

# **JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL**

**HOME OF THE CAVALIERS**

## **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.)

May not do another around unless needed (and suggested only 2-3 days and extend later in the day)

**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=aGMrcmNVY043SEZmLzFpZFNQWkdZz09>

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](mailto: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. Vaughn Bradley:

[Vaughn\\_M\\_Bradley@mcpsmd.org](mailto: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, Zolfa 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 (11<sup>th</sup> grade parents)  
 Celia Zuniga  
 Clarice Sanou  
 Dana Stevenson  
 Gayle Rankine (12<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
 Jesse Gittens (9<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
 Dr. Joe Rubens Jr (JFK Principal)  
 Joni Jacobs (parent of graduated student)  
 Karlin Hirschfeld (JFK 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Administrator)  
 Keir Lewis (JFK Asst Principal)  
 Kirian Villalta  
 Kirsten Murray (9<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
 Kristen Walker Painemilla (9<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
 Lileth Apolonio Diego  
 Manuella Chloe Djeutcha  
 Margot Khoo (9<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
 Meg Morrow (9<sup>th</sup> grade parent)

Michelle Bonner (10<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
Patricia Vejarano  
Tanya Dyer Jenkins  
Zainab Hassan (11<sup>th</sup> grade parent)  
Zolfa Valiani-Merchant (9<sup>th</sup> grade parent)

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm