

Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

Welcome to a new school year! I hope you have enjoyed a relaxing summer with personal hobbies, fun with your friends, and time with your families. This rest and reflection time away from school is essential to recharge your mind so you can think creatively and get excited about the difference you will make in the coming year.

I hope you have enjoyed our summer reading, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, a book about the history of the HeLa cell, its impact on medical research, and bioethical issues surrounding ownership of DNA. This month the school community will hold a One Book Discussion reflecting on this reading. The book is a launching point for this year's One Question, "How can we, the TJ community, take action to prepare students to confront difficult moral and ethical decisions, both now and in the future?" Over the year students will have opportunities to attend seminars, explore additional reading and videos for further analysis and reflection, and develop projects through a grant opportunity supported by the TJHSST Partnership Fund.

TJ has been far from quiet this summer. We have had over 1000 students engaged in learning experiences, either through TJ summer school classes, a biotechnology research seminar, or specialized middle school programs like TJ's Summer Tech Institute. In these middle school programs students had opportunities to learn the "TJ way" in one-week seminars where teachers facilitated creative and inquiry-based approaches in unique disciplines, including forensics, journalism, web design, rocketry, robotics, gross-me-out science, and mythbusters.

TJ students have been giving back through volunteerism at Young Scholars camps in their

communities. Over 100 students participated at one of the 18 programs this summer through teaching, hands-on mentoring, and providing support to teachers. I am so proud of our students for modeling interest and curiosity for STEM to youngsters near their homes. This year we will be launching a STEMbassadors program as part of our diversity and engagement goal so we can gain momentum on our support to local elementary and middle schools. A STEMbassador is an adult who can be the TJ face in a neighborhood school. He or she relays information about TJ activities and events and also spearheads local school-based volunteerism from TJ service groups and students living in that neighborhood. Let's work together to spread the joy of learning and enthusiasm for STEM in the region!

Homecoming week is September 19-24. This is a time for great celebrations, including costumes, pep rallies, skits, float building, bonfires, musical performances, and many more rich traditions. Students will spend extra time at school in preparation for these events, and we hope you can attend the football game against Stuart High School on September 23 with some of our alumni. We also need plenty of chaperones throughout the week, including the dance on September 24. While it's important to enjoy our community spirit that week, keep in mind classes will still be in session and homework will still be collected!

I look forward to seeing you at our Back-to-School Night at 6:30 p.m. on October 5 to meet our faculty, staff, and administration. Don't hesitate to contact me at [Evan.Glazer at fcps.edu](mailto:Evan.Glazer@fcps.edu) if you have feedback and suggestions that will help make TJ an even better place for learning and growing.

Looking forward to a great 2011-2012,

Evan Glazer
TJ Principal

President's Message

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year!

Where did the summer go? It seems like yesterday when we initially welcomed our class of 2015 parents and students into the TJ community last April and said good bye to our 2011 graduates in June. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer enjoying time with your families and are now revitalized and ready for a new school year! Over the years, I've been continually amazed at how close-knit our community is as parents, students, teachers and administrators come together to make our kids' experience here at TJ the best that it can be.

The PTSA is excited about making this another fun and memorable year for everyone and has already been hard at work during the summer working on several projects, as well as contributing toward the purchase of a new visitor and volunteer check-in system that will be located in the front office! We also helped to put on the Back-to-School Bash, which we hope everyone enjoyed.

To our freshman families – a special welcome to the newest members of our TJ family. Beginning with the freshmen registration and the many cluster gatherings this past spring, and moving on to your Freshman Orientation, Big Sibs program, and the Back-to-School Bash, we hope you feel welcome and have had an opportunity to have many of your questions answered. In addition to these events, we will be hosting a “Navigating TJ: Parent Tips” event on Sept. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. This event was created to help Freshmen and “Froshmore” parents as they begin to navigate the “unchartered waters” of their TJ journey. The forum will bring together members of the TJ community to share their accumulated knowledge of a wide range of TJ experiences and interests.

Also, please remember that, beginning with the Class of 2015, there is a new required course called Economics and Personal Finance. This course will be available at TJ beginning with the 2012/2013 school year and will be offered through a variety of formats. More information about this course will become available in early winter ahead of student course registration.

To all of our parents, please join us at our monthly PTSA meetings. Our first meeting is on Thursday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the TJ library. During each meeting, you'll hear a report from **Principal Glazer** regarding things that have gone on during the prior month, as well as what's new at TJ. You'll also hear

from a teacher representative and our SGA President, and receive information about the numerous activities and events that are taking place with our many of hard-working committees and Booster groups.

Here are a few tasks that require your attention at the beginning of the school year:

PTSA Database Update (needed by Sept. 9 to be included in this year's Directory)

Register or update your information in the PTSA database (click either new or returning students) **OR directly access the login page** by September 9, 2011. Our database is the core of all PTSA connections – Membership, Volunteer Coordinators, Directory and all PTSA communications rely on this database information. Most importantly, this information is used for our TJ Student Directory, which is published in September. The comprehensive directory contains student, PTSA, and TJ staff contact information, as well other important information such as key telephone numbers, how to schedule conferences with counselors, class schedule times by day, transportation, zip code lists for carpooling, and sports information, just to name a few. **Again, September 9 is the last day to register your information to be included in this year's directory.**

If you wish to Opt-Out of the Student Directory you may OPT-OUT by selecting the “Do not print student in the directory (opt-out)” checkbox when you **log in to update your information in the database.** The deadline for updating your Opt-Out status is September 9, 2011. If you have any database questions, please contact [ptsa.directory at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.directory@tjhsst.edu).

Sign up to Volunteer by clicking here. The PTSA, as well as the TJ staff, greatly appreciates your volunteering at TJ and your help is very much needed! In fact, on any given school day, you will most likely see several TJ parent volunteers. Check the PTSA website for a **complete list of over 50 volunteer opportunities.** You can sign up any time; however, information received by September 9 will be forwarded to committee chairs and team leaders for their initial scheduling of volunteers.

Note: we are still in need of **Front Office Volunteers** for the 8-10:00 a.m. shift on Thursdays. We also need volunteers for alternating shifts on Wednesdays and Fridays (meaning volunteers would come twice a month for their Wednesday or Friday shift). Please contact Dolores Davis at [dmdavis7 at msn.com](mailto:dmdavis7@msn.com) if interested!

We'd like to have this up and running by the time school begins.

We are also looking for a few more JLC Volunteers to help out on Thursday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. This also starts the first week of school. Please contact Nancy Levonian and Daisy Kang at [jlcvolunteers at gmail.com](mailto:jlcvolunteers@gmail.com) if you can help out.

Open the Packets that you received a few weeks ago from the PTSA (Freshmen received their packets on September 1 during their Orientation). These packets are full of important information-- don't put it off -- you may miss out on something! Thanks to the over 50 parents and students who helped to stuff these packets on August 11, to Rajni Goel, Volunteer Coordinator Co-Chair, for organizing this huge endeavor, and to Celeste Fritzson for organizing the bulk mailing!

Sign up for FCPS's Keep In Touch (KIT) system if you are not yet in the system. Go to:

<https://signup.blackboardconnect.com/fcps/>.

Become a Member of the PTSA for the 2011/2012 School Year! Join the PTSA today! Membership dues account for a large amount of the PTSA funds that help to finance various programs that support this great school of ours and directly benefit our community. Please take a few moments to review the PTSA membership flyer (found at the end of this newsletter) to learn about PTSA-sponsored activities. Membership dues are only \$15 per parent and student (\$10 for teachers!), but with about 1850 students and their families, along with all of the TJ staff members, this fifteen or ten dollars can add up significantly. You can either return the attached flyer, or join online at <http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/payments.htm>. It's simple, fast and appreciated!

Update your Free Money Program Information!

Our Free Money Programs also help to fund many activities and events for the PTSA and TJ. This past year alone, these programs generated over \$23,000! For details on how to reenroll for each program, please refer to the Free Money Program information located below on page 5 and on the flyer found at the end of this newsletter.

Sign up to become a STEMbassador! We are starting a program this year called STEMbassadors, which is an effort to put a "TJ face in every area elementary school." As a result, we are looking for adult STEMbassador parent liaisons. Many people know that TJ provides

outreach, but often we do not spread our message as we would hope. I know it's hard to imagine, because you all knew about TJ, but not everyone does! The goal of STEMbassadors is to make TJ a familiar place, and to spread our enthusiasm for learning as well as providing support to our local elementary schools. My letter explaining the program can be found on the **PTSA home page**.

We will hold an orientation meeting for all STEMbassadors on Friday, October 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the Cafeteria. Already, we have over 80 people signed up, but with about 200 elementary schools, we need more volunteers! Please contact Amy Shaw at [vp2 at wyolum.com](mailto:vp2@wyolum.com) if you'd like to sign up.

We look forward to another great year at TJ! Feel free to contact us at [ptsa at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa@tjhsst.edu), or at our individual email addresses below, with any questions or comments. Sara Schneider is now our Recording Secretary as Jane Li has had to step down in order to take care of a family member who is ill. Our best thoughts and wishes are with Jane and her family.

The 2011/2012 PTSA Executive Committee

- Denise Bunting, PTSA President, [bunting.denise at gmail.com](mailto:bunting.denise@gmail.com)
- Celeste Fritzson, PTSA Vice President, [cfritzson at verizon.net](mailto:cfritzson@verizon.net)
- Amy Shaw, PTSA Vice President, [vp2 at wyolum.com](mailto:vp2@wyolum.com)
- Frances Kim, PTSA Treasurer, [sfkim9600 at gmail.com](mailto:sfkim9600@gmail.com)
- Sara Schneider, PTSA Recording Secretary, [MEMSofVA at aol.com](mailto:MEMSofVA@aol.com)
- Jean Lee, PTSA Corresponding Secretary, [ptsa.correspondingsecretary at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.correspondingsecretary@tjhsst.edu)

~~ Denise Bunting
TJ PTSA President
[ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu)

Want to Advertise in the TJ Directory?

Support TJHSST's PTSA by advertising your business in the 2011-2012 TJ School Directory. Ad & payment must be received by **Friday, September 9, 2011.**

SEE THE FLYER AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS

PTSA Update

Landscape Committee

"Growth takes time. Be patient. And while you're waiting, pull a weed." Emilie Barnes

We have learned to be very patient during this past hot, brutal summer. Our gardens have survived due to the watering efforts of landscape volunteers: **Robert Campion** ('12) and mom and dad Richard and Jennifer Campion, Nancy Manser, Carol Miranda, Monica Russ, Elaine Tholen, and Eleni Silverman. These dedicated volunteers spent hours tending to our soaker hoses on the hills and weeding in the hot summer sun-- it really does take a village to maintain a garden.

The blooms you see around campus this month are black-eyed susans, asters, woodland sunflowers, Russian sage, Joe Pye weed, Echinacea, butterfly bush, salvia and sedum. Soon the bright yellow blossoms of the solidago 'fireworks' will light up the Water Wise Hill.

We encourage the entire TJ community of students, parents, alums and staff to join us in keeping the TJ campus looking great. We have weekly gardening days, and spend at least one weekend day gardening per month. You could join your student in gardening pursuits during our expanded 8th period "Cultivators of the Earth Club." Visit our **Landscape Committee website** for updates on landscape hours and our 8th period activities.

We are planning our first weekend effort to spruce up the campus for Saturday, September 10, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Students get your NHS hours underway through this activity!

If you would like to volunteer in any capacity, contact Eleni Silverman at [eleni1 at cox.net](mailto:eleni1@cox.net) or call at (703) 626-0008.

Reflections Contest -- Calling all Artists!

Do you love to create? Does diversity have meaning for you? Come participate in the PTA Reflections Program 2011-12. Since 1969, the National PTA has sponsored an annual contest that recognizes artistic achievement. Each year a new theme is chosen, and

currently students may submit original works of art inspired by the annual theme in any of six categories: literature; music composition; photography; film production; visual arts; and dance choreography. Works are judged at the local level, and the winning entries advance to the council and state levels. Top state-winning entries compete nationally. This year's theme is "Diversity means . . ."

For further information and contest details, including all forms and rules, go to www.vapta.org. If you have additional questions or would like to help, please contact Heidi Werntz at [deliver2heidi at yahoo.com](mailto:deliver2heidi@yahoo.com). The deadline for submission of works to the TJ PTSA is October 21, 2011.

Volunteer Committee

The **After-School Library Program** needs your help! Beginning the second week of school, the TJ library will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Two parent volunteers supervise students who stay after school in the library. This is a great program for students who need to access library resources after school to complete their homework, to use the space for a group project, or to have a comfortable place to do homework before a late sports practice.

Last year we had 19 volunteers keep the library open after school 86 days, allowing for student access more than 4,700 times. Many of our volunteers "graduated" last year. Now we need your help! Please consider volunteering 1 or 2 afternoons a month. This is an easy way to contribute a valuable service to the TJ community. (The students would love to have access to the library the remaining days of the week - if we get enough volunteers, we will be able to provide them this additional opportunity.) If you are interested in volunteering, or if you have any questions about this program, please contact Gail Brodfuehrer at [GBrodfuehrer at verizon.net](mailto:GBrodfuehrer@verizon.net).

Have a Few Minutes to Complete a TJ Admissions Survey?

The TJ Admissions Office has asked if parents and students would like to share their experiences at TJ by participating in an on-line survey. Some of the responses will be featured on the new TJ Admissions website, to be read by prospective students and parents. The Admissions Office is hoping that your

insight will help prospective community members understand what makes TJ so special. Only your first name will be used on the website. If you'd like to remain anonymous, please note that in the box for the last question. Of course, the survey is completely optional! The survey can be found using the following link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TJAdmissionsParentSurvey>.

If you have any questions, please contact Amos Simms-Smith at aosimmsmith@fcps.edu.

Serving the TJ Community

Free Money \$\$\$

Register Your Shopping Cards and Earn \$\$\$ for TJ Today!



It's time to reregister your grocery cards to earn money for TJ. Giant, Peapod, Safeway, and Harris Teeter support our schools by donating a portion of sales to us when you use your store loyalty card. Last year TJ earned over \$23,000 from all the Free Money programs! The Harris Teeter and Safeway programs started in August so don't waste any time. If you shop at Target, apply for the REDcard credit or debit card and designate TJ as your school.

Sign up NOW. Most programs let you sign up in the store or online. The necessary forms can also be found in the PTSA back-to-school packet, at the end of this newsletter, or by clicking here: [flyer](#). Submit completed paper forms to the main office, or to the Free Money table at Back to School Night. The fastest way to start earning is to sign-up online. Click on either of the two following links to access sign-up pages:

Support the PTSA
(<http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/support.htm>).

You must register and identify TJ as the school you want to support EVERY school year for Giant and

Harris Teeter, and you must renew every year for Safeway.

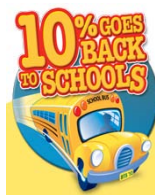
Giant A+: Bonus Card: TJ code **02307**. Register starting September 8.

Peapod by Giant: Register your Giant card as outlined above and then at Peapod.com under My Account – Personal Settings – Giant Bonus Card.

Harris Teeter Together in Education Vic Card: TJ code **5534**.

Target Red Card: School ID: **119746**

Safeway Club Card for Education Club Card: TJ code **154534149**. If you are already a member of escrip.com, renew and make sure TJ is designated as your school; otherwise register at www.escrip.com.



Safeway 10% BACK TO SCHOOL promotion runs through September 13. Purchase items marked with the school bus and TJ earns 10%. Contributions for [escrip](http://escrip.com) members will automatically be credited to TJ. Starting September 19, there will be a redemption code on the bottom of your receipt for non-[escrip](http://escrip.com) members. Go online and enter the code or bring your receipts to the Free Money table at Back to School Night, or to the main office.

If you have questions, please contact Stamo Georgiou at stamog1@aol.com or Vince Wang at vince.wang@gmail.com.



Back-to-school shopping time! Please remember to do all of your **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@ganley.org.

All Night Graduation Party (ANGP)

ANGP represents the annual **All Night Graduation Party** that is held directly after the graduation ceremony to celebrate a very important milestone of our seniors. Over six hours of fun-filled activities, music, dancing, shopping, raffles, casinos, prizes, and

so much more will be held at our school on Saturday, June 16, 2012.

Parents from all class levels work together throughout the year to help organize and carry out this memorable event. The 2012 Committee is now forming; our first meeting will be Thursday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the Career Center (one hour prior to our first PTSA meeting). Volunteer opportunities are available to all parents. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please sign up for a volunteer position by clicking on the link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/TJ2012ANGPVolunteers>

Questions about volunteering? Email [tjangp2012volunteers at gmail.com](mailto:tjangp2012volunteers@gmail.com).

For more information on ANGP, please visit:

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



ANGP 2012 is TJ's alcohol-free, drug-free, all-night celebration and is sponsored by the TJ Parent, Teacher, Student Association (PTSA).

ANGP is supported by the Virginia State Police Association and the Virginia Department of Education. This is a safe, fun, and drug-free event that has over 95 % student participation. Since its inception in 1987, there have been no reported accidents or deaths attributed to drugs or alcohol on graduation night for our students who attend ANGP. since its inception in 1987.

We look forward to seeing you at our first committee meeting.

Date: Thursday, September 8
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Career Center

Student Services Corner

Student Government Association

The TJ Student Government Association (SGA) has been at work all summer planning events for the new

school year. We selected this year's Executive Committee (ExComm) and together, SGA officers and ExComm members chose the student leaders of the Freshman Class (FroshComm). The members of FroshComm are: **Samantha Cadd, Lily Chaw, Anant Das, Tara Abrishami, Olive Moffett, Peter Mahoney, Christian Tae and Jenny Kim.**

SGA members and class officers continued our planning for school events, including Homecoming, on Saturday, August 27 at TJ (the annual retreat was cancelled due to Hurricane Irene). The Homecoming Dance is on September 24 and Homecoming Asking Week will begin on September 12. Since Homecoming is so early this year, SGA has been working hard all summer to plan this large event.

The themes for this year's Homecoming are:

Seniors: To Infinity and Beyond
Juniors: It's on YouTube
Sophomores: Escape from the Jungle
Freshmen: Blast from the Past

SGA needs YOUR convertible for the Homecoming Half-Time Show on September 23. If you own a convertible, please contact [sga.tjhsst at gmail.com](mailto:sga.tjhsst@gmail.com) (NOT tjhsst.sga@gmail.com).

SGA has also been considering ideas such as honoring the 10th Anniversary of 9/11, implementing Service Week, and creating TJ gear.

2011-2012 SGA Officers

President	Helen Hastings ('12)
Vice President	Allison Chou ('13)
Treasurer	Neal Chaudhuri ('12)
Secretary	Kaley Thornton ('13)
SAC representatives	Brendan Kim
	Priya Krishnan
	Kevin Cao
	Jessica Sun

Guidelines

You can find editions of the TJHSST Student Services Department newsletter (Guidelines) posted at www.tjhsst.edu/curriculum/dss/pubs.php. Scroll down to "Department of Student Services," and look under "**Publications and Resources.**"

Academic News

French News

In October, fifteen TJ families will host visiting French students from the Roosevelt Lycée, located in the historic town of Reims, about one hour from Paris by TGV. The TJ students will then visit the Roosevelt French families during spring break (April 2012).

If interested, please, contact Madame Delfosse at [GJDelfosse at fcps.edu](mailto:GJDelfosse@fcps.edu).

Latin News

Four TJ Seniors win National Latin Scholarship Awards!!

Each year the National Latin Examination Committee awards 21 college scholarships to exceptional Latin students from the United States and several foreign countries. Students are qualified to apply if they earned a gold medal on the National Latin Exam in their senior year of high school. Students must then write an essay based upon a Latin *sententia* (motto or thought), show evidence of exemplary Latin achievement over the past four or five years, receive strong recommendations, and plan to continue their Latin (or Greek) studies in college.

Extraordinarily, four of the National Latin Exam Scholarship Awards were from our school: **Katie Lin** (Carnegie Mellon), **Evan Liu** (Carnegie Mellon), **Thomas Woodruff** (UVA), and **Kevin Zhou** (Yale). Each of these students had earned five gold medals (since 8th grade) on the National Latin Exam, as well as numerous accolades in Latin and the Classics. The scholarship awards were announced in late June at the American Classical League Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. **Ms. Christine Conklin**, their teacher, was present to receive this great honor on behalf of her students.

NJCL Convention 2011 – Latin Students meet with success in Kentucky!

Ms. Conklin and 30 Latin students from TJ traveled to Richmond, Kentucky from July 23 – July 30 to attend the 59th annual National Junior Classical League convention. All of the students met with great success while competing in academic, creative arts, graphic

arts, and olympika contests. The experience enriched their growth as classics students and provided them with a week of great fun. Here are a few memorable achievements from the NJCL Convention 2011:

-- Congratulations to our award winning **Certamen** team Intermediate members: **Hyae-In Seo** ('13) and **Molly Hemenway** ('13) (and new student, **Andrew Coffee**, ('13) for earning 2nd place in the NATION!

-- Congratulations to **Hannah Pho** ('14) for 'rocking' the convention! Hannah ranked 8th place overall in Academics and her Novice Certamen team placed third in the NATION.

-- Congratulations to **Semele Liu** ('13) for earning 8th place overall in the Graphic Arts division! Semele earned 3 1st place scores in Illustrated Quotes, Mixed Media, and Watercolor. Semele was also recognized for creating the *National Classical Etymology Exam*.

-- Our **sight Latin reading scores** were out of this world: **Philip Meyers** ('12) first place; Hyae-In Seo ('13) first place; **Jesse Witkowski** ('12) third place; Hannah Pho ('14) first place.

-- **Essay scores** – Great! **Robert Wharton** – 2nd place; **Kevin Zhou** – 3rd place; **Sienna Lotenberg** – 4th place

-- **Dramatic Interpretation** – Jesse Witkowski ('12)! 1st place!! Optime!

-- **1st place test scores** – **Evan Liu** ('11) – Mottoes; **Amy Chen** ('13) – Reading Comp.; Hannah Pho ('14) Latin Derivatives I; Latin Grammar and Reading Comp (highest scores in Nation!)

-- **Mirabile visu: Frederick Short** – 1st place team member – Open Certamen; 2nd place Latin Grammar Advanced!! **Alana Whitman** – Latin Oratory, 3rd place! Jesse Witkowski – Small Models, 1st place! Amy Chen – Textiles, 3rd place! **Rachel Goldstein** – 2nd Place on the Classical Art III and Academic

-- Heptathlon III exams! **William Lucht** – 2nd place, Hellenic History.

The highlight of the week for our delegation was the election of TJ student, **Akhila Ananthram**, a senior this year, to the National Junior Classical League Executive Board. This is especially exciting for me to

announce since this is the first time in the history of Thomas Jefferson HS that a student from TJ has been elected to serve on the NJCL Executive Board. Akhila will serve as the 2nd Vice-President for the 2011-2012 academic year. The other student board members come from the following states: New Hampshire, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and California. Congratulations to Akhila!

Class News

2012 – Seniors

Believe it or not, our kids have made it to their Senior Year at TJ. Do you remember four years ago trying to figure out what the AudLob was and how to navigate other uniquely TJ events? Now we just have to complete a senior research project, navigate the college application process, and, then, graduate!

First, however, we need to thank all the parents, teachers and staff that helped us to make the junior campout this past June such a success. I heard nothing but great things from all the kids, staff and parents that participated.

We are looking forward to several events and activities this year and will need plenty of parent support. If you haven't volunteered yet, here is your chance! If you have volunteered in the past, thank you, and we will continue to need your help for one more year!

Our first event will be Homecoming. The Homecoming Football Game will be on Friday, September 23. The Homecoming Dance will be held on Saturday, September 24. We will definitely need parents to help as chaperones for the dance. Please e-mail us at tjclassof2012@cox.net to let us know how you'd like to help. Please indicate whether you'd prefer the early shift (usually 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.) or the late shift (usually 9:30 p.m. to midnight).

Please also plan to volunteer to help with the All Night Grad Party. There is information on the party elsewhere in this newsletter.

Looking forward, the prom will be June 9 at the Newseum and graduation will be June 16 at the Patriot Center, followed by the All Night Grad Party at TJ.

We are looking forward to a great year for this our final year at TJ.

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

2013 - Juniors

Welcome back everyone! Yun and I hope that you had a lovely and relaxing summer. It is hard to believe but our students are halfway through high school and are now starting junior year. Historically, the junior year is academically very busy, filled with AP classes, starting the process of investigating and visiting colleges and preparing for senior year mentorship or lab programs. Please help your student keep things in perspective. AP classes are challenging and important, but they are only one measure of a student's academic success. Take on the college process as an adventure rather than a chore. The TJ Career Center has lots of information on colleges and scholarships and if you and your student have not already been for a visit, this fall is a good time to do so. Your student's counselor can also be a great resource for information related to the college process and advice on how to be best prepared for senior labs and mentorship programs.

