

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

Happy February to you! Second semester, Groundhog Day, and snowfall launch us into the month. On February 7 we are trying a tele-learn day, where students complete asynchronous learning activities remotely from home, some online and some off-line (for more information, see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section below, on page 2). Reduction in transportation time, emergency response learning systems, and flexibility in the structure of learning are all reasons to create such a day. Many corporations and government agencies have designed effective tele-work environments, so I believe this approach can also produce similar benefits in education if employed carefully. Teachers have been planning for this day and will share their approaches with students in class ahead of February 7. Just in case students face technology woes at home, everyone should have a back-up plan. As a default approach, it doesn't hurt to read ahead!

With movies like *Race to Nowhere* in the public eye, a lot of us have been thinking about the stress of our students. This is an extremely dynamic issue with many different variables, such as course selection, teacher/parent/personal expectations, focus, time management skills, organization skills, extra activities, transportation time, level of course difficulty, and social life, just to name a few. If something is not going right, I often observe blame directed towards an imbalance in any one of these variables. However, the blameworthy variable changes depending on whom you ask (student, parent, teacher or counselor).

Personally, I feel students' efforts to excel at everything might be the culprit causing high stress levels. I believe it is human nature to want to do everything well, but at a certain point in our lives we realize we do not do everything well. For example, many of you know I am unable to sing on key, I have difficulty with foreign languages besides math, I will lose at Dancing with the Faculty, and you should not expect me to find my direction easily without a GPS or map and compass. It's not that I don't put forward effort or don't have fun in

these domains, but instead I recognize it takes me two to four times as long as my peers to do these things well. If I wanted to excel in all of these areas, I don't think I would get much sleep. As adults, we recognize our limitations and instead place our energies towards doing exciting things with our strengths, the skills in our life that feel natural and energize us when we are given a task that uses them.

From my conversations with college admissions officers, I have learned they are interested in understanding our students as individuals. They are desperately trying to distinguish each student's unique traits, whether it be a pursuit of advanced physics, concern for human rights in foreign nations, a strong research skill set, a commitment to social responsibility, etc. They want to know how each student defines his or her identity by the choices made about coursework, activities, and service. They are less interested in a student showing aptitude in every facet of life and are not looking for a checklist of items on each college application.

I teach a leadership class at TJ, which is often a highlight of my day. The topic of strengths is important in leadership development; students need to realize they do not have to do everything well as a leader, or else they may find themselves overwhelmed with responsibility beyond what they can manage on their own. Instead, they learn it is better to build teams of people with different strengths so they have a balanced group. If students know the strengths of their team members, then delegating, coaching, supporting, and inspiring become more fluid, leading to a successful organization. I asked my class why students place pressure on themselves to excel at everything, rather than focus on their strengths. They told me, very insightfully, that they are still developing their identity, so learning how to feel comfortable about their limitations and vocal about their strengths is part of growing up.

Thus, I don't believe imbalances in stress can be avoided completely. It's natural for a teenager to face this challenge. However, I do believe the duration of elevated stress can be reduced if we all play a role in addressing it. We need to talk about stress management, not just in health class and 8th period seminars, but in all

facets of school and at home. When our students face unmanageable stress, we need to understand what they are experiencing and then encourage them to seek help. We have an outstanding counseling staff at TJ who work with students individually based on their own unique challenges. They offer recommendations to reduce stress, and sometimes that might mean it's okay to study less and earn a B in a class or drop to a lower level course. In summary, I feel we can tackle stress challenges when we team together by sharing our own limitations, emphasizing our strengths, talking about

stress management, and seeking help from our student services teams.

If you have additional ideas about stress management, don't hesitate to share them with me at [Evan.Glazer at fcps.edu](mailto:Evan.Glazer@fcps.edu). Thank you for joining me in this effort.

Sincerely,
Evan Glazer
TJ Principal

February 7, 2011, Tele-learn Day at TJHSST - FAQs

What is it? It's an anchor day with periods 1-7, but students won't be in the school building going to their classrooms. Students will have a series of remote tasks to complete for each course to accomplish the same learning outcomes they would have pursued face-to-face. Instruction will be asynchronous, meaning the teacher will not necessarily be available online at the time the class is regularly offered. As an outcome of learning on this day, students will have homework assigned for Tuesday and Wednesday classes, similar to what they would expect in a face-to-face setting.

Why are we having this day? Primary purpose: Normally when we have an inservice day with teachers, many students are on the road in traffic for more time than they are learning in a shortened day of 2.5 hours of classes. We can make the most of our time to advance learning if it is not spent on the road. We will also be kind to the environment with fewer cars on the road. Secondary purposes: 1.) We can learn good approaches to continue school days effectively in the event the facility closes down for an extended period of time (i.e., excessive snow days, a disease break-out, a terrorist threat, etc.). If we can learn good approaches through practicing such a day and obtaining feedback, then we could replicate a well-designed model for remotely learning in the future and avoid extending a school year. 2.) We can provide teachers an opportunity to collaborate on common lessons, utilizing their respective strengths, in order to create high quality learning experiences for students in all sections of a course. In some cases, students will have an opportunity to engage in "class" discussions with students from other sections.

What will students be doing? Students should be completing activities similar to what they would do on an anchor day: participate in a discussion, watch a video, complete a quiz, listen to a lecture, meet with a group in an activity or project, etc. The difference on this day is the students will be using different media and resources in their home to participate. A computer with Internet is important, but all lessons will not necessarily be completed virtually.

Can students work together in the same room at someone's home or in the public library? Yes and no. Students have the same guidelines for collaboration as established by teachers in their syllabi. Follow the TJ Honor Code, especially when no one is watching.

Who can help students when they have questions on the coursework? Students should seek help from other students, as well as the teacher, similar to a face-to-face setting. Students could use different modes of communication, such as instant messaging, texting, emailing, making a phone call, or using face-to-face communication to reach one another. Teachers will choose different approaches to answer questions, such as on Blackboard, by email, and/or in the next class period, depending on the nature of the lesson.

Where can students find the assigned class activities? Students should find out in class and/or on their course website (usually Blackboard).

When will students submit homework assignments due February 7? Teachers will notify students with their preference. Some teachers will ask students to submit them electronically, due February 7, and others will wait to collect them the next time they see their students in class.

Can I complete the work in the tele-learn day before February 7? By default, students should work on their class activity at the same time the class is offered, unless they are told they have some flexibility when it can be completed. If the teacher has posted something like a podcast lecture or link to a video clip in advance of February 7, then students will be able to learn the class objectives before the date.

What if students do not have access to a computer or Internet from home? Students should arrange to go to another location where you can access these resources, such as a friend's home, a parent's work, the public library, and you can even come into TJ and work in the library. Please let your School Counselor know if, after exploring these possibilities, access to the Internet is still unavailable.

What if students run into technical difficulties? Create a back-up plan. Plan to obtain access to a secondary location if your Internet connection fails. If you do not, make sure you know the next set of class assignments so you can work ahead. Then, when your access is restored, you can complete the February 7 lessons.

President's Message

Our January PTSA meeting featured a special presentation by our school psychologist, Marie Johnston, about student stress, depression and suicide. An unusual number of parents attended this meeting, and many asked questions about student workload. Their focus was timely, given that students will soon be facing TJ course selection deadlines for next year.

Only five years ago, TJ students routinely changed their schedules by talking with their own guidance counselors. If they had a friend who wanted to swap precalculus sections, this was generally allowed. If they realized in September that they wanted to take AP Chemistry instead of AP Biology, they had a good chance of being able to change their schedule. If the teachers of the relevant courses recommended or agreed to a change, the change generally was approved. Now, the director of Student Services evaluates all requests to change schedules and many are denied. Thus, TJ students need to think carefully about all their options now.

As part of the course selection process, students should consider how much they can handle while getting enough sleep and otherwise maintaining a healthy lifestyle. In some ways, being a student is like being on the track team. Sure, some students can run faster than others. Everyone's goal, however, should be to run at a pace they can maintain, rather than to start too fast and run out of steam mid-race.

Unfortunately, our students sometimes bite off more than they can chew, and only figure this out when it's too late. Taking too many difficult courses will not help get them admitted to the college of their choice if they don't do well. It won't help if they are stretched so thin that their teachers barely remember them, remember them as the student who often fell asleep during class, or perceive that they are "collaborating" excessively in an effort to get all their work done on time.

Trying to keep too many balls in the air usually means that some balls will drop. And even if the balls stay in the air, students may burn out. So, please take the time to sit down with your child this

month. Read through the course selection guide, the current version of which is posted at: www.tjhsst.edu/curriculum/dss/docs/csg-14may10.pdf. Read through any other updated materials on course selection that are posted or distributed. Talk with your child about his or her immediate and longer-term goals. Ask your child to talk with older students about their teachers' styles and expectations. Then, help your child choose courses wisely. If they love music, look for ways to fit it into their schedule. If they want to take a heavy load of AP and post-AP math and science courses, make sure that they can handle it.

In the process, check a few college web sites for required or recommended high school courses. TJ Diploma requirements often exceed these requirements or recommendations. In addition, check the college web site pages that specify the extent to which AP courses are given credit, to see what those colleges think about those AP courses. As Dr. Glazer pointed out at the last PTSA meeting, AP classes vary considerably.

Otherwise, we are beginning the process to select an executive committee for next year's PTSA. At the next meeting, on February 3, we will elect the nominating committee which will identify a slate of candidates. The proposed nominating committee members are Gail Brodfuehrer, Jill Cook, Linda Loffredo, Sara Schneider and Nirmala Sundararaman. If you are interested in being on the executive committee next year, please contact Jean Lee at [ptsarecordingsecretary at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsarecordingsecretary@tjhsst.edu). If you would like more information about being an officer, please contact any PTSA officer. If you're interested in becoming a committee chair, contact the current committee chair and/or any of the PTSA officers. And if you haven't already joined the PTSA this year, please go to the PTSA web site and become a member:

www.tjhsst.edu/supportingtj/ptsa/payments.htm.

Thank you!

~~Louise Epstein
TJ PTSA President
[lepstein at cox.net](mailto:lepstein@cox.net)
ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu

Reminders from our Administration

Gifts to TJ staff: Students and parents are very thoughtful of TJ staff members, and sometimes want to express their appreciation by offering a gift. FCPS School Board Policy 4430.4 provides some guidance about the type of gift you might consider: "Students and their parents shall be discouraged from the routine presentation of gifts to school system employees on occasions such as Christmas. A school system employee shall not accept an elaborate or expensive gift even if a student should feel a spontaneous desire to offer one. The School Board shall consider as always welcome, and in most circumstances more appropriate, the writing of letters to staff members expressing gratitude or appreciation." If parents or students wish to offer a gift of gratitude that has monetary value, please keep the value of the gift under \$25. Staff members who receive unusually generous gifts are faced with a conflict of interest with this School Board policy, so, rather than keeping the gift, they may turn it down or give it to the school.

PTSA Update

TJHSST PTSA Reflections Program

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements in the National PTA's 2010-2011 Reflections Program:

Literature: **Sarthak Sahu** (2013)
Music Composition: **Lauren Huang** (2013)
Photography: **Rachel Merriman-Goldring** (2013)
Visual Art: **Emily Zhou** (2014)

Each student received the Outstanding Interpretation Award and advanced to the District level of competition.

Volunteer Committee

We still have opportunities to volunteer – contact Jill Cook at [cooks471 at gmail.com](mailto:cooks471@gmail.com), Rajni Goel at [goelr at aol.com](mailto:goelr@aol.com), or Nancy Levonian at [nancy.a.levonian at gmail.com](mailto:nancy.a.levonian@gmail.com) and we will help you find the opportunity that is best for you. As examples, we are still looking for volunteers to help

with science fair judging, after-school library, and Jefferson Learning Community (JLC) on Thursday mornings.

In addition, we will need volunteers for Freshman Preview Night in May and then for the All Night Grad Party on June 18! Parents interested in helping co-chair the Volunteer Coordinator position next year, please contact us at [tjvolunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjvolunteers@gmail.com).

Upcoming Events

February 2, Showing of "Race to Nowhere" at Langley HS.

February 5, TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair 2011: On Saturday, February 5, the 2011 TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair will be open to the public from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in TJ's cafeteria. Visitors are invited to see the projects and talk to students about their research. Public viewing will close at 2:00 p.m. so that students and guests may attend the Awards Ceremony in the auditorium. In case inclement weather causes closure of FCPS facilities on February 5, the fair will be held the following Saturday, February 12.

A number of award winners at the TJ fair will be selected to present their projects at the Regional Science and Engineering Fair to be held at Robinson Secondary School on March 18-20. Students with first place awards at the Regional Fair have traditionally been invited to compete at the Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair at Old Dominion University scheduled for April 1-2. Grand prize winners at the Regional Fair, and at the Virginia State Fair, will be invited to present their research at the International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in Los Angeles, CA, on May 9-13. Student expenses for this trip will be paid by the affiliated fairs.

February 17, Curriculum Night for Parents, 7:30 p.m. in Auditorium/Gym2.

February 18, International Night: International Night is TJ's annual celebration of music and dance from the many cultures represented by our students. Over the years, International Night has

become more and more popular, so this year we will perform the show twice. Both performances will be Friday evening, February 18. One performance will be in the auditorium, beginning at 7:00 p.m., and the second performance will be in Gym 1, beginning a few minutes later. Dancers and singers will perform on stage in the auditorium and then move to Gym 1 where they will perform the same show a second time. Our goal is to give more people the opportunity to see the show live. Tickets to the auditorium will be on sale at lunch the week before the show. Tickets to Gym 1 will be available at the door the night of the show. The price is \$5 for all tickets. We will provide embossed wrist bands as tickets. TJ's culture clubs will offer food from around the world for sale beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Gym 2. The show will consist of more than twenty acts from TJ's many culture clubs. We expect the show to end about 10:00 p.m. International Night is organized by Namaste, TJ's Indian culture club.

Serving the TJ Community

Free Money \$\$\$

Do all of your [Amazon.com](http://amazon.com) shopping through the PTSA's link -- <http://amazon.com/?tag=tjhsst-20> – to earn free money for TJ! This link can also be found on the [Support the PTSA](#) web page. Bookmark it now and use it every time you shop! Questions? Email [joe at ganley.org](mailto:joe@ganley.org).

Thank you to all who have signed up for the grocery programs! We have earned over \$5,000 through the end of December from **Giant, Harris Teeter, Safeway and Target.**

Giant Shoppers: remember to buy those **extra credit items!**

Safeway Shoppers: If you earned any credit through the 10% bonus program in January, a message will print on the bottom of your receipt starting January 29. Make sure TJ earns the bonus! Enter the redemption code **online** and designate TJ (#154534149) as your school OR drop off the bottom of your receipt in the special box in the front office until March 1. If you are already signed up for escrip, your bonus will be automatically credited

to TJ. Contact [stamog1 at gmail.com](mailto:stamog1@gmail.com) with any questions.

All Night Graduation Party (ANGP)



2011 Graduation Lawn Signs On Sale Now!

Show your pride in your TJ grad or the entire class! You can purchase a 2011 graduation lawn sign from Connie Valle at [vallefamily at cox.net](http://vallefamilyatcox.net) or call (703) 434-0181. The signs are only \$20. We are taking orders for the first design (white background) and they will be delivered in May. However, we have several of the second design (red and blue top and bottom) on hand right now. You can mail a check payable to TJHSST ANGP to: Connie Valle, 10297 Friendship Court, Fairfax, VA 22032.

Please include your email address, phone number and the sign or signs you wish to purchase. You will be contacted to arrange for pickup when the signs are ready. Order extras for grandparents, aunts and neighbors. Thank you for helping to make the ANGP a huge success!



ANGP Volunteers Needed

Has your child told you not to volunteer for ANGP, because no one else's parents are going? They're wrong!! Just as all the kids go to ANGP, well, pretty much all the parents go as well. There are literally hundreds of volunteers needed to cover the whole night. Not only do we need the Senior parents, but we need parents of the underclassmen as well. The only way to attend the ANGP as a parent is to be there to volunteer. We thank

everyone who signed up to volunteer at Senior Night, but if you missed your chance there, use this link: <http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

ANGP Tickets

Roughly 2/3 of the seniors have now purchased their ANGP tickets! If you did not buy one yet, there is still time. Tickets are \$115. **Click here to download a ticket order form.** .

No student will be denied a ticket because of financial need. Tickets will be available at lower or no cost to students with demonstrated financial need. Contact your student's guidance counselor in confidence if this applies to your student.

Donations to ANGP

Thank you letters were recently emailed to everyone who donated to this year's ANGP (up through Senior Night). If you did not get a letter and need it for your income tax records, please send an email to tjangp2011thanks@gmail.com.

Baby Photo Contest

Thanks to everyone who has already sent in photos of their senior for the baby photo contest. If you have not yet had a chance to do that, please submit a 4 x 6 photo of your child when they were between 18 months and 5 years old. CLEARLY print your senior's name on the back of the photo. Note that photos will NOT BE RETURNED. For your convenience, the official baby photo contest mailbox is located in the front office. If you prefer to mail your photo, the address is: Keiko Fujii, 8350 Greensboro Dr. #112, McLean, VA 22102. Previously we had asked for a wallet size senior photo as well, but those are no longer needed.

Student Services Corner

Student Government Association

The SGA is currently hard at work on Service Week 2011, which will kick off with I-Night (International Night) on February 18, and will continue through the 25th. Although there will be several service projects, SGA has chosen Reston Interfaith as the sole organization we will be donating to at the conclusion of Service Week. Clubs, organizations and students will all work

together to host events and fundraisers that show off TJ students' positive energy.

Another task ahead of us is choosing a club to receive this year's Slivoskey Grant, given for a project which undertakes to better the TJ community. Applications were due on January 14, and we have begun sorting through them to decide which one will win the \$1,000 grant.

Guidelines

The latest edition (December 2010-February 2011) of *Guidelines*, the TJHSST Student Services Department newsletter, is posted under "Publications and Resources" at: www.tjhsst.edu/curriculum/dss/pubs.php.

Academic News

Spanish News

With the first semester ending, applications will soon be available to prospective new members of the Spanish Honor Society (SHS). SHS is busy preparing for Bulería, our annual salsa dance, which will be held on Friday, March 18. During the prior week, we will offer a salsa lesson during both blocks of 8th period.

Remember, SHS members are available to help tutoring on JLC Thursdays in Room 128 and also will help students during 8th period blocks.

Siempre de Fiesta!

Class News

2011 – Seniors

The senior class is busy planning the prom and graduation. Prom will be held on Friday, June 10 at the Mark Center in Alexandria. The graduation will occur on Saturday, June 18 at the Patriot Center at George Mason University.

The Seniors are looking for a keynote speaker for graduation. If you know of a good candidate,

please contact our graduation chairs at [tjgrad2011 at gmail.com](mailto:tjgrad2011@gmail.com).

Senior Dues are \$30 and must be paid by March 1. They cover the cost of cap, gown, class tassel and diploma cover. You may send a check payable to **TJHSST** with "Senior Dues" in the memo; have your student drop the check off with our class sponsor in room 238.

Please refer to the ANGP article (above, on pages 5-6) and see how you can help to make the 2011 ANGP a spectacular event. **BUY A YARD SIGN!**

Feel free to contact your class liaisons with questions and/or suggestions.

~~ Connie Valle (703) 434-0181;
([vallefamly at cox.net](mailto:vallefamly@cox.net))
Jane Hsu (703) 748-0689;
([dogstar3 at msn.com](mailto:dogstar3@msn.com))
PTSA Class of 2011 Representatives

2012 - Juniors

It's a tradition at TJ that parents from other classes "cover" for the senior class parents while they are at graduation before the All Night Grad Party (ANGP). Your help is needed on June 18 to set up for the party, to wrap things up when the party ends, and to put away the decorations for our class next year. Please use this link to sign up:

<http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

If you are interested in "shadowing" one of the ANGP committee chairs so that you are ready for senior year, please contact them at:

[tjangp2011volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp2011volunteers@gmail.com).

Please contact us at [TJClassof2012 at cox.net](mailto:TJClassof2012@cox.net) if you have any questions or need information.

~~ Ann Nguyen ([ann.h1.nguyen at cox.net](mailto:ann.h1.nguyen@cox.net))
Janet Tasker ([jtasker at cox.net](mailto:jtasker@cox.net))
PTSA Class of 2012 Representatives

2013 – Sophomores

The Class of 2013 has two important events coming up and we need your help! On Friday, February 11,

TJHSST PTSA Tech cetera

our class will be sponsoring its only Soc Hop of the year-- a Sadie Hawkins dance. We are looking for 6 to 8 volunteers to help with tickets and monitoring hallways from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. Please let us know if you are available.

On April 2, the Class of 2013 will host the First Annual TJ Pi Miler Race. The course will be a 3.14 mile Fun Run/Walk starting and ending at the TJ field. We will need many parent volunteers on the race day and to help in advance with securing sponsorships and donations to support the race, which will be open to the entire school and the community. We are working with DC Road Runners, who will assist with race day logistics and preparations (permits, police presence, and registration). We will hold a parent volunteer interest meeting at 7:30 p.m. on **February 24 in the library** to discuss ways that you can help. Please plan to attend if you can. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Finally, it's a tradition at TJ that parents from other classes "cover" for the senior class parents while they are at graduation before the All Night Grad Party (ANGP). It requires just a few hours of time on the evening of June 18. Please use this link to sign up:

<http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

Thank you!

~~Yun Pang ([yunjungp0201 at gmail.com](mailto:yunjungp0201@gmail.com))
Pam Cooper ([cooperlaw at verizon.net](mailto:cooperlaw@verizon.net))

2014 – Freshmen

Please support the Class of 2014 in their first fundraiser!

The Class of 2014 is selling TJHSST reusable grocery bags for \$5 each or 3 for \$10! They are 12"W x 13"H x 8"D and made of polypropylene that is tear resistant and water repellent with reinforced seams. Pick up your order forms at Room 146 (**Mr. Kosek's** room) or email your order to **Christine Mayuga** at [queenstine123 at gmail.com](mailto:queenstine123@gmail.com).

We don't have a finalized date for the lock-in this spring, but keep watching for updates. We will need your help with the lock-in.

Finally, it's a tradition at TJ that parents from other classes "cover" for the senior class parents while they are at graduation before the All Night Grad Party (ANGP). It requires just a few hours of time on the evening of June 18. Please use the link to sign up:

<http://tinyurl.com/2011TJANGPVolunteers>.

Thank you,

~~Amy Shaw ([wyoamy at gmail.com](mailto:wyoamy@gmail.com))
Anita Rezazad ([arezazad at orchidtech.net](mailto:arezazad@orchidtech.net))
Vicki Ruitter ([theruiters at verizon.net](mailto:theruiters@verizon.net))
PTSA Class of 2014 Representatives

News Round-up and Awards

Intel Science Talent Search Semi-Finalists

Congratulations to our 2011 Intel Science Talent Search Semi-Finalists! Seven TJ students were named semifinalists in the 2011 Intel Science Talent Search. Each semifinalist will receive a \$1,000 award and TJ will receive \$1,000 for each semifinalist to be used to further excellence in science, math and engineering education. Complete information can be found on the Intel STS website: <http://www.societyforscience.org/sts>.

Please congratulate the following seniors for their accomplishments:

Will Bunting

Project Title: Method to Understand the Matter-Antimatter Imbalance in the Universe.
Sponsor: **John Dell**; Lab: Optics/Modern Physics.

Sanjeet Das

Project Title: Metamaterial integrated Solar Concentrator (MiSC).
Sponsor: **John Dell**; Lab: Optics/Modern Physics.

Sang Min Han

Project Title: Excitation of Low Frequency Stimulated Electromagnetic Emissions (LF/SEE) in the Ionosphere by High Power.
Sponsor: **Brian Kennedy**; Lab: Chemical Analysis.

Kelly Ivins-O'Keefe

Project Title: The Effect of Hydrogen Sulfide and Its Inhibitors on Cell Migration.
Sponsor: **Brian Kennedy**; Lab: Chemical Analysis.

Venkat Iyer

Project Title: Crystallization of a Novel Malarial Protein CelTOS, for X-ray Crystal Structure Determination and Anti-malarial Development.
Sponsor: **Andrea Cobb**; Lab: Biotechnology.

Aman Kansal

Project Title: Further Characterization and Implementation of Indium Nitride Nano Wires.
Sponsor: **Brian Kennedy**; Lab: Chemical Analysis.

Rachel Marzen

Project Title: Climate induced ecosystem regime shifts in the Bering Sea: Evidence from the benthic ostracode assemblage.
Sponsor: **Lisa Wu**; Lab: Oceanography and Geophysical Systems.

Governor's Academies for World Languages and Latin – Summer 2011

The following students have been selected as TJHSST candidates for the summer language Academies:

French: **Mallika Patkar** and **Sarah Rachal**
Japanese: **Elizabeth Nguyen**
German: **Gilbert Pitcher**
Spanish: **Annie Park** and **Men Cheol Jeong**
Latin: **Austin Dunn** and **Ricky Short**
Chinese: **Stephen Yuan**

Candidates had to fill out a lengthy application, which included evidence of proficiency in speaking and writing in the target language. The candidates will be informed in April whether they have been selected to attend the Governor's Academies.

TJHSST Partnership Fund

Make TJ Even Better: Give to the Partnership Fund

YEAR-END APPEAL OVER \$118,000 AND COUNTING

Please keep those checks coming!

CALLING ALL JUNIOR PARENTS: TJ NEEDS YOU! TJ's second annual Junior Lab Appeal kicks off in March. The JLA is a great way to help your junior student's lab acquire needed equipment, possibly something your own child will use next year. Soon after juniors receive their lab assignments in mid-February, Lab Captains from each lab will be contacting parents of students in that lab to give them the details. Last year junior parents raised over \$41,000 during the JLA. In order to meet or beat the success of last year's generous class, we'll need virtually every parent to participate. Your kids will thank you for it.

SPRING WEATHER ADVISORY: PHONATHON IS ALMOST HERE. On Sunday, March 6, Partnership Fund volunteers will be contacting every freshman and sophomore parent who has not yet contributed this school year. Help shrink our call/email list by giving before the spring thaw!



Nick Babyak (2011) and **A.J. Swoboda** (2011), demonstrate that in the Energy Systems Lab everything – even a classy outfit – is improved by making it just a little “greener.”

VISIT US ONLINE: The PF has its very own website, which can be reached from the TJ site's "Support" tab or at www.tjpartnershipfund.org. Now you can donate online and get your PF info all in one place. Check it out!

CONTACT: For any and all Partnership Fund information, call Ellen Smith, PF Office Manager &

Development Associate, at (703) 750-8317 or email ellensmith@tjhsst.edu.

Thank you for helping to MAKE TJ EVEN BETTER!

TJHSST Boosters

Academic Boosters



Come join the Academic Boosters and support your child's academic teams. All of your donations are tax deductible! Once again we thank all the current members and ask that you continue supporting Academic Boosters. Register online at <http://academics.tjhsst.edu/aboosters/>.

Certamen (Latin): On January 8, 2011, Thomas Jefferson sent 7 teams to compete at the annual Certamen at the Flint Hill School. This is one of the most competitive Certamina, but all of our teams ranked extremely well. Level I (**Ben Andre, Emma Hastings, Jeff Horowitz**) vanquished all competitors, and their levelmates (**Josh Fang, Hannah Pho, John Wilkes**), playing up at Level 1A for the first time also earned 1st place! The Level II teams (**Daphne Fong, Molly Hemenway, James Jang, Hyae-In Seo; and Bruce Bland, Katie Hough, Anwar Omeish, Varun Kripanandan**) dominated their level, placing 1st and 2nd respectively. Completing a streak of 1st place finishes, the Latin III team of **Rachel Goldstein, Raynor Kuang, Lucia Lee, Patrick Maribojoc** and **Kevin Zeng** triumphed on their level. The Upper level teams faced tough pitting and placed 4th and 7th. Well done to all participants!

Model UN: TJ Students once again championed Model UN Conferences recently held at Hylton High school (PWMUN) and Chantilly High school (CHMUN). TJ earned the Secretary General Award for Best Large School participation at both the conferences! Out of approximately 100 students that participated at PWMUN, 46 students won various Delegate awards. Students participated in various teams grouped into Specialized committees,

Crisis committees and General Assembly committees. Gavel, Outstanding, Honorable and Verbal awards are given out for each team. Eleven students Gavelled, something that only the best delegations in each committee can accomplish; seventeen students were named "Outstanding Delegation," ten students won Honorable awards and six students won Verbal awards .

The TJ MUN team also performed admirably at CHMUN. An amazing group of 178 students participated in this event; seventy students received various accolades. Twelve students received Gavel awards, twenty students received Outstanding awards, fifteen students won Honorable awards, and twenty-one students got Verbal awards.

Congratulations TJ MUN, we wish you best of luck at your future conferences!

Policy Debate: The TJ Policy Debate Team competed at the fourth of five WACFL tournaments on January 15. Nine teams competed, three in Varsity and six in JV. In Varsity, the team of **Akshay Murthy** and **David Gao** qualified for the WACFL Varsity Metrofinals tournament that will be held in March. In JV, the team of **Megan Man** and **Kevin Xu** placed third, and the teams of **Yana Kaplun** and **Jamie Kim**, and **Richard Wang** and **Avinash Ramesh**, qualified for JV metrofinals.

Colonial Athletic Boosters (CAB)
www.colonialathletics.org

Winter CAB Membership Contest Update

Six teams are on the home stretch to win the Silver Prize of \$200! The first to reach a 90% membership level will see the deposit in their Coach's sports budget for this season. So hurry up and join Boosters and encourage your teammates to do the same!

Current % membership leaders:

Varsity Boys Basketball – 71%
JV Girls Basketball – 67%
Varsity Wrestling – 60%
Dance Team – 56%
JV Boys Basketball -54%
Freshman Boys Basketball – 50%

Memberships are valid for the entire school year, and begin at \$50; higher contributions earn passes to home games and other perks! Click [here](#) to join the Athletic Boosters.

Winter Sports Awards and Banquet

Thursday, March 3, 6:00 p.m.

Details posted soon at www.colonialathletics.org.

SPORTS PHYSICALS-SAVE THE DATE!!

Get out your planners and book your appointment now for Wednesday, June 8, to get your student's annual sports physical at TJ. The Colonial Athletic Boosters and the Athletic Trainers are coordinating this popular at-school event to ensure that our athletes are ready for the 2011-2012 season.

Medical professionals will perform the comprehensive physicals. The screening will check height, weight, body fat, vision, posture, vital signs, and upper and lower body assessments. Everyone will see the medical professional for clearance. Every athlete needs a new physical EVERY SCHOOL YEAR, so save a trip to the doctor's office and come out and support TJ Athletics. Call (703) 750-8387 with any questions.

Volunteers Needed for Physicals!

We need medical and non-medical parents to help make the sports physicals a successful event! If you are a TJ parent and a physician (MD or DO), physician's assistant (PA), physical therapist (PT) or nurse practitioner (NP), please consider helping out with physicals on June 8. 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 \$10,000 in support of our various sports programs. Your expertise and a few hours of your time will greatly benefit our TJ athletes! ***Free advertising for medical professionals that help!*** If you are willing to volunteer, please email Heather Murphy at [heather.murphy at fcps.edu](mailto:heather.murphy@fcps.edu).

Brick by Brick...Paving the History of TJ Students in Our Millennium Courtyard

TJHSST and the Athletic Boosters are very proud of the Millennium Courtyard, a beautification project originally designed and funded in 2001. The courtyard is a wonderful opportunity to honor and memorialize your son or daughter's TJ experience.

The Courtyard is located in the front of the school between the cafeteria and the library and was designed to provide a campus-like setting where students, faculty, administration and visitors can gather to study, relax and socialize. It features an interior brick courtyard with a raised brick seat wall and brick walkways. The project is funded by the sale of engraved bricks, which are incorporated into the paved interior courtyard and walkways. *The renovation of TJ will include a special location for our courtyard so this tradition can continue, and all bricks currently in the courtyard will be preserved and re-installed.*

Spaces are available for you to purchase a brick to honor your student – great gifts anytime for birthdays, special achievements, graduation, reunions or anniversaries. There are currently hundreds of engraved bricks representing over 25 different graduating classes and the wide-reaching interests of TJ alumni. When you visit the school, stop by and see the beautiful results.

The bricks may be engraved with up to three lines of text and two emblems reflecting your student's achievements, activities or character. Visit the courtyard and see the unique collection of emblems available and get ideas for designing your brick. The cost of an engraved brick is \$60; each emblem is \$15. [Click here to download the form](#) and order your bricks today. Return your completed form and check to:

*TJHSST Millennium Courtyard Project
6560 Braddock Road
Alexandria, VA 22312*

Orders are processed the end of March; bricks are installed in May. If you have any questions, contact the CAB or [Laurie Hughes](#), Chairperson (571) 217-3502. Thank you for your support!

And now for the team news...

Varsity Boys Basketball: The team has had an exciting season with many close games, including a match against Langley that went into overtime. The Colonials' January 14 win over Marshall was featured as the Game of the Week on CBS. The footage included an interview with sophomore **David Rice** and some shots of the Monticello Maniacs decked out in yellow to complement their

somewhat obscure, but fun, "Marshall heart banana!" cheer. The team continues its fast, high-pressure game and fans have been treated to some amazing blocks and even a dunk or two. In addition to great plays by team veterans, recent games have included some very strong performances by new faces on the team, including Rice, **Samy Singh** and **Burke Deutsch**.



Aaron Williams leaps for the ball during the 64-55 TJ victory against Marshall.



David Rice being interviewed after TJ's 64-55 victory over Marshall in WUSA-9's Game of the Week.

JV Boys Basketball: The team has what it takes to win games: they have heart, skill and determination. They play hard. Just look at some of the mid-game scores in recent games:

Against McLean, the team was down by only 4 points at the end of the 3rd period with terrific performances by **Mike Taylor**, **Mig Gebril**, **Sean McElrath** and **Howard Small**, and great defense. At South Lakes, we were down by only 1 point at the half and lost by 5, our closest game of the season. Mike Taylor had a terrific game,

scoring 11 points and 11 rebounds. Gebril stole the ball 6 times and had 4 points. **Austin Fleming** had 8 points and McElrath had 6 points with an exciting 3-point shot that tied the score with less than a minute to go. **Michael Chan** and **Bryan Havens** did a great job on defense.

A slow start against Marshall had TJ down by 12 when the first period ended; they then outscored the Statesmen in the next two periods, coming within 3 points at the end of the 3rd. McElrath had 9 points, Fleming 8, Havens 7 and Gebril, Small, Chan, **David Neuberger**, **Nathan Kodama**, **Daniel Chun** and Taylor each added to the scoreboard.

The Madison game was one of our toughest losses. We were within 1 point at the half playing a team that looked more like a football team than a basketball team. It was an incredibly physical game with two of our key players, Fleming and Small, suffering injuries that took them out of the game and the wind out of the teams' sails.

Even in our biggest loss so far this season against Fairfax, we had some outstanding individual performances. Taylor scored 12 points, **Ian McConnell** added 11, and Fleming had 8. Gebril and **Curt Kim** had a number of steals and Neuberger and Chan led the team in rebounds.

Freshman Boys Basketball: The team came back from winter break coached by **Jeff Clubb** with a difficult 34-73 loss to the South Lakes Seahawks. Although the team worked hard to catch up, the Seahawks outmatched the Colonials for the entire game. Three days later, the team had another loss to the Fairfax Rebels. At the end of the first half, the Rebels led by 19 points. After returning from the locker room, however, the boys had a different attitude and showed a new level of energy during the third and fourth quarters. The lead scorers of the game, **Kia Eskandarian**, **Andy Holsten** and **Nathan Kim**, had the Rebels on the run 'til the very end of the game. The Colonials displayed the same energy during the game against the Marshall Statesmen. The team had a lead on the Statesmen for most of the game, and in the fourth quarter Eskandarian made five consecutive free throws. Sadly, with only seconds to go, the Statesmen came back with a 3-point basket and a foul shot. The entire team is determined to perform at maximum

level in the next games, and can't wait to play in front of the home crowd again.

JV Girls Basketball: The team, consisting mostly of freshmen and a few sophomores, has really come together as a united front this season both on and off the court. The team has worked especially hard on outside shooting, movement with and without the basketball, rebounding and ball-handling skills. The girls are extremely hard workers and their dedication and effort is beginning to pay off, as was evident in their close game against Marshall on January 14. This is a young team that is making great fundamental improvements and the coaching staff anticipates a strong program as these players improve over the next few years and move up to the varsity program. The team welcomes **Sib Shewit**, who recently was promoted from the freshman team. The team also wishes a speedy recovery to **Julia Arthur** who injured her ankle during practice.



Ellen Mulé looks for an open teammate during the Marshall game on January 14, 2011.

Dance: The team has been busy mastering new skills, which they've demonstrated with great energy while performing at varsity girls and boys home basketball games. They are practicing hard for their upcoming and final competition of the season. On January 23, they performed in the East Coast Regional Dance Championship at West Springfield High School, competing in both Varsity Pom and Varsity Hip Hop categories. Two soloists performed -- **Katrina McTigue** and **Stephanie Levin**. **Senior Night** will be held on February 8 at the final varsity boys basketball game. Thanks for all your support!

Gymnastics: In the second meet of the season, the team placed 4th of 6 teams, less than one point out of 3rd place, behind the victorious Robinson team from the Concorde District. Highlights included **Marisa Kataoka** placing 2nd on Bar and Vault, and

4th All-Around; and **Caroline Kerr** tying for 3rd on Vault. **Katya Davydova** had a solid meet competing All-Around, including a strong performance on Floor. **Hailey Johnson** also competed All-Around with a very effective routine on Beam. **Nikki Pangilinan** showed further improvement competing on Bar. Continuing to develop their routines were **Jennifer Wang** on Bar and **Zophie Quan** on Beam. **Lizzy Miranda** and **Everi Osofsky** showed unexpectedly strong vaulting skills in their first competitive meet. The team's only home meet and Senior Night has been snowed out twice as of this writing. The meet schedule and results can be found at www.colonialathletics.org.

Pole Vault - **Lizzy Miranda, Jim Skehan, Sean Long, Billy Chen**

55m Hurdles - **Crystal Calderon, Ed Cai**

55m Dash – **Sean Long, Alex Luu, Naveed**

Mostaghimi, Kyung Hen

300m Dash – **Sean Long**

500m Dash – **Ronit Malka, Tim Tran**

1000m – **Ronit Malka, Katherine Sheridan, Sarah Nielsen, Lisa Junta, Jacob Zucker, Cole Rosenberg**

1600m – **Lisa Junta, Stephanie Marzen, Kelly Rogers, Sarah Nielsen, Katherine Sheridan, Sarah Stites, Jonathan Phillips, Jacob Zucker, Mike Wattendorf, Chris Rom**

3200m – **Lisa Junta, Kelly Rogers, Stephanie Marzen, Sarah Stites, Rachel Kuprenas, Rekha Schnepf, Jonathan Phillips, Chris Rom, Mike Wattendorf**

Regionals (February 19)

3200m – **Lisa Junta, Kelly Rogers, Stephanie Marzen, Jonathan Phillips**

55m Hurdles – **Ed Cai**

55m Dash – **Sean Long, Alex Luu**

States (February 25-26)

3200m – **Lisa Junta**



Hailey Johnson on Balance Beam at West Potomac HS on January 3, 2011.

Katya Davydova on Floor Exercise at West Potomac HS on January 3, 2011.



Sean Long will go to Districts with a 10' pole vault.



Lisa Junta wins the 1600m run at the Friends of Indoor Track Invite in 5:26.14.

Indoor Track and Field: Our team has been to seven winter meets so far! With so many phenomenal athletes and performances, it is hard to choose who to mention, but special congratulations to the following who have qualified for:

Districts (January 27, February 3)

Triple Jump - **Tania Ermak, Ed Cai**

Swim and Dive: Both boys and girls scored decisive wins against Stone Bridge on January 14. TJ's swimmers and divers brought home first place in all but one event. First place finishers were **Stephen Seliskar** (200 free), **MaryKate Dilworth** (200 free and 500 free), **Jack Borsi** (200 IM), **Katie Bennett** (200 IM), **Jon Spitz** (50 free), **Sarah Liu** (50 free), **Ron Enson** (100 fly), **Brianna Kim** (100 fly and 100 back), **Evan McMurray** (100 free), **Madison Phillips** (100 free), **Reese Frerichs** (500 free and 100 breast), **Miles Oakley** (100 back) and **Aedan Collins** (100 breast). *Seliskar's 200 free swim qualified him for the state championship meet!*

TJ showed its depth as well, with 1-2-3-4 finishes in five events: boys 200 freestyle (Seliskar, **Dylan Keightley**, **Andrew Koons**, **Alex Hoffman**), boys 500 freestyle (Frerichs, **Jake Doran**, Keightley and Koons), girls 500 freestyle (Dilworth, **Amanda Blair**, **Kelsey Rainey**, **Alex Mohrman**), boys 100 back (Oakley, **Marc Wechsler**, **Nathan Hughes**, **Sam Ober**), the girls 100 back (Kim, **Catherine Dworak**, **Shannon Smith**, **Ria Sarkar**) and the boys 400 free relay. The meet did not include a dive event, but TJ divers contributed points to the win with strong swims in relay and individual events.



TJSD celebrates big win over Stone Bridge.

The final home meet, which was also Senior Night, was January 21 against Langley High School, at Audrey Moore Recreation Center.



2011 Graduating Seniors and Team Captains: (l to r) **Catherine Dworak**, **Jack Borsi**, **Anna Green**, **Ron Enson**, **Brianna Kim**, **Evan McMurray**.

Varsity Wrestling: Over the last month the team competed in the Warhawk Duals at Madison HS, the Cavalier Classic at Woodson HS, the Warwick Duals at Coach Clint Behling's home high school in Pennsylvania, and two dual meets. While several injuries have hampered team performance, there have been many outstanding individual performances. At the nine-team Cavalier Classic, medals were won by seniors **Daniel Yoo** (1st, 140 lbs) and **Will Pyrak** (2nd, 160 lbs), and sophomore **Patrick O'Connor** (4th, 189 lbs). At the very competitive Warwick Duals, O'Connor went 4-1, while Pyrak, senior **Daniel Kang** and junior **Peter Reischer** all went 3-2. Wrestlers with two pins each were senior **Myles Cook**, Kang, O'Connor, and Reischer.



Junior **Skyler Anderson** dominates on the mat at the Warwick Duals in Pennsylvania.

(article continued on next page)



Senior **Myles Cook**, seconds before pinning his opponent in PA.

At the January 12 dual meet against Stone Bridge and Hayfield, Kang, O'Connor and junior **Skylar Anderson** each went 2-0. On Senior Night, January 19, Pyrak and O'Connor won both their matches against Langley and Yorktown. While many varsity wrestlers have been out for various medical reasons, the team is confident they will field their strongest team of the season at the *Liberty District Championships on February 4 and 5* (4:00 p.m. and noon, respectively) at *McLean HS*. Please come support the team and see some exciting take-downs, pins and escapes!!

Crew Boosters



We are making preparations for our upcoming Spring Season. TJ Crew Family Information Night will be Wednesday, February 2 at

7:30 p.m. in the TJ Cafeteria. Please attend this important meeting to pay your dues (if you have not already done so), submit travel forms, order clothing and unis, and hear from the coaches.

Practice on the water will begin on February 22. The TJ Crew Ergathon will take place on Monday, February 14, during winter training. This is our biggest fundraiser - rowers please attend and help your team erg a million meters to raise funds for the team and for the Central Asia Institute. Please check your email for further information on the Family Information Night meeting, check out our website <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew/>, and submit any questions to [tjcrewpresident at gmail.com](mailto:tjcrewpresident@gmail.com).

Band Boosters

The TJ Band program had a fantastic day at the All-District Band auditions. Overall, 37 students from TJ were accepted into the groups! Listed below are the students, along with their instrument and the ensemble they will perform with. The event will be held at W.T. Woodson H.S. on February 3, 4, and 5, with a concert at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Instruments that are in bold are currently eligible to audition for the All-Virginia Band and Orchestra in February. Please join me in congratulating these students!

Piccolo, Alexa Lowman, Symphonic Band
Flute, Haina Li, Symphonic Band
Flute, Jacqueline Speiser, Symphonic Band
 Flute, **Alexia Kim, Symphonic Band**
 Flute, **Grace Chuang, Symphonic Band**
 Flute, **Yoon Ji Moon, Concert Band**
Oboe, Emily Harmon, Symphonic Band
 Oboe, **Katherine Sheridan, Symphonic Band**
 Oboe, **Caitlyn Carpio, Concert Band**
 Oboe, **Jennifer Du, Concert Band**
Bassoon, Autumn Chuang, Symphonic Band
 Bassoon, **Kyu Hyeon Kim, Concert Band**
 Bassoon, **Bryce Summers, Concert Band**
Clarinet, Stephen Nam, Symphonic Band
Clarinet, Keshav Mantha, Symphonic Band
Clarinet, Stephanie Marzen, Symphonic Band
 Clarinet, **Stephanie Melendez Ramirez, Symphonic Band**
 Clarinet, **Michael Poussard, Symphonic Band**
 Clarinet, **Gina Hansen, Symphonic Band**
 Clarinet, **Andrew Rice, Concert Band**
 Clarinet, **Yurianna Huh, Concert Band**
 Bass Clarinet, **Andrew Koons, Symphonic Band**
 Alto Sax, **Connor Hann, Concert Band**
 French Horn, **Eric McShane, Concert Band**
 French Horn, **Sarah Springmann, Concert Band**
Trumpet, Jeff Menzin, Symphonic Band
 Trumpet, **Andrew Rowberg, Concert Band**
Trombone, Jack Borsi, Symphonic Band
 Trombone, **James Graham, Symphonic Band**
Euphonium, Megan Clark, Symphonic Band
 Euphonium, **Jesse Witkowski, Concert Band**
Percussion, Ryan Feng, Symphonic Band
Percussion, Bryan Higgins, Symphonic Band
Percussion, Max Beckhard, Symphonic Band
 Percussion, **Nathan Keithline, Concert Band**
 Percussion, **Parag Shukla, Concert Band**
String Bass, Zola Bridges, Symphonic Band

Our next shipment of Florida citrus arrives on February 26 (pickup in the band room between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.). Orders can be placed until about a week before the scheduled delivery. For more information, contact Karen Rice at [tjcitrus at hotmail.com](mailto:tjcitrus@hotmail.com) or click on "Citrus" on the tjbands.org website.

On March 19, 2011, TJ is hosting an Atlantic Indoor Association color guard and drum line competition. It's a great opportunity to watch the TJ drum line and color guard perform, along with units from many of your base schools.

Choral Boosters

After two snow dates, the TJ Choral Department presented *An Evening of Broadway Classics*. It was well worth the wait. The evening, a compilation of Broadway favorites with beautiful choralography, engaged the audience. **Adithya Simha** quietly introduced *Walk Him Up the Stairs* which then quickly built to a spirited crescendo. Later the Women's Choir sang *Don't Tell Mam*, followed by the Men's Choir rendition of *Cellophane*, both crowd pleasers. The evening wrapped with an encore performance of *Cabaret*.

Get ready for more great performances this year with *Les Misérables* and *Spring Show*.

Orchestra Boosters

The TJ Orchestra's major fundraiser of the year, the **Viennese Ball**, was held on January 7. The Orchestra Boosters provided a pizza dinner for Orchestra students, who transformed the cafeteria into a Winter Wonderland for that night's event. Beautiful waltz music was performed by members of the Symphonic Orchestra, and when they were on break, the TJ Jazz Band performed fabulous swing and jazz numbers to the delight of everyone. We appreciate the talents and efforts of our enthusiastic and hard-working student musicians. Many thanks to the outstanding support of all parents who assisted with food donations, food preparation and cleanup. Appreciation also to Bonhee Ku and Patti Curtis, Viennese Ball Coordinators, to Orchestra parents Robert Shen and Heidi Werntz, who gave waltz lessons before the

dance began, and to **Yena Kim**, Orchestra Student President. The evening was a huge success and everyone had a wonderful time!

Our Pre-Festival Concert is scheduled for March 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the TJ Auditorium, with the District XI Orchestra Festival event itself held on Saturday, March 19 at Fairfax High School, time to be announced.

The next Orchestra Booster meeting will be on Tuesday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room. **REMINDER:** We are in need of a Co-Hospitality Chair to assist with the remaining two concert receptions. Please consider volunteering for this very important position – a shared commitment is rewarding and so appreciated by the students and their families. Thank you all for your continued support of **Ms. Bailey**, our students, and the TJ Orchestra program.

Theatre Boosters (Shakespeare and Drama)

TJ's 24th *Annual Knight of One Axe* is fast approaching...come and watch your friends direct and perform on Friday, February 4 and Saturday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Various one act plays will make you laugh, think, sing and laugh again.

Do you know elementary or middle school students interested in learning about Shakespeare? Then bring them to TJ on March 5 for Shakesperience! TJ students run workshops at which children can learn about Shakespeare and acting. The event is free and fun. More information about this exciting event is forthcoming.

Mark your calendars...*The Crucible* will be performed on April 8 and April 9.

The next Theatre Boosters meeting is Tuesday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Announcements

Recycle old electronics through TJeCycle

Do you have old electronics sitting around taking up space? Don't throw them away! Many of the precious metals in computers, cell phones, radios, and other electronics are very harmful to the environment. Instead of simply tossing these old devices, recycle them through TJeCycle! TJeCycle is a new program starting up at TJ that works with Fairfax County to recycle electronic devices and keep the harmful materials out of landfills. Bring electronics to the TJeCycle closet in Gym 2. Questions? Email [tjecycle at gmail.com](mailto:tjecycle@gmail.com) or contact **Michael Cooper** at (703) 450-0321. Happy eCycling!

Relay for Life

Relay for Life will be held this year on May 21, 2011 at TJ. Join in the fight against cancer, celebrate, and remember with the community the lives that have been touched or taken by cancer. Registration and fundraising have already begun! If you are interested, please sign-up at www.alexandriayouthrelay.org. If your company is interested in becoming a sponsor and receiving recognition at the event, please contact Katie Bailey at [tjrelayforlife at gmail.com](mailto:tjrelayforlife@gmail.com). Thanks!

Third Annual tjSTAR – Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 1, 2010!

For those who are new to this event, tjSTAR (TJ Symposium to Advance Research) is a symposium in which students present their research and scientific achievements. Scientific demonstrations of advancements in technology and design challenges are held to inspire students and expose them to real life problems. A major part of this event is the panels and speakers—from both inside and outside of TJ—who excel in their respective fields.

Last year, we had many educational and entertaining speakers that made our event a success. This could not have been possible without your efforts as parents. To help make tjSTAR a success once again, please consider being a speaker or recommending someone who may wish to speak at this event. The deadline for submitting speaker suggestions is March 1, 2011. Please contact us with your suggestions at [tjstarspeakers at gmail.com](mailto:tjstarspeakers@gmail.com). For more information about tjSTAR and the kinds of speakers we are seeking, we invite you to look at our website:

www.tjhsst.edu/studentlife/events/srs/overview.php.

Check back frequently for up to date information on tjSTAR 2011! Also, check out [tjToday's summary of tjSTAR 2010](#). Thank you!

Natasha Bandopadhyay

Lisa Miadzvedskaya

tjSTAR Student Planning Committee

Noteworthy Dates

February 2011	March 2011
1 Teacher Workday, Student Holiday	3 Winter Sports Awards, 6pm in Cafeteria
2 Showing of "Race to Nowhere" at Langley HS	4 International Night (snow date), 7pm in Auditorium
3 PTSA Meeting, 7:30pm in Library	5 Partnership Fund Phone-a-thon, 1:30pm in Cafeteria
4-5 <i>Knight of One Axe</i> Performances, 7pm in Auditorium	7 PTSA Meeting, 7:30pm in Library
5 Academic Boosters Phone-a-thon, 9am in Math Wing	8- English 11 SOL Writing 11
5 Science and Engineering Fair open to the public, 1pm in Cafeteria	8 Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Principal's Conference Room
7 Tele-learn anchor day; students learn from home	9 Diversity Committee Meeting, 7pm in Career Center
7 ANGP Meeting, 6:30pm in Library	9 Band Concert, 7pm in Auditorium
8 Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Principal's Conference Room	9 Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library
9 Driver Education Parent/Student Required Meeting, 6:30pm in Lecture Hall	10 Crew Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
9 Diversity Committee Meeting, 7pm in College Career Center	11 Class of 2012 Event, 7pm in Gyms 1 & 2
9 Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library	15 ANGP Meeting, 6:30pm in Library
10 Crew Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in College Career Center	15 Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Room 106
11 Class of 2013 Soc Hop/Sadie Hawkins Dance, 8-11pm	16 Orchestra Concert, 7pm in Auditorium
12 Science and Engineering Fair (snow date)	16 Choral Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Choral Room
15 Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Room 106	17 Choir Concert Pre-Festival, 7pm in Auditorium
15 Choral Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Choral Room	18 Buleria, the Spanish Honor Society's Annual Salsa Dance, 5:30pm in Cafeteria
17 Curriculum Night for Parents, 7:30pm in Auditorium/Gym 2	19 Band Winter Showcase, 8am in Auditorium
18 International Night, 7pm in Auditorium	25 Citrus Fruits Sales & Distribution, 10am-1pm in Band Room
21 Snow Makeup day- all Fairfax County Public Schools OPEN	28 Theatre Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library
22 Theatre Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library	28 Northern Virginia District PTSA Board Meeting, 7pm in Career Center
26 Citrus Fruits Sales & Distribution, 10am-1pm in Band Room	

Support the Class of 2014

Order your

Reusable Grocery Bags

Using a reusable bag for grocery shopping on the average saves 6 plastic bags a week, 24 bags a month, 288 bags per year, and 22,176 bags in an average person's lifetime. If we all pledge to decrease our plastic bag use, and instead use reusable grocery bags, think of the difference we could make!

The bags are 12"W x 13"H x 8"D and made of polypropylene that is tear resistant and water repellent with reinforced seams.

Pick up your order forms at Room 146 (Mr. Kosek's room) or email your order to Christine Mayuga at [queenstine123 at gmail.com](mailto:queenstine123@gmail.com). Bags are available only by pre-order. Please support the Class of 2014 in their first fundraiser!

\$5 each

3 bags for \$10

Quantity _____

Total \$_____

I am paying in (circle one) check cash

Name_____

Grade_____

Email_____