
Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology



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<http://www.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/newsletter.htm>

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

January has been a very busy month at TJ as we closed out the first semester. Many of our students attended the Inauguration, the parade, and/or a ball, and then wrote about it in the school newspaper and their online blogs. Thank you for providing our students an opportunity to witness and feel a part of this historic moment.

In mid-January, 15 TJ students were recognized by the Intel Science Talent Search for their extraordinary scientific research. Only 300 students in the country achieve such an honor, and TJ had the greatest number of recipients across high schools in the country. Each student received a \$1000 scholarship check from Intel, and TJ received a \$15,000 matching donation to purchase research equipment. The students' research would not have been possible without the outstanding support of external mentors and scientific institutions with equipment and resources not available at the school. Special recognition goes to TJ mentors Mr. Latham, Dr. Kennedy, Dr. Cobb, and Mrs. Wu, who have provided guidance to these students throughout their project development. If your child is interested in doing high caliber research like these Intel semifinalists, they should be speaking with our lab directors, our mentorship coordinator Mr. Pearce, and our College and Career Center coordinator Mrs. Kobick. There are many summer opportunities available where students can get started on projects early so they finish by the Intel Science Talent Search deadline. You can see these research projects and more at the TJ Science Fair on February 7 from 1:00-2:15pm.

This month TJ is launching the One Question initiative. Perhaps you have been walking through the school seeing pictures of students and faculty in "The Thinker" pose. Those pictures have been a teaser to get students to

think about an important question the whole school should address during the following school year in its curriculum and 8th period activities. We want the students to submit questions about a complex problem relating to science in society, something to encourage their curiosity that can be tackled through multiple angles. The One Question will lead into the selected summer reading, as well as grants for research projects, service activities, guest speakers, and more. Since the new question will be launched at the end of this year and will conclude at the end of next year, the One Question aims to get submissions from Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors. I look forward to reading the questions from our students.

The School Board has approved its first phase of the budget which unfortunately indicates there will be a reduction of teaching staff as a result of increasing class size. This consequence is troubling to everyone, but one silver lining is our staff leaving TJ will maintain employment within Fairfax County due to attrition at other schools. The extent of the cuts will not be determined until the spring, but an analysis of our current class enrollment reveals potential areas that should be considered. I plan to publish a report to the school community in February with this information and will share how programs at TJ might be impacted during the 2009-2010 school year. I will share an executive summary at our February PTSA meeting and solicit input from parents on the program areas you feel should be protected. I plan to repeat this process with students and with staff to understand the needs and interests from our entire community.

Don't hesitate to contact me at [Evan.Glazer at fcps.edu](mailto:Evan.Glazer@fcps.edu) if you have ideas or suggestions to make TJ a better place for learning and growing. Thank you for your efforts, and stay warm!

Sincerely,
Evan Glazer
TJ Principal

President's Message

I hope everyone had a chance to comfortably finish the quarter and then to relax on our back-to-back four day weekends. The PTSA has been busy following the developments within FCPS on several important fronts:

Proposed changes to the FCPS Grading policy
SLEEP Recommendations
FCPS Budget Crisis.

Most of you are already aware that the School Board voted to implement Dr. Dale's recommendation that advanced courses receive increased weight. This change will be retroactive and include this year's seniors. Mid year transcripts for our TJ seniors will carry the refigured GPAs. These new GPAs may now be viewed through the FCPS 24/7 learning accounts, which all parents should have activated. The PTSA has worked with the school administration, and very responsive school board members and FCPS staff to ensure that TJ transcripts will include increased weighting (1.0 quality point and .5 quality point for year-long and semester classes respectively) for all classes which presently carry additional weighting. In the spring, FCPS staff will be reviewing how Honors classes are weighted. It is our hope and expectation that all classes at TJ will receive an additional .5 Honors weighting, but that decision is forthcoming. The School Board also asked that FCPS staff evaluate moving to a ten point grading scale with pluses and minuses and set a deadline of March 31st for completion of their review and recommendations. The plan is to have these changes in place by the start of the 2009-2010 school year. The School Board's recommendations were based on information they received from an extensive report researched by FCPS staff and FAIRGRADE. This report found that an increase in the quality point scale was necessary to create parity between FCPS students and their nationwide peers.

Please take the time to visit the FCPS website and review the FCPS SLEEP bell schedule proposal (www.fcps.edu/fts/taskforce07). Present iterations of the proposed changes would likely not effect the

start time at TJ. We already begin school later than most county high schools.

The FCPS budget remains a critical issue with ever increasing cuts predicted. The final budget will most likely result in decreased staff, increases in class size, and the loss of some programs. This is a very fluid issue and I recommend that you visit the FCPS website, read the local paper, and attend upcoming PTSA meetings to keep abreast of how the cuts will affect TJ.

Please visit the FCPS website (www.fcps.edu) to keep informed of recent communications regarding all of these important issues. School Board meetings can also be viewed live on Channel 21 via Cox Communications and MP3 versions of past broadcasts are frequently available.

FYI

PTSA MEETING – 7:00 pm, Monday, February 9, TJ Library. Agenda items include: discussion of the grading policy, budget and SLEEP topics, and nominating committee selection.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee for next year's executive committee, please contact Michele Pitler **[ptsa.recordingsecretary at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.recordingsecretary@tjhsst.edu)**.

FCPS News - Updated information regarding articles of interest to the FCPS community can be accessed through the county's NEWSWIRE service at <http://www.fcps.edu/mediapub/publicat/wire.htm>. You can now access the FY 2010 proposed FCPS Budget and the 2009-2010 school calendar.

SSAB MEETING - Thursday, February 12, 7 pm, TJ Library- Topics for discussion include: curriculum criteria and selections, summer school, budget cuts, new grading policies and additional topics as suggested. For questions, contact Linda Russ at **[Russesrus at aol.com](mailto:Russesrus@aol.com)**. All are welcome!

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION - (see attached flyer) Safe Community Coalition Cyber Summit:

Teaching our Children About Cyber-Safety, Cyber-Ethics, and Cyber-Security, Thursday, February 19, 2009, 7:00 - 8:30 pm Vinson Hall Auditorium, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, Virginia.

ANGP MEETING – 7:00 pm Tuesday, March 3

ATTENTION JUNIOR PARENTS: NOW IS THE TIME TO BECOME INVOLVED IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH NEXT YEAR'S ALL NIGHT GRADUATION PARTY!

Thanks!
Liz Ross
PTSA President

Committees

ANGP



Senior Parents: Buy Your Student's ANGP Ticket NOW To Insure The Best Party for Our Seniors

Every year about 98% of all TJ seniors attend the capstone celebration of their four years here, the All-Night Grad Party (ANGP). Already more than three-quarters of the senior class have bought their tickets!

We won't be sending you a paper ticket, and there won't be a paper ticket to lose. Students who have had their tickets paid for will simply be on "**The List**" of attendees at the front door. To check to see if your student's name is there, go to:

http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/tickets.html#ticket_list

To those of you who have held off buying your student's ANGP ticket, please do so as soon as possible. One main reason to do so is that the

purchase price will then 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. Some of the final decisions are being made *right now*.

All Aboard!



The price is **\$109** and is all-inclusive for food, music, activities, door prizes, etc.

Here's how 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.

2) Write a check for **\$109 to TJHSST PTSA-ANGP**, send it with the form to this address: Julia Villacorta, ANGP '09 Tickets, 8304 Hunting Hill, McLean, VA 22102. **OR**

drop the form and check off in the TJ front office in the "Grad Party" box.

--Julia Villacorta and Sandy Evans, ANGP Ticket Chairs

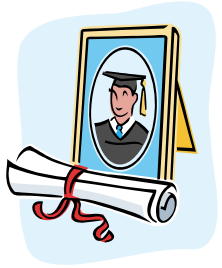
Have you sent in your senior's Baby Photo and Senior Photo?

We have a webpage which indicates whose pictures have been received. If you've sent in your photos, please check the following webpage to make sure we have received them:

<http://information.tjhsst.edu/gradparty/babyphotos.html> . Receipt of your pics is updated weekly.



(0-5 years). The photos will **not** be returned.



Please write your senior's name on each photo. Include a phone number or email address so we can contact you if necessary. Drop off your photos in the office in the ANGP Baby Photo Box *or* mail to: Tracy Parlett, 709 Santmyer Dr. SE, Leesburg, VA 20175.

If you have any questions, please email Tracy Parlett at tracyparlett@verizon.net. We'd love to have 100% participation in this fun ANGP tradition so **Send your photos in today!**

The ANGP Food Committee Needs Help!

The Food Committee needs bakers and cooks who are willing to prepare sweet and savory menu selections for the party. This is an easy way for cooks to contribute – just bake and deliver!

Also, we could use at least 10 volunteers who would be willing to shop for items that we need from Costco and other grocery stores, and donate those items to ANGP so we can stay on budget. We have very specific needs so this should be easy if we can get a critical mass of volunteers.

Many hands make light work! If you are interested in either one of these jobs, please email Barbara Barrett (BarbaraBarrett09@gmail.com) so we can compile a list. We will get back to you on exactly what we need and when/where to deliver the goods.

Thank you, from the Food Co-Chairs: Mini Kanwal, Barbara Barrett, and Barbara McGarey

Volunteer Coordinators

HELP WANTED!! The PTSA and the Colonial Athletic Boosters are still in need of two very important positions: **Parliamentarian** and **CAB Webmaster**.

~We have been carrying out PTSA business without the services of a permanent Parliamentarian, but we really need someone in the position. Please consider this opportunity; time commitment involves attending the monthly PTSA meetings. 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!

~The CAB webmaster is "graduating" in June. We need a volunteer to take over maintenance of the website beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. The position involves: XHTML; CSS; FTP or WinSCP; Photoshop (or equivalent); making PDFs; monitoring the webmaster email address; updating the site with rosters, scores, photos, documents, brochures, etc.; archiving the previous year's information and setting up the next year's site. Minimal PHP and some Javascript are helpful. Dreamweaver will make your life easier, but is not required. If you have any questions, please contact our current webmaster, Vicky Linnell, at TJAthleticBoosters@gmail.com.

As always, we thank all the dedicated parent volunteers in the TJ community who contribute their time and energy in so many ways! It's not too late to get involved, 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.

Stay tuned for information on Summer Packet stuffing. You may contact us at: **[tjvolunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjvolunteers@gmail.com)**.

Jill Cook and Rajni Goel
PTSA Volunteer coordinators

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

The Optimist Club at TJ is collecting "Pennies for Patients" and we need your help to make this fundraiser a success!!!!!!

Please bring in all of your spare change (bills and *checks welcome too) and deposit it in the collection box in the main office.

Collection period is February 2 – February 20, 2009



Since 1994, millions of dollars have been raised in pennies and other spare change by more than 10 million elementary, middle and high school students throughout the country.

The funds, collected during a three-week period, benefit The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, whose mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Every little bit helps so please dig into your pockets, under cushions of sofas, and into the nooks and crannies of your purse to find any spare change you can. It will definitely be appreciated.

In the Pennies for Patients campaign in Fairfax County, the top fundraising school will get its name and mascot represented on metro buses throughout the area, as well as a variety of other prizes.

If you have any questions, please contact Bobbie Pelham-Webb at **[bpelhamwebb at gmail.com](mailto:bpelhamwebb@gmail.com)**. Make the checks payable to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. If you prefer, you may mail checks to: Optimist Club, care of Mr. Forbes, TJHSST, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22312.

Student Services Corner ***Student Government Association***

Happy second semester, everyone!!

We hope you had an amazing first month of the year 2009!! First semester is now over, and we wish you another successful semester.

Last month, SGA focused on ways to promote honesty in the Jefferson community. What could SGA and the administration do to make students feel more comfortable about discussing this issue? We will continue to work on this project, and if you have any suggestions, please contact us via our website <http://www.tjhsst.edu/sga>.

In addition to the honesty discussion, SGA has been busy working on the Slivoskey Grant, a \$1,000 grant awarded to a club whose proposed initiative will improve the school in a significant way. SGA and Mr. Slivoskey have met with the top four clubs, and we will be announcing the winner very soon. Thank you to everyone for your participation.

Furthermore, the deadline for the quote submission for Inspiration Quotes on Walls was last month. SGA will host an open meeting during lunch where students and faculty can select the most appropriate quotes for Jefferson. Stay tuned for more info!

Guidelines

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

Academic News

Japanese News

The Japan club selected 14 host families for this year's sixteenth Japanese exchange program with Chiben Wakayama HS. The exchange students will be here from March 7th to March 28th. Faculty member Mr. Adam Wong and his wife have graciously offered to host the exchange teacher this year. In class, we are writing to Japanese high school students in the Shizuoka prefecture, to help us understand the lifestyles of Japanese teenagers. We are also learning Japanese songs, and some students, demonstrating hidden talents, are working on the online national karaoke contest (Chen Tsui Super Star).

From Russia, with love

The Russian Honor Society (SLAVA) is conducting a toy drive for orphan children in Pskov, Russia. This is only one phase of our joint community service project with students in Russia. TJ students will bring the toys to Russians during their Spring Break trip. Thank you for your donation of *small* toys (we have to pack them to take to Russia in big duffel bags) to help us begin our collection. Toys may be brought to Room 223, or to boxes located in your English classrooms. The top three English classes bringing in the most toys will be treated to a Russian-themed party! It is possible to receive one NHS hour for bringing in a toy for the drive.

The second phase of this community service project takes place in Russia when TJ students

work with local university students in Pskov, Russia to share and spread the understanding of social responsibility through this joint community service project.

On Thursday, January 22nd, AP students enjoyed the opportunity to hear Ms. Naomi F. Collins, Ph.D., talk about her book "Through Dark Days and White Nights. Four Decades Observing a Changing Russia," and share her experiences and photos with us. She spent a few years living in Russia and traveled in Central Asia, among other countries.

We wish the students taking the AP Practice Exam on Friday, February 6th good luck! The AP Russian Exam is taken on-line so our students enjoy the challenge of typing in Russian!

Students at all levels of Russian will have the opportunity to participate in the Virginia State Olympiada for Spoken Russian, sponsored by the American Council of the Teachers of Russian. This year, the Virginia State Olympiada will once again be hosted by George Mason University and will take place on Friday, March 20, 2009.

Want to be included in Russian Podcasting? Contact Stuart Maier for more information.

To contact the SLAVA (Russian Honor Society) officers, email: [slavaofficers at gmail.com](mailto:slavaofficers@gmail.com)

Class News

2010 - Juniors

Do you like to plan parties or events? Are you creative and resourceful? Are you organized? Do you like working with a team of other parents? Do you just like to help out? **We need your help in planning the ANGP, an unforgettable graduation celebration for the Class of 2010.** What is ANGP? The All Night Grad Party. Every year, immediately following graduation (Saturday evening at GMU), the graduating seniors are

treated to a fantastic all-night party at TJ. Unlike every other class event which is planned by students, this is the one event that is planned by parents for their students. ANGP is not just for senior parents. Parents of the seniors organize the party, with help of the underclass parents. **Junior parents are needed in particular on the day of graduation (Saturday, June 13th) to help with the final preparations for the party** – both during the day and for the first shift of the party (9 to 11 pm). Interested? Please contact **TJANGPvolunteers at gmail.com**.

Just as important as the tradition of helping the senior class parents, is the experience that junior class parents will gain by helping this year's ANGP committee. Most years many junior parents are *already* involved with the planning and are "shadowing" the senior parent chairs in the various committees (activities, decorations, food, casino, fundraising, security, volunteers, to name a few). This year, there are *no* junior parents shadowing senior parents. **If we don't learn from this year's senior parents, we will have a difficult time planning the ANGP for the Class of 2010.** The ANGP committee meets the first Tuesday of the month in the College Career Center. All are welcome to attend to learn more about the ANGP. If you have questions about ANGP, please feel free to contact me or this year's chairs at **ptsa.angp09 at tjhsst.edu**. Please think about how you can help out.

Ellen Ranard, **ESRanard at gmail.com**
PTSA Class of 2010 Representative

2011 – Sophomores

WE NEED PARENT VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SOPHOMORE AUCTION.

The Sophomore Auction has been the primary means of raising funds for graduation celebrations. The class officers have some

wonderful ideas for this year's auction, scheduled for May 1, 2009. We are in need of an organizer and chairpersons to make those ideas a reality without too much time and effort on any one person's part. And...we need to get started yesterday so please e-mail us today. Alternative fundraising ideas are also welcome, as a back-up to holding a Silent Auction. Thanks.

Please e-mail us at **danielaowen at verizon.net** and **eswoboda at gventerprises.net**.

Daniela Owen and Eileen Swoboda
PTSA Class of 2011 Representatives

2012 – Freshmen

Many thanks to all the parents who have offered to help at our Freshman Lock-In night on March 13. We are anxiously awaiting for our students and their sponsors to unveil their plans for the event. We do know for sure we will need a lot of parent volunteers for the Lock-In. There will be shifts throughout the night and you can volunteer for one or multiple shifts. We also need volunteers for registration and clean up.

If you or your children have any ideas, please ask your child to bring them to the Freshmen Class Council meetings on Fridays, A-Block. Any freshman can attend the Class Council meetings.

Please e-mail us at **TJClassof2012 at cox.net** if you can help.

Ann Nguyen and Janet Tasker
PTSA Class of 2012 Representatives

News Round-Up and Awards

TJHSST Tops the Nation in the 2009 Intel Science Talent Search Top 300!

Wednesday, January 14, the Society for Science and the Public and the Intel Corporation announced the 2009 Semifinalist winners in the

prestigious Intel Science Talent Search. These are students whose applications and research papers are now recognized to be among the top 300 in the nation. TJHSST has 15 scholarship winners in this group, more than any other school in the nation. This year's semifinalists were selected from 1,608 entrants. Projects in the Top 300 cover all technical disciplines including biochemistry, chemistry, physics, mathematics, engineering, behavioral science and medicine and health. Over the past 67 years, the young innovators chosen to participate in the Science Talent Search have gone on to receive Nobel Prizes, Fields Medals, and the National Medal of Science.

Please congratulate the following 2009 Intel Science Talent Search top 300 winners from TJHSST:

1. Varun Bansal
2. Kevin Casto
3. Sudha Guttikonda
4. Jared Hallett
5. Lily Hsiang
6. Rishi Iyengar
7. Alexander Kim
8. David Kim
9. Joy Lee
10. Jessica Liu
11. Manchali Madduri
12. Sumit Malik
13. Christopher Olund
14. Divya Srinivasan
15. Narendra Tallapragada

TJHSST Partnership Fund

TJ STUDENTS BLOG INAUGURAL BALL

Four TJ students attended the LINK-live Presidential Inaugural Gala on Tuesday, January 20, at the Corcoran Gallery. The LINK-live Presidential Inaugural Gala is a non-partisan event hosted by the LINK AMERICAS Foundation (LAF), a 501(c) (3) organization that seeks to

foster global educational, environmental and social development on sustainable resource development, green technologies and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) projects between the Americas through strategic alliances.

The TJ students, **Nathaniel Skolnik (Class of 2011)**, **Kathryn Kingsbury (Class of 2011)**, **Joey Bouchard (Class of 2010)** and **Jae Sim (Class of 2010)**, mingled with scientific supporters and blogged their impressions of the event which highlights the need for US leadership in science and technology. Their attendance was made possible through invitations coordinated through the Partnership Fund.

TJ's RECORD NUMBER OF INTEL FINALISTS EMPHASIZES THE NEED FOR MORE RESOURCES!

Congratulations are due once again to TJ's great students who have set the record for the number of Intel finalists at one school! As all of you know, the resources are dwindling --- private sources are required to provide the necessary equipment and supplies to support the science and tech labs! Help where you can. Look on the TJ PF website for the needs list at www.TJpartnershipfund.org. 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.

THANKS AGAIN PARENTS FOR ALL YOUR DONATIONS!

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

And of course, TJ always relies on volunteers. The Fund operates a vibrant and active "Parents Committee." We could use your help for all sorts of tasks – working on newsletters, bulletin boards, research, phonathon, mailings, data entry, etc. We can use the help on either a regular or occasional

basis. Please contact Carrie Kilgore and Ellen Ranard at [TJPFVolunteers at gmail.com](mailto:TJPFVolunteers@gmail.com). Thanks!

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters

Biology Olympiad

Biology Olympiad is planning to send about 30 students to Clemson University in South Carolina, to participate in the Biology Merit Exam on April 24th. All TJ students are welcome to sign up, starting February 5th. However, preference will be given to those who have not yet taken AP Biology. Interested students should talk to Dr. Uston or attend a Biology Olympiad 8th period block.

Certamen

TJ students attended a Certamen at the Flint Hill School in Oakton, VA. Amidst fierce competition, TJ students at all levels qualified to play in the finals. One Latin I team, **Rachel Goldstein, Billy Nguyen, Sam Sohn, and Jared Golant**, placed first. Another Latin I team, **Zikuan Li, Quentin Moore, Jeremy Loffredo and John Chae**, placed third. TJ's Latin II team, **Zachary Seid, Akhila Ananthram, Daniel Kim, Frederick Short, and Brian Shin**, fought fiercely to win third place, only losing by ten points! TJ's Latin III team, **Catharine Zucker, Ashwin Raja, Nate Skolnik, and Nayan Lamba**, placed second. TJ's Upper Level team, **Amith Ananthram, Christopher Kilgore, Maya Wei, Anne Marie Creighton and Vivaek Shivakumar**, also placed second.

Chemistry Olympiad

This year, TJ will be allowed to send sixteen students (as opposed to two students in past years) to the local Chemistry Olympiad. On

January 7, 36 TJ students participated in the first qualifying exam. The second qualifying exam is on February 11th. The top 24 TJ students based on the results of these two exams will be invited to participate in a "lab showdown" on February 27. The top 16 TJ students, based on all three components of the selection process, will represent TJ at the local Chemistry Olympiad in March. For more information, contact Mr. Kauffman.

Chess Team

TJ's chess team won its first four matches in the Metro Area Chess League, against schools from Southern Maryland, Northern Virginia, and D.C. The team faces its strongest opposition in the fifth match, against Churchill High School from Potomac, Maryland. TJ also is sending two teams to the U.S. Amateur Team East tournament in Parsippany, New Jersey to defend its top high school team title.

The Virginia State Scholastic Championships will be held March 14 and 15 at Monticello High School in Charlottesville, Virginia. TJ has won the state championship for the past ten years, and the TJ chess team dynasty seeks to continue the streak. Contact captains **Eddie Lu and Aryan Khojandi** at [tjchessteam at gmail.com](mailto:tjchessteam@gmail.com) to sign up.

Senior Computer Team

At the January USACO contest, in the Gold Division, **Brian Hamrick** was second in the country (tied for fifth in the world), **Jack Chen** was eighth, and **Andre Kessler** was eighteenth. In the Silver Division, **Casey Mihalow** was twenty-first in the country. In the Bronze Division, **Jason Israel** was twenty-third in the country and **Divya Garg** was tied for twenty-seventh. Complete results are at <http://ace.delos.com/JAN09results>.

TJ DEBATE TEAMS

Student Congress Debate

TJ's Student Congress team sent six debaters to WACFL 4: **Anirudh Mohan, Nikhil Prakash, Neal Milstein, Jerry Liu, Lauren Frank, and Jason Ya. Anirudh and Lauren** both placed within the top halves of their respective chambers.

Forensics

At WACFL 4, two members of the TJ forensics team qualified for metrofinals. **Josh Hall** qualified in Mixed Extemporaneous Speaking and **Arvin Ahmadi** qualified in Original Oratory.

TJ's forensics team also sent two students to the districts for National Forensics League. **Tor Johnson and Abigail Xu** qualified to attend for Declamation and **Maya Chaudhuri** qualified for Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate team continued its string of successes at WACFL 4. At the varsity level, **Emma Pierson** was undefeated and placed second, and **Akaash Gupta** qualified for Metro Finals. In Junior Varsity, **Janiel Li** was undefeated and placed second. In the novice category, **Alice Lee** was undefeated and placed second. Congratulations to Emma, Akaash, Janiel, Alice, and the entire LD team!

At the Columbia University Invitational on January 24th, sophomore **Akaash Gupta** won during double-octas and octas, placing him among the top 8 Lincoln Douglas debaters at this national tournament.

Policy Debate

At WACFL 4, TJ's policy debate team did well. In the varsity division, **Hannah Clark** and **Andre**

Kessler placed third, **Chris Lee** and **Katie Lin** placed fourth, and **Graham Lobel & Akshay Deverakonda** placed fifth. All qualified for metrofinals, as did **Max Wang** and **Johnny Kim**. In addition, **Hannah Clark** won the third speaker award. In the JV division, **Mary Sun** and **Daniel Kim** placed third, **Sungmin Sohn** and **George Liang** placed sixth, and **Mary Sun** won the third speaker award. Congratulations to all!

Public Forum Debate

At WACFL 4, TJ's Public Forum had two varsity teams qualify for metrofinals. **Sumit Malik** and **Maya Chaudhuri** placed fifth, and **Rebecca Friedman** and **Emily Yu** placed sixth. In the JV division, **Molly Shannon** and **Priyanka Dochibhotia** placed sixth and qualified for Metrofinals.

"It's Academic"

On January 10, "It's Academic" hosted a **Regional Quizbowl Tournament**, the M.O.H.I.T. (affectionately named after a former TJ "It's Academic" member). TJ team members wrote the questions, and TJ's 8th period coordinator, Mrs. Stevens, said this was the most smoothly run "It's Academic" Tournament she's seen at TJ. The tournament drew 30 teams from high schools, and for the first time, Longfellow Middle School also sent a team.

On January 31st, the TJ "It's Academic" Team competed in the **Virginia High School League (VHSL) Scholastic Bowl Regional Tournament**, finishing first in the Liberty District and the Virginia Northern Region, winning a spot in the VHSL State Tournament, set to take place on February 28th. The team consisted of **Joshua Hahm, Greyson Lewis, Michael Eng, Nishanth Parameswaran, and Jacob Kannarkat**, and went undefeated throughout the entire tournament.

Japan Bowl

The Japan Bowl club selected this year's Japan Bowl participants. TJ's Level 2 team is comprised of **Jason Ya, Daniel Kang, and Annie Lin**. Our Level 3 team is comprised of **Connie Xie, Jungeun Choi and Brian Yu**. Our Level 4 team is comprised of **Steven Kim, Han Kim, and Andrew Lam**. All three teams will be competing on April 2.

Model UN

Model UN club won the Secretary General's Award for Best Large School Delegation, and many individual awards, at Chantilly High School's MUN Conference.

Best Delegate Awards went to **Andrew Barlow, Sid Bhatia, John Hahn, Aman Kansal, Max Kieff, Kate Kingsbury, Curtis Mills, Serena Saffarini, and Colvin Wang**. Outstanding Delegate Awards went to **Varun Bansal, Brendan Greenley, Aaron Koenig, Jonathan Kuo, Neal Milstein, Mohima Sanyal, Swati Teerdhala, and Dennis Wang**. Honorable Delegate Awards went to **Arvin Ahmadi, Ashu Goel, Chris Groskaufmanis, Lauren Groskaufmanis, Salini Hota, Kamna Kathuria, Christine Lee, Alyssa Mendoza, John Pulice, Siddhant Sethi, Hirsh Sharma, and Shiyang Yang**. Verbal Commendations were given to **Sanjeet Das, Kelsey Henderson, Garret Hoppin, Ashneil Jain, Shreyas Mahapatra, Jen Park, Steve Qian, Kishore Rao, Nate Skolnik, Kylene Smart, Dan Wang, Andy Yang and Deanna Zhu**.

In addition, TJ MUN went to a National Conference at University of Pennsylvania (ILMUNC) on Jan. 29th. TJ MUN also is planning TechMUN, the conference hosted at TJ on March 6/7.

Band Boosters

Winter Showcase February 28: We are hard at work as we premiere our signature annual event, Winter Showcase. Don't miss this dazzling competition, featuring a wide assemblage of Winter Guard and Drum Line units from across the region as TJ plays host to hundreds of participants, families and guests. Spectators are welcome and encouraged. Admission charge applies. We need a flood of parent and student volunteers throughout the day. All band families are asked to provide individually wrapped baked goods for sale. Please come to the next Showcase update during our monthly Band Boosters meeting on Tuesday, February 3. Contact Ted Zagrobelny, [tzag3 at comcast.net](mailto:tzag3@comcast.net) to offer your assistance during this grand production.

Advertise in Winter Showcase Program: Hurry, deadline February 4! Business owners and parents, please advertise with us. Dads and Moms, this is your moment to compose an inspirational message to your performing children. All advertisements and greetings are in black and white. Ad space is available as follows: 1/8 page, 1/4 page, 1/2 page, and full page. Please submit payment in advance. Contact [TJshowcaseads at aol.com](mailto:TJshowcaseads@aol.com) for information and an order form.

Mouth Watering Citrus: Grab these succulent delights while they last. Curl up by the fire on glacial snow days and warm up with a little sunshine, imported straight from Florida! February's citrus selections are temple oranges and ruby red grapefruits. These are the freshest, juiciest fruits you'll ever sink your teeth into. Temple oranges are also great for juicing. Order by February 13 for pickup/delivery on February 21. Contact [TJcitrus at hotmail.com](mailto:TJcitrus@hotmail.com).

TJMC Legacy seal: It's not too late to order a legacy seal label for your marching band uniform jacket this year. A legacy seal helps you leave your lasting stamp on TJMC; your name and/or

instrument and/or year of graduation will be added to the inside of your TJMC jacket. A sample label will be displayed in curricular band classes within the next few weeks.

Rae Ann Murashige Memorial Fund: Please consider making a donation in memory of Rae Ann, who passed away November 10. Rae Ann and her husband Allen have been very active members of TJ Band Boosters for eight years while their children, Lance and Danielle, attended TJ. Danielle graduated in June 2008 and is a first year student at University of Virginia. Rae Ann worked tirelessly on band booster activities and is remembered especially for organizing Citrus Fundraising. Please make checks payable to TJHSST Band Boosters with the memo line stating "Rae Ann Murashige" and mail to: Henry Ruempler, 5415 Waycross Dr, Alexandria, VA 22310.

Step up to the Plate: We need you! Many band boosters are graduating in June and that leaves several exciting positions waiting to be filled! 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@yahoo.com.

Important Band Dates:

Band Boosters meeting: Tuesday, February 3, 6:30 pm. Principal's conference room. Come get an update on Winter Showcase and how you can help.

All-District Band: Sat. February 7. 2:00 pm. West Potomac High School

Winter Guard/Drum Line: Inaugural competition of the winter season! Saturday, February 7, Broad Run High School, Ashburn in Loudoun County.

Winter Drum Line/ Color Guard: Competition Saturday February 21. Potomac Falls High School, Sterling in Loudoun County.

Winter Showcase: Saturday, February 28 at TJ. Main gym off AudLob.

Winter Guard/Drum Line: March 7, Mills Godwin High School, Richmond.

Concert Band Pre-Festival: Tuesday, March 10.

Concert Festival: **Symphonic Band Friday March 13, Symphonic Wind Ensemble March 14.**

Colonial Athletic Boosters

It's getting exciting! Winter sports season is going strong. A shout-out to all who support the teams with attendance at the games, and with financial support of the Colonial Athletic Boosters. Google: Colonial Athletic Boosters or link to it from the TJ home page, for a complete schedule of games. And remember, the TJ SGA has prepaid admission for all TJ students at HOME games.

Boys Varsity Basketball

Since the last issue of Techcetera, the boys have gone 3-3 in Liberty District competition, including a 3-game win streak -- against Marshall at home and road wins at Langley and Woodson. Defense continues to be a strong point of the team. A huge home crowd – all in white (it was blinding!) – welcomed home the team on Jan.16th, where they started out strong against Madison, but could not quite hold on, losing by 4. At 5-9 (3-4), the team is earning respect. Scoring leaders are seniors **Spencer DeMars**, **Mike Ross**, **Mikas Kuprenas**, and sophomore **Daniel Barnes**. The Seniors on the team will be honored at the last home game, Thursday, Feb. 5.

For media coverage of the TJ win against then undefeated Woodson go to: <http://www.digitalsports.com/article/type/organization/typeid/144695/id/51920.aspx>



Karl Sofinowski drives to the basket against Langley.



TJ Boys Varsity Basketball players Spencer DeMars, Michael Ross, Woo Moon, Sean Ji and Daniel Barnes have Langley player surrounded on their way to the win.

Girls Varsity Basketball: The team participated in the Pohanka Classic over Christmas break going 1-2 in the tournament. District competition has begun and the team is currently 1-6 in District play with a win over Madison. The remaining games have all been close with a heartbreaking loss to Langley at the buzzer. The team is looking forward to

the remaining District schedule and anticipates some well-deserved wins.

Girls JV Basketball: The team has had an eventful season! The Colonials began with 2 scrimmage wins, and won their first season game against the Stone Bridge Bulldogs, at Stone Bridge. This was a bittersweet win as during the game the team's tall forward, **Jasleen Singh**, became injured and it appears she will be out for the rest of the season. Next, the Colonials suffered two losses in away games to Washington-Lee and McLean. **Sage Williams** was brought up from the freshman team. TJ had a win against Wakefield at home, but then lost **Taylor Enders**, the second-best high scorer of the JV team, to the varsity team. Following the win, TJ was defeated by Marshall, Langley and South Lakes. The games have all been close, with the South Lakes game ending in overtime and an injury to **Candice Kaplan**, the third-best high scorer of the team, which kept her out of much of the overtime. The team is led by Coach Jason Simpson and co-captains **Maren Leibowitz** and **Barbara Lantz**, and includes **Erin Slatery** (high scorer of the team), **Kelli Keith**, **Marta Moore**, **Katie Bailey**, **Ariel Copeland**, Candice Kaplan, Sage Williams, and Jasleen Singh. The JV team will meet these new challenges (injuries, player leaving for varsity, new player) and look forward to the nine remaining games.

Girls Freshman Basketball: The team is showing its might with a record of 7-2. The girls had an amazing win against Marshall; down by 12 at the half and winning the game by 1 point in the final minutes. The crowd went crazy! With the thrill of an upset under their belts, they went on to conquer South Lakes and Langley the TJ way - with great teamwork and incredible endurance. The team is looking forward to giving #1 McLean a run for their money at their next match-up on TJ turf. Don't miss the next home game!

Gymnastics: The girls' gymnastics team recognized four seniors on January 13: **Ariel Coronel, Chrissy Franzel, Mary Linnell and Kelly Watson**, and then proceeded to win the meet against Stone Bridge, McLean, Mt. Vernon, South Lakes and Marshall. Watson won on floor, beam and all-around competition, and was second on vault. Franzel placed first on vault, second on floor, third on bars and third on all-around. Junior **Amanda Gilbert** was fourth on vault, bars, beam and all-around. Other gymnasts contributing to the win were Mary Linnell (all-around), Ariel Coronel (floor, vault, bars), **Hailey Johnson** (bars, beam) and **Nikki Pangilinan** (beam). The team is well-positioned for the District meet at Stone Bridge on February 4.

Swim and Dive: The teams split their first two meets in 2009, with narrow losses to Madison followed by convincing wins over South Lakes. Winning individual events for the girls were senior **Christina Wallin** and **Katie Bennett, Aedan Collins, Brenna Ferris, Lauren Laffosse** and **Jae Sim**. Contributing to relay wins were Bennett, Ferris, Laffosse, Sim and **Grace Wang**. Winning individual events for the boys were seniors **Wade Gong** and **John Walsh**; and **Alex Dona** and **Matt Callahan**. Contributing to relay wins were seniors **Zachary Batts, Gong** and **Andrew Hong**; and **Joey Bouchard, Callahan** and **Dona**.



TJ Swim and Dive seniors 2009

The trio of Gong, Callahan and Dona teamed with Batts in the medley relay and with **Stephen Seliskar** in the 400m freestyle relay to post

qualifying times for the Virginia State Championship meet. Gong and Callahan have also qualified for the State meet in individual events. Qualifiers for the Northern Region Championship meet include one of the girls relays and all three boys relays. Individual event Region qualifiers are diver Wallin and swimmers Gong, Bennett, Callahan, Dona, Ferris and Seliskar.

Winter Track: Both girls & boys winter track teams are set to defend Liberty District Championships!!

On January 29 and February 5, the teams will defend their Liberty District Indoor Track Championship titles at the Prince George's Sports Complex in Landover, MD. The team has already competed in several local meets during December and January, and over 40 TJ athletes have surpassed the district standards in their events, including 9 pole vaulters (6 boys and 3 girls) and a dozen 1600m runners (8 girls and 4 boys). Four TJ athletes have exceeded regional standards - **Sarah Stites** in the 1600m, **Neesha Schnepf** in the 3200m, **Timmy Galvin** in the 1000m, and **Daniel Markwalter** in the pole vault; and Sarah Stites has surpassed the state standard in the 3200m. As a result, TJ is looking very strong heading into the District competition. Congratulations to the coaches for putting together another great season. Go TJ!!

Varsity Wrestling: The team participated for the first time in the highly-competitive 24-team Conestoga Valley Holiday tournament in Pennsylvania over the December break. Congratulations to medalists **Mike Howard** (3rd) and **Matt Becker** (5th) and to those wrestlers who were 1 match away from medaling: **Joe Latta, Alex Shmorhun** and **Kevin Zigadlo**. Also competing in this tough 2-day competition were **Stuart Maier, Devan Samant, Myles Cook, Matt Lamb, Sam Zhang, Will Pyrak** and **Adam Cho**. The wrestlers returned home to win four District varsity meets in January, defeating McLean (50-20), Madison (54-20), South Lakes (49-22) and Marshall (39-35). Please come and watch our

final home meet against West Potomac on Wednesday, January 28, during which we will honor our seniors. The Liberty District Championships will take place at Langley on Feb 6 and 7; please come support our team as we face our district competitors. And things look good, as our team is **currently ranked #7** in the Northern Region!!

JV Wrestling: The JV team competed for the first time in the Conestoga Valley Holiday tournament along with the varsity team this year. Congratulations to **Mac Stevens**, who placed 6th, and **Andrew Martin**, who made it through to the second day. Other competitors included **Joseph Dubois, John Han, Julia Sokolow, Bryce Summers, Julian Whitman** and **Jeremy Weller**.

At the JV Wrestling Jamboree on Jan 22nd, TJ wrestlers faced teams from Woodson, Lee, Oakton and T.C. Williams high schools. In the first round: **Jeremy Weller** pinned, **Andrew Martin** lost a close match, **Daniel Kang (DK #1)** won 12-8, **Austin Neuberger** won 10-0, **Mac Stevens** had a quick pin in 43 seconds, **Bryce Summers** won 12-6, **Joe Dubois** was out-pointed in his first match and **Daniel Kang (DK #2)** lost a close decision. Kang (#1) started off the second round of matches with a pin in 1:51, Weller won 4-2, Stevens lost a close match, Martin out-pointed Neuberger 2-1 in double overtime, Summers lost a close decision, Dubois was edged in a very close match, and Kang (#2) won 6-1. Martin kicked off the third round winning 11-0, Neuberger lost a close decision; Kang (#1), Dubois and Cho wrestled good matches but were out-pointed, Weller pinned his opponent in 51 seconds, and Summers won 10-8. All the TJ wrestlers looked very sharp.

