

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE CAVALIERS

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2022 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm

In person (in the Media Center)

AGENDA

7:00 - 7:05 pm	Welcome	Kristen Walker Painemilla
7:10 - 7:30 pm	Overview of Kennedy PTSA <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Opportunities for Engagement Voting <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Treasurer Nominee Mimi Ramos● Approval of May Meeting Minutes● Budget for FY2023	PTSA Officers
7:30 - 7:45 pm	School Updates	Dr. Joe Rubens
7:45 - 8:15 pm	Get to Know Kennedy High School <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Panel Discussion of Parents, Teacher, Counselor, and Students● Discuss experiences, opportunities, and the year ahead● Q&A from PTSA membership	Kirsten Murray , 11 th Grade NJROTC parent Ricky Ribeiro , 10 th Grade parent Erin Radebe , IB Program Donniel Gamble , Counselor Faithe Bulls, SGA Kendra Williams, SGA
8:15 - 8:30 pm	Any Other Business / Close	All

The meeting was brought to order by Kristen Walker Painemilla at 7:03 pm.

[OVERVIEW OF THE KENNEDY PTSA](#) by Kristen Walker Painemilla

Kristen welcomed everyone and went through an overview of the Kennedy PTSA in this [slideshow](#). She debunked a few PTSA myths and introduced the current PTSA officers. She stated the PTSA's main goal is to provide basic support for the school, students, and staff. When discussing opportunities for engagement, she mentioned "*do the one thing you love to do*" to support the PTSA and the school, whether its cooking & baking, attending school events, event planning, being "crafty", reaching out to community businesses, engaging other parts of the

community and advocating for those who are under-represented, and other ways of donating your time, talent, and money. Join! Donate! Engage!

Kristen pointed out the PTSA needs Kennedy parents & guardians to step up for the following roles (see page 8 of the slideshow for descriptions):

- Two Delegates to MCCPTA
- After-Prom Chair
- Athletic Liaison
- Staff Appreciation Chair
- Fundraising Chair
- Clubs Liaison
- Translation & Interpretation

Mr. Frempong mentioned that in the past, upper-classmen LTI students have provided childcare during meetings. He stated they could offer babysitting again, but he would need to know in advance in order to coordinate it.

Kristen introduced the nominee for PTSA Treasurer, Mimi Ramos. Kirsten Murray moved to vote for Treasurer, Mayuris Pimentel seconded. Mimi Ramos was voted in a Treasurer by voice vote.

Kristen and Mimi presented the proposed Budget for the 2022-2023 school year. (See page 9 of the slideshow for the various Account/Activities). Total Expenses \$7,399.00. Mayuris moved to approve the proposed budget, Kirsten seconded, and it was approved by voice vote.

Kirsten Murray presented the May Meeting Minutes to the membership, including the adjustment to the Free State PTA Bylaws and budget amendments. Kristen moved to approve the minutes, Mimi seconded, and they were approved by voice vote.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT by Dr. Joe Rubens

The PTSA asked Dr. Rubens to discuss his vision, the challenges faced by JFK staff & students, and how parents/guardians can get engaged.

8/26: KFJ staff greeted everyone at the New Student Orientation in August in graduation gowns to reinforce "Destination Graduation".

Social & Emotional Learning lessons (formerly called CAVS Time) is being changed to embed the lessons into the students' classes during the last week of each month, with existing teachers (similar to Drop Everything & Read).

10/8: Dr. Rubens apologized for the technical issues experienced during Back to School Night. They were using a new PA system & bell system. Working on fire alarm system lights in the new wing.

Requested student ambassadors (especially translators) for JFK for community events.

Grade Level Town Hall Meetings to discuss expectations of students are in progress.

Hall Sweeps start this week. Students get 1 hour for lunch to socialize, so they should not be running late to classes.

9/21: College & Career Information Night @ 6pm for Senior families, in the media center. ([English](#) and [Spanish](#) flyers)

Please contact registrar to ensure parents get the Sunday ConnectEd messages. Online student tutoring is available as well as Saturday School ([English](#) and [Spanish](#) flyers). 1st Marking Period Progress Reports coming in beginning in October.

Extra-Curricular Activities & busing information goes out next week.

Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office presentation on gun safety is coming.

Senior pictures were rescheduled due to school construction.

9/20: JFK Professional Development Workshop for Teachers. Instructional Priorities: "making thinking visible", student autonomy, purpose, and student master.

10/8: Homecoming. Hallway decoration night during Spirit Week. Parade at 10:30am. 1:30pm football vs. Magruder, 8-11 dance.

Construction: hope to finish in next 2-3 weeks. Waiting on lines for parking garage & fire marshall approval on sprinkler system. Lighting will run on sensors, no elevator but a ramp.

Brand new turf field, new scoreboard. Practice field is being installed, for use in the spring. New track surface will be laid next summer.

Kirsten pointed out her child's locker was not working. Dr. Rubens stated students can go to main office to get new temporary lockers.

Marilee Davenport asked about staffing shortages. Dr. Rubens answered they still have some more hiring to do (English, 3 Para-educator positions to hire for), they are monitoring EML (for non-English Learners) classes to see if more staff are needed.

Freshman parent asked about clubs. Dr. Rubens stated some clubs have started, some will start meeting after school. Mont Co. Rec Zone activities also take place. Activity bus routes are not in sync with daily bus routes; instead they will bring students to the general area of their home.

10/12: PSAT Day, includes 9th grade college & career readiness workshops and gun safety assembly (parents can opt-out of assembly).

10/22: Kennedy Family Market Days: Kennedy Cluster is partnering with the Capital Area Food Bank to offer monthly distributions of nutritious groceries to members of the Kennedy community, free of charge. 10am – noon ([English & Spanish flyer](#))

JFK staff explained a what Naviance was (college planning tool).

Panel Discussion followed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS by all

None.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

34 ATTENDEES:

