JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING NOTES
September 22, 2020 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
(Interim) President: Amie Wohlfarth
President: MUST BE FILLED
Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Kirsten Murray (nominee)
Treasurer: MUST BE FILLED

NAACP Rep: Kelley Eiskant
PR & Communications: OPEN
Membership Chair: OPEN
Staff Appreciation: OPEN
Post Prom Chair: OPEN
Fundraising Chair: OPEN
Bulletin Board: OPEN
MCCPTA Rep: OPEN
Cultural Ambassadors: OPEN

AGENDA
6:00 - 6:10 pm Welcome Amie Wohlfarth
6:10 - 6:40 pm Principal’s Report Dr. Joe Rubens
6:40 - 7:00 pm Call for Nominees Amie Wohlfarth
7:00 - 7:25 pm Question/Answer Session Amie Wohlfarth
7:25 - 7:30 pm Closing Amie Wohlfarth

Meeting started @ 6:05 pm

Meeting Attendees: see sign-in sheet at the end of this document

Greetings and welcome by Amie Wohlfarth, interim PTSA President

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Complete:
9/10: Virtual Back to School Night via Zoom
Lesson Learned: if need to do it again virtually, maybe Zoom is too complicated (need to use student’s account to log-in.) Google Meet may be a better platform.
Email your child’s teacher or counselor directly with any questions or concerns.

In Progress:
Round 2 of material distribution (instruments, books, Chrome books, etc.)
Scheduled:
**Grade Level Virtual Town Hall** invitations were sent to students’ Synergy accounts
9/17: Grade 10
9/23: Grade 9 at 2:45 pm
9/24: Grade 11 at 2:45 pm
9/24: Grade 12 at 3:30 pm

**9/23 at 6:00 pm: College Financial Aid Night** sponsored by JFK Counselors & Ms. Janae Robinson-Casey for grade 10-12 families. Guest presenters from Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) and Montgomery College.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/97385529385?pwd=aGMrcmNVY043SEZmLzFpZFNOQWkdnZz09
Meeting ID: 973 8552 9385
Passcode: 656473

Please see “Family Connections” for a complete list of our **fall virtual scheduled college visits**. Please contact Ms. Janae Robinson-Casey with questions: Janae_E_Robinson-Casey@mcpsmd.org

9/28: No School

**9/29: Non-Athletic Extracurricular Activities** start. A list of activities was shared with students: https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/student-engagement/#byschool
If you have additional questions, please email the activity Sponsor or Dr. Vaugh Bradley: Vaughn_M_Bradley@mcpsmd.org

10/2: Early Release Day for teachers to work on interim grades

10/20 – 10/23: Senior Pictures at JFK. More information will be shared this week.

**Announcements:**
JFK was named to 2020 U.S. News and World Report **Best High Schools list**. CONGRATS!

As communicated to district superintendents on 9/18, the fall block testing for MCAP Algebra 1 and ELA 10 assessments in high school are cancelled (originally scheduled for Dec 7- Jan 29). The spring assessment window is still scheduled to occur. The MCAP Government and HS MISA assessments will still occur: Jan 4 – Jan 29, 2021.

**Construction/Equipment:**
- Building expansion project (actual construction begins spring/summer 2021)
- Including turf field for stadium
- Parking lot flow will change; tennis courts will be raised and parking will be underneath (similar to BCC)
• Question: what will happen to parking and tennis courts during construction?  
  Answer: probably only sections of parking lot will be blocked off; hoping construction will take place in tennis off-season.
• Campus is only 33 acres
• Question: is construction moving faster since the buildings are relatively vacant during COVID?  
  Answer: unfortunately, construction will not move at a faster pace.
• New sound panels were installed in auditorium (summer 2020)

Needs:
• Donations for door prizes for dances/prom and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program
• Donations of hand sanitizer
• Donations of new college/university T-shirts as rewards for “Honor Roll / On A Roll” students
• PTSA needs officers and committee members to assist with supporting the JFK community (including Staff Appreciation, Membership, Post-Prom)

CALL FOR NOMINEES
Slate of Nominees – Elected Positions:
President: Kristen Walker Painemilla (nominee)
Vice President: Joe Jenkins (nominee)
Secretary: Kirsten Murray (nominee)
Treasurer: Michelle Bonner (nominee)

Volunteer Positions - No election required:
NAACP Rep: Kelley Eiskant
PR & Communications: Kirian Villalta (Kirsten Murray will assist)
Membership Co-Chair: Gayle Rankine & Tanya Dyer Jenkins
Staff Appreciation: Nancy Goldberg, Zolfà Valiani-Merchant, Michelle Bonner
Special Education Liaison: OPEN (Amie Wohlfarth will look into this)
Post Prom Chair: OPEN
Fundraising Chair: OPEN
Bulletin Board: OPEN (not needed until February 2021)
MCCPTA Rep: Bryan Benesch & Meg Morrow
Cultural Ambassadors: OPEN

QUESTION/ANSWER SESSION
Amie mentioned JFK PTSA meetings are typically the third Tuesday of the month. MCCPTA meetings are typically the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Membership & Recruitment:
• When asked, Amie mentioned PTSA membership was over 100 last year. Staff membership is cheaper. Dr. Rubens noted there are just under 1900 students at JFK.
• Recruitment suggestion: invite parent leaders of other JFK clubs to be a “rep” at PTSA meetings & present & promote their clubs. (PTSA should be the umbrella organization, joining all parent groups / boosters.)
• Amie will look into when the Special Ed meetings take place & see if someone there would like to be our Special Education Liaison
• Recruitment suggestion: PTSA president should speak at Back to School Night
• Recruitment suggestion: have a drawing to get a gift card
• Dr. Rubens will check to see if students could get SSL hours if they volunteer for PTSA
• Amie offered to maintain PTSA Twitter account
• Distribute PTSA forms at Distribution Days (9/23 & 9/24)

Community Partnerships & Fundraising:
• Dr. Rubens & Amie mentioned the Glenmont Fire Station 18 is a good partner (in the past: yard sale, car wash)
• Breakfast with Santa used to be a good fundraiser (firehouse is available to host it, but we probably can’t do it because of COVID)
• Students get SSL hours for helping unload holiday trees for Rescue Squad’s annual fundraiser
• Fundraising suggestion: selling personalized socks
• PTSA has only $1000 in the bank

Past PTSA events that may work during COVID:
• During Staff Appreciation Week last year, PTSA sponsored a trivia quiz w/ gift cards as prizes

27 PARTICIPANTS:
Amie Wohlfarth (parent of graduated student)
Anestine LaFond (parent of graduated student)
Barbara Marchwicki (JFK staff, Health Professions Academy)
Bryan Benesch & Nancy Goldberg (11th grade parents)
Celia Zuniga
Clarice Sanou
Dana Stevenson
Gayle Rankine (12th grade parent)
Jesse Gittens (9th grade parent)
Dr. Joe Rubens Jr (JFK Principal)
Joni Jacobs (parent of graduated student)
Karlin Hirschfeld (JFK 10th Grade Administrator)
Keir Lewis (JFK Asst Principal)
Kirian Villalta
Kirsten Murray (9th grade parent)
Kristen Walker Painemilla (9th grade parent)
Lileth Apolonio Diego
Manuella Chloe Djeutcha
Margot Khoo (9th grade parent)
Meg Morrow (9th grade parent)
Michelle Bonner (10th grade parent)
Patricia Vejarano
Tanya Dyer Jenkins
Zainab Hassan (11th grade parent)
Zolfa Valiani-Merchant (9th grade parent)

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm