

Principal's Letter

Dear parents/guardians, teachers, and students,

Get ready! Homecoming Week, October 6-11, is right around the corner! This year's theme, What's In, What's Out, features the following themes:

2009: In the Jungle, the Mighty Jungle

2010: A Day In the Life

2011: Out West

2012: Incognito

Faculty: Out of Style

Homecoming is a special time for our school. There are countless activities to raise school spirit, including pep rallies, skits, banner painting, musical performances, floats, trivia, canned food sculptures, and more. The activities demonstrate that we like to have serious fun and be part of a strong community. While not required, it is not unusual for many students to come to school dressed in a costume they made from scratch. The students cheer one another for their creative and inspiring efforts. It is a great time to bond with their classmates so do not be surprised if your child has longer nights that week building their class float or getting together for a class activity. School work is still important during this week so time management will be a valuable skill to practice. Fortunately this year a three day weekend follows Homecoming Week, giving time for students to recoup and recharge.

Homecoming festivities are not just for students. Many alumni come back to TJ on October 10 to enjoy a reception and then head to the football game. Many faculty will attend, too, to enjoy a cookout with their families. A unique connection between alumni and staff is over 20 current staff have children that attended TJ. Our parents enjoyed the TJ experience so much, they have

taken on the role as great mentors for many more students in addition to their own.

All of these activities and events require tremendous support from parents who are there to volunteer and chaperone events (and have fun, too!). You contribute to our success and enable the students to experience an environment where they can have fun in a safe manner. Thank you for supporting Homecoming at TJ!

Sincerely,
Evan Glazer

President's Message

I hope everyone has settled back into their school routine. Early mornings and late homework nights can be a difficult adjustment from the more laid back routine of summer. The PTSA hopes you enjoyed the "Bash" and Back to School Night. Thanks for your patience with the parking crunch. The latter is always a well attended but hectic event. You should have received your beautiful new TJ directories. If you missed purchasing one online or at Back to School Night, please stop by the front office to purchase this valuable book. The turnaround time to publication this year was short so that directories would be available for B2S Night. If you feel some important piece of information for your family was missed, please contact the PTSA at ptsa@tjhsst.edu.

Last year the PTSA lobbied to have interim grades sent home for all students. Please be aware that particularly in the case of first semester interims there may be very few grades. These reports should be used more as advisories and to correct true early problems which might require some intervention or adjustment. Often grades are too few at this point to make an accurate assessment of where a student is or will stand at the end of the quarter but can be used to identify early

organizational difficulties. This month the PTSA will be offering a **Fall Forum entitled "Navigating TJ: Parent Tips for your four years" on October 15, from 7-9 pm in the cafeteria.** For those hoping to catch the presidential debates, we will plan to end the presentation portion of the evening at 8:30pm. This forum was well received and well attended last year so we have decided to offer it again. Though this evening is primarily directed at freshmen and sophomore parents, it is meant to provide parent to parent insight about the TJ experience. Information about the social, academic, curricular and extracurricular opportunities at TJ will be discussed and you will have the chance to ask questions. If you have a particular topic you would like discussed, please submit a request in advance through ptsa@tjhsst.edu.

Lastly Homecoming is here! Please enjoy all the fun events surrounding this wonderful school tradition which ends with our Homecoming Dance on Saturday, October 11.

FYI

Back to School Packets- If your school packet (including student schedule) was mailed to your home, make certain you have also stopped by the front office to pick up your PTSA packet which includes information from most school groups. PLEASE VISIT THE PTSA WEBSITE IF YOU HAVE NOT YET HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE PTSA OR REGISTERED YOUR VOLUNTEER PREFERENCES AT <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/>

24-7 and KIT – If you have not already signed up for these programs please do so immediately (See detailed instructions below). This will be the primary vehicle through which FCPS and the school hopes to communicate with parents. Don't miss out!

Next PTSA Meeting - The next PTSA Board Meeting is Monday, October 20, at 7pm in the TJ Library. All are welcome!

PTSA Minutes – PTSA Board agendas and minutes can be requested by emailing the recording Secretary, Michele Pitler, ptsa.recordingsecretary@tjhsst.edu.

Techcetera Newsletter – The newsletter is published monthly. A KIT announcement will be sent out each month when the newsletter is posted. If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter by mail please contact ptsa.membership@tjhsst.edu.

PARKING – Sixteen volunteer spaces are available in the front left side parking lot for those who volunteer at the school and have registered for passes to display on their dashboard. Parents who are visiting the school for a short while (e.g. 15 minutes) may use one of the seven visitor spaces in front of the school. If you need to stay at school for a longer period of time you may park in any open space after 9am but should leave a note on your car explaining where and how you can be reached.

Thank you,
Liz Ross
TJ PTSA President

Parent View Account/FCPS 24-7 Enrollment Instructions

In order for Parents to get their own Blackboard accounts/FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View account, they need to follow these steps according to IT Procedures:

1. Parent Online Registration

* Using your Internet browser, go to <http://fcps.blackboard.com>
<<http://fcps.blackboard.com/>>

* Log on using username:

parentreg and password: newuser

- * Under the Parent Portal Registration heading, click on Click here.
- * Fill out the online form and follow the prompts.

* At the end of the process, print or write down your unique registration key.

2. Parent Onsite Verification

* Bring a photo ID and the unique registration key to the front office your child's school. Do not send this with your child. You must do this in person.

* The school will give you an FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View username and your password will be emailed to you.

3. Parent Login to the FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View (Blackboard) Portal at <http://fcps.blackboard.com>
<<http://fcps.blackboard.com/>>

* Using your new username and password, you can login to the FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View and have access to all of your children's Blackboard courses. If you need assistance contact the FCPS 24-7 Help Desk at 1-866-434-8880.

Parents should be calling FCPS 24-7 Parent View Help Desk Line: 1-866-434-8880 if they have problems with their Internet Browsers at home or accounts or passwords.

Committees

ANGP

All TJ parents are invited to get involved in **All Night Grad Party** planning for **June 13, 2009!** This is an AWESOME party for TJ's seniors and is HUGELY popular! The newly graduated seniors will have the whole night to be treated to a grand and memorable party with their classmates. The

school will be transformed with color, music, and elaborate props to make for one unforgettable night. Parents of the senior class organize and supervise the party, with significant participation by the **junior, sophomore, and freshman classes.**

The **All Night Grad Party Committee** is up and running full steam! Thank you to Terri Minshew, Robin Howard, and Michele Pitler, who are the 2009 All Night Grad Party Co-chairs. Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to head a committee:

- **Activities:** Terri Minshew, Robin Howard, Michele Pitler
- **Baby Photos:** Tracy Parlett
- **Bookkeeper:** Jeff Clark
- **Casino:** Joan Burch and Joan Daly
- **Concierge:** Fran Lagerfeld and Leslie Smith
- **Decorations:** Sharon Smith and Liz Starr
- **Food:** Barb Barrett, Mini Kanwal, Barbara McGarey
- **Fund Raising,** Anne Clougherty
- **Logistics:** Bill Montgomery and Bob Burdett
- **Mementos:** Diane Ungerleider, Susanne Pelham-Webb, and Charlie Hookey (SrVid)
- **Passports:** Barbara Heard and Joanna LeGore
- **Prizes/Raffle:** Steve Casto and Sallie Casto
- **Publicity:** Barbara Steakley and Lynn Borton
- **Secretary:** Nancy Etkin
- **Security:** Yma Sharp and Jim Wolbarsht
- **Tickets:** Julia Villacorta and Sandy Evans
- **Volunteers:** Chris Zigadlo
- **Webmaster:** Vicky Linnell

****Volunteers Needed:** We are seeking two volunteers from the **class of 2010** to chair the wrap-up committee, if you are interested, please contact tjangp.volunteers@gmail.com. We need many volunteers to make this year's ANGP a

great success. It is never too early to volunteer. If you would like more information, please contact Chris Zigadlo:

tjangp.volunteers@gmail.com.

Donations: All donations in cash and in kind are gratefully received and will be recognized.

The web site for credit card donations is:

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

Early Bird Price - \$90 for the Class of '08:

This **early bird price** is only good until **December 31, 2008**. Starting January 1, 2009, the price will increase to \$109. A ticket form is attached to this newsletter or download the ticket/permission form from:

<http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/angp.htm>

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. For further information about ANGP, please visit our website at

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

or contact Co-Chairs Robin Howard, Michele Pitler, or Terri Minshew at ptsa.angp09@tjhsst.edu.

Grocery Program / Recycling committee

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

NEW! TJ's PTSA was approved to join Bloom's Breeze school rebate program. Now any Bloom guest can donate 1% of their total purchase amount directly to our school by simply using

their BREEZE card. These dollars can add up quickly! Sign up for a Breeze card at your local Bloom grocery store and designate our code # **01218** on the application under rebate options. There is no online sign-up at this time. Once you spend \$100 during each 3 month promotional period (posted within the store), you become eligible to donate. *(Purchases of alcohol, tobacco, gift cards, prepaid Mastercards and rental equipment does not apply towards the 1% contribution)*

Cut out this card and present it to the cashier every time you shop at 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.

There is Still Time to Register Your Grocery Cards to Earn \$\$\$ for TJ!

Thank you for registering over **500** different Giant, Safeway and Harris Teeter loyalty cards! Our goal this year is to have at least 800 grocery cards registered in support of TJ. Our Giant card registrations are way behind last years. Please sign up ASAP!

A portion of sales is donated to TJ when you use your store loyalty card. The fastest way to start earning money when you shop is to sign up online. You must re-register EVERY school year.

Giant A+ Bonus Card:

(http://Giantfood.com/aplus): TJ code **02307**.

[Harris Teeter Together in Education](http://HarrisTeeter.com) Vic Card:
(<http://HarrisTeeter.com>) TJ code **5534**.

[Safeway Club Card for Education](http://escrip.com) Club Card:
(<http://escrip.com>) TJ code **154534149**.

If you turned in a grocery card sign-up form by 9/19, you were entered in a raffle to win a \$25 Amazon.com gift card. We have three winners who will try out our new Amazon.com shopping link to earn Free Money for TJ with their Free Money! Congratulate:

- Naiyin Chien
- Barbara Steele
- Carol Dunn

If you have any questions, please contact Nora Callahan at norava@verizon.net.

Landscaping Committee

Fall is a great time for planting. Give us a hand in keeping the grounds around TJ looking great. All are welcome, no experience necessary. Great way for students to earn community service hours. Upcoming gardening days are:

Saturday Nov 1 time TBD Audubon Sponsored Planting

Sunday Dec 7 9:30 to 12:30

If you are free on Friday mornings, we will be gardening most Fridays from 8:30 to 12:30. If you would like to join us, or want to be added to our email list, contact Carol Miranda

cnsmiranda@hotmail.com.

Carol Miranda

cnsmiranda@hotmail.com

703 281 2913

Volunteer Committee

Thanks to all of you who have used our online sign-up system for volunteer positions! It's not too late to get involved in the life of TJ, whether it is a one-time commitment as a field trip chaperone or a regular task such as after-school library help. Please check out the Volunteer page

on the TJ PTSA website,
<<http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/volunteer.htm>>
and click on "Volunteer Information System" to see what opportunities are available and to sign up. We still have one important PTSA board position that is still open: **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, than this is the job for you!

Thanks again to all our volunteers and we look forward to working with you! You may contact us at tjvolunteers@gmail.com.

Jill Cook and Rajni Goel

Student Services Corner

Student Government Association

Hey Jefferson,

A month has passed already! Hope you're getting well adjusted to working again.

Homecoming is now just around the corner. Get pumped up! Asking Week was September 22nd-26th, and Homecoming Week is October 6-10th. Please come to the Homecoming Football game against the Marshall Statesmen on October 10th and show your spirit!

Here are the Homecoming Week Spirit Days:

- Monday – IN Vogue (dress your best)
- Tuesday – Check Me OUT (dress as your favorite literary character)
- Wednesday – INseparable (dress as twins, triplets, famous groups, etc)
- Thursday – What's IN, What's OUT (class theme day)
- Friday – IN Living Color (class color day)

Let's go COLONIALS!

Academic News

Spanish News

SpainBCN-Summer Programs in Barcelona Sports Camps & Spanish Immersion, Summer 2009. www.spainbcn.com

It's not too early to start thinking about your kids' summer camp for next year!

We would like to introduce you to the perfect choice for those who want to visit Spain, enjoy Barcelona and practice their favorite sports.

A great opportunity to improve Spanish while having fun: SPORTS CAMPS & SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAMS FOR TEENS IN BARCELONA, SUMMER 2009.

Combine:

Soccer Camp, Tennis Camp, Basketball and Golf.

Spanish Courses and Cultural excursions.

Homestay accommodation in Barcelona with carefully selected Spanish host families located nearby our School.

All programs for juniors and teens are supervised.

Visit our web site www.spainbcn.com to learn more about our exciting and interesting programs and contact us if you would like us to provide you with more information regarding our programs in Barcelona.

We are looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Japanese News

This summer, we visited our exchange school, Wakayama Chiben HS, with 11 students. We all had a wonderful time together visiting Tokyo and Kyoto, attending the classes, going to the beach, and cheering at HS baseball games. I will be holding the information meeting this month for hosting the students in March 2009. The host students will be selected mainly from the

Japanese program. However, it will be open to the general population if we do not have enough host families within our program.

We have had a great start this year at our program. A group of 7 students have visited the Japanese Ambassador's residence to attend the special reception for the Japanese astronauts on 9/18. Three astronauts (Ms. Hoshide, Dr. Wakada, and Mrs. Yamazaki) met with us to share their experiences and answer our questions. We also had a chance to meet the new Ambassador, Mr. and Mrs. Fujisaki. The following day, we invited Mr. Hoshide to TJ give a special presentation of his recent Space Shuttle mission in June. Over 70 students came to listen and talk to him with some great questions. He also enjoyed the quick tour and demonstration at our planetarium (thank you to Mrs. Henning).

We have also started the preparation for the National Japan Bowl in April 2009. The students are practicing hard to get to the championship round at the next competition. This will be our 24th competition. We will be selecting the three teams of three students in December to enter the competition.

Class News

2009 – Seniors

Senior parents plan to attend the senior parent night on Nov 6th from 7-8.30 in the cafeteria to prepare/plan for the rest of the senior year. Vendors will participate to sell their graduation related wares. Parents, it is your last year as a high school parent to be involved in your child's school activities. We still need chaperones for the coat check during the homecoming dance on Saturday Oct 11th. Please email me and confirm your shift time, early shift: 7.30-10 pm late shift: 9.30 pm -midnight

Anjana Desai: nayanj885@yahoo.com

2010 - Juniors

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to chaperone at the Homecoming Dance on October 11. We also need a few chaperones for the post football game soc hop (9 – 11 pm on **October 24th**). Please email me if you can help out.

Remember – PSATs are Wednesday, October 15th. When your student signs up for SATs and SAT II's this winter or spring, please do not wait until the last minute to register. TJ will not longer be a testing site so students will have to take tests at their base schools or other testing sites.

For information on class events, please remember to check out the class website throughout the year at: <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/2010/> Ellen Ranard, ESRanard@gmail.com
PTSA Class of 2010 Representative



Juniors building the float

2011 – Sophomores

It is hard to believe that our students have only been back at school for weeks rather than months. Not only have we been through our first rounds of exams and papers; sports, theatre, music, dances are happening; and homecoming is right around the corner, on October 11th. The whole week of October 6th was full of homecoming spirit days. Our class will provide 20 chaperones for the Homecoming Dance. There are two work shifts: 7:30pm – 10:00 and 9:30 –

midnight. If you would like to chaperone and have not yet contacted us please let us know by e-mail at danielaowen@verizon.net (Daniela Owen) or eswoboda@gventerprises.net (Eileen Swoboda).

Please check our new class web-site for class news. You can access it through the link on the PTSA website. The site includes, events, photos, a list of class officers and contact information, minutes of the officers meetings and other useful information.

A couple of reminders on the academic side...Sophomores will be taking PSATs on October 15th. They will take them again during their Junior year at which time scores will be considered for National Merit scholarships. Also, the college admission process typically requires either 2 or 3 SAT II exams, depending on the specific college. SAT II's are offered in Math (Math 2 covers through PreCalculus) , Biology, Chemistry, US History, World History, Physics, Literature, and Languages. Information and registration can be found at www.collegeboard.com. As your students complete a course of study they may want to register to take an SAT II while the material is still fresh in their minds.

Welcome back to this wonderful place we call "TJ"!

2012 – Freshmen

The 2012 Class is off to a great start at TJ. Freshman Orientation, the Back to School Bash, wise advice from faculty and staff and, then, actually starting school all helped to ease the anxiety of both students and parents. The Big Sibs are just the best in helping the new Freshmen feel at home as they join the TJ family. The PTSA representatives helped the parents find their way around. We think the transition has been a little more challenging for the parents than for the students! The kids all seem busy whether it is attending classes, playing sports, doing

homework or other school activities. With the Friday night football games and soc hop when TJ plays at home, our kids are getting fully immersed in the school's culture.

Many thanks to our Student Government Association Faculty Sponsor Ms. Shoeplein, and our Class Sponsors Mr. Auerbach and Ms. Orenstein, for your guidance and coordination of our class activities. We look forward to working with you this year.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help at the Homecoming Dance on October 11th. The Freshman coat check operation will rock with this group!

Freshmen Lock-In will be in the early Spring and the IBET Symposium is scheduled for May 28. Stay tuned for more information on these events as we get closer to them. Many thanks to the parents that have signed up to volunteer at our Freshmen events. Please keep sending those e-mails to our new mailbox TJClassof2012@cox.net.

Let us know your questions and your volunteer interests. Have a great October and thank you for all your support.

Ann Nguyen (ann.hl.nguyen@cox.net)
Janet Tasker (jtasker@cox.net)

TJHSST Partnership Fund

Be Part of The Team That Supports Our School

The Jefferson Partnership Fund, a volunteer-driven 501(c)(3) charity, reminds parents that our state and local tax dollars fall far short of meeting TJ's annual needs. Private donations are critical to TJ's ability to meet our expectations as one of the nation's top high schools.

At Back to School Night, Fund Chairman Tom Goodwin (alumni parent '08) explained that tax-

deductible donations from parents, corporations and foundations provide essential equipment, training, research and creative opportunities for TJ students and teachers that we all take for granted but that are not otherwise funded.

In 2007-08, parents contributed over \$250,000 to TJ through the Fund, through cash gifts, employer matching grants and donations through United Way, America's Charities, and CFC. These campaigns begin this month; TJ's number is #81947 on the donation form.

A donation is only one way to help TJ! Parents who know individuals or organizations that make cash, in-kind gifts, or matching grants to schools and other charities are encouraged to contact Gary Bottorff at 703-750-8317; or at gary.bottorff@fcps.edu.

And of course, TJ always relies on volunteers. The Fund operates a vibrant and active "Parents Committee". Please contact Carrie Kilgore at JCKVienna@aol.com.

A special request – Do you work for Exxon-Mobil or know of any parent, alumni parent or graduate who does? Please let us know. We are working on increasing our participation in one of its programs and need Exxon-Mobil employees to assist. Please contact Carrie Kilgore at JCKVienna@aol.com.

The Partnership Fund team helps TJ fulfill our expectations for this great school. Please join us! Help us help TJ!

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters

Academic Boosters – Academic Teams Start Up
Now that 8th period has started up, encourage your students to check out TJ's great academic teams. TJ has at least four 8th period blocks available for team activities every week, and it's easy for students to include one or two academic

teams in the mix. Some teams are especially good for freshmen, because they have special divisions for less advanced students, and/or they have no limits on the number of students who can compete. To learn more about the teams, check our web site, including the Archives and Teams at a Glance 2008-09.

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

This year, TJ has about twenty academic teams. Five teams prepare students for math and science Olympiad competitions, plus other subject-specific competitions: Math; Computer; Physics; Chemistry; and Biology. Other science/tech teams include Botball (robotics); Ocean Bowl; Science Bowl; and Underwater Robot (new). TJ has four flavors of debate teams: Policy; Lincoln Douglas; Public Forum; and Student Congress (new). For students who want to focus on foreign cultures or international relations, TJ has Model UN, Certamen (Latin) and Japan Bowl. For students who enjoy creative group efforts, we have Future Problem Solvers and Odyssey of the Mind. For students who love quiz bowls, we have five choices: It's Academic; Certamen (Latin); Japan Bowl; Ocean Bowl; and Science Bowl. Finally, for the many TJ students who played chess during elementary and middle school, we have a chess team that ranked second in the nation last year!

Academic teams cost money. Fairfax County Public Schools does not pay their registration fees or for study materials. FCPS does not compensate teacher sponsors for the time they spend after school and on weekends with the teams. FCPS does not reimburse these teachers for travel expenses they incur to chaperone students to competitions.

For 2008-09, Academic Boosters expects to receive over \$40,000 in funding requests from all the teams. So far, over 150 families have joined TJ Academic Boosters, and they have donated approximately \$19,000. If you haven't done so already, please join Academic Boosters today by

going to this page on our website

<http://academics.tjhsst.edu/boosters/membership.htm>

It's Academic Team Off to a Great Start

After a head to head battle against Wilmington Charter High School, the TJ It's Academic A team, consisting of **Naren Tallapragada, Joshua Hahm, Harry White and Kevin Casto**, placed second at the Richard Montgomery High School Fall Tournament. This qualifies the TJ A team for the NAQT national tournament. The B team, consisting of **Nishanth Parameswaran, Michael Eng, Arjang Navab, Siddharth Hariharan and Graham Lobel**, broke even, with 5 wins and 5 losses and won the consolation bracket.

Band Boosters

CONGRATULATIONS, TJMC! The Thomas Jefferson Marching Colonials staged an outstanding performance at Westminster High School, MD in the USSBA competition on September 20. They placed **FIRST** in all categories – including music, percussion, and color guard in their division.

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 to: tjbandboosters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com Volunteers always welcome!

Announcements

Band Concert: Thursday, October 16, 7 p.m., Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Jazz I, and Symphonic Band will perform. Admission is free; donations are greatly appreciated. Fundraising items will be available for purchase. Refreshments provided by band families served after performance.

Doughnuts on Election Day: Band students will sell doughnuts at polling places and Metro stations on **Tuesday, November 4**. Pre-order boxes of a dozen for an early morning delivery, \$5 per box. Contact Lauren Houck at laurenrocks@gmail.com.

Thanksgiving 2008: The holiday will be here before you know it! Gourmet pies – frozen, ready to bake. Contact Lisa Rabe at tjpies@gmail.com anytime before October 24. Fresh, juicy citrus; to order, contact tjcitrus@hotmail.com. Delivery/pick-up of pies and fruit, November 22. Please see enclosed flyer.

Holiday Gifts: Shop early! **White House Commemorative Ornaments** – Easy to mail gift, \$20 – nsitarz@att.net.

See samples at: <http://www.tjhsstband.org>.

Gift Cards – A variety available! – kaycorey@cox.net.

Innisbrook Wraps, Gifts, and Chocolates – Order online at www.innisbrook.com (school number 110170-A-1) – 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@wrtc.org, (703) 342-0215. See samples at: <http://www.tjhsstband.org>.

Virtual Tag Day: Letters were recently distributed to TJ families requesting donations in support of the TJ Band program. 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

Noteworthy Dates:

October 16: Fall Concert – TJ auditorium, 7:00 pm
October 18: TJMC Parade of Champions – James Madison University

October 28: TJMC USSBA State Finals – Salem, VA
November 4: Band Booster Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – Principal's Conference Room

November 12: TJMC Banquet for band students and families, TJ Cafeteria, 6:30 pm

November 22: Delivery/Pick-up of citrus and pie orders

December 3: Winter Concert – TJ auditorium, 7:00 pm

Please see enclosed flyer.

Colonial Athletic Boosters

Crew Boosters



If you think your son or daughter (freshmen or upperclass) may be interested in joining a competitive national crew program, your family should come join us at our Crew Interest Night on Tuesday, October 14th at 7:30 pm in the TJ Cafeteria. In addition, we will be holding an open house on Sunday, October 26th from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the TJ Boathouse at Sandy Run Regional Park. This will be a great opportunity for your son or daughter to try rowing with some of our experienced rowers. Check out the FAQs for prospective rowers on the Crew website <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew/> (follow the link on the home page to the FAQs). Students interested in rowing should contact the Crew Captains at TJRowing@gmail.com.

Please support TJ Crew by attending our **Yard Sale in the TJ Cafeteria on Saturday, October 25th from 8 am to noon**. We also



welcome your tax-deductible donations for the yard sale (we will provide receipts). Please drop donations off at the

cafeteria on Friday evening, October 24th between 6 - 10 pm. (If you are at the football game on Friday night, stop by for a sneak preview from 8 – 10 pm.)

TJ crew will be hosting a **Gift Fair in the TJ**



Cafeteria on Saturday, November 15th from 9 am to 4 pm.

If you have a craft that you would like to sell at the Gift Fair, please check out our website at www.tjgiftshow.com or

contact us at tjgiftshow@gmail.com for more information.

TJ Crew is managed by parents through the TJ Crew Booster organization. For Booster questions, contact Teresa Zeng, President, at TJCrewPresident@gmail.com

JV Cheer: The team is happy to welcome Coach **Carolyn Wilson**. The twelve-member JV team was selected during tryouts held in August and September. The team practices throughout the week to learn and perfect cheers and stunts. Under the leadership of captains **Mary Kim** (2010) and **Dayoung Ko** (2010), the team cheers for the TJHSST JV football team at their games, both home and away. In addition, the JV team is planning to cheer for TJHSST's *It's Academic* team during the broadcast taping on October 11 at the local NBC studios.

Varsity Cheer: The team welcomes Head Coach **Melissa Barg** and Assistant Coach **Jessica Barg** to TJ! Try-outs were held in August and twenty girls were selected for the Varsity Cheer and Competition team. In August, the girls attended a Cheer Camp held at TJ to begin choreography for their competition routine. The varsity cheerleaders are training during the week and on Saturdays to prepare for competition. They also cheer on the varsity football team every Friday night. The team will

compete at the District competition in October. District semi's will be held at South Lakes on October 15th and District finals will be held at South Lakes on October 20th. Come on out and cheer on the cheerleaders. Check the Colonial Athletic Booster website for the exact times.

Cross Country: The season got off to a great start on Saturday, Sept. 13, at the first meet of the season – the Knights Crossing Invitational in Salem, VA – where the boys varsity and JV teams won their 5K races! Both girls varsity and JV teams earned 2nd place in their events. The TJ teams competed against 32 schools from across Virginia, Tennessee and West Virginia. Milestat.com has ranked both girls and boys varsity teams 3rd in the State in Class AAA.

Both girls and boys Cross Country teams welcomed large numbers of new runners from the class of 2012. Eleven freshmen girls and thirty-three freshmen boys have bolstered the ranks of Jefferson's fleet-footed distance running teams. TJXC teams have a strong history of success. Both teams will defend their District championships this fall. In addition, the boys team will defend both Regional and VA State Championships this fall. As a matter of fact, the TJ boys have won the VA state XC championship 3 of the last 6 years! And Coach **Matt Ryan** was named "Metro Coach of the Year" last year by the Washington Post.

If you have never witnessed the excitement, emotion, and physical effort encompassed in a cross country meet, plan to attend one of TJ's upcoming meets. Curious fans are invited to visit the TJXC website for meet schedules, detailed meet results and additional information at <http://www.colonialtnf.com/>.

JV Field Hockey: Under the guidance of Coach **Carol Horton**, the team is off to a great start, with a current record of 6-0-0! All wins have been shutouts, thanks to great goalie work by **Kelli Keith** and defensive play by **Erin Corey**,

Hae Mee Kang, Elizabeth Pina, Katy Burgio, Collen Maher, Kristin Skowronski, and Caroline Woods. With strong play by **Allison Crow, Allie Ivener** and **Connie Scoggins,** goals have been scored by **Taylor Enders, Stephanie Lockhart, Brittany Chinn, Amber Kuo, Allie Brouckman, April Hyon** and **Kelsey Good.**

Varsity Field Hockey: The team has started District Play with a 1-1 record with an 8-0 win over South Lakes and a 1-0 loss to a strong Woodson team. They look forward to the rest of the season and hope to build on their progress in the remaining games.

Freshman Football: So far, it appears the power lies within – and the Thomas Jefferson Freshman Colonials are just waiting for the right opportunity to show exactly what they can do. They started the regular season with a “nail-biter” against Mt. Vernon. With an incredibly close final score of 8-6 – the Colonials fought hard until the bitter end. **Ian Ladner,** this year’s quarterback, did an excellent job of finding his open men, and **Mike Maccannan** scored our first touchdown. Both the defensive and offensive line did an excellent job of stopping the Majors, but in the end, we were outscored. The Colonials ran into another tough opponent the next week as we were hosted by the Woodson Cavaliers. The Cavaliers dominated, but not without some GREAT plays by our freshman team.

Game two had its share of issues – but our Colonials did not go down without a fight. **Luke Birch, Saul Del la Barra, Dimitre Nichev, Carson Hotard, Stas Schaller, Avi Mehta, Ryan Tasker-Benson** and **Mike Taylor** put the pressure on with some notable tackles and showed us the true meaning of “holding the line”. Meanwhile, **Mike Maccannan, Ed Cai** and **Mark Elias** helped to gain our yardage. **Mark Elias, Joseph Yoon** and **Tom**

Hillenbrand had beautiful punt returns, but in the end, the Cavaliers dominated the field.

It must be pointed out the Colonials have as tough a schedule as any team in the County this season.

JV Football: The team began their intense preparation back in August during two-day practices and continue to show dedication and fortitude during the regular season. Under the leadership of head coach Joseph Rucker and assistant coach John Puvogel, the JV squad has put forth a valiant effort against much larger squads.

The student-athletes playing for the offense are **Sungwon Byun,** quarterback; **Daniel Yoo,** running back; **Daniel Choo,** running back; **Andrew Watson,** offensive line; **Andy Crump,** offensive line; **Myles Cook,** offensive line; **Nathan Hamal,** offensive line; **Joseph Scholle,** offensive line; **Alex Harasty,** wide receiver; **Chris Carey,** wide receiver, and **Jim Skehan,** wide receiver. Playing for the defense are **Joseph Scholle,** defensive end; **Will Mannon,** defensive end; **Andy Crump,** defensive end; **Andrew Watson,** defensive tackle; **Jay Iqbal,** defensive tackle; **Nathan Hamal,** linebacker; **Myles Cook,** linebacker; **Daniel Choo,** linebacker; **Calvin Hartanto,** linebacker; **Alex Harasty,** strong safety; **Chris Carey,** free safety; **Mark Lee,** cornerback; **Jim Skehan,** cornerback. Many JV players play both offense and defense.

Varsity Football: The team opened the season with an exciting 28-27 overtime victory over Falls Church (FC). Highlights included the first play when TJ's special teams unit blasted through the FC line for a 77-yard kickoff return by **Mike Howard.** Three plays later, QB **Ben Daly** completed a 13-yard pass to **Evan Burch** (score 7-0). **Josh Yoon** recovered a FC fumble, which led to the Colonials' second TD as Daly connected with Yoon for a 12-yard TD (14-7). On another

outstanding play by TJ's special teams, Yoon blocked a FC extra point attempt. With minutes left in the first half, Daly fired another pass to Burch for a 40-yard TD (21-21). After a scoreless second half, the game went into overtime. Daly scored first with a run to the end zone. FC responded, tying the game, but **Adil Dittmer's** perfectly timed pass deflection derailed FC's conversion attempt to preserve the win for TJ. The victory was made possible by crucial tackles behind the FC line by **John Kim, Matt Becker** and **Dittmer**, a solid performance by the offensive line (**Adam Cho, Becker, Kevin Zigadlo, Timur Aleshin and Lawrence Diao**), and key offensive plays by **Daniel Barnes** and **Alex Shmorhun**. The team thanks the enthusiastic fans -- parents, faculty, administrators, students and especially the cheerleaders and the TJ Band -- for their support and the HUGE turnout for our home games!

JV Volleyball: The team is coming on strong! The JV Colonials are a powerful force. Co-captain junior **Biqi Zhang** leads in the ace count, followed in order by sophomores **Candice Kaplan**, co-captain **Limor Steinberg**, **Sara Gokturk**, **Shannon Eriksson**, **Rebecca Kolkmeier**, and freshman **Anna Hicks**. The kill count leader is sophomore **Rachel Nissen**, followed by **Biqi Zhang**, **Shannon Eriksson**, **Limor Steinberg**, **Sara Gokturk**, **Candice Kaplan**, and **Rebecca Kolkmeier**. Rounding out the team are junior **Soo Han**, sophomores **Kaitlin Kressin** and **Lydia Luu**, and freshman **Ashley Paek**. The JV Coach is **Kristy Wright**, and Team Managers are sophomores **Katie McAtamney** and **Aria Sharma**.

Starting the season with two away games against two power-teams, Westfield and Langley, did not deter the Colonials. TJ lost both games in two close sets each, but rallied back and won their third away game against Hayfield in two sets. Three home games followed, each in three sets, with a win against Stuart, a close loss against Herndon, and a win against Edison. The current

Colonial record is 3 wins – 3 losses. With 8 games to go, the season looks promising for the tight-knit TJ JV Volleyball team!



JV Team : Back-row: Sara Gokturk (30), Candice Kaplan (11), Rachel Nissen (26), Coach Kristy Wright, Kaitlin Kressin (18), Shannon Eriksson (13), and Rebecca Kolkmeier (25); Front-row: Juniors Biqi Zhang (23) and Soo Kyung Han (10), Freshman Anna Hicks (17), and Sophomore Limor Steinberg. Not pictured are Freshman Ashley Paek, Sophomore Lydia Luu, and Team Managers Sophomores Katie McAtamney and Aria Sharma.

Orchestra Boosters

For those of you who have joined the booster, thank you. Recognition will be forthcoming shortly. If you have not yet joined please do so. A reminder is that our first concert will be Wednesday October 22nd. You should be seeing concert CD order forms and Quiznos dinner forms shortly. I am still very much in need of a few parent volunteers for the following: Hospitality (organizing the concert receptions), someone who can attend the monthly PTSA meetings and someone to assist me with the concert CD ordering. Please let me know. I need your help. Our next Booster's meeting will be on Tuesday October 14th at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room at TJ. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to help. Thanks! Larry Jones (lawrencemjones@aol.com)

Theater Boosters (Shakespeare and Drama)

Congratulations to the students selected to perform at the Virginia Theatre Association one-act play competition October 31-November 2 in

Reston, Virginia. The following students will perform a comedy, Six Days to Melissa: **Kevin Place, Lindsey Doane, Anna Burke, Diana Goeller, Connor Cotton, Rebecca Edelsten, Luke Bean, Anne Norland, Paul Anderson, Cara Newlon, Tim Yuan, Sheila Borkar, Elena Lagon, Brianna Buch, Crystal Yi, Danny Kim, Kate Zurowski and Erin Lindgren.**

Last month's Tech cetera incorrectly reported the date for this year's 22nd Annual Knight of One Axe. The performance will be held February 20-21.

Announcements and Information

TJ Community Loses Friend and Math Tutor

Thomas Patrick Czubiak Jr., a self employed math tutor for 16 years in Northern Virginia, passed away on June 4, 2008. Tom held two degrees in mathematics, a BA from Cornell and a MS from Stanford. He was a gifted mathematician from a very early age and passionate about sharing his knowledge to help others achieve success in math.

Through the years, Tom noticed that many Fairfax County students lacked the foundation in algebra that they needed for future math work. He helped bridge that gap. Focusing on tutoring TJ students in all math levels, Tom made a positive impact for many in the TJ community. As one TJ alumni parent recalls, " He was an excellent teacher who instilled in my son the confidence he needed to ace every math class." He frequently received messages from former students thanking him for the skills and confidence they needed for higher-level math.

His easygoing nature and sense of humor made him popular with students and parents alike. It

was not unusual for Tom to have enthusiastic discussions with his students about playing guitar or his favorite musicians. He was admired for his genuine caring and positive approach, which he summed up in his quips of "Remember, it is only math." He will be missed.

Condolences should be sent to his wife Nan

Nan Traylor Czubiak
7638 Chadds Landing Way
Manassas, VA 20111
Please include your return address



Noteworthy Dates

October 2008

- 11 Homecoming, Dance at 8 pm
- 13 Columbus Day Holiday
- 14 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting,
7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
Crew Interest Night, 7:30pm in
Cafeteria
Diversity Committee Monthly Meeting,
7pm in Career Center
- 15 PSAT testing for Sophomores and
Juniors, 8:30am to 12:00pm
- 15 PTSA FALL FORUM 'Navigating TJ'
(see attached flyer) 7pm at Cafeteria
- 16 CAC meeting, 7:30pm
- 20 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
Partnership Fund Executive Committee
Meeting, 4:30pm
- 21 Academic Booster Meeting, 7pm in
Cafeteria
- 24 Class of 2010 Soc Hop
- 25 Crew Yard Sale, 8am-12pm in Cafeteria
- 26 Crew Open House, 1-3pm at TJ
Boathouse at Sandy Run Regional Park
- 29 Partners for Safe Teen Driving, 7pm in
Auditorium

November 2008

- 3-4 Student Holidays
- 6 Senior Parents Night, 7pm in Cafeteria
- 11 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting,
7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
- 13 CAC Meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
- 15 Crew Gift Fair, 9am-4pm in Cafeteria
- 19 PTSA meeting with Principal's Coffee
8:30am in Cafeteria
- 20 SSAB meeting, 7pm in Library
- 26 Students released 2 hours early
- 27-28 Thanksgiving Holidays

December 2008

- 2 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
- 8 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
- 9 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm
in Principal's Conference Room
- 12-14 Theater Booster Performance of "Oklahoma!"
in Auditorium
- 24-Jan 2 Winter Vacation

January 2009

- 5 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm
in Principal's Conference Room
- 6 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
- 12 PTSA meeting combined with Principal's
Coffee, 7pm in Library
- 19-20 Martin Luther King Birthday & inauguration
Holiday
- 26-27 Student Holidays

February 2009

- 3 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
- 9 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
- 10 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting,
7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
- 16 Washington's Birthday holiday

March 2009

- 3 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
- 9 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting,
7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
- 18 PTSA meeting with Principal's Coffee,
8:30am in Cafeteria

April 2009

- 3 Student Holiday
- 6-10 Spring Holiday
- 13 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
- 14 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
- 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,
- 17 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
- 25 Memorial Day Holiday

June 2009

- 2 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
- 9 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting,
7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
- 13 Graduation at the Patriot Center, All
Night Grad Party at TJHSST
- 15 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library

***PTSA SPONSORED FORUM FOR PARENTS OF TJ
STUDENTS***

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15th

7:00-9:00 pm

CAFETERIA

***(please note, presentations will end by 8:30pm to accommodate
the presidential debates)***



Thanks !

***NAVIGATING TJ : PARENT TIPS FOR
YOUR FOUR YEARS***

***A panel of parents will present useful information about the
many aspects of the wonderful TJ experience (curriculum,
sports, social, extracurricular). Please come and bring your
questions.***

***For more information, please contact
Liz Ross ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu or any of the PTSA board
members at ptsa@tjhsst.edu.***



TJHSST BANDS

offer

Ready-to-Bake Pies!

These delectable frozen pies are available in the following varieties:

- Apple
- No-sugar-added Peach
- Blueberry
- Strawberry Rhubarb
- Dutch Apple
- Caramel Applenut
- Peachberry
- Pumpkin
- Cherry Krunch
- Boston Cream
- Coconut Cream
- French Silk
- Chocolate Peanut Butter Silk
- Pecan

Prices:

All pies are \$14.00, except for French Silk and Chocolate Peanut Butter Silk, which are \$16.00

How to order:

Contact Lisa Rabe at tjpies@gmail.com and place your order anytime before October 24. You can pay when you pick up your order on November 22... **OR** Place your order with any TJHSST band member by October 24. Please pay when you place your order.

Pick Up:

The desserts can be paid for and picked up on **Saturday, November 22** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the TJHSST Band Room.

Thank you for supporting the TJHSST Bands!



Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology

What: Informational meeting concerning teen driving safety (with Judge Grodner and Joanne Wang -Allstate)

Who: Parents and teens

When: Wednesday, October 29, 2008

7:00 pm

Where: TJHSST Auditorium

Information includes:

- Driver education and the licensing process
- Insuring the teen driver
- Important traffic laws
- Parent tips for coaching the teen driver

For more information contact:

Heidi Smith, Heidi.smith@fcps.edu

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

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

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

If you are a PTSA member and would like a printed copy mailed to you each month, please contact:
[Ptasa.membership at tjhsst.edu](mailto:Ptasa.membership@tjhsst.edu)

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

Check List

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