The previous week's JV Jamboree at West Potomac was held during exam week, with a much smaller contingent of TJ wrestlers. Summers split his matches, losing a hard-fought

first match then winning the second 10-5. Stevens, Weller and **Skyler Anderson** won by pins with Anderson scoring two pins. Stevens won his second match 11-1, and Kang (#1) split his 2 matches with a 6-2 decision and a close loss. Against McLean the previous week, Summers, Stephens and Kang (#2) scored pins. The team looks forward to competing in JV Districts on January 29th.

Save the date, June 1st, for Athletic Boosters Annual Sports Physicals

Don't be left out on the first day of try-outs!!! Every athlete that tries out for a sport must have a new medical exam each SCHOOL year. Mark your calendars for Monday **June 1st**, to get your student's annual sports physical at TJ. The Colonial Athletic Boosters are sponsoring this popular at-school fundraiser to ensure that our athletes are ready for the 2009-2010 season and also to support TJ's many fine athletic programs. Medical professionals will perform the comprehensive physicals from 4:30pm-7:30. Every athlete needs a new athletic physical every school year, so save a trip to the doctor's office and come out and support TJ Athletics. Look for more information as the date approaches.

Volunteers Needed for Physicals!

We need medical and non-medical parents to help make the sports physicals a successful fundraiser! If you are a TJ parent and a physician (MD or DO), physician assistant (PA), physical therapist (PT) or nurse practitioner (NP), please consider helping out with the TJ Colonial Athletic Boosters' major fundraiser on June 1st . We also need non-medical parents who want to help with working a station or check-in/out desk. Last year this fundraiser provided over \$9,000 in support of our various sports programs. Your expertise and a few hours of your time will greatly benefit our TJ athletes! If you are willing to volunteer, please call or email Heather Murphy, ATC at 703-750-8387 or [heather.murphy at fcps.edu](mailto:heather.murphy@fcps.edu).

Crew Boosters



TJ Crew's meeting to kick off the spring season - the **All Family Information Meeting** - will be held on **Wednesday, February 4th at 7:30 pm** in the TJ Cafeteria. Please do not miss this important meeting. This is a great opportunity for novice students and parents to learn more about TJ Crew. Families of both new and experienced rowers will be able to register, complete the required membership forms and permissions slips, sign up for regatta volunteer positions, and purchase uniforms and crew clothing. All forms are due on **February 7, 2009**. Interested in Crew but concerned about transportation to the river? We will be running buses from TJ to the river every day for practice. To ride the bus, you must sign up by February 7th.

The season starts on Monday, February 23rd, but there is still time to join TJ Crew. If you have been participating in a winter sport and are looking for a good sport for the spring season, please contact Head Coach Matt Shoop at [shoop2 at cox.net](mailto:shoop2@cox.net) or the captains at [tjrowing at gmail.com](mailto:tjrowing@gmail.com) to learn more about TJ Crew. The captains will also be holding interest meetings during 8th period.

.If you have questions, please email Booster President Teresa Zeng at [TJCrewPresident at gmail.com](mailto:TJCrewPresident@gmail.com)

Chorus Boosters

Several TJ choral groups performed at the fabulous Winter Concert on Thursday, January 15, 2009. The concert featured several seasonal works as well as those from the Baroque period

of music. The groups that performed included the Advanced Ladies Chorus, the Freshmen Ladies Chorus, the TJ Manchoir, the Concert Choir, and the TJ Madrigals. Rebecca Hyndman accompanied the Freshmen Ladies Chorus on piano and several members of the TJ Orchestra performed in the final selection of the evening with the Combined Choirs. **Adrienne Arditti, Ali Ruth, and Alexa Silverman** performed *Three Canzonettas* by Claudio Monteverdi. Among the group selections performed were *Querella Amorosa* by Antonio Lotti and *In Dulci Jubilo* by Dietrich Buxtehude.

Upcoming events for the TJ choirs, or the members thereof, include District Chorus on February 20 and 21, the Pre-Festival concert on March 19 at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium, the all-day District Choral Festival to be hosted again this year by TJ on March 21, and All-State chorus on April 23-25.

Please remember that all TJ choir parents are welcome to attend the TJ Choral Booster Board meetings. We generally meet on the third Thursday of the month in the music wing. Your input is always welcome!

Orchestra Boosters

Many thanks to all those who helped and participated in the Viennese Ball and concert in early January. They were wonderful events, both as a direct fundraiser for the Orchestra's needs, and as a showcase for the outstanding talent that Ms. Bailey cultivates on a daily basis. The full orchestral version of the complete New World Symphony was particularly majestic. Ordered CDs should be delivered by the end of the month. A particular thanks goes out to **Keiko Nakamura, Bobbie and Mark Herbst, Eve Martinko and Leslie Weber-Hoffman** for their outstanding efforts in support of these events.

We still have need of chaperones for the Myrtle Beach trip. Please let Larry Jones or Ms. Bailey know if you are willing to volunteer. Our pre-

Festival Concert will be coming up soon on March 17th at TJ. The Festival event itself will be on Saturday March 21st at Westfield HS

Our next Booster's meeting will be on Tuesday February 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room at TJ. Also I must advise everyone that my time as President will soon come to a close after three years in the position. I am looking for someone to assume this role, and there are a variety of other positions that will need filling next year. Please consider volunteerin in one of these positions. An early commitment allows for a smoother turnover! Thanks for your support of the program.

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

Theatre Boosters

TJ Drama's spring show is "**Up the Down Staircase,**" and it will be performed April 24-25 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Auditions for the show will be March 2-3, and callbacks will be March 4.

Announcements and Information

On Jan. 8 **Trey Repetski** ('09) and **Richard Washer** (TJ's Educational Technology Specialist) were invited speakers at the EDUCAUSE Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Philadelphia, PA. EDUCAUSE is a professional association devoted to the advancement of higher education "by promoting the intelligent use of information technology." Trey and Mr. Washer described the application and functioning within the TJ setting of the network of the approximately 150 thin client workstations donated to TJ in 2008, following a successful grant proposal written by **William Yang** ('08) and Repetski. Their presentation was featured, "as a success story," in the session: "The Need for Collaboration:

Mobile and Secure Ubiquitous Access in Heterogeneous Environments," which was co-sponsored by Sun Microsystems, the donor of the new TJ computers.



Noteworthy Dates

February 2009			
2	One Question Kick-off		Government Affairs Committee meeting, 7pm in room 106
3	ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center Band Booster meeting, 6:30pm in Principal's Conference Room	19	Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
4	Athletic Booster meeting, 7pm in Career Center Crew Booster All-family meeting, 7:30pm in Cafeteria	20-21	Drama Booster's "22 nd Annual Knight of One Axe", 7pm in Auditorium
7	2009 TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair, public viewing 1pm in Cafeteria	23	Start of spring sports
9	PTSA meeting-7pm in Library Early dismissal for students, Building a Better Community club's 3 rd Annual Junior Ethics Seminar, TA period	28	Band Winter Showcase
10	Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room Diversity Committee meeting, 7pm in Career Center	March 2009	
11	Curriculum Night for Parents of Freshmen and Sophomores, 7:30pm Diversity Committee meeting (snow date), 6:45pm in room 212	3	ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center Band Booster meeting, 6:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
12	SSAB meeting, 7 pm in TJ Library Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	4	Athletic Booster meeting, 7pm in Career Center
13	Curriculum Fair for students during 8 th period Senior Bookend Dance/Freshman Rob the Cradle Dance, 9pm in auditorium	5	Military Night, Lake Braddock Secondary School, 7pm in Lecture Hall Athletic Booster's Winter Sports Banquet,
16	Washington's Birthday, student holiday	9	Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
17	Academic Booster meeting, 7:30 in Career Center	10	Band Concert, 7pm Diversity Committee meeting, 7pm in Career Center Spring Meet-the-Coach meeting, 7pm in Auditorium
		12	Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
		13	Freshmen Lock-in, 7pm-7am
		17	Orchestra Concert, 7pm
		18	PTSA meeting with Principal's Coffee, 8:30am in Cafeteria Government Affairs Committee meeting, 7pm in room 106

19	Choral Pre-Festival Concert, 7pm in Auditorium Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center SSAB meeting, 7pm in Library	May 2009
21	Athletic Booster's Spring Team Photos, Choral Festival at TJ	1 Class of 2011 Auction
27	Election of Mr. Colonial	5 ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center Band Booster meeting, 6:30pm in Principal's Conference Room
27-29	Regional Science and Engineering Fair, Robinson Secondary School	6 Athletic Booster meeting, 7pm in Career Center
April 2009		8-15 International Science and Engineering Fair, Reno, Nevada
1	Athletic Booster meeting, 7pm in Career Center	9 Diversity Committee Outreach Day Meeting, 1pm in Auditorium
3	Student Holiday	12 Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room Diversity Committee meeting, 7pm in Career Center
4	VA State Science and Engineering Fair	14 Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
4-12	Spring Holiday	17 PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library
8	3 rd quarter report cards mailed home	20 Government Affairs Committee meeting, 7pm in room 106
9	Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	21 Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center SSAB meeting, 7pm in Library
13	PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library	25 Memorial Day Holiday
14	ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center Band Booster meeting, 6:30pm in Principal's Conference Room Diversity Committee meeting, 7pm in Career Center	27 Band Concert, 7pm
15	Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room Government Affairs Committee meeting, 7pm in room 106	28 Jazz Concert, 4pm tjSTAR symposium, during school hours
18	Class of 2010 Spring Formal	29 Class of 2010 Campout (tentative date), on TJ football field Choral Spring Show, 7:30pm in Auditorium
23	Curriculum Advisory Committee meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	
24-25	Drama Booster's "Up the Down Staircase" performances, 7pm in Auditorium	

June 2009

- | | |
|----|---|
| 2 | ANGP meeting, 7pm in Career Center
Band Booster meeting, 6:30pm in Principal's Conference Room |
| 3 | Athletic Booster meeting, 7pm in Career Center
Orchestra Concert, 7pm |
| 5 | Senior Prom, Westwood Country Club in Vienna |
| 7 | Crew Family Picnic, 12pm in Cafeteria |
| 8 | Athletic Booster's Spring Sports Banquet, |
| 9 | Orchestra Booster Monthly meeting, 7:30pm in Principal's Conference Room |
| 11 | Crew meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center |
| 13 | Graduation at the Patriot Center, All Night Grad Party at TJHSST |
| 15 | PTSA meeting, 7pm in Library |
| 17 | Class of 2010 Campout (alternate date), on TJ football field
Government Affairs Committee meeting, 7pm in room 106 |



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 \$ 109 _____

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 Julia 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

Safe Community Coalition is pleased to present the 3rd Annual

Cyber Summit

Teaching our Children About:
Cyber-Safety, Cyber-Ethics, Cyber-Security



Iris Beckwith, President of connectED4safety LLC, will speak to adults in our community about these issues that are affecting our children today. Ms. Beckwith has 15 years of prevention education experience. In addition to serving as Director of Prevention Programs for children with Childhelp of Virginia, and Vice President of Program and Partner Relations for the Internet Keep Safe Coalition, Ms. Beckwith has provided training and presentations for Penn State University Department of Education, DARE, University of Maryland Cyberethics Conference, AOL/Childhelp Internet "SafetyBot" Program, as well as many other organizations.

February 19 at 7:00 pm
Vinson Hall Auditorium
6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA

Contact Sheri Wilson, Safe Community Coalition Board Member, at 703-967-4878
with questions or for more information

The SCC is funded in part by a grant from SAMHSA's Drug Free Communities Support Program. SCC is a member of FCPS Unified Prevention Coalition.

Visit the Safe Community Coalition
website to learn more about our
organization or to learn more about
upcoming events:
www.safecommunitycoalition.net



This flyer printed courtesy
of WEST*GROUP



TJ Drama Presents:
22nd Annual Knight of One Axe

Friday, Feb. 20th at 7:00 PM
Saturday, Feb 21st at 7:00 PM

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

ADVANCE TICKET ORDER FORM

Mail orders must be postmarked by Feb 14th and received by Feb 17th!

Tickets purchased with Advance Ticket Order Forms should be picked up on the night of the show. Any tickets remaining in Will Call at 6:50 PM on the night of the show will be released for resale.

22nd Annual Knight of One Axe

Friday, Feb. 20th @ 7:00 pm	___ tickets @ \$8.00 =	\$ _____
Saturday, Feb. 21st @ 7:00 pm	___ tickets @ \$8.00 =	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **TJHSST**

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail by Feb 14th to: TJHSST, Student Activities Office, ATTN: Dorothy Diggs, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22032

OR

Drop Off Feb. 2nd to Feb. 17th – “Knight of One Axe” Box – on TJ’s Front Office Counter

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

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

- Feb 7th** 2009 TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair, 1pm in Cafeteria.
- Feb 9th** Early dismissal for students 10:50 am.
- Feb 9th** PTSA meeting , 7:00 pm in Library.
- Feb 11th** Curriculum Night for Parents of Freshmen and Sophomores,
at 7:30pm
- Feb 12th** SSAB Meeting 7pm Library
- Feb 16th** Washington's Birthday, no school
- Feb 20-21** "22nd Annual Knight of One Axe", at 7pm in Auditorium