswathula**. Several other delegates received commendations.

Ocean Bowl: The regional Ocean Bowl competition, the Chesapeake Bay Bowl, was held on February 23 at the U.S. Naval Academy. The TJ A team, consisting of **Helen Zhang** (Captain), **Aimee Zhang**, **Oleg Lazarev**, **Alex Kim**, and **Catherine Kim** placed first and will attend Nationals in Alaska. The TJ B team, consisting of **Diane Palko** (Captain), **Bryan Chun**, **Janiel Li**, **Margaret Tarmann**, and **Joey Jachowski** placed second.

Physics Team: Nineteen TJ students who took the preliminary qualifying exam for the U.S. Physics Olympiad made quarter-finals. TJ had the most quarterfinalists of any high school, with about 4%

of all US quarterfinalists. The TJ quarterfinalists are: **Tiffany Cai, Kevin Casto, Luke Cheng, Aaron Dufour, Brian Hamrick, Soonwook Hong, Lily Hsiang, Oleg Lazarev, Kee Young Lee, Daniel Li, Casey Mihalow, Will Minshew, Chris Olund, Emma Pierson, William Pitler, Jacob Steinhardt, Bruce Sun, Jack Wang,** and Yangbo Xu.

The Physics Team this year will be entering a second competition, known as the Physics Bowl. Interested students should see Dr. Dell.

Science Bowl: The TJ Science Bowl team, **Bruce Sun, Jack Wang, Evan Warner, Francis Deng** and **Meng Chen**, captured the Virginia Regional Science Bowl for the seventh straight year on Saturday, February 2, resulting in a \$750 donation to TJ. The team will compete in Nationals this May.

Band Boosters

Winter Showcase, March 8, 6 p.m.: Come enjoy this spectacular competition featuring many Winter Guard and Drum Line units. **Admission is \$10 adults, \$7 ten and under.** This is a major Band Booster fundraiser supporting all TJ band programs. Parent and student volunteers needed throughout the day, contact **Reinselt at msn.com**. All band families are asked to volunteer and provide individually-wrapped baked goods for the bake sale.



TJ Winter Guard



TJ Drum Line

American Youth Philharmonic: Many TJ students perform with these prestigious ensembles. Enjoy the talents of these skilled musicians, attend an AYP concert. Calendar and ticket information: <http://www.aypo.org/events/concert-schedule.php>.

Cookies Frozen, Ready-to-Bake: Mouth-watering variety available! **Orders due March 14, delivered on March 29.** Pick up in TJ Cafeteria. Cookies can be delivered to your door; for information, or to order contact **tjpies at gmail.com**.

Delicious Florida Citrus: Last month to purchase the freshest, juiciest Honey Murcott tangerines, Temple oranges and Ruby Red grapefruit. **Orders due March 15, delivered on March 29.** Pick up in TJ Cafeteria. Fruit can be delivered to your door, contact: **tjcitrus at hotmail.com**, or call (703) 765-4380. Special thanks goes to Rae Ann Murashige and many volunteers for their sustained dedication to this most lucrative fundraiser.

Support TJ Band Fundraisers: Customized License Plate Frames: Great gift, only \$20. Contact **Sylvie at wrtc.org**, (703) 342-0215. See samples at <http://www.tjhsstband.org>. Scrip – Gift Cards – Variety available! – **kaycorey at cox.net**.

We Need You! Many band boosters are graduating in 2008. New volunteers are needed now! Learn about TJ Bands: <http://www.tjhsstband.org>. Subscribe to Booster Yahoo group: **tjbandboosters-subscribe at yahoogroups.com**. Mail charitable donation to TJHSST Band Boosters, c/o Huisuk Lineer, 4955 Gainsborough Dr., Fairfax, VA 22032.

Colonial Athletic Boosters

March is National Athletic Training Month!

TJ's Certified Athletic Trainers invite YOU (parents, grandparents, athletes, brothers, sisters, faculty, staff and students) to their Athletic Training Room **Open House on Thursday, March 6, from 4-6 p.m.** The National Athletic Training Month theme is "Who is taking care of your kids?" Come meet TJ's Certified Athletic Trainers Heather Murphy and Kemba



Ford. You can observe life in the athletic training room after school. See how the athletic trainers care for athletes before, during and after practices and what types of treatments the athletes receive. Stop by for a quick tour before the Winter Sports Banquet. Perhaps you have seen them on the sidelines, at parents meetings and banquets; now come see the ATCs at their "home" in the Thomas Jefferson Athletic Training Room. Come celebrate National Athletic Training Month with Ms. Murphy and Ms. Ford!

During March, Athletic Trainers across America are being recognized for their commitment to helping people prevent injuries and stay healthy and active. Athletic Training is an allied health care profession. Athletic Trainers are highly educated and dedicated to the job at hand. Athletic Trainers can be found in high schools and colleges, corporations, professional sports, the military, performing arts and clinics, hospitals and physician offices.

Visit

<http://www.fcps.edu/supt/activities/atp/index.htm>, www.nata.org and www.vata.us for more information.

Save the Date: Athletic Boosters Annual Sports Physicals -- Parents, want to get your child's sports physical taken care of early for the 2008-2009 school year? Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, June 4**, 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 2008-2009 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. Every athlete needs a new athletic physical every school year so, save yourself a trip to the doctor's office and come out and support TJ Athletics. Look for more information closer to the date.

Wrestling: In their best year ever, TJ placed 4th in the Liberty District! Led by Head Coach Clint Behling, Assistant Coach James Pilkington and Coaching Assistant Nishad Samant, the team had a record 8 medalists! First year wrestler sophomore **Matt Lamb**, freshman **Zack Newman** and **Devan Samant** placed 4th, **Alex Shmorhun**, **Kevin Zigadlo** and **Matt Becker** were 3rd,

James McConnaughey finished 2nd, and **Mike Howard** repeated as Liberty District champion. With her meticulous oversight of the scorekeeping, the team shares its success with **Manager Emily Evans**. At the Regional tournament, **Evan Wilson** joined the 8 District medalists representing TJ. Howard placed 2nd in Regionals and the team placed 18th.

Wrestlers **Nolan Bader**, **Myles Cook**, **Sam Hoehn**, **James Janopaul-Naylor**, **Han Kim**, **Stewart Maier**, **Will Pyrak**, **Jeremy Weller** and **Julian Whitman** all recorded wins at the District JV jamborees, with Janopaul-Naylor and Pyrak competing in several varsity events. The varsity team won 9 dual meets, despite the early absence of veteran Ashley Miller and with a relatively young squad that included first-time varsity wrestlers **Sam Zhang**, **Mac Stevens**, **David Snyder**, **Adam Cho** and **Joe Latta**. With more than 90% of the wrestlers returning next year, the outlook for the team is excellent!



On his way to pinning his opponent, 2nd year wrestler Kevin Zigadlo ('09) finished 3rd in the Liberty District



PIN!! Sophomore Devan Samant finished 4th in the Liberty District

Girls' Freshman Basketball: An outstanding season for the Freshman Girls Basketball Team! Under the direction of Coach John Enders and Assistant Coach H.D. Baha, and led by Captains **Maren Leibowitz** and **Candice Kaplan**, the Colonials earned an impressive record, 6 wins – 10 losses overall, and 5-9 in the Liberty District, not counting the first scrimmage win! Highlights include sweeping South Lakes and Marshall, and beating a tough opponent, Langley, in their second match-up. All Colonials played outstanding and every teammate scored in at least one game. The two captains showed leadership in both the offense and defense: **Maren Leibowitz** led the offense with over 140 points! **Candice Kaplan**, also a high scorer, rallied the defense and, to the opponents' frustrations, denied all of the best players. TJ's two post players, **Jasleen Singh** and **Barbara Lantz**, are the two next high scorers with over 100 points between these great offense and slamming defensive players. **Marta Moore, Katie Bailey, Sapir Nachum, Ariel Copeland, and Kathleen Roche** are all-around impressive players, high tallying on offense, averaging about 24 points each for the season, and refusing shots on defense. Rounding out the team are **Sarah Beisler, Kelli Keith, Apoorva Lonkar, and Olivia Walton** all of whom can boast shots scored in many games, along with quick, effective defense.

Overall, the Colonials outmatched their opponents on every level: amazing ball-handling, precise passing, effective shooting, awesome rebounds, remarkable steals, accurate free-throws, tight defense, successful offense, and all-around great teamwork. The TJ Freshman Girls played smart, strong, and cohesively all season!

Gymnastics: Following their 1st Place finish at the Liberty District Championships, the gymnastics team competed at the Northern Regional gymnastics meet and **placed 3rd** behind Herndon and Chantilly. Competing for the team were **Chrissy Franzel (Jr), Amanda Gilbert (So), Erin Glennon (Sr), Caroline Grady (Sr), Mary Linnell (Jr), Sasha Scott (Sr), Kelly Watson (Jr), and Emily Wetzel (Sr)**. Two gymnasts qualified for the State meet: **Caroline Grady** was 2nd all-around with a 1st place on beam, 1st on vault, 2nd on floor and 4th on bars, qualifying in all events. **Kelly Watson** qualified on the floor with a 7th place. Congratulations to the entire gymnastics

team and Coach Pete Novgrad for an excellent season.

Boys' JV Basketball: Boys' JV Basketball finished the season with a rousing, albeit failed, comeback in the season's final game against the powerful Stone Bridge Bulldogs. Trailing by 10 pts at the 1:50 mark, **Nick Perez** hits a three-pointer. Forty seconds later **Pranav Aurora** hits one of two FTs, then follows with one of two again. It's 35-40. **Jeff Pontell** makes 2 of 2 FTs to bring it to 37-40. Stone Bridge scores a FG for 37-42. At 10 seconds left **Daniel Barnes** scores 2, Stone Bridge answers with a FT, then Barnes hits a 3 pointer at 2.1 seconds. With no more timeouts the game ends 42-43. The JV Boys also had a close loss against Woodson at 37-41; **Aldo Avanzini** scored his second double-double of the season with 12 points and 11 rebounds. TJ JV finished the season 3-13, 2-12 in the District coming in 7th place.

Boys' Varsity Basketball: The TJ Boys wrapped up a successful regular season against Stone Bridge on Senior Night with a resounding 48-25 victory. Senior **Vanya Bilyeu** said farewell in fashion with 12 points, 5 steals, and 2 assists. Fellow seniors **Nate Hough** 5, **Will Riedel** 5, **Ryan Clubb** 2, and **Peter Westman** 1, participated in the scoring frenzy as most of the seniors put points on the board. Senior guard **Kareem El-Gohary** provided the court leadership to keep the Colonials focused for 4 quarters.

The team ended the season with a 9-12 record. This is the **most wins from a varsity basketball team dating back more than 10 years**, if not since the school's inception. The team looks forward to the opening round of the District playoffs against Madison.

Congratulations to **Ryan Clubb** on being selected to the **All-District Defensive team!** He also finished the regular season as the assist leader in the Northern Region per Digital Sports. Congratulations to **Spencer DeMars** for being selected to the **2nd Team All-District!** He also finished the season ranked third in rebounding in the Northern Region per Digital Sports.

Girls' Varsity Basketball: The Varsity Girls Basketball team finished the regular season with a win at Stone Bridge to bring their record to 3-11 in District and 5-16 overall. The team lost to Langley

in the first round of District playoffs. The final win-loss total doesn't reflect the progress the team made this year. Most of the games were competitive and 3 losses were by 2 points or less. With only 2 graduating seniors the outlook for next season is promising. The team will miss the leadership and play of their graduating seniors **Annette Dekker** and **Katie Sourbeer**. Good luck to you both!

District honorees for the season were: **2nd Team All-District** to **Katie Zettler**; **3rd Team All-District** to **Annette Dekker**, **Honorable Mention** and **All-Defensive Team All-District** to **Kiara Savage**.

Swim and Dive: The **TJ Boys** had a number of fast swims leading to **4th place** overall at the Northern Region Swimming and Diving meet. **Wade Gong**, senior Captain **Jonathan Christensen**, senior Captain **Ben Tuben**, and **Matt Callahan** won the medley relay with a new Region record. **Christensen** later added victories in the individual medley and in the breaststroke. **Tuben** placed 3rd in the butterfly, **Gong** took 3rd in the backstroke, and **Callahan** and **Tuben** placed in the top eight in the backstroke. **Andrew Hong** joined **Callahan**, **Tuben**, and **Christensen** swimming to a 5th place finish in the 400 yard freestyle relay.

For the **TJ Girls**, **Kelly Dietz** captured 8th place in diving. **Dietz** also competed at the Virginia AAA State Championship meet, where she finished 10th.

The **TJ Boys** also captured **4th place** at the State meet. **Christensen** won the individual medley and placed 2nd in the breaststroke, **Tuben** placed 4th in the butterfly, and **Gong** placed 5th in the backstroke. The medley relay team took 2nd place and the 400 yard freestyle relay team took 4th.

TJ records and All American times have been achieved this year by the medley relay team and by **Christensen** in the individual medley and breaststroke and **Tuben** in the butterfly. The 400 yard freestyle relay also set a TJ record.

Winter Cheerleading: The winter cheerleaders have had a great season this year! Seen as a developmental season, Winter Cheer gives cheerleaders the opportunity to develop their skills and further their appreciation for the sport. This

season welcomed as part of the sixteen-member team several new cheerleaders who had never before participated in cheer. So that novice cheerleaders could learn from their more experienced team mates, members of the varsity and junior-varsity teams were placed together on either the Blue Squad or the Red Squad. The squads cheered each week for the four home basketball games played by the Boys' and Girls' Varsity and Junior-Varsity basketball teams. In addition, in early February cheerleaders traveled to the NBC studios in Washington, D.C., to cheer for TJ's *It's Academic* team in their playoff game.



Cheering for the TJ *It's Academic* Team are (from left to right): Claire Cundiff, Temple Douglas, Anna Knight, Sungmin Sohn, Daniella Miller, Maddy Byrd, Carolyn McCallister, Ashley Afranie-Sakyl, Michelle Gahagan, Mary Kim, and Jane Hu

Winter Track and Field: The **Boys' and Girls' Winter Track teams are Liberty District Champions!!!** The Boys' team took 1st place with 113 points, ahead of South Lakes (106) and Langley (83). In the Girls' team competition, TJ earned 1st place with 112.5 pts, ahead of Woodson (109) and Langley (78).

The following TJ track athletes also earned individual Liberty District Titles: **Lisa Junta** in the 3200m (a meet record), **Brian Landry** in both 1600m and 3200m (both meet records!), **Connor Fleming** in 1600m, **Ioana Cristei** in 55HH, and **Joe Baerenz** in pole vault. Another 27 TJ athletes earned All-District honors and the right to participate in Regional championships.

At the Northern Region Championships, **Evan Heflin** is the new Regional Champion in the 3200m, with **Landry** finishing a step behind him in 2nd place. Other TJ athletes earning All-Region Honors include: **Junta** for 2nd place in 3200m, **Logan Gates**, **Timmy Galvin**, **Heflin** and **Landry** for 2nd place in 4 X 800m relay, **Aaron Bernstein** for 6th place in 3200m. **Cristei** for 7th place in 55m hurdles, **Will Tarpeh** for 7th place in

500m, and **Raghav Mattay** for 8th place in long jump and 8th place in triple jump.



Liberty District Champions

Crew Boosters

TJ competed in the Mid-Atlantic Erg Sprints at T.C. Williams High School on Saturday, February 2, 2008. This annual event is one of the largest indoor rowing regattas in the country, featuring races on rowing machines. More than 1,000 athletes competed this year. This is a qualifying event for the World Indoor Rowing Championship CRASH-B Sprints. The TJ Crew Team was well represented with several rowers, parents, and coaches competing and supporting.

The following won Medals: Individual Medals -- **Chris Gear** – Gold Medal Junior Men’s 20-minute; Chris Zeng - Silver Medal Junior Men’s 1500; **Chris Gear** - Gold Medal Junior Men’s 2000; **Phil Grisdela** – Gold Medal Junior Men’s Light 2000; **Stephen Matthews** - Bronze Medal Junior Men’s Light 2000; **Colin Haas** - Gold Medal, Junior Men’s 2000; **Jordan Albright** - Silver Medal Junior Women’s 2000; **Jordan Albright, Laura Williams, Chris Gear, and Colin Haas** - Gold Medal Junior Mixed Relay 2000; **NadarAl-Naji and Nolan Pollack** - Silver Medal Junior Men’s Double Slide Team; **Laura Williams and Lisa Williams** - Silver Medal Parent/ Child Relay.

Other notable finishes were: Junior Men's 20 minute - **Nadar Al-Naji** 6th; Jr. Men's 1500 - **Nadar Al-Naji** 4th; and **Daniel Ranard** 5th; Junior Women's 1500 – **Stephanie Snoich** 4th; Junior; Men's 1500 - **Nolan Pollack** 4th; Junior Men's 2000 - **Patrick Collard** 7th and Junior Men's Light 2000 - **Matthew Hoel** 7th. On Monday, February 25, the team began the season with its first practice on the water. With more than 50 new novice rowers and 80 returning rowers, we will be the largest team in the area. We are all looking forward to another exciting season!



Senior Chris Gear competing for his second Gold Medal during the Mid-Atlantic Erg Sprints

Chorus/Choir Boosters

TJ Choral Boosters is proud to acknowledge the following students who qualified for **All-State Choir: Edward Rice, Patricia Rupinen, Ali Ruth, and Adrienne Arditti**. Congratulations! We know you will represent TJ proudly. The Jefferson Chorus has a busy spring season coming up and is spending its time currently preparing for the **upcoming choir Festival**. TJ Choir has the honor of hosting this event both in 2008 and 2009. This all-day, adjudicated event requires a lot of student and parental support. This year's Festival will be held at TJ on **March 29**. While you are encouraged to come listen on the day of Festival, you will have an additional opportunity to do so at the **Pre-Festival** concert held at the school on **March 25**. **TJ Choir Parents** – check your e-mail regularly, as we will be **in search of a minimum of 24 parent volunteers** for three to four hour shifts during the course of the day in order to have this event run smoothly.

While you are thinking of how you can volunteer, why not take that next step? Our by-laws dictate that our nominating committee begins the task of putting together a slate of officers for next year's Choral Booster Board. While the time commitment is minimal, the rewards are great – including the snacks Luke provides at our monthly meetings. Thanks Luke! Please think of how you can serve the booster organization next year.

TJ Choir – you just rocked at Festival! What are you going to do now? If you were in choir you could say “I’m going to Disneyworld!” Get ready,

as TJ Choir rocks Orlando in April. Just announced – the theme for the Spring Show on May 30: *British Invasion!*



District Choir 2008 Members

Orchestra Boosters

Congratulations to the students who successfully auditioned for the **All-State Orchestra** during a recent weekend at James Madison University. This is a significant achievement and TJ students were very successful in a highly competitive environment. Those selected include: Violin -- **Andrew Lam, Catherine Hsieh, Jennifer Jones, Erika Lee, Steven Chen, Jeanette Du, Ritchie Yein and Yangbo Xu**; Viola -- **James Heron and Xiaonan Hu**; Cello -- **Mikas Kuprenas**. These students will travel to JMU for rehearsals on April 3-4 with the **concert** open to all on **April 5**. Congratulations again and well done!

I would like to extend my thanks to all who assisted with the **March 4 Pre-Festival Concert**. The outstanding performances by the students, coupled with generous and extensive parent volunteer support, makes for a very rewarding and enjoyable evening. It should be an outstanding Festival competition.

Thanks to Tina Cheng who has kindly volunteered to be Treasurer for next year. I greatly appreciate her commitment. Now we have need of a Merchandise Coordinator. If you have interest, please let me know. Once again, many thanks for your support of our Orchestras! Larry Jones ([lawrencemjones at aol.com](mailto:lawrencemjones@aol.com))

Theatre Boosters

The Shakespeare Troupe: Approximately 120 elementary and middle school students throughout Fairfax County and surrounding areas attended the Shakespeare Troupe's annual **Shakespeareance** February 23. The students participated in a range of activities that focused on Elizabethan history, sonnet writing and reading, period dress, improvisational acting, and set design. They also sampled a beef stew prepared in genuine Elizabethan style. The day ended with students performing skits and scenes from Shakespeare's plays and giving recitations of the Bard's sonnets and poems. Judging by the smiles and energy displayed, the attendees all seemed to have fun. The day ended with Troupe members feeling both exhausted and proud of the outreach efforts to promote an appreciation of Shakespeare theatre.

The Drama Club will present its Cappie spring show of *Macbeth* on Friday and Saturday, **April 11-12 at 7 p.m.** in the TJ Auditorium. **Advance tickets can be purchased for \$10 each by mailing in the prepaid ticket order form** (included in this newsletter) with your payment **by April 7**. Tickets can also be purchased on the evening of the performance at the door.

Macbeth is directed by TJ Theatre Director Vincent Pollet, with the assistance of senior, **Meg Harries**. Casting of the play includes **John Goodwin** playing Macbeth, **Maya Gueron** as Lady Macbeth, **Will McGarey** as Banquo, **Robby Tracy** as Macduff, **Olivia Bonin** as Lady Macduff, **Roy Crihfield** as Malcolm, **Kevin Place** as Duncan, and **Bobby Kogan** as the porter.

The Theatre Boosters Board will be holding a meeting to be announced after Spring break. If any parent whose child is involved in theatre wishes to serve on the Board next school year, please contact Tom Ainsworth at [TJ.TheatreBoosters at verizon.net](mailto:TJ.TheatreBoosters@verizon.net) The Boosters also need help with the upcoming Cappie critics Dinner for *Macbeth*. Please contact Nancy Fitzsimmons at the same email address if you can help.

Announcements and Information

2008 School Census — We're Counting On You

FCPS Regional Parent Meetings

Fairfax County Public Schools will present three regional parent meetings during spring 2008. Open to all FCPS parents, the meetings are designed to share strategies for increasing student success, to enhance home-school communication, to provide curriculum information for parents, and to gather feedback from families.

The meetings are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, March 4, from 6-9 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School.
- Thursday, April 3, from 6-9 p.m. at Robinson Secondary School.
- Saturday, April 5, from 8:30 a. m.- noon at Chantilly High School.

The same program will be presented at all three sites. Parents are invited to attend the meeting at the time and location that is most convenient. Free child care and light refreshments will be provided for all three events.

Representatives from FCPS and community organizations and agencies will provide families with specific information about services and community resources. The events will offer the opportunity for parents and the school system to learn from each other and strengthen the school-family relationship while supporting student achievement.

These meetings are free to all FCPS families; however, advance registration is required, because space is limited. An information link is available through the FCPS web site at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/parents.htm>.

These meetings are part of an ongoing effort to enhance family-school connections.

The 2008 Virginia School Census begins March 1, and we are counting on you to bring our sales tax dollars home to our schools.

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires each school division to conduct a census every three years as a means to distribute a portion of our state sales tax dollars to school divisions. Fairfax County Public Schools counts all persons residing in Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax with birth dates on or between January 1, 1989, and December 31, 2007. Each child counted in the 2008 census will bring approximately \$3,000 back to Fairfax County Public Schools in tax dollars.

There are four ways to respond to the Census. The preferred method is via the web at www.fcps.edu/census. Each household also has the option of faxing or mailing the form, or responding via an Interactive Voice Response system at 703-752-0950. For questions or further information about the Census, please contact the Census office at 703-329-7765 or [Census2008 at fcps.edu](http://Census2008.at.fcps.edu). All responses are confidential and translation assistance is available.

Please respond to the census. Our kids are counting on you.

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.



Noteworthy Dates

March		April	
4	Band Boosters Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Principal's Conf. Rm.	1	Band Boosters Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Principal's Conf. Rm.
4	ANGP Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center	1	ANGP Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center
4	Orchestra Festival Concert	2	Colonial Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Library
5	Colonial Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Library	2	Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center
5	Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center	3	Government Relations Committee Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Rm. 106
6	Athletic Trainers Open House, 4-6 p.m., Athletic Training Rm.	5	SGA Leadership Conference
6	Winter Sports Banquet	8	Diversity Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Library
6	Government Relations Committee Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Rm. 106	8	Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Principal's Conf. Rm.
7	Mr. Colonial, 7-11 p.m., Auditorium	9	Human Relations Committee Meeting, 4 p.m., Career Center
8	TJ Band Boosters Winter Showcase, Winter Guard and Drum Line units, 6 p.m., Gym I	10	Chorus Boosters Meeting, 7 p.m., M-8
9	Parent-to-Parent Partnership Phonathon, 3-5:30 p.m., Cafeteria	11-12	Drama Club, <i>Macbeth</i> , 7 p.m.
11	Diversity Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center	14	All Things Band Night, Welcome Class of 2012! 7 p.m., Auditorium
11	Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Principal's Conf. Rm.	14	PTSA Meeting Executive Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Library
12	Human Relations Committee Meeting, 4 p.m., Career Center	17	Student Services Advisory Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Library
13	Principal's Coffee and PTSA Executive Board Meeting, 9 a.m. (note time change), Cafeteria	21	Newsletter Submission Deadline
17-21	Spring Break	24	Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center
25	Choir Pre-Festival Concert, Auditorium	25	Silent Auction, Class of 2010
25	Newsletter Submission Deadline	26	Class of 2009 Spring Premiere, 7-11 p.m.
27	Chorus Boosters Meeting, 7 p.m., M-8		
27	Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center	May	
29	Choir Festival hosted by TJ	1	Government Relations Committee Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Rm. 106
29	Jazz Band, 3:10 p.m., Chantilly Jazz Festival	2	Freshman Lock-In
		6	ANGP Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center
		7	Colonial Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7-9 p.m., Library
		7	Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Career Center

**Nomination Form for TJHSST PTSA
Elected Executive Committee Positions**

The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology is currently seeking candidates for six elected Parent, Teacher, Student Association offices for the 2008 – 2009 school year. Any PTSA member with a willingness and ability to serve and provide leadership is welcome to apply. PTSA members who want to nominate someone else for an office may do so, with the nominee’s permission.

Candidates are being sought for the following elected positions:

- President** (nominee must have served on the executive board for at least one term)
- First Vice President**
- Second Vice President**
- Recording Secretary**
- Corresponding Secretary**
- Treasurer**

If you have questions about the specific duties of any of these offices, please email the Volunteer Coordinators, Rajni Goel or Jill Cook, at ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu

When making a nomination, complete the information below and email to ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu, or fill out the form and return it in a sealed envelope, marked “PTSA Volunteer Committee,” to the TJHSST Front Office.

DEADLINE: MARCH 25, 2008.

NOMINEE:

For POSITION:

Telephone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Qualifications or experience:

Person making the nomination: _____

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

(circle) Yes No

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Prepaid Ticket Order Form

TJ Drama Club Presents:

“Macbeth”

Performance	# Tickets Requested	# Tickets times \$ 10 per ticket.
Friday, April 11, 2008 7 PM		
Saturday, April 12, 2008 7 PM		
Amount Enclosed		

Mail this form with your check by **April 7, 2008**, to:

John Clements
6801 Montour Drive
Falls Church, VA 22043

Pick Up Tickets at Box Office

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Alexandria, VA 22312

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If you are a PTSA member and would like a printed copy mailed to you each month, 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

- Athletic Trainers Open House and Winter Sports Banquet – March 6
- Parent-to-Parent Partnership Phonathon – March 9
- Principal's Coffee and Morning PTSA Executive Board Meeting – March 13
- Spring Break – March 17-21