But junior year is also about fun! The fun starts with the Back to School Bash on Thursday, September 1 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Join parents, faculty and other students for a refresher of what's going on at TJ and then stay to cheer the Colonials on in the first home football game of the season. Homecoming Week comes early this year with the Homecoming football game on Friday, September 23 and the Homecoming Dance of Saturday, September 24. Our class Homecoming Committee has already been hard at work on plans for the week's activities. Yun and I will be hosting an Ideas Session in late September (hopefully) to discuss plans for other fun and fund-raising events. Ideas currently on the drawing board include: the Junior Campout, the 2nd Annual PiMiler, and a Student-served Parent Dinner at TJ. Stay tuned for the date for this meeting.

Please update your PTSA contact information if necessary (see links on the [PTSA website](#)) so we can continue to get information to you in a timely fashion. Best wishes for a smooth beginning of the school

year. As always, please feel free to contact either of us should you have any questions.

~~Yun Pang ([yunjungp0201 at gmail.com](mailto:yunjungp0201@gmail.com));
(703) 573-0882
Pam Cooper ([cooperlaw at verizon.net](mailto:cooperlaw@verizon.net));
(703) 450-0321
PTSA Class of 2013 Representatives

2014 – Sophomores

Welcome Back! We hope the summer was restful and fulfilling for everyone. Our Class Council is already hard at work for homecoming and for the exciting year ahead!

Please mark your calendars - Homecoming Week is September 19-24; the game is Friday night, September 23, at 7:30 p.m. and the Homecoming Dance is on Saturday, September 24, from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Many of you volunteered last year (THANK YOU!) to help with the coat check - an organizational feat put together by Class of 2013 parents, Yun Pang and Pam Cooper. This year, it is our turn to run the coat check, so we are in need of many volunteers. The first shift is from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the second shift is from 9:30 p.m. to midnight. We'd like to have around 30 parents for each shift.

We also need a handful of volunteers on Friday night for a few hours prior to the game, to set up the auditorium as the bag holding area. In addition, we'll need about 8 or 10 parents to get the bags labeled for use during the coat check sometime during the week before homecoming. If any of these opportunities sounds interesting - please let us know! Contact Vicki Ruitter to volunteer for any homecoming events.

Watch your email for a blast from our Class Council regarding our fund raising auction. There will be a letter with a link to a survey asking for your input on what type of auction parents would most like to have. As always, the success of the event will rest on our wonderful volunteers. Please share your thoughts - fill out the survey as soon as possible and please sign up to help with the auction!

The class council has asked us to remind your Sophomores there is still time to participate in homecoming activities. If your student would like more information, please email: [tjclassof2014 at gmail.com](mailto:tjclassof2014@gmail.com).

We are looking forward to supporting our Class of 2014 with all of you again this year.

~~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

2015– Freshmen

Welcome to TJ's newest Class of 2015! We also want to welcome and thank Faye and Jim Henris, for volunteering to be two of the Parent Liaisons for your class. Here is the biggest news of all: **you all need one or two more parent liaisons!!!** Ideally, we need to fill these positions within the next week. Class liaisons help to organize much of the parent involvement for their class activities as well as provide parent-to-parent assistance for the next four years. If you are interested, and we hope at least two of you are, please contact Faye and Jim at [faye at henrisff.com](mailto:faye@henrisff.com).

Over the coming weeks, look for requests for assistance for school-wide events such as the upcoming soc-hops, and the Homecoming Dance. In addition, the freshman class needs volunteers for occasional events, including the Freshman Lock-In in the spring where over 100 parent volunteers are recruited!

Our Homecoming Dance will be on Saturday, September 24 - that's not too far away! There will be a full week of activities surrounding Homecoming, culminating in the dance where many freshman parent volunteers are needed!! Don't worry, you'll be getting an email asking for help! In addition, the students will be looking for a parent's garage in which to build and store their float. Please let Faye or Jim know if you have any available space.

Don't forget to contact Faye or Jim as soon as possible, and let them know you'd like to volunteer to be a class of 2015 parent liaison, and again, Welcome to TJ!

~~ Faye Henris ([faye at henrisff.com](mailto:faye@henrisff.com))
Jim Henris
PTSA Class of 2015 Representatives

News Round-up and Awards

China Girls Mathematical Olympiad:

Congratulations to **Victoria Xia**, who was awarded a gold medal at the 2011 China Girls Mathematical Olympiad.

Since 2007 the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI), in partnership with the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), has sent a team of young women to participate in the 2011 China Girls Mathematical Olympiad. The competition was originally established as a regional competition for teams of female high school students from China and other eastern Asian countries (including Russia), but has since been expanded to include the USA, Canada, South Africa, and Australia.

This year the eight-member team, chosen from the top ranks of the female finalists in the 2011 USA Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO), spent three weeks preparing for the competition at the Mathematical Olympiad Summer Program offered by the MAA on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. They then travelled to Shenzhen, where the Olympiad was held from July 28 - August 3.

The girls on the U.S. team wrote [an online travelogue](#) to share highlights from their trip.

International Mathematical Olympiad

The USA team placed second in the 2011 International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO). All six members of the USA team, including **Mitchell Lee**, were awarded gold medals.

The IMO is an annual six-problem, 42-point math competition held over two days. More than 105 nations compete in this annual event, which is the oldest of the International Science Olympiads. Each day participants take a 4.5-hour, three-problem exam, which covers a wide range of mathematics.

Country and individual results from this year's Olympiad are available on the [IMO Official Website](#).

International Linguistics Olympiad

Congratulations to **Arjun Srinivasan** for receiving an honorable mention award at the 2011 International Linguistics Olympiad.

One hundred and two high school students from around the world competed at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh this summer at the 9th annual International Olympiad of Linguistics (IOL), the first time the competition has been held in the US. Twenty-seven teams participated, representing nineteen countries. Students for the US teams were chosen based on their performance on the two rounds of the North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO), held in February and March of this year.

In the Individual round, competitors struggled independently with problems about Faroese orthography, Menominee morphology, Vai syntax, Nahuatl semantics, and the structure of the barcode language EAN-13, while in the team round, groups of up to four students worked out the metrical rules of Sanskrit poetry.

From Thomas Jefferson High School to Tokyo and Beyond: A Trip to Remember

This past summer, **Shriram Sundararaman** and **Wills Johnston** were the recipients of a full scholarship to attend the US High School Diplomat (USHSD) 2011 program in Japan. “Awesome” and “breathtaking” were the words on the lips of these two very fortunate TJ students.

USHSD is a cultural enrichment experience that brings together high school students from Japan and the United States. The program affords twenty former HSD participants (who had already attended the HSD program the previous year in Princeton) the unique experience of a three-week trip to Japan.

The 2011 summer program involved meeting Ambassador John V. Roos, with whom the students discussed many topics, including the relationship between the US and Japan and the Ambassador's favorite Japanese dishes. The students made a trip to Sophia University in Tokyo, a visit to Tokyo Station—the largest station in Japan, and an enlightening visit to Hiroshima where they had the privilege of hearing from one of the few survivors of

the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima over sixty years ago. They also took the bullet train to Kyoto, the ancient capitol of Japan, visited the temple compound of Kiyomizudera, and finished the cultural exchange program with a visit to the magnificent Arashiyama Mountain, in historic Nara Park.

For more information about the application process visit www.highschooldiplomats.com/index.php.



Wills Johnston and Shriram Sundararaman visit a Japanese temple during their summer trip.

TJHSST Partnership Fund

TJ Partnership Fund: Making TJ Even Better *Since 1999*

WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS GROUP CALLED THE PARTNERSHIP FUND? The Partnership Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization that solicits voluntary contributions from parents, alumni and corporations to meet TJ's unique needs. Thomas Jefferson would not be the school that it is today without the private support that it has received, and the PF is the conduit for that very important financial support. The Partnership Fund is almost entirely made up of volunteers, many of whom are current parents. Are you curious to learn more about what we do, who we are, and how you can help?

1. Read the August edition of Newsworthy, the PF newsletter, in your PTSA packet.
2. Visit our website, www.tjpartnershipfund.org.
3. Come to our Freshman Parent Reception on Saturday, September 10 (an invitation was distributed at Freshman Orientation).
4. Fill out the Volunteer Form (which was tucked into Newsworthy) and send it in to school.

FRESHMAN PARENT RECEPTION (ALL PARENTS WELCOME): Interested in finding out more about the Partnership Fund? Wondering how you can help make TJ even stronger? Come to an informal reception where you can chat with **Principal Evan Glazer**, other members of the TJ faculty and administration, our Development Manager, and Partnership Fund volunteers, most of whom are current and alumni parents: Saturday, September 10, 2011 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Contact [hildekahn at verizon.net](mailto:hildekahn@verizon.net) for details.

BACK TO SCHOOL APPEAL UNDER WAY: IT'S SO EASY TO SUPPORT TJ! Just fill out the Donor Form inside the Newsworthy in your PTSA packet or **donate online**. You decide how your money is used. To donate specifically to TJ's labs, designate the "Science & Tech Lab Fund," or to donate toward non-lab needs, designate the "Enrichment Fund." The PF especially appreciates "Priority Fund" (unrestricted) donations as these allow the PF to use the money where the need is greatest.

WE DID OUR SUMMER READING: The PF organized a day-long "Design the Future" workshop this July, held at Microsoft's Reston offices, to bring experts in technology fields together with TJ administrators as they plan for the School's renovation. The workshop was such a success that we're planning another for October, this time at Cisco's Herndon offices. See our website, www.tjpartnershipfund.org for more information.



Vint Cerf, Chief Internet Evangelist for Google and widely considered a "Father of the Internet"; Aneesh Chopra, United States Chief Technology Officer and former Virginia Secretary of Technology; and Cameron Evans, National Chief Technology Officer of Microsoft Education, surround Evan Glazer, second from right, at the PF's "Design the Future" workshop attended by technology experts from across a wide spectrum of academia and industry.

CONTACT: For any and all Partnership Fund information please call Ellen Smith, PF Development Manager, at (703) 750-8317 or email [Ellen.smith at tjhsst.edu](mailto:Ellen.smith@tjhsst.edu).

Best wishes for a great school year!

TJHSST Boosters



Academic Boosters

Welcome to a new school year of academic fun! We are so excited about our 20+ academic teams and the competitions, meets, matches, tournaments, owls, Olympiads, finals, conventions, conferences, and contests (whew!) that our students will be participating in this school year.

You can help by joining the Academic Boosters today. Membership forms were included in the PTSA summer packet, or can be found at the [TJ Academic Boosters website](http://www.colonialathletics.org)

Questions? Contact any one of our parent volunteers on the Academic Boosters Board: Linda Loffredo, John Pang, Jean Lee, Gefei Qian, Nawal Todi, Jamie Korelitz, Natalie Goldring-Merriman, Angela Wilkes, Satthiya Jayaraj, Sara Qian, Charlie Ho, Brenda Simon, Mani Raja, Beth Liebmann and Raji Bala. Many thanks to our faculty sponsors Ms. Gabriel and Ms. Conklin.

All are welcome to attend our monthly meetings; the first one is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Career Center. Our second meeting (on October 25) will definitely be interesting, as each team will make a presentation with their planned activities and funding requests for the year. Look for full reports about team activities here each month!

Colonial Athletic Boosters (CAB)
www.colonialathletics.org

Welcome all parents, athletes, supporters and fans to the 2011-12 sports season, especially our incoming class of 2015 athletes!!

As we embark on the new fall season, please remember how important CAB memberships and activities are for our student-athletes. We must supplement the very small amount of funds the athletic program receives from the County with our own contributions. **To maintain safe and proper playing surfaces, well-appointed gyms, up-to-date equipment, and to provide our teams with uniforms and other accessories, we need YOUR HELP!**

Memberships begin at \$50 per year; higher levels earn passes to home games and other perks. **PLEASE JOIN at www.colonialathletics.org.**

***Booster Challenge: First team to reach 90% membership will earn \$500 from the CAB for the coach to spend on the team!**

***Scholarships:** The CAB awards four \$1,000 scholarships each year to deserving seniors. So please volunteer, contribute or both!

***Merchandise Credit:** All persons who purchase memberships at the \$150 level and above will receive a \$10 Merchandise voucher to be used for any CAB gear!

We love volunteers! Many are needed to run a successful sports program for our children. We need your help with concessions (profits go 100% to athletics), ticket sales, announcing, merchandise sales, etc. Show your student you support him or her! Contact your individual team liaison, the liaison coordinator Michelle Engler ([englermd at gmail.com](mailto:englermd@gmail.com)) or CAB president Steve Mazur ([sfmazur7 at gmail.com](mailto:sfmazur7@gmail.com)). All team liaison names and contact info can be found at www.colonialathletics.org.

Come to the games! Cheer! Eat! Buy and proudly wear your TJ spirit merchandise to show your support! It's great fun!

Jefferson Letter Jackets

Purchase your Letter Jacket at any time this year, beginning October 1st!

Have it custom fit, embroidered and personalized by the professionals at Burke Sporting Goods.

See the flyer at the end of this newsletter for details.

And now for the team news...

Varsity Cheer: The Varsity squad welcomes back **Head Coach Melissa Rapp, Assistant Coach Sharon Kim** (TJ alumni 2006) and welcomes a new **Assistant Coach, Kelli Bane**. Try-outs were held in August and congratulations to **Priya Krishnan** and **Jane Pak** for being selected as the **Team Captains**. The varsity cheerleaders are: Seniors: **Akhila Ananthram, Emilie Fortman, Priya Krishnan, Jane Pak, Jenny Park, Sarah Sam**; Juniors: **Katie Ho, Anna Li**; Sophomores: **Emma Gee, Yana Kaplun, Ashley Kim** and Freshmen: **Ariana Herbst** and **Alyssa Herbst**. The try-outs have been extended into September. Please contact Coach Rapp at [tjcheercoach at gmail.com](mailto:tjcheercoach@gmail.com) for details.

The team appreciates Coach Rapp's leadership and looks forward to competing at the District Semi-finals on October 19 at Fairfax High School and at the District Finals on October 26 at South Lakes. Come on out and show your school spirit by supporting TJ cheer. The team will soon start selling home-made baked goods and Papa Johns' pizza cards to raise money for the team. We appreciate your support.



TJ Varsity Cheer Team

JV Cheer: The JV Cheer squad welcomes back **Coach Carolyn Wilson** for another great year at TJ. Try-outs were held in August and congratulations to Junior **Michelle Wang**, sophomore **Ivy Ren** and Freshmen **Caroline Culberson** and **Christine Zhao** for being selected to the JV team! Additional try-outs are being held, please contact Coach Rapp for details. The squad will cheer for the JV football team and train during the week

Cross Country: TJ's Girls and Boys Cross-Country teams have been training hard, and will have their first competitive test at the PR Running XC Invitational on

September 1. The Girls Varsity returns several runners from last year's Liberty District Championship team (4th in the State Meet), and the Boys team also returns some strong runners. TJ was very strong last year in the JV divisions, and plans to be strong this year as well. A bumper crop of freshmen for both teams means the teams have strong potential for the future. Look for news of successes in the coming months!

XC Team members and parents, please send an email to [TJRunLiaisons at gmail.com](mailto:TJRunLiaisons@gmail.com) if you are not yet receiving newsletters and announcements. Check the Athletics website (www.colonialathletics.org) and use the Cross Country team link to see the current schedule.

Varsity Field Hockey: The Varsity Field Hockey team is being coached this year by **Amanda Kelly**, who played for Virginia Commonwealth University. With seven returning players, including Captains **Allie Ivener** (one of last year's 1st first team All-District and 2nd team All-Region players), **Katy Burgio** and **Rheem Brooks**, and thirteen players new to Varsity, the team has been practicing hard since the second week of August. Unfortunately severe storms caused the first scrimmage to be cancelled, but the team is looking forward to a scrimmage against West Potomac on August 23 followed by four games at the *Under the Lights* Tournament held at Robert E. Lee High School not yet played at the time of this writing). Next month we will report on their first regular season game, played on August 31.



Varsity Field Hockey Assistant Coach **Stef Vestal**, seniors **Helen Hastings, Katy Burgio, Rheem Brooks, Allie Ivener, Caroline Woods**, and Coach **Amanda Kelly**.

JV Field Hockey: Under the guidance of our new **JV Coach, Stef Vestal**, who played field hockey and ran track at Bentley College, the JV Field Hockey team is off to a great start. With Captains **Clara Pitts, Quinnlan Sweeney**, and **Priya Seetharaman** leading a team of many new players, they decisively won their first scrimmage against Lee High School. Their second scrimmage was against West Potomac on August 23, followed by their first regular season game on August 31.



The JV Field Hockey Team huddles before their scrimmage against Lee High School.

Varsity Football: In its season-opening scrimmage, TJ performed impressively against the Thomas Edison Eagles, rated the best of eight teams in its National Division, according to the widely-watched Hutchinson rankings. While score isn't kept in a scrimmage, it was clear to all who watched the game that the Colonials matched the Eagles on both sides of the ball.

Quarterback **Kevin Karn** was predictably solid in both passing and running, benefitting greatly from a solid line that provided 4-second protection throughout the game. Back-up quarterback **Nick Mattes** proved his worth, including lofting an end-of-game 50-yard bomb caught by wide receiver **Robby Vasta** that put TJ on Edison's 3-yard line and set up the team's single touchdown of the day carried by **Patrick Maribojoc**.

Sophomore running back **Nathan Kim** showed he could meet the high expectations placed on him with an early-game 20 dash to the left and follow-up scampers all game long. TJ depth in rushing was shown with tough over-the-line runs by **Rashad Laher** and Maribojoc, who showed equal

aggressiveness on defense, breaking through the Edison line on several occasions for behind-the-line tackles.

The Colonials defensive effort was relentless the whole two hours of the game. **Jack Brown's** sack at mid-game was a particular thrill, but the whole team impressed with solid tackling, both head-on and pursuit, including efforts by **Dimitre Nitchev, Alex Zaita** and defense leader **Ian Ladner**, who delighted TJ fans with a new 'reach-and-grab' technique for bringing down Edison runners. One Edison player, pancaked by a TJ lineman, was heard to mutter to a teammate, "These guys are for real."

Of course, there were some bumps along the road, on both offense and defense, as would be expected for a season-opener, but Coach Kincaid summed it up well, "This was a good start."

SPOTLIGHT ON THE QB – by **Kevin Karn** ('12)

We are all excited about this season because it presents our team with a new set of challenges and great opportunity to achieve a level of success that this football program has not enjoyed in a long time.

Our Head Coach, **Coach Kincaid**, stressed the significance of this off-season, constantly reminding us that we had an opportunity to break the 47-year tradition and win a playoff game for the first time in our school's history. That highly motivated us to put in the extra time and effort to better ourselves, as was shown by our work both in the weight room and on the field during our player-conducted voluntary practices.

This year feels special because we have a group of experienced players (with many 3-year and 2-year varsity starters) who are committed to one another and who genuinely love the game of football. We have learned over the last couple of years that it requires a next-level focus and determination to ensure that we put our best team on the field, and that if we do our job and trust other people to do theirs, we will get to where we want to be.

We can talk about changing the public perception, but we can't worry about anything outside of our business. We all take pride in what we do every day out on the football field, but ultimately we want to take the pride and turn it into a winning tradition that the entire school can experience.

Golf: The Boys Golf team is off to its best start in years. At the ServPro Invitational Tournament on August 10 and 11, the Thomas Jefferson golfers tied for 11th place out of 24 teams. Juniors **Alex Sands** and **Sean McElrath** and Freshman **Stefan Young** played both days of the tournament and all three lowered their scores on day 2, all shooting under 80,

to help the team move forward in the standings. **Alex Dalzell** and **Eddie Rim** contributed to the team effort on Day 1 and **Taylor Culman** and **Chris Prak** were part of the winning effort on Thursday. Great job boys!

On August 22, the boys team played their first District match of the season, beating host Marshall High School by an impressive 16 strokes! It was an exciting match on a beautiful day for golf. Freshman **Julie Luo** had an Eagle on the 8th hole! Sean McElrath made a beautiful birdie putt on the 9th, Alex Sands was three strokes away from shooting even for the day, and team captain **Mike Serron** had an impressive round helping the team to its first victory. Great efforts and respectable scoring from teammates Alex Dalzell, Stefan Young, Eddie Rim, and Chris Prak show just what a great group of talented golfers are representing Thomas Jefferson this year.

Coach Myers said “The team played great today... supporting and rooting for each other. They have a real cohesiveness this year and are really fired up for the season.”

The team is coached by **John Myers**; he is assisted by **Heidi Smith**, who has been lending great technical stroke support and encouragement to the team.

Volleyball: The Volleyball program kicked off the season with two scrimmages against Falls Church (Aug. 23) and T.C. Williams (Aug. 25). Tryouts were held the week of August 8. Rosters were filled by the new volleyball coaching staff of **Varsity Coach Helen Smith**, **Assistant Varsity Coach Annie Baratto**, **JV Coach Casey Smith** and **Freshman Team Coach Scott Campbell**. All have a lot of energy and enthusiasm. Welcome, Coaches!!

This year’s Varsity squad has five returning players: seniors **Angela Liu**, **Nicole Gonzalez** and **Anna Hicks**, junior **Maggie Engler**, and sophomore **Care Shoaibi**. Last year’s JV squad players, seniors **Helen Li**, **Stefanie Van Rafelghem**, **Allison Wang** and **Nancy Wang**, and juniors **Schyler Pa** and **Christina Shincovich** join the Varsity squad. Last year’s Freshman team member, sophomore **Jessica Sun** also joins the Varsity squad as well as freshman **Maria Velicu**. Team managers are **Melody Wong** and **Austin Donohue**.



Varsity team- back row from left: Stefanie Van Rafelghem, Maria Velicu, Christina Shincovich, Helen Li, Maggie Engler, Allison Wang and Care Shoaibi; front row from left: Anna Hicks, Nicole Gonzalez, Angela Liu, Nancy Wang, Jessica Sun, Schyler Pa, and Manager Melody Wong.

This year’s JV squad includes five returning players: juniors **Kirsten Cardinal**, **Emmelyn Luu**, **Michelle Wang** and **Yihemba Yikona**, and sophomore **Mya Abousy**. From last year’s freshman team, sophomores **Gloria Cho**, **Rachel Iwicki**, **Maddy Martin** and **Jenny Seo** join the JV squad. Freshmen on the JV team are **Amanda Nguyen**, **Dorothy Wang** and **Melanie Piller**. The team manager is **Olivia Sullivan**.

Freshman team members are **Tara Abrishami**, **Sreya Addanki**, **Sophia Bennett**, **Katharine Cox**, **Julia Dunbar**, **Jennifer Fang**, **Alexis Gillmore**, **Aliana Gungor**, **Heather Lukas**, **Callan Monette**, **Sara Mueller** and **Yuqian Yang**. The team manager is **Hannah Gaudet**.

This season’s schedule includes 8 home games. Two special home game themes are Dig Pink on October 3, and Senior Night on October 18. The girls and their coaches are looking forward to a fun and exciting season!

Crew Boosters



Would you like to be part of the largest high school team at TJ for boys and girls, be a member of a nationally competitive rowing program, and get into top physical shape? If so, please consider joining the TJ Crew team. Prior rowing experience is not necessary. In fact, most students who join TJ Crew have never rowed before!

Rowing is a spring sport. Beginning on November 21, TJ Crew will kick-off its annual **winter**

conditioning program in the TJ Cafeteria to help prepare TJ rowers for spring rowing season. In late February, the 120 member co-ed team will begin rowing daily on the beautiful Occoquan River at Sandy Run Regional Park under the guidance of top rowing coaches.

Students interested in rowing should contact the Crew Captains at [TJMensCaptains at gmail.com](mailto:TJMensCaptains@gmail.com) or [TJWomensCaptains at gmail.com](mailto:TJWomensCaptains@gmail.com). Freshmen and upper class novices and their parents are encouraged to attend the **Crew Family Interest Night** on Wednesday, October 19, in the TJ Cafeteria from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and are invited to visit the **TJ Boathouse Open House** on Saturday, October 29, for a chance to try rowing with us! Details for both events will be posted on the [TJ Crew website](#) and included in the October issue of Tech cetera. Questions may also be emailed to **Head Coach Bill Randall** at [cjsb at verizon.net](mailto:cjsb@verizon.net) and to TJ Crew President Dave Nuckols at [TJCrewPresident at gmail.com](mailto:TJCrewPresident@gmail.com).

The Crew Booster Board holds monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. The first Board meeting of the school year will be held on September 14 in Room 106 at 7:00 p.m.

Crew Alumni News

TJ Crew warmly congratulates three TJ Crew alumni for representing the United States at the U23 World Championships this year:

Robert “Ty” Otto (‘07): Men’s Eight - Gold Medal
Phil Grisdella (‘08): Men’s Lightweight Pair
Kelly Pierce (‘08): Women’s Eight - Bronze Medal

TJ Crew also sends best wishes to two other alumni rowers who will be competing in the Senior World Championships later this year:

Nicole Dinion (‘05): Women’s Lightweight Quadruple Sculls
Christian Klein (‘07): Men’s Lightweight Eight

Choral Boosters

Welcome to another exciting year of TJ Choir. Our director, **Molly Khatcheressian**, will lead the Choir in four big events during the 2011-2012 school year. The Choir will put on Mozart Vespers in October,

Pirates of Penzance in early December, the Secret Garden in March, and Bach Cantatas later in the year. To see a more detailed schedule, log on to www.calendarwiz.com/TJChoir. Also, stay “tuned” for more information regarding student-led co-curricular choirs.

Orchestra Boosters

Welcome to the Class of 2015 and parents! Returning TJ strings students and parents know that participating in the TJ Orchestra program is a rewarding experience. The secret to its success is the dedication of **Ms. Bailey** and the students. The Orchestra Boosters is a parent organization that offers volunteer and financial support to ensure continued success of the program. We organize the post concert receptions, fund instrument purchases for the department, offer for sale CDs of the concerts, offer dinner for musicians who stay after school on concert days, and provide food service and chaperones for the Viennese Ball and Spring Trip.

Join us – and support the TJ Orchestras! To sign up, see the orchestra website for additional information: <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/orchestra/booster.php>. Funds to support the orchestra program for the 2011-12 school year are from your contributions. We will publicize volunteer opportunities by email to Orchestra families. Come to the first booster meeting on Tuesday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal’s Conference Room (first floor near the Aud Lab). The first concert is in the auditorium on Wednesday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. See you there!

Questions? Email Barbara Steele at [jbstele5 at verizon.net](mailto:jbstele5@verizon.net).

Theatre Boosters

If you think TJHSST also stands for “**TJ Has Seriously Superb Theatre**,” we want you to join us as **TJ Theatre Boosters!** TJ Theatre Boosters supports the work of all TJ Drama and Shakespeare Troupe productions, and we sponsor an annual Awards Banquet in June. Please join us at our first meeting in the Library on **September 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

Extracurricular dramatic arts take many forms at TJ including: Shakespeare Troupe and the award-winning Improv Team (both student-run), “Froshfest”

for students new to theatre at TJ, The Virginia Theatre Association and VHSL competitions, “Annual Knight of One Axe” One-Act Festival, and a major TJ Drama production each semester. Specific information for the 2011-12 year can be found in your Summer Packet.

This year’s Student Drama Board of Advisors are:

Rebecca Edelstein, Heather Storeide, Neal Chaudhuri, Emily Kelly and Malaika Sierra-Murphy. Shakespeare Council members are: **Christine Jacobs, Rishi Malhotra, Kate Sanders, Michaela Brown and Adam Friedman.**

Get TJ drama information on Facebook at *TJ Drama Now*.

For questions regarding auditions/shows – check the Drama Bulletin Board in the Aud Lob or contact **Mr. Pollet** at [yppollet at fcps.edu](mailto:yppollet@fcps.edu).

For questions regarding TJ Theatre Boosters – contact Sharon Edelstein at [TJ.TheatreBoosters at gmail.com](mailto:TJ.TheatreBoosters@gmail.com).

Announcements and Information

A New Way to Order Yearbooks for the 2011-2012 school year

The way that you will purchase your student's publications package has been revolutionized! Instead of sending checks to school, you will be contacted directly by Herff Jones, our yearbook publishing company, via the USPS. You can fill out the form and mail it directly to Herff Jones, or you can go online and order your publications package using a debit or credit card. Information should be coming to your mailboxes soon!

You can order your publications package with a name plate until December 2. After December 2, the name plate option will no longer be available, but you will still order your publications package by sending a check to Herff Jones or going online.

If you have any questions regarding the purchase of your student's publications package, please contact **Erinn Harris** at [eharris1 at fcps.edu](mailto:eharris1@fcps.edu).

Useful Links

TJHSST Home Page: www.tjhsst.edu/

TJ PTSA website:

www.tjhsst.edu/supportingtj/ptsa

TJ PTSA President: Denise Bunting

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

Vice President: Celeste Fritzson

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

Vice President: Amy Shaw

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

Treasurer: Frances Kim

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

Recording Secretary: Sara Schneider

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

Corresponding Secretary: Jean Lee

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

Tech cetera Editor: Gail Brodfuehrer

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

TJ Booster Organizations:

Academic Boosters:

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

Athletic Boosters: www.colonialathletics.org

Band Boosters: www.tjbands.org

Choral Boosters: www.tjhsst.edu/curriculum/fa/choir

Crew Boosters: <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew/>

Orchestra Boosters: <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/orchestra/>

Theatre Boosters: <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/>

TJ Partnership Fund: www.tjpartnershipfund.org

TJ Alumni Association: www.tjhsstalumni.org

Other:

FCPS Blackboard: <http://fcps.blackboard.com>

FCPS Keep in Touch (KIT): www.fcps.edu/kit

FCPS School Board: www.fcps.edu/schlbld

Fairfax County Supervisors:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/

Noteworthy Dates

September 2011		October 2011	
1	New Student Orientation, 8:30am-3:30pm	1	Open House-TJ Admissions, 8am
1	Big Sibs Activity, 12:30pm-4pm	5	Band Spaghetti Dinner, 5pm in Cafeteria
1	Back to School Bash, 4:30pm at Stadium	5	Back-to-School Night & PTSA Meeting, 6:30pm in Auditorium
5	Labor Day – School Holiday	10	Columbus Day – School Holiday
6	First Day of School	12	PSAT – Early Release
8	ANGP Committee Meeting, 6:30pm in Career Center	12	Parents for Safe Teen Driving, 6:30pm in Lecture Hall
8	PTSA Meeting, 7:30pm in Library	12	Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library
10	Test Prep Information Session, 12pm in Cafeteria	12	Crew Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Room 106
14	Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library	12	Diversity Committee Meeting, 7pm in Career Center
14	Crew Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Room 106	13	Spanish Honor Society Dinner, 5:30pm in Cafeteria
14	Diversity Committee Meeting, 7pm in Career Center	17	Theatre Boosters Meeting, 6:30pm in Library
15	Senior Parent Overview for College Night, 5pm in Auditorium	18	Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Principal’s Conference Room
19	Theatre Boosters Meeting, 7pm in Library	19	Crew Family Interest Night, 7pm in Cafeteria
20	Orchestra Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Principal’s Conference Room	25	Band Concert, 7pm in Auditorium
21	Navigating TJ, 7:30pm in Auditorium	25	Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center
23	Homecoming Football Game, 7:30pm	26	Orchestra Concert, 7pm in Auditorium
24	Homecoming Dance, 8pm in Gyms 1 & 2	28	Senior/Freshman Halloween Soc Hop, 9pm
27	Academic Boosters Meeting, 7:30pm in Career Center	29	TJ Boathouse Open House, Sandy Run Regional Park



**Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)**

Become a 2011-2012 Member of the TJ PTSA!

Please join the TJ PTSA and help support our many worthwhile activities, which play a vital role in creating a rich and stimulating learning environment at TJ. PTSA membership dues and donations are our major source of funding, and help cover the cost of many programs and other needs, including:

Mentorship Fair
Faculty Professional Development
Techstravaganza
Cultural Arts
Freshman Shakespeare Festival
Diversity Committee

Student Activities
Award Receptions for Students
Cluster and County Outreach Programs
Landscaping
Faculty and Staff Appreciation Events
Equipment for the School

To become a PTSA member, complete this form and return it with a check to the TJ front office

OR mail the completed form and a check to:
TJHSST PTSA, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22312

OR, join online at <http://www.tjhsst.edu/supportingtj/ptsa/payments.htm>

Please consider making an additional donation, so we can better support students, faculty, and staff!

Student Name(s): _____ Class(es) of 20_____

Home Phone Number: _____ Student Email Address: _____

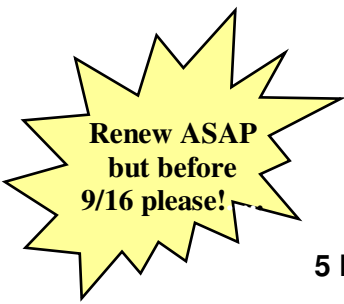
PTSA Membership Dues:

Couple Membership:	\$30 per couple
Individual Memberships (other than faculty):	\$15 per person
Faculty Memberships:	\$10 per person

Please list member name(s) here: _____

	Quantity	Total
Number of Memberships @ \$15/each	_____	\$_____
Number of Faculty Memberships @ \$10/each	_____	\$_____
Additional Contribution (tax deductible)		\$_____
TOTAL		\$_____

Any Questions? Email ptsa.membership@tjhsst.edu



Free Money Programs

Earned over \$23,000 in 2010-2011!

RENEW SHOPPING CARDS TODAY!

5 MINUTES TODAY GIVES TJ \$\$\$ EVERY TIME YOU SHOP!

Earn **free money** every time you shop at the stores below! Please **renew** your commitment and **link** your cards to the store programs below. TJ receives \$ every time your card is used. Even if you registered last year, you must **re-register** this year for Giant, Safeway and Harris Teeter. You may choose up to three schools for Giant and Safeway and up to 5 schools for Harris Teeter.

Notes: If your family has more than one card, register each card.

Pass this on to family, alumni, friends and neighbors to increase TJ's earnings.

Option 1: DO IT YOURSELF (Please!)

If you need assistance, please email Stamo Georgiou at stamog1@gmail.com

Giant A+ BonusBucks Registration starts about 8/25. Earn October through March.

School ID: **02307**

Website: <http://www.giantfood.com> Click Our Stores / A +/ Register Your Card

Don't have your card number anymore? Call the BonusCard hotline 1-877-366-2668 to link your card.

Harris Teeter Together in Education Register NOW! Earn 8/1 – 5/31

School ID: **5534**

Website: <http://www.harristeeter.com> Select Community / Together in Education **OR** tell the cashier our school code at check out **OR** call 1-800-432-6111. **Note:** Only Harris Teeter brand products earn \$.

Safeway Club for Education Current members renew now! New members must register with escrip.

School ID: **154534149**

Website: <http://www.escrip.com> Current participants click "Renew!" After you renew, verify that TJ is your designated school. Some families are still giving to a prior school! Or, call (800) 400-7878.

Target Redcard/Check Card Target shoppers - use the Target credit card or debit card and **earn all year!**

School ID **119746**

Website: <http://www.target.com> Scroll to bottom. Select Take Charge of Education under Company Information and designate TJ.

Option 2: COMPLETE and RETURN THIS FORM

Return form to the school office ASAP or to the PTSA Table at Back To School Night

PRINT ALL of the following and we will link your card for you. Be sure to list all cards for each store.		
Last Name		First Name
Street:		
City:		Zip:
E-mail:		
Phone Numbers Used to Link Cards:		
Giant Bonus Card	# _____	# _____
Harris Teeter Card	# _____ <small>First 11 numbers</small>	# _____ <small>First 11 numbers</small>
Safeway Club Card	# _____	# _____
Target	Use Option 1. The PTSA can't register for you.	N/A

Free Money Programs

Over \$23,000 earned in 2010-2011!

1. Earn 4-15% of most purchases as a School Reward for TJ's PTSA if you SHOP at AMAZON.COM

Go to the PTSA Homepage at <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa>. Click "Support the PTSA" and then the [Amazon.com](http://amazon.com) icon to enter the site and do your shopping. To ensure credit to TJ:

- always add items to your cart AFTER you enter using our special link, and
- complete your transaction in the same session.



EASIER: Bookmark <http://www.amazon.com/?tag=tjhsst-20> as a favorite on your web browser.

2. Peapod at Giant

Register your Giant card at <http://www.peapod.com> under My Account – Personal Settings – Giant Bonus Card

3. Redeem your Safeway 10% Back to Schools Bonus receipts

Buy items with the big yellow bus sign. 10 % bonus earnings accrue **8/10-9/13**. Safeway receipts with redemption codes will print between **9/19 – 10/13**. Redeem by **10/13**. Follow the directions on one receipt to contribute your entire bonus online. Or, send in the redemption portion of one receipt to the Free Money Coordinator at the school office. Link your Safeway Club Card on <http://www.escrip.com> to TJ before 9/8, and the 10% will automatically be credited. Ask your friends for their receipts!

4. Office Depot 5% Back to Schools

When checking out, ask the cashier for "5% back to school" for TJHSST. Speed things up and mention TJ code **70103076**. Print a wallet card at: <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/support.htm#officedepot>. No need to register for this program.

5. Recycle old printer cartridges and cell phones

Deposit cartridges and cell phones in the special drop box in main office. Wrap cartridges in a plastic bag as they may leak. Cell phones do not have to work.

6. Shop at eScrip.com

- **Sign Up** if you are not currently a <http://www.escrip.com> supporter. TJ's code is **154534149**.
- **Shop online** at [escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) — Sign in, then shop in this online mall at your favorite name brand stores including LL Bean, Eddie Bauer, eBay, etc. TJ earns \$ for each purchase. The % varies by store. Shopping Amazon? Use our direct link to maximize our earnings (see # 1 above).
- **Optional: Add Cards** — Register your debit & credit cards. When you use registered cards and shop at the participating merchants at real stores (vs. online), a portion of your purchases are automatically donated to TJ! Escrip manages the sign-up for **Safeway's Club for Education** program too!
- For more information about the program and privacy, visit [escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com).

7. Order new Verizon FIOS services

Earn \$10, \$20, \$65. Details at <http://tjhsst.edu/ptsa/documents/miscellaneous/verizon.pdf>. Call 1-888-695-5299, mention TJ's tracking code, **12679**.

8. Don't keep these FREE MONEY ideas a secret! Share these ideas with family, friends, alumni and neighbors. Even out-of-towners can participate in many of these!

Advertise in the TJ Directory

Support TJHSST's PTSA
Advertise your business
in the 2011-2012
TJHSST Student Directory

Half page ad (3.75"h x 4.5"w):	\$100
Full page ad (7.5"h x 4.5"w):	\$200
Full page ad across from inside back cover:	\$300 (sold)
Full page ad inside back or front cover B&W/Color	\$350/\$400 (sold)

E-mail Black & White or Color ad as .pdf file to
ptsa.directory@tjhsst.edu

Send check (payable to TJHSST-PTSA) to:
TJHSST-PTSA
6560 Braddock Road
Alexandria, VA 22312

Or visit
<http://leadership.tjhsst.edu/ptsa/payments.htm>
to use the Secure Online Payment

Ad & payment must be received by:
September 9, 2011

Copies of the directory will NOT be provided to
advertisers who are not part of the TJ community.

JEFFERSON LETTER JACKET SALES

School jackets will be on display and for sale at **anytime** this year, starting October 1, 2011. The PTSA has arranged for samples of the young men's wool jacket with leather sleeves, as well as the young ladies' wool, hooded jacket in our school colors to be available at Burke Sporting Goods in Burke, VA. There will be many sample sizes for you to try on to get your own custom fit. Have your favorite sport, academic activity or musical affiliation embroidered on the front. Burke Sporting Goods will even sew your Letter on the jacket for you!

What: Jefferson Letter Jackets are navy blue wool with red and white trim and 'JEFFERSON' in red sewn on the back. Each jacket is personalized on the front with 'Science and Tech', your name and graduation year. You can add your favorite sport, academic activity or musical affiliation as well.

How: After October 1, 2011, stop in at Burke Sporting Goods during their normal business hours to get a personalized fitting. Let them know what you would like to have embroidered on the front of your jacket and what style you would like to purchase. Bring your 'J'efferson letter with you, and have them sew it on your jacket for you. Within 4-6 weeks, you can pick up your own JEFFERSON Letter Jacket at the store and start wearing it! It also makes a great holiday or graduation gift.

Where: **Burke Sporting Goods**
5616 Ox Road, Suite C
Fairfax Station, VA 22039
(703) 239-9000

When: Mon-Fri: 9-6 pm
Sat: 9-2 pm

The PTSA will have the samples available on the school premises on Back-to-School Night, at Concerts and at the Fall, Winter and Spring Sports Banquets held at TJHSST.