JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2021 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

AGENDA

6:00 - 6:05 pm  Welcome  Kristen Walker Painemilla

6:05 - 6:20 pm  PTSA Report  

- Approval of February Minutes  Kirsten Murray
- Membership Report  Kirsten Murray
- Treasurer’s Report  Michelle Bonner
- Fundraising  Michelle Bonner

6:20 - 6:35 pm  Principal’s Report  Dr. Joe Rubens

6:35 - 6:50 pm  Back to School Update  Dr. Joe Rubens

6:50-7:20 pm  Supporting Our Seniors Discussion  All

7:20-7:30 pm  Any Other Business  All

7:30 pm  Adjourn

Meeting started at 6:03pm.

REVIEW PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES by Kirsten Murray
Motion was made to approve February Meeting Minutes by Bryan Benesch, Kristen Walker Painemilla seconded.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Kirsten Murray
63 have paid PTSA membership (11 staff, 9 students, 41 parents/guardians), 79 have created MemberHub accounts, no changes from last month. Kristen reported she picked up 2 membership forms from the PTSA mailbox.

New website: https://kennedyhsptsa.new.memberhub.store
Pay your PTSA membership: https://kennedyhsptsa.new.memberhub.store/store
Join Kennedy HS PTSA MemberHub: https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com/join/3gcp4z

TREASURER’S REPORT by Michelle Bonner
$2,355.60 as of 1/29/2021. $2,394.93 as of 2/26/2021. Paid $226 for insurance; paid $39 past dues to MCCPTA. Michelle reminded participants to not put membership forms in our mailbox since we don’t have many opportunities to check the mailbox. Kristen mentioned we are still awaiting check from last month’s Mamma Lucia’s Dine Out Night fundraiser.

**Principal’s Report** by Dr. Joe Rubens

Thanks to PTSA for the welcome treats!

Any student needing materials for a course should complete the JFK materials request form: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GwDmjFIU96bYcrTksm3l0EFxxvZaP3XFAal9BcYkl/edit?ts=5fa4558b&gxids=7628](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GwDmjFIU96bYcrTksm3l0EFxxvZaP3XFAal9BcYkl/edit?ts=5fa4558b&gxids=7628)

“Family Connections” newsletter includes a list of **virtual college visits**. JFK wants every senior to graduate “with a plan” for college, scholarships (mentioned NAACP, Scholarships 360), etc.

4/13: **Grade 11 SAT School Day** will be in-person. If you want your Grade 11 student to participate, please register with our test coordinator, Ms. Gibbons at [Dawn_R_Gibbons@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Dawn_R_Gibbons@mcpsmd.org) or our assistant principal, Mr. Hirschfeld at [Karlin_S_Hirschfeld@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Karlin_S_Hirschfeld@mcpsmd.org). Approx. 100 students have registered so far. That day may be a “pause” for other in-person students (those not taking SAT).


3/20 @ 5:00 pm: **Virtual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony** for 5 alumni. Registration tickets are still available. Inductees will meet with select students the day before to explain how they got to where they are in life.

3/29 – 4/5: **Spring Break**

6/15@ 10:00 am: **Tentative Graduation Day**; if not DAR, then an outdoor graduation on campus. Will probably be the outdoor graduation on campus. MCPS will cover the cost of cap & gowns for the Class of 2021. There will probably be no Senior Prom, but maybe a Senior Unity Day. Final decisions will be made next month.

Congrats to **LTI Senior Hewan Kidanemariam**, future doctor, for being named Bethesda Magazine’s **“Extraordinary Top Teen”**, one of 13 award recipients from Montgomery County schools (public and private).


**2020 Graduation Rate Increases** for JFK rose to 85.1%, which is 2nd highest in DCC, behind Blair (88%).

**TutorMe** Free Service, plus JFK Homework Help is continuing.
Activate your ParentVUE account. Interims will be loaded 3/18.

MCPS looking for feedback on 2021-2022 school year options.

Chromebook Distribution changes to take place Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will not be distribution on Fridays.

Waiting for MCPS decision on future math course pathways, due to learning loss during COVID-19 pandemic. For example, Algebra 1, Geometry, then Algebra 2.

See Dr. Rubens’ Principal’s Report for more information about State Testing changes. A number of assessments are being cancelled.

Key Events for March/April 2021:
3/18: Interim grades posted.
3/23: BOE meeting.
3/25: In-Person Instruction Parent Orientation Meeting at 6:00 pm via Zoom.
Spring Break.
4/6 & 4/7: Virtual Learning for all students.
4/8: CHANGE to In-Person Instruction Day.
4/15: Last day of 3rd Marking Period.
5/28: Last Day for Seniors.

Construction project is well under way, began February, even ahead of schedule. Middlevale Lane entrance is completely unusable now.

Looking for hand sanitizer donations for teachers.

BACK TO SCHOOL UPDATE by Dr. Joe Rubens
Approximately 31 students reported to school 3/16. Still expecting 37-38% to return to in-person instruction. JFK administration is scheduling so that we don’t have to move students from their current teachers; perhaps the department will provide some instruction/lecture but stay with existing teachers. There will be some guest lecturing, but students will remain with their teacher of record. JFK is communicating with families that will be returning to in-person instruction. Information may be sent through StudentVUE because administration knows not all parents have activated ParentVUE accounts. Dr. Bradley is offering walk-throughs of the building for students & families. 3/25 Orientation Meeting for everyone, will include Q&A session.

SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS DISCUSSION
Gayle will follow-up with staff to see what is needed. Senior Unity Day will be on-campus.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Need to present slate of nominees at April meeting, need to vote at May meeting.

MCCPTA vote next week on updated SRO Resolution. County Executive Urlick’s upcoming budget did not include funding for SROs.
New hookup w/ athletics of cameras in stadium and gymnasium. Subscriptions available; some feel the price is a bit high (this price was not set by JFK, set by MCPS).

Bryan Benesch moved to end the meeting, Michelle Bonner seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm.

**15 ATTENDEES:**
Annmarie Hart-Bookbinder
Bryan Benesch
Darrell Beutel
Donniel Gamble
Gayle Rankine
Jennifer Granados
Dr. Joe Rubens
Kofi Frempong
Kirsten Murray
Kristen Walker Painemilla
Lynn Hoffman + 1
Meg Morrow
Michelle Bonner
Tanya Jenkins
Zolfa Valiani-Merchant