

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

We have had a very successful first quarter with Homecoming behind us. The activities were tremendous fun, and I was very impressed with the number of students coming to school in spirit with creative costumes. The pep rallies brought excitement into the air, and Friday's event gave students an opportunity to show their talents in different competitions. The football team brought a big win, and the dance was a huge success, thanks to many of our parent chaperones. Special thanks to SGA, the class officers, and our faculty sponsors for their leadership in coordinating this big event.

This month the school administration is awarding Cradle to Cradle grants to students and faculty based on their ideas to implement the concepts behind the summer reading at our school. The students had an opportunity to submit a grant request to obtain resources for a class project as well as a club activity. Students will present a summary of their work at our Research Symposium in late spring.

The first grading period has come to a close. The first quarter grade reports give you an opportunity to talk with your child about their progress, and also an opportunity to open a conversation with your child's teachers. This is a team effort as we value parents' insight into helping your children. Don't hesitate to email the teachers!

Safety and security continues to be important at TJ. The school has conducted fire and lockdown drills so teachers and students know how to respond in the event of an emergency. I am pleased to see the TJ community respond efficiently and effectively during these practice

drills. Recently there has been an increase in reports regarding iPod theft, so please have a conversation with your child about locking up their valuable belongings. We have placed an announcement on our television monitors warning students about these recent thefts. If your child loses any item, he/she can report it to our security office, which also serves as a Lost and Found.

Every month, many school officials visit TJ from other countries. Recently, a school from Thailand toured the school and spoke with us afterwards. I was tickled to hear their observation about parent involvement. In their school, they noted, parents are interested in the success of their child, and make many efforts towards this goal. In our school, however, they noticed our parents are interested in the achievement of all children, not just their own, as they volunteer in many different capacities. They wished their parents had the same involvement and commitment to help their school as they do at TJ. With those remarks, I thank you for making TJ a special place for everyone.

Have a terrific Thanksgiving holiday,
Evan Glazer,
Principal

President's Message

The end is here! First quarter is over and students and families can enjoy the rewards of a long weekend to rest and relax. We have had a busy month at TJ. Homecoming week was a showcase for the many talents, energy, and enthusiasm of our students. It was a week filled with school spirit, creative ideas and, most of all, fun! This year it was capped off by a tremendous win by our football team and a wonderful homecoming dance. We extend special thanks to the many teachers, students, and parent volunteers who made these events so successful.

The PTSA was very busy in October and looks forward to an event-filled November. This past month we met with school leadership to discuss the revision of our school profile. The PTSA officers collected information and profiles from a number of competitive schools. Our children perform at extremely high levels in all categories and we are working to ensure that the profile reflects the rigor of our curriculum and the outstanding performance of our students academically, personally and in their extracurricular pursuits. At our monthly PTSA meeting we also voted to support the FAIRGRADE initiative to re-evaluate and re-define the Fairfax County grading system. Neighboring PTSA communities have passed similar resolutions, and like us, will be following the county response closely.

The PTSA sponsored several events this month including the second parent-to-parent forum "Navigating TJ" meant to give incoming parents formal and informal information about the road ahead. This has been a very well attended event for the last two years and we appreciate the work of our wonderful speaker/parents, **Carrie Kilgore, Karen O'Connor, Ellen Ranard and Ed Saperstein** along with special presentations by **Louise Epstein** (FAIRGRADE) and student **AJ Swoboda**. Our hospitality committee was busy providing food for two important occasions. TJ hosted about 80 assistant principals and administrators from clusters 3 and 8 for a breakfast meeting on October 3rd. On October 15th, we sponsored a wonderful teacher luncheon during the PSAT half day. These events would not be possible without the fabulous donations of food and volunteer time from TJ parents. Thank you!

By the time this newsletter arrives the "Safe Teen Driving" presentation will also have occurred. This is a valuable annual seminar and we are fortunate to have **Judge Teena Grodner** repeatedly participate on the panel for our students and parents. Thank you again to

Ms. Heidi Smith for organizing this very important in-house event.

Finally, FCPS budget constraints will continue to be felt at the school level. Please stay in close touch with the information about proposed ways for making up the shortfall. Recently one proposed solution would leave us without a clinic aide. As every parent knows, this is a vital service used by almost every child at some time in their school career, often on more than one occasion. For some students, visits to the school clinic are a daily event because of needed medication. Again, the PTSA will continue to follow these proposed cuts closely and advocate for the needs of our students.

FYI

PTSA MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE – Every year your PTSA membership expires from the previous year on October 31st. Please take a moment to become a member if you have not already had the opportunity (see attached flyer) to do so. A small amount of your dues go towards maintaining the state PTA. The remainder is used at TJ to allow us to provide programs and funding for our students and faculty, to advocate and inform on your behalf, and finally to show support and acknowledgement of the work and accomplishments of our staff and students through hospitality functions.

PTSA MEETING – Our next **PTSA meeting** is coupled with a **Principal's coffee on Wednesday, November 19 at 8:30am in the cafeteria**. Please come and bring your questions. We will also have a short presentation regarding the parking situation from Mr. McCormick and will give some feedback on the present homework and curving policies at TJ. Copies of PTSA minutes may be requested through [ptsa.recordingsecretary at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.recordingsecretary@tjhsst.edu).

PTSA BYLAWS – Every five years our bylaws are renewed and revised based on guidelines from the

state PTA. If you would like to serve in this process, please contact the [ptsa at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa@tjhsst.edu).
STUDENT DIRECTORIES – These may still be purchased for \$10 through the front office.

ARLINGTON/CITY OF FALLS CHURCH FAMILIES - Please contact Lynn Borton to be included on the contact email list for this group at [lborton at aol.com](mailto:lborton@aol.com).

HELP WANTED: The school SRC (scientific review committee) is looking for parent volunteers with a PhD, D.D.S., D.O., M.D. or D.V.M. to help review student projects for safety. This work is on an occasional basis and can be done from home. If you are able to help, please contact us at [ptsa at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa@tjhsst.edu).

Also, if you would be interested in maintaining the PTSA Google calendar, or would like to assume the open PTSA Parliamentarian position, please contact us at [ptsa at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa@tjhsst.edu).

8TH PERIOD DONATION REQUEST - Per a request by Ms. Jean Stevens, students participating in outdoor 8th period activities could use donations of the following: 5 outdoor basketballs, 5 frisbees, 1 soccer ball, 1 football. New or gently used equipment would be GREATLY appreciated. Contact Carrie Kilgore at [jkvienna at aol.com](mailto:jkvienna@aol.com) if you have items to donate.

Thank you again for all you do. The PTSA executive committee and board enjoy serving this wonderful TJ community!

Liz Ross,
TJ PTSA President

Committees

ANGP

Planning for the **All Night Grad Party** after graduation on **June 13, 2009**, is ramping up!

ANGP is the most wildly anticipated event of a student's high school career, focusing on fantastic fun with friends, magnificent munchies, and (paramount to parents) "static safety." Parents of the senior class organize and supervise the party, with significant participation by the **junior, sophomore, and freshmen class parents**.



Three GREAT Reasons to Buy Your Student's ANGP Ticket NOW!

Every year about 98% of all TJ seniors attend the capstone celebration of their four years here, the All Night Grad Party. While June 13 is still seven months away, parents are urged to buy their student's ticket for this fantastic event NOW, rather than wait. Why would you want to do that? Here are three GREAT reasons why.

- 1) If you buy early, your money will definitely go toward YOUR student's party, the one for the Class of 2009, rather than being held over to the Class of 2010. Every year, some of the spring collections are held over to the next class's party. This is because organizers need to be careful not to go over budget in their planning, which is going on *right now*.
- 2) If you buy by **Senior Night on Thursday, November 6**, your student's name will be entered into a **RAFFLE** to be held at school on November 7, with raffle prizes worth a total of \$100. (If you have already purchased a ticket, your student's name is already in the raffle.)
 - A \$25 Exxon gas card
 - Two \$25 Starbucks cards
 - A \$25 iTunes card
- 3) The current bargain price for the ANGP ticket is **\$90**. On January 15, the price goes up to \$109. The price is all-inclusive for food, music, activities, door prizes, etc.

There are two ways to purchase:

1) Fill out the form attached to this newsletter or go to <http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/tickets.html> for the Ticket Order and Acknowledgement of Risk form. Write a check to "TJHSST PTSA-ANGP," send it with the form to this address: Julia Villacorta, ANGP '09 Tickets, 8304 Hunting Hill, McLean, VA 22102; OR

2) Attend **Senior Night at TJ** from **7-8:30 pm** on **Thursday, November 6**, where ANGP organizers will be accepting forms and checks at a clearly marked table. All tickets must be purchased in advance of the June 13 event.

Please attend Senior Night, remember to bring your checkbook, and let's get the party rolling!

--Julia Villacorta and Sandy Evans, ANGP Ticket Chairs



Food Station Managers needed! The Food Co-Chairs need 8-10 Volunteers to be Food Station Managers. Each Food Station Manager will be responsible for organizing and managing each Food Station at the ANGP. Each Food Station Manager will be given explicit instructions and a notebook with all the history and details on how to organize that Food Station, where to get the food, how much to order, when to deliver, etc., so being a Food Station Manager is just a matter of time and effort, no special creativity or guesswork involved. If anyone is interested, they can call Barbara McGarey at 703-356-7097 or email at bmcgarey@gmail.com.

Donations: All donations in cash and in kind are gratefully received and will be recognized. Senior Night is a great night to both purchase your tickets and consider a donation to the ANGP! Representatives on the committee will be

present to assist you. The web site for credit card donations is:

<http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/donations.html>.

Senior Video: Images from freshman through senior year are being collected for the **Senior Video**. Electronic or hard copy pictures should be sent to cfhookey@hotmail.com or left at the Main Office for Charlie Hookey, c/o Colonial Athletic Boosters. Hard copy photos can be returned. This project is different from the Baby Photos, which are not part of the Senior Video. If you have a video, please contact Charlie Hookey. Seniors interested in working on this project should also contact Charlie Hookey.



Baby Photos Needed: It's a longstanding ANGP tradition to display baby photos of our adorable seniors! So pull out your photo albums and select the cutest baby picture of your senior. We are collecting a 4x6 baby photo (0-5 years old) of each senior accompanied by his/her wallet-size senior picture. Print the student's name on the back of each print. **No originals that you want back, please, as the photos will not be returned.** Drop the photos in the ANGP Baby Photo box in the Front Office or mail to: Tracy Parlett, 709 Santmyer Dr. SE, Leesburg, VA 20175.

Free Money Program

EARN MONEY for TJ (and it costs you nothing!)

LOST: 64 Giant Shoppers

Last year we had 305 Giant shoppers registered to earn Free Money for TJ. They did a great job



earning over **\$5,100** for Dr. Glazer's budget. This year there are only 241 shoppers signed up and TJ may forgo about \$1,000. Unfortunately,

Giant's registration system wasn't online at the beginning of the year as it should have been. If you tried to sign up then and weren't able to, please try again. Please register now. Go to <http://giantfood.com/aplus>.

If you can't find your Giant Bonus card, call 1-877-366-2668 for assistance.



Verizon joins TJ's Free Money Program!

Verizon now gives TJ's PTSA a generous rebate for each new Verizon service ordered at **1-888-695-5299**. Mention TJ's tracking code, **12679**, when you place a new order for one or more of the following services:

- Verizon Fios Internet \$25 rebate
- High Speed Internet 3.0 mbps. \$25 rebate
- DirectTV \$20 rebate
- Fios TV \$20 rebate
- Freedom Calling Plans \$10 rebate
- Long Distance or \$10 rebate
- an additional line \$10 rebate

and the PTSA will earn the stated donation for each new service! For more information go to <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/support.htm#verizon>

Cut out this card and present it to the cashier every time you shop at Office Depot!

Office DEPOT.

5% Back to Schools Program

Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology

School ID# 70103076

Present this card when purchasing school supplies. We grant 5% credits to your school on qualified purchases. Exclusions apply. Program limited to Pre-K-12th grade. Ask a store associate or visit www.officedepot.com or www.officedepot.ca for Program terms and conditions.



Shop Amazon.com
Earn FREE MONEY for TJ this

holiday season!

Every time you shop, just enter the Amazon.com website by clicking on the Amazon icon on the PTSA Homepage <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa> and TJ earns about 6.5% from your purchase! Make this really easy. Go to the page now and set up a bookmark so you can go directly to the link! No registration is necessary. No limit on our earnings!

Did you know Amazon.com sells magazine subscriptions? Give the gift that keeps on giving. Your gift recipient will think of you every time a new magazine gets delivered. TJ students might like Wired, Scientific American, Psychology Today, Sports Illustrated, Game Pro, Smithsonian, Discover, Newsweek, Time or National Geographic.

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee was pleased to host a Harvest Lunch for the Faculty and Staff on Wednesday, October 15 after the students were dismissed for the half day. Thanks to all who donated food and came to serve. Everyone had a wonderful time and seemed very appreciative. Earlier in the month, the committee provided breakfast for about 80 administrators (Assistant Principals) who visited our school for a Cluster 3 and 8 meeting. November is looking like a very busy time for the committee with two major events - receptions for National Honor Society and National Merit Semi-finalists, as well as providing volunteers to assist with the academic letters handout reception and the Thanksgiving Lunch.

Landscaping Committee

Many thanks to the wonderful and energetic volunteers who turned out for our Oct 5th planting day. We all had fun and we hope you are enjoying the new shrubs out by the sculpture, and the purple berries at the top of the hill as you enter TJ.

Please join us on **Saturday Nov. 1st, 1:00-4:00PM**, as TJ participates in the Audubon

Society of Virginia's Native Plant Rescue and Relocation Project. We will replant, on TJ grounds, native plants that were rescued from local construction sites. These plants will enhance habitat for birds, butterflies, dragonflies, and other wildlife. Please RSVP to Carol Miranda at cnsmiranda@hotmail.com in case we need to change our plans due to weather. If you are interested in learning more about the Native Plant Rescue and Relocation Project, please contact Elaine Franklin at Elaine_at_audubonva.org. All are welcome, no experience necessary. This is a great way for students to earn community service hours.

Mark your calendars! Our **last workday** for the year is **Sunday, Dec. 7th, 9:30am to 12:30pm**. Remember you can check the PTSA website for event dates and more photos of our work at <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/comm-landscape.htm>



Will, Michael and Caitlyn pull out all the tools to help Evan train for the Homecoming game



Caitlyn carefully plants a *Baptisia australis*

Volunteer Committee

Thanks to all of you who have used our online sign-up system for volunteer positions! Please continue to use this system; go to the Volunteer page on the PTSA website and click on "Volunteer Information System" to see what opportunities are available and to sign up. We still have one important open PTSA board position: **Parliamentarian**. The job description is as follows: "*Ensures that correct meeting procedure is followed at monthly PTSA meetings.*" If you love order and making sure that things are done properly, then this is the job for you!

We are in the process of adding the names of all our volunteers to the sign-in terminal in the front office. Please remember to sign in and to print your nametag when you come in to volunteer; and be sure to wear the nametag while you are at school during regular school hours. Thanks again to all our wonderful volunteers! You may contact us at tjvolunteers@gmail.com.

Jill Cook and Rajni Goel,
PTSA Volunteer Coordinators

Student Services Corner

Student Government Association

First, thanks to students, parents, and faculty for helping us put together another amazing Homecoming! We hope you enjoyed the week just as much as we did. This year, we were lucky enough to have a real bonfire before the game! Winning the football game was the icing on the cake, and over twelve hundred students were able to enjoy the dance the next night! Thanks to everyone for making this a spirited week full of friendly competition.

The next big event was the **Mock Presidential Election**. Some of us are not old enough to vote

in the real election, but all of us are certainly eligible to vote in *this* election. It's our civic responsibility to be informed of the issues and the candidates. To help make this happen, SGA teamed up with the Young Democrats and the Teenage Republicans to create four mock debates which were aired weekdays starting October 22nd. The voting booths were opened in the cafeteria October 29th through the 31st. We got out and rocked the vote!!!

In addition, the application for the Richard Slivoskey Grant will be available on the SGA website soon. Look out for more information about how your club or activity can apply for this \$1000 grant. Thanks.
TJ SGA

Guidelines

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

Class News

2009 – Seniors

Thanks to the many chaperones for a wonderful job at the coat check for the homecoming. Many of them worked the whole event. Thanks to senior parents: **Randy, Maria and Alex Marris, Michele Pitler, Naynesh Desai, Monajean Bergeron, Kay Bushman, Randy Christian, Nancy Fitzsimmons, Nithya and Vijay Kumar, and Dawn Szelc.** Also, thanks to the class of 2012 parents for helping at the coat check: **Ann Nguyen, Vipul and Bhairavi Mehta.** I am sure they will take over the job next year!

Many thanks to Trader Joe's of Centreville for donating the bags used for coat check without which the event could not be a success. I hope

Trader Joe's will continue the tradition of supporting this event.

Senior parents please plan to attend the **Senior Night** on Thursday, **November 6th at 6:45pm in the cafeteria.** Information on graduation related events will be presented. Please bring your check book to pay for ANGP, class dues (Cap and Gown), graduation invitationsand get information on activities for the rest of the senior year.

Anjana Desai
2009 Class Liaison

2010 - Juniors

The Class appreciates the support of parents for Homecoming – thank you to those who chaperoned, shared their home for float building, drove the float at the football game and helped with other activities.

Class 2010 enjoying the Homecoming Games



Junior Parents – mark your calendar for two important dates in December:

Thursday, December 4, 7:00 pm – Science & Tech Division Parent Meeting. Junior parents learn about the senior research labs and mentorships.

Thursday, December 11, 7:30 pm – Junior Parent College night. Junior parents will meet with the guidance counselors to learn about the college admissions process.

Also, tell your students to watch for the meetings on summer opportunities in the College Career Center during 8th period in December (tentatively scheduled for December 10 & 12). Note that these 8th period meetings are for students only.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Ellen Ranard, [ESRanard at gmail.com](mailto:ESRanard@gmail.com)
2010 Class Liaison

2011 – Sophomores

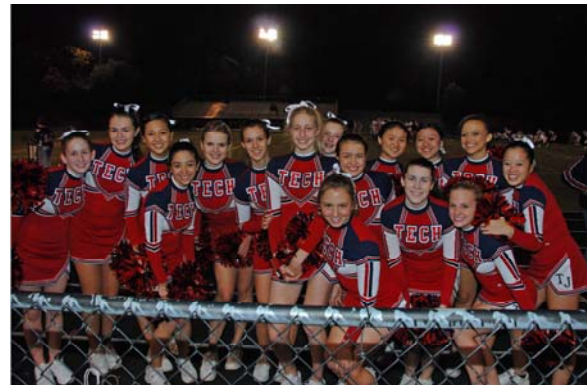
Homecoming this year was once again a big success and kids did a great job at organizing the week of revelries which culminated in Friday's pep rally and Saturday's dance. We would like to thank all the parent volunteers who offered their time as chaperones and contributed to make these festivities a wonderful occasion for all.

We just heard from our Class Sponsors that the date for this year's **Sophomore Silent Auction** will be **Friday, May 1, 2009**. The silent auction is the biggest fundraiser in each class' four years at TJ. Money from the auction will go to finance our class graduation events in 2011, and the organization of the auction requires the strong participation of both our students and our parent volunteers.

If you think you can help, and especially if you have already worked on this project with your older TJ kid(s), please send us an email. We'll then write to you when more details regarding the kind of work involved become available. Your expertise and/or goodwill and generous

input of ideas and time will certainly make a difference!

Class 2011 enjoying the Homecoming Games



Thank you,
Daniela Owen, [danielaowen at verizon.net](mailto:danielaowen@verizon.net)
Eileen Swoboda, [eswoboda at gventerprises.net](mailto:eswoboda@gventerprises.net)
2011 Class Liaisons

2012 – Freshmen

The class of 2012 had a fabulous first Homecoming season at TJ! A big THANK YOU to the **Neubergers** for hosting the float building weekends and lending their helping hands, the **Russells** for offering their convertible, the Froshcomm representatives, **Mr. Auerbach** and **Ms. Orenstein**, for their tremendous time and support. We couldn't have done it without you! Many freshmen came to the dance. They seemed to have a great time in groups or with a date. The

parents got some serious exercise working in coat check. Many thanks to the 2009 class liaison, **Anjana Desai**, for showing us the coat check process and to all the freshmen parents who volunteered at the homecoming dance.

We came in 3rd at the TJ Canned Food Drive sculpture contest on October 9th. The kids brought in canned foods and made a sculpture around the flag pole. All the food was donated to charity. What a great community service activity and we are looking forward to a taller Class of 2012 sculpture next year.

The next **Student Services Parent Night** is **November 20th, 7:30pm** in the library. We found this interactive meeting in September with our Director of Student Services and other parents very informative, so we hope to see at the next meeting.

The freshman class float at the Homecoming game on October 10, 2008



Freshman class at Homecoming



Thank you for sending your volunteer preferences to our e-mail [TJclassof2012 at cox.net](mailto:TJclassof2012@cox.net). We are looking forward to hearing from you as we still need many volunteers for our biggest class event, Freshmen Lock-In, which will take place in the spring.

Have a fantastic November!
Ann Nguyen and Janet Tasker
2012 Class Liaisons

News Round-Up and Awards

Winners in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology

Congratulations to TJHSST winners in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology (formerly know as the Siemens-Westinghouse Competition). The seven Semifinalists (among top 300 projects in the nation) are: **Sudha Guttikonda, David Kim, Joy Lee, Manchali Madduri, Sumit Malik, Christopher Olund, Aditya Palepu.**

The Regional Finalists (among top 30 individual projects in the nation) are: **Varun Bansal, Alexander Kim.**

Through this competition, students have an opportunity to achieve national recognition for math, science, and technology research projects that they complete in high school. This competition is different from the Intel Science Talent Search where students compete first only within a region (we are in the Southeast) before competing nationally.

VHSL Writing/Photography/Design Competition 2007-2008

Congratulations to our TJHSST students: **Hailey Arnold** and **Amelia Friedman** - First Place - Review Writing

Mary Kim and Rachel Lienesch - First Place - Inside Page Layout/Spread
Carolyn McCallister - Second Place - Bylined Personal Opinion/Column
Mary Kim and Rachel Lienesch - Second Place - Feature: Human Interest/Personality
Arvin Ahmadi - Second Place - News Writing
Gloria Driessnack, Arvin Ahmadi and Viola Li - Second Place - Front Page Layout
Lisa Kong - Third Place - Sports Photography
Hailey Arnold and Amelia Friedman - Third Place - Review Writing
Mary Kim and Rachel Lienesch - Third Place - Inside Page Layout/Spread
Teresa Ventura - Honorable Mention - Feature: Human Interest/Personality
Gloria Driessnack, Arvin Ahmadi and Violi Li - Honorable Mention - Front Page Layout

tjTODAY was recognized with the Charles Savedge Award for Sustained Excellence in Scholastic Journalism, which means TJ has been recognized with the Trophy Class for five years in a row. This is the sixth consecutive year which **tjTODAY** received Trophy Class recognition. It also won first place in the Best in Show for the newspaper category. **Ms. Jennifer A. Seavey** received the distinguished adviser award, the Douglas Freeman Award, for excellence in the advising of a school publication.

Threshold won second place in the Best in Show for the literary magazine category.

Senior **Mike Howard** was named *the Washington Redskins/Allstate Scholastic Player of the Week* and appeared on WUSA Channel 9's "Redskins Players Club" on Saturday, October 4th.

A First Team All-District Defensive player for the colonials, three-time All-Region wrestler, and National Merit Semi-finalist, Mike currently plays free safety and wide receiver for the varsity football team. The award includes a \$1,000

contribution to the TJHSST athletic program. Congratulations, Mike!



Mike Howard receiving the Washington Redskins/Allstate Scholastic Player of the Week Award

TJHSST Partnership Fund

Looking for that Perfect Gift for the Holiday Season? Watch your Mailbox – The TJ Partnership Fund Has a Great Idea for You!

Every year the TJ Partnership Fund conducts a year-end appeal. As part of this appeal, we are launching a new program – “In Honor Of Gifts” - please consider participating or having a friend or family member participate. As a perfect gift this holiday season, how about a contribution to TJ in honor of that special TJ student or family? This gift will not only show the student or family your support of them and their school, but will also highlight the value of giving in these complex times. In addition to parents, this is perfect for grandparents, relatives and friends to show their support for TJ.

To make the gift giving easier, we will send:

- ◇ All Donors – a boxed acknowledgement card suitable for wrapping
- ◇ Donors between \$100 and \$249 – a bumper sticker
- ◇ Donors over \$250 – a TJ Orb Ornament

All gifts will be in TJ colors and will be mailed to the donor. In addition, all gifts are tax deductible

and donors will receive a tax acknowledgement letter. Donors and Honorees will also receive acknowledgement on the Partnership Fund Website and Bulletin Board at the school.

TJ was founded in 1985 with the expectation that the public and private sectors would participate in its funding in order to develop a regional science and technology high school. Public funding alone cannot support the fundamentals, much less the extras that now make TJ the best high school in the nation. We know that the economic times are difficult. Unfortunately, TJ's needs are now.

"In Honor Of Gift" information will be mailed mid-November to all families or can be found on the Partnership Fund Website at www.TJparternshpfund.org. For questions about the Partnership Fund – call Gary Bottorff at (703) 750-8317.

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters

Academic Team Membership Rises in 08-09

Academic teams are increasingly popular at TJ. Last year, some officers expressed surprise at how many students were showing up for 8th period meetings. This year, the trend seems to have continued. About 600 TJ students are participating in one or more academic teams this year, compared to about 500 last year. The most popular teams – based on information provided by team sponsors and officers - include Botball (robotics), Certamen (Latin), Chess, our freshman and senior (10th through 12th grade) Computer Teams, our four debate teams, Future Problem Solving, Math Team, and Model UN.

If your TJ child is still checking out different 8th period activities, they may want to give TJ's twenty academic teams a try. More information about each academic team can be found on the Academic Boosters web site at

<http://academics.tjhsst.edu/aboosters>.

It's Academic Wins NBC-TV Match!

On October 11, 2008, the *It's Academic A Team* of **Naren Tallapragada, Josh Hahm, Kevin Casto, and Harry White** (alternate), won the TV *It's Academic* competition, beating St. Stephen's & St. Agnes High School of Washington, D.C., and Wooten High School of Rockville, Maryland. The match will be broadcast on November 1, 2008 on NBC-Channel 4 at 10:30 a.m., so be sure to watch! In February 2009, the team will advance to the playoff round of the TV show.



It's Academic team members Kevin Casto, Naren Tallapragada, Joshua Hahm

Policy Debate Team Makes its Mark at WACFL 1

TJ's policy debate team just participated in its first local tournament, WACFL 1. TJ students competed in the novice, junior varsity, and varsity divisions. In the Novice division, **Mary Sun** won the third place speaker award, and Mary Sun and her partner **Daniel Jang** placed third as a team. In Junior Varsity, **Max Wang** and his partner **Johnny Kim** placed second. In Varsity, **Franklin Zheng** won the 2nd place speaker award and **Han Kim** won the 3rd place speaker award. The varsity team of Franklin Zheng and Han Kim placed fourth, and the team of **Hannah Clark** and **Andre Kessler** placed sixth.

Model UN had a fabulous start at GMHSMUN and won the overall Secretary General's

Award.

The Best Delegate Awards went to **Arvin Ahmadi, Anirudh Mohan, Curtis Mills, Dennis Wang, Kamna Kathuria, Neal Milstein,** and **Shiyang Yang.** The outstanding Delegate Awards went to **Andrew Barlow, Avi Sacks, Carolyn Scoggins, Collin Jones, George Li, Greg Romais, Hirsh Sharma, Jennifer Park, Kate Kingsbury, Kelsey Henderson, Kylene Smart, Max Kieff, Mike Crumplar, Nihaar Sinha,** and **Swetha Pasala.** The Honorable Delegate Awards were: **Akaash Gupta, Alison Kosmacki, Aman Kansal, April Hu, Brendan Greenley, Carson Hotard, Christine Jacobs, Lyndsey Wheeler, Preetam D'Souza,** and **Vish Sridharan.** And the Verbal Award went to **Sid Bhatia** and **Jayson Marwaha.** Congratulations to all the winners!

Band Boosters

TJMC DOES IT AGAIN!!! Not just once, but *TWICE!*

On a sparkling Saturday afternoon flooded with sunlight on October 4, the Thomas Jefferson Marching Band took to the field at the cavernous arena of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis. Hours later, our band and color guard grabbed the competition by storm, winning in all categories and coming in FIRST in their division. Two weeks later the band was on a coach bus, traveling to James Madison University for the Parade of Champions, featuring about forty bands from Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina. In spite of chilly temperatures, the TJMC put up a stunning performance. To paraphrase the show announcer's words:

"Now, for the First Place in AAA, with a score of a WHOPPING 82.65, **Thomas Jefferson Marching Band!!!**"

TJ received the highest score of every band in competition that night so our marching band was indeed the GRAND CHAMPION - unofficially, as

there was no grand championship trophy.

CONGRATULATIONS to TJMC. A sincere thank you to all the volunteers who've been traveling with the band all season. Space was limited on the bus to JMU and we appreciate all the parents who decided to drive on their own to be part of these memorable experiences.

Class of 2012, Parents, Alumni, and Fans: Questions about band? Confused? We are here to help. Learn all about TJ Bands and Boosters at <http://www.tjhsstband.org>. Subscribe to the Band Boosters Yahoo group by sending an email [tjbandboosters-subscribe at yahoo.com](mailto:tjbandboosters-subscribe@yahoo.com). Volunteers always welcome!

Announcements:

Winter Band Concert: Wednesday December 3. Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Jazz I, and Symphonic Bands will perform. Admission is free; donations are greatly appreciated. Fundraising items will be available for purchase. Refreshments provided by band families will be served after the performance.

Delicious Citrus 2008 Fresh, juicy citrus; for information or to order, contact Karen Rice at [kcrice at aol.com](mailto:kcrice@aol.com) by November 15. Delivery/pick-up, November 22.

Holiday Gifts: Shop early! **White House Commemorative Ornaments** – Easy to mail gift, \$20 – [nsitarz at att.net](mailto:nsitarz@att.net). See samples at: <http://www.tjhsstband.org>. **Gift Cards** – A variety available! – [kaycorey at cox.net](mailto:kaycorey@cox.net). **Innisbrook Wraps, Gifts, and Chocolates** – Order online at www.innisbrook.com (school number 110170-A-1) – [djruskin at cox.net](mailto:djruskin@cox.net).

TJ Customized License Plate Frames: Attention all students, parents, alumni, staff...we have a license plate frame for you! Show your school or team spirit! Contact: [Sylvie at wrtc.org](mailto:Sylvie@wrtc.org), (703) 342-0215. See samples at: <http://www.tjhsstband.org>.

Virtual Tag Day Local high school bands fund their programs through annual Tag Day fund drives. During these drives, band members solicit donations door-to-door throughout their neighborhood. The TJ neighborhood is far and wide; we must rely on our virtual neighborhood. **Be a good neighbor**; mail your charitable donation to TJHSST Band Boosters - Henry Ruempler, 5415 Waycross Dr. Alexandria, VA 22310. Thank you for your support!

Band Noteworthy Dates:

- November 3: Band Booster Meeting, Principal's Conference Room, 6:30p.m.
- November 12: TJMC Banquet for band students and families, TJ Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m
- November 22: Delivery/Pick-up of citrus and pie orders
- December 2: Band Booster Meeting, Principal's Conference Room, 6:30 pm
- December 3: Winter Concert, TJ auditorium, 7:00 pm

Colonial Athletic Boosters

All are invited to the **Fall Sports Banquet and Awards on Thursday November 13, 2008** in the TJ cafeteria. **Dinner begins at 6:00 and Awards at 7:00.** Team breakouts will follow where individual achievement is recognized. Reservations for dinner are required and information is available at the Colonial Athletic Boosters, CAB, website

<http://sports.tjhsst.edu/boosters/>, or Google: Colonial Athletic Boosters. This is a great evening of celebration – please join us.

CAB Membership is strong - thanks so much. This primary fundraising effort is critical to ALL SPORTS at TJ. Support from the entire TJ community is welcomed, and if you have a student athlete the CAB expects your Membership support. If you haven't focused on this, please

visit our website where you can join and pay on-line, or print out the Membership Form and send it in with a check to the school. Your support of TJ Food and Merchandise concessions is also appreciated. Our volunteers do an amazing job at the snack bar, and merchandise sales; both on-line and at the home football games, are near record-setting levels.

Our Fall Teams are providing a lot of excitement and success. Below are some highlights provided by the CAB Team Liaisons.

JV Cheer: The team has been enthusiastically cheering for the JV football team at their games, both home and away. In practice and on the field, the cheerleaders work on perfecting their cheers, chants and stunt routines. On October 11, the JV team was delighted to travel with Coach Wilson to the local NBC Studio's broadcast taping of the *It's Academic* television show, where the girls cheered on the winning TJHSST *It's Academic* team! Tune in on November 1 (10:30 am, NBC) to see the JV cheerleaders and the *It's Academic* team as they represent TJHSST!



The It's Academic team, sponsor, and cheerleaders. Front row: It's Academic team members Kevin Casto, Naren Tallapragada, Joshua Hahm
Back row: Temple Douglas, Jenny Park, Jane Pak, Tiffany Wu, Jane Hu, Nikki Pangilinan, Joowon Choi, Harry White (It's Academic), Mrs. Carolyn Gecan (faculty sponsor), Claire Cundiff, Michelle Tan

On October 15, the JV squad accompanied the varsity team to the semi-finals of the Liberty District cheerleading competition held at South Lakes High School; two JV cheerleaders, **Mary Kim** and **Dayoung Ko**, have been designated alternates for the varsity cheer competition routine. On October 20, the JV team again accompanied the varsity team as they returned to South Lakes to compete at the Liberty District finals. The JV team wishes the varsity cheerleaders great success!



The JV cheerleaders at the It's Academic competition. L-R: Temple Douglas, Claire Cundiff, Jane Hu, Tiffany Wu, Joowon Choi, Nikki Pangilinan, Michelle Tan, Jenny Park, Jane Pak

Varsity Cheer: The squad had two excellent performances at the Homecoming Pep Rallies. They competed on October 15 in the Northern Region cheerleading competition for Liberty District and did very well; and competed on October 20 at the Liberty District finals at South Lakes High School.



The Varsity Cheerleaders

Captains of the squad this year are **Alexis Barrett** and **Lauren Wolbarsht**. The squad has 22 members including 7 seniors and 2 alternates. Seniors will be honored on Senior Night at the last home game of the season (October 24th). Seniors this year are: **Laura Barnes**, **Alexis Barrett**, **Alice Chae**, **Ariel Coronel**, **Min-Young (Megan) Jang**, **Marika Lohmus** and **Lauren Wolbarsht**. The squad is coached by **Melissa** and **Jessica Barg**.

Cross Country: The boys and girls teams are having banner seasons in 2008. To date, the teams have run in four invitational and three Liberty District quad meets. TJ girl runners finished second in their first invitational, but won all three remaining meets, often competing against 30 or 40 of the best teams from the surrounding states. Similarly, the boys have run very well, winning their first invite and placing high in the remaining three. The junior varsity and freshmen teams have also performed well, winning or placing among the top three teams at most meets. Both girls and boys varsity are ranked among the State's best in Class AAA by most media sources.



Glory Days Invitational Girls Varsity Champions (from left): Coach Matt Ryan, Stephanie Marzen, Katherine Sheridan, Rekha Schnepf, Sarah Nielsen, Neesha Schnepf, Lisa Junta, Sarah Stites, and Assistant Coach Anne Lutz.

TJ's junior varsity XC teams kicked off the championship season on Oct. 15 with dominant performances by easily winning all three races (JV upperclassmen boys, JV girls and JV underclassmen boys) at the Liberty District JV

Festival. Both boys and girls varsity teams defended their 2007 Liberty District Championships on October 22, at Burke Lake Park. For updates on meet results, the schedule, and additional information, visit the TJXC website at <http://www.colonialtnf.com/>.

JV Field Hockey: The team ended their season with an 11-1-0 record! The only loss of the season was against Chantilly on Columbus Day after Homecoming, and was immediately followed by a 1-0 victory against a talented Langley team. **Coach Carol Horton's** experience and leadership were a key component of this year's accomplishments, and every win for the team this season was a shutout; both the defense and offense contributed to the team's success.

Varsity Field Hockey: The team finished Liberty District play at 3-3-0 with wins over South Lakes, Madison and Langley and close 0-1 losses to Woodson, Marshall and McLean. The final week of the regular season included a late 2-1 loss to Robinson and exciting wins over Chantilly, 1-0, and Langley, 4-1, on back-to-back nights. Playing at Marshall in the first round of the District playoffs, TJ won an exciting game, 1-0, and is moving on in post-season play.

Freshman Football: The Freshman Colonials record may not show a winning season – but if effort and team spirit count for anything – they are unbeatable! The game against #1 Stone Bridge was a perfect example. Our Freshman Defense held the Bulldogs to just two touchdowns – and Stone Bridge had the home field advantage. Another nail-biter, the Freshman class held their ground, and at the end of the first quarter, there was still no score. **Mike Taylor**, the newest Freshman quarterback with Ian Ladner moving up to JV, did a great job of handing off and passing, and our Freshman gained some serious yardage. At the end of the 2nd quarter, Stone Bridge was up by 8. **Tom Hillenbrand** caught an interception in the 4th quarter that brought the stands to their feet. Could this be it? Could we

actually beat Stone Bridge? What motivation a win would be for both the JV and Varsity Teams!



Freshman Colonials vs. Stone Bridge Bulldogs

While we didn't pull off the win, we did score in the final seconds of the game to avoid a shut-out. Final score, 16-6, but the Freshman Colonials couldn't have been more proud – and neither could the parents! The Freshman Colonials finished out this season October 30th with a home game against South Lakes at 6:00 p.m., and a November 3rd evening home make-up game against Wakefield at 6:00 p.m.

Come out and show your support for the Freshman Colonials – who could very well be the future “rising stars” of the TJ Football Program.

JV Football: The team scored its first touchdown of the season in the game against the Woodson Cavaliers! With time running out, the Colonials found themselves on their own 21-yard line. From the shotgun position, **Sungwon Byun** faked right and then rolled left. The short pass hit **Alex Harasty** between the numbers for a seemingly short gain to the 27-yard line. As three Cavaliers converged, Alex lateral passed to **Daniel Yoo** who was at the 25-yard line with a full head of steam. Without being touched, Daniel cruised down the sideline for a 75-yard touchdown. The team and fans went wild, and the cheerleaders did pushups! Although TJ lost, the dramatic touchdown at the end gave the

players, fans and coaches something to smile about!

The next two scheduled games (Madison and Wakefield) were not played, largely due to poor field conditions. The Wakefield game has been rescheduled for early November.

It was a defensive struggle on October 7 against Marshall. The TJ offense moved the ball well with 8 first downs in the game. The defense had much to be proud about; the Colonials held the Statesmen scoreless until the waning seconds of the first half. **Joe Scholle** had a fumble recovery and made several stops behind the line of scrimmage. In the end, TJ was left on the short end of a 16-0 game.

The squad put forth a valiant effort against a McLean team that outnumbered them three to one. As usual, many of the JV men played both sides of the ball and put up a strong defense. After McLean scored 12 points in the first quarter, the defense held them to only one other score in the third quarter. The offensive highlight of the game came in the fourth quarter, when the Jefferson squad put together an impressive touchdown drive. Long runs by **Daniel Yoo** and a 20-yard completion from **Ian Ladner** to **Luke Birch** were made possible by impressive protection from Jefferson's front line, and TJ made the two-point conversion. Despite being in the game until the end, however, Jefferson lost 18-8.

Varsity Football: Playing the Marshall Statesmen on Homecoming night, one computer rating system (with an 85% prediction success rate) gave Jefferson a 3% chance of winning (source: DigitalSports.com). The Colonials scored on a 2-yard run by QB **Ben Daly** (PAT by **Evan Burch**). Marshall tied the score, but then Burch broke away for 2 TDs on runs of 71 and 88 yards (Burch PATs) and later, Burch nailed a 22-yard FG. Daly scored again on a 1- yard run. At halftime, TJ led 31-7. In the second half, Burch had a 28-yard FG. The Colonials defense was

outstanding, holding the Statesmen to 140 yards total offense and just one TD for a final score of 34-7. Playing McLean the following week, TJ scored first on a 51-yard pass from Daly to **Mike Howard** (Burch PAT). Daly hit Howard again with a 2-yard TD pass (Burch PAT) to take the lead 14-0. The Highlanders scored a TD, but the Colonials held their 14-7 lead going into the fourth quarter. Two McLean TDs and a safety put the Highlanders ahead 23-14. With just minutes left in the game, Daly connected with Burch for a 73-yard TD (Burch PAT). TJ kicked off to McLean and quickly recovered a fumble by the Highlanders. With 23 seconds on the clock, Daly scored on a 1-yard run (Burch PAT). Defensive highlights included key fumble recoveries by **Sy Rashid** and **Kevin Zigadlo** and an interception by Burch, as TJ won 28-23.

JV Volleyball: Dig Pink! The Colonials continue to dominate. Co-captain junior **Biqi Zhang** continues to lead in the ace count, followed in order by sophomores **Candice Kaplan, Sara Gokturk, Shannon Eriksson**, co-captain **Limor Steinberg, Rebecca Kolkmeier, Kaitlin Kressin** and freshman **Anna Hicks**. Sophomore **Rachel Nissen** leads in the kill count, followed by **Shannon Eriksson, Candice Kaplan, Biqi Zhang, Sara Gokturk, Rebecca Kolkmeier, Limor Steinberg** and **Kaitlin Kressin**. Rounding out the team are junior **Soo Han**, sophomore **Lydia Luu** and freshman **Ashley Paek**.

The most recent game was *Dig Pink*, a volleyball event to promote breast cancer research. The Colonials wore pink volleyball shirts, decorated the gym with pink balloons and streamers, and gave out pink candy and volleyballs to promote this important cause. For *Dig Pink*, the team hosted the Woodson Cavaliers, who also wore pink, and TJ won in 2 sets. Kaitlin Kressin closed the 1st set with three final serves — the last one being an ace! The second set was tight until Biqi Zhang's serving brought the team from 12-12 to a lead of 16-12. Candice Kaplan closed the set with

7 consecutive serves! Great playing by all - including outstanding pink digs by Limor Steinberg and Candice Kaplan.



On the bench are: Freshman Coach Melissa Paul, Varsity Coach Charlee Johnson, (10) junior Soo Han, (24) sophomore Lydia Luu, (17) freshman Anna Hicks, (18) Sophomore Kaitlin Kressin, (26) Sophomore Rachel Nissen, (13) sophomore Shannon Eriksson, and JV Coach Kristy Wright. On court, Candice Kaplan.

The current JV record is 6-5, with three games to go. TJ can be proud of its JV volleyball team!

Crew Boosters



TJ Crew held a successful Crew Interest Night and an Open House at our boathouse/practice facility at Sandy Run on the Occoquan in October. If any student is interested in rowing for TJ and was unable to attend the Crew interest meeting or open house, please contact Head Coach **Matt Shoop** at [shoop2 at cox.net](mailto:shoop2@cox.net) and the captains at [TJRowing at gmail.com](mailto:TJRowing@gmail.com) to get on their email lists and learn more about TJ Crew. Back by popular demand: the team will be arranging a shuttle bus to transport freshman and novice rowers from the school to the river during the season.

Winter training for any interested TJ student including all returning and novice rowers will begin on Monday, **November 10th** in the TJ cafeteria. These sessions are held after school until about 6 pm on Monday through Friday, and

also on occasional Saturday mornings. Although attendance is not mandatory, most rowers attend as many sessions as possible to begin their conditioning before spring practice begins. This is a great opportunity for novice rowers to get in shape on the rowing machines and meet other team members.



The Crew is sponsoring a **Craft Show** on Saturday, **November 15th** in the TJ cafeteria from **9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Craft vendors from the TJ community and the region will display and sell their wares. We hope you will stop by, find those one-of-a-kind holiday gifts and help support TJ Crew.

Please visit our team web site at <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew>. If you have questions, please email the Head Coach, Matt Shoop at [shoop2 at cox.net](mailto:shoop2@cox.net) or the Booster President Teresa Zeng at [TJCrewPresident at gmail.com](mailto:TJCrewPresident@gmail.com)

Orchestra Boosters

First, congratulations to those Orchestra Students who successfully auditioned for the Northern Virginia Senior Regional Orchestra, where TJ had the highest string representation from any school. Those selected are: Violin: **Sherry Dai, Jeanette Du, Emma Ferris, Jenny Jones, Rasia Li, Reed Martinko, Mica Moore, Takahiro Nakamura, Yangbo Xu, Ritchie Yein, Justin Wang, Biqi Zhang**
Viola: **James Heron, Xiaonan Hu, Kelsey Johnson, Brian Shin**; Cello: **Mikas Kuprenas, Shawn Tsutsui**
Bass: **Seoup Yoon**. Well done!.

The next concert will be at West Potomac HS on Saturday evening, November 15th. Many thanks to all who assisted on October 22nd in the successful support of the students' first concert. I greatly appreciate your enthusiastic help, and it is all worth it when you hear the music! The

orchestra booster email group listing is up and running, and is the quickest way that information is disseminated. If you are not receiving these missives from me, please email me and I'll be glad to add your address to the list.

Our next **Booster meeting** will be on **Tuesday, November 11th, at 7:30 p.m.** in the Principal's **Conference Room** at TJ. Thanks for your support of the program!

Larry Jones, [lawrencemjones at aol.com](mailto:lawrencemjones@aol.com)

Theater Boosters (Shakespeare and Drama)

TJ Drama students presented a preview performance of the one-act play, *Six Days to Melissa*, on Wednesday, October 29, during eighth period in the TJ Auditorium. All interested students were invited to attend. On October 31-November 2, the students will perform the comedy at the Virginia Theatre Association one-act play competition in Reston, Virginia.

This year's musical, *Oklahoma!*, will be performed **Friday and Saturday, December 12-13, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, December 14, at 2 p.m. in the TJ Auditorium.**

There are four ways to purchase tickets.

- 1 - You may purchase tickets at the door for \$10 each.
- 2 - Tickets will also be sold in the cafeteria during lunch the week of the show (December 8-12) for the pre-sale price of \$8 each.
- 3 - You can purchase advance tickets by mail for \$8 each by sending your check and an advance ticket order form (included in this Techcetera) to Nancy Fitzsimmons, whose address is on the form. All mail orders must be postmarked by December 5 and received by December 8. Tickets will be available for pickup the night of the show.
- 4 - Finally, you can place your check and advance ticket form in a box located in TJ's front office between December 1-11 and pick up your tickets the night of the show.

The Shakespeare Troupe will not hold Froshfest this year.

The **Theatre Boosters** will hold its next meeting on **November 18 from 7-9 p.m. in the Library.** If you would like to volunteer to help with *Oklahoma!*, please contact Nancy Fitzsimmons at [TJ.TheatreBoosters at gmail.com](mailto:TJ.TheatreBoosters@gmail.com). You can also visit the Theatre Boosters webpage <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/> for information on how you can get involved, and support a fine tradition of drama at TJ.

Announcements and Information

Parents! Want a place for your students to manage their money and learn how to bank? Want a program that offers 5% on savings? The TJ branch of the **Apple Federal Credit Union** offers TJ students a place at school to take care of their money. The branch is open Mondays and Fridays during lunch in the cafeteria. Contact Michael Sanders at [applefcu at gmail.com](mailto:applefcu@gmail.com) for any questions.

School Delays: Please continue to check the PTSA website and TJ's KIT announcements for updates and changes to school delay openings.

Oct 10 - Mt. Vernon HS

Nov 7 - Edison HS

Nov 11 - Westfield HS, Chantilly HS, West Potomac HS, Falls Church HS, Hayfield Secondary, Robinson Secondary, Fairfax HS, West Springfield HS, Robert E. Lee HS

Nov 14 - Herndon HS and McLean HS

Nov 19 - Marshall HS

Nov 20 - Langley HS

Feb 17 - West Springfield HS

Feb 18 - Fairfax HS

Feb 19 - Langley HS

Feb 26 - Herndon HS

March 17 - West Springfield HS

SAT and SAT Subject Tests: When you are making your plans to take the SAT and SAT Subject tests, please remember that TJHSST will not be a test site this year. Please check the Student Services Guidelines Newsletter and the College Board website for updates and information, and for a list of testing sites in our area.

Test Date Register by Late Registration (fee)

SAT and SAT Subject Tests

6-Dec-2008	5-Nov-2008	18-Nov-2008
24-Jan-2009	26-Dec-2008	6-Jan-2009
2-May-2009	31-Mar-2009	9-Apr-2009
6-Jun-2009	5-May-2009	15-May-2009

SAT Only Test

14-Mar-2009	10-Feb-2009	24-Feb-2009
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Test Date Register by Late Registration (fee)

ACT Test

13-Dec-2008	7-Nov-2008	Nov 8– 20, 2008
7-Feb-2009	6-Jan-2009	Jan 7 – 16, 2009
4-Apr-2009	27-Feb-2009	Feb 28 – Mar 13, 2009
13-Jun-2009	8-May-2009	May 9 – 22, 2009

The Techcetera Newsletter is published monthly and a KIT announcement is sent out when it is posted on the PTSA website. If you wish to continue receiving the hard copy of the Techcetera newsletter by mail after this issue, please send an email stating your name and address to

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



Noteworthy Dates

<p>November 2008</p> <p>3-4 Student Holidays</p> <p>6 Senior Parents Night, 7pm in Cafeteria</p> <p>7 Academic Letter Reception, 8th period</p> <p>8 6th Annual TJ Choir Cabaret and Silent Auction</p> <p>11 Money for College Program, 7:30-9:30 in TJ Auditorium Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>13 CAC Meeting, 7:30pm in Room 106 Crew monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center</p> <p>14 Nat'l Merit Semifinalists Recognition Reception during 8th period, 2:00pm</p> <p>15 Crew Gift Fair, 9am-4pm in Cafeteria</p> <p>19 PTSA meeting with Principal's Coffee, 8:30am in Cafeteria</p> <p>20 SSAB meeting, 7:30pm in Library</p> <p>26 Students released early, 10:50am</p> <p>27-28 Thanksgiving Holidays</p>	<p>January 2009</p> <p>5 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>6 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center</p> <p>8 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center</p> <p>12 PTSA meeting combined with Principal's Coffee, 7pm in Library</p> <p>19-20 MLK Holiday & Inauguration Day Holiday</p> <p>26-27 Student Holidays</p>
<p>December 2008</p> <p>2 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center</p> <p>8 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library</p> <p>9 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>11 Crew Board meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center</p> <p>12-14 Theater Booster Performance of "Oklahoma!" in Auditorium</p> <p>24-Jan 2 Winter Vacation</p>	<p>February 2009</p> <p>3 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center</p> <p>8 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library</p> <p>10 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>12 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center</p> <p>16 Washington's Birthday holiday</p>
	<p>March 2009</p> <p>3 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center</p> <p>9 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>12 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center</p> <p>18 PTSA meeting with Principal's Coffee, 8:30am in Cafeteria</p>

April 2009	June 2009
3 Student Holiday	2 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
6-10 Spring Holiday	9 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
9 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	11 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
13 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library	13 Graduation at the Patriot Center, All Night Grad Party at TJHSST
14 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center	15 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
15 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room	
May 2009	
5 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center	
12 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room	
14 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	
17 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library	
25 Memorial Day Holiday	

TJ Drama Presents:
Oklahoma!

on

Friday, Dec. 12 at 7:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 14 at 2:00 PM

(Presale Ticket Price is \$8.00. Tickets are \$10.00 at the Door.)

ADVANCE TICKET ORDER FORM

Mail orders must be postmarked by Dec 5 and received by Dec 8th!
There will also be a box in TJ's Front Office for ticket orders w/checks
from Dec 1 – Dec 11th, until 4:00 PM. Tickets purchased with Advance
Ticket Order Form should be picked up on the night of the show.

Oklahoma!

Friday, Dec. 12th @ 7:00pm	___ tickets @ \$8.00 =	\$ _____
Saturday, Dec. 13th @ 7:00pm	___ tickets @ \$8.00 =	\$ _____
Sunday, Dec. 14 th @ 2:00 pm	___ tickets @ \$8.00 =	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **TJHSST**

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail by Dec 5th to: Nancy Fitzsimmons, 6111 Dory Landing Court,
Burke, VA 22015

OR

Drop Off Dec 1st – 11th only: Oklahoma! Box -- TJ's Front Office
Counter



ALL LAST YEAR MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 31st 2008
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!!!!

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST)
Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)
BECOME A 2008-2009 MEMBER

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

Funding for technology-related equipment
 Funding for Professional Development of Faculty
 Diversity Support and Awareness
 Cultural Arts support
 Freshman Shakespeare Festival workshop
 Support for Techstravaganza and The Mentorship Fair

Funding for student activities support
 Award Receptions for Students
 Cluster and County outreach programs
 Award Receptions for Students
 Faculty and Staff Appreciation Events
 Landscape Enhancement of school grounds

To become a member, please complete this form and return with check to the main office or join online at <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/payments.htm>. **Credit cards accepted online through the PayPal System.**

Student Name _____ Class of 20 _____
First Name Last Name

Student Home Phone Number _____ Student Email _____

PTSA Newsletter: The PTSA Newsletter Techcetera is posted online around the first of every month (see <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/newsletter.htm>). If necessary, members may request a paper version to be mailed. Please check if you desire a mailed copy. _____

(Note: The PTSA incurs considerable expense mailing the newsletter and encourages families to read it online.)

Any questions? Please email ptsa.membership@tjhsst.edu

*All contributions over \$250 will be acknowledged with a letter from the PTSA, as required by the IRS.

PTSA Membership Enrollment:

Couple Membership _____ @\$30.00 per couple \$ _____
 Individual Parent/Guardian Membership _____ @\$15.00 per person \$ _____
 Student/Alumni Membership _____ @\$15.00 per person \$ _____
 Faculty Membership _____ @\$10.00 per person \$ _____

Please list names in space above. If additional space is required, list additional members on the back of the form.

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total Dues</u>
NUMBER OF MEMBERSHIPS @ \$15.00 each	_____	\$ _____
NUMBER OF FACULTY MEMBERSHIPS @ \$10.00 each	_____	\$ _____
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION (Tax deductible)	_____	\$ _____
Please consider an additional donation for your PTSA so that we can continue to support all TJ Students and Staff. Thank You!		
TOTAL		\$ _____

**Mail this form (with check) to:
 TJHSST PTSA, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22312**



Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
All Night Grad Party – Ticket Order Form
Saturday, June 13, 2009
 (Following the Graduation Ceremony)

PLEASE COMPLETE FULLY AND PRINT CLEARLY

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent's email: _____

TICKET PRICE \$ 90 _____

Additional Tax Deductible Donation
 \$ _____

(Because ticket prices do not cover the cost of the party, additional donations are greatly appreciated!)

Total \$ _____

Check number _____

Make Checks Payable to "TJHSST PTSA-ANGP".

Your cancelled check is your receipt. No paper tickets will be issued. A list of those who have paid for tickets will be posted on the website.

Return to: "Grad Party" mailbox in front office
 OR mail to Julie Villacorta, ANGP '09 Tickets
 8304 Hunting Hill
 McLean, VA 22102

Ticket Questions? Contact Julia Villacorta
 703-917-9135; email: TheVillacortas@cox.net
 or Sandy Evans; 703-538-2783;
 email: EvansSandy@aol.com

Visit our website for more information:
<http://tjhsst.edu/gradparty/tickets.html>

This form, including the **emergency information**, must be completed by Parent/Guardian and received by the Committee by **June 1st, 2009**

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Phone # during party hours: _____

Allergies/Reactions: _____

Medications: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

 Name

 Signature

By signing this document, I give my permission for the TJHSST All Night Graduation Party Executive Committee to seek medical attention for my child in the event that I cannot be reached during an emergency.

PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

I understand that participation in the All Night Graduation Party, (ANGP), involves public property, and that neither the All Night Graduation Committee, nor its parent volunteers, will have any responsibility for the condition of this property. I have been made aware of the purpose of the ANGP, and that its activities include physical games, and agree that, to the best of my knowledge, my child is physically able to safely participate in this Celebration. Also, I have had an opportunity to have all my questions concerning the All Night Graduation Party answered to my satisfaction and I understand that my child will abide by all restrictions and procedures set forth by the Graduation Party Committee.

 Student Name (Print)

 Date

 Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

 Parent/Guardian Signature

Name of Student's TA Teacher _____

T shirt size (circle one) S M L XL XXL

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Check List

- Student Holidays, Nov. 3-4
- PTSA meeting with Principal's Coffee, 8:30am in Cafeteria, Nov. 19
- Early Release, at 10:50am, Nov. 26
- Thanksgiving Holiday, Nov. 27-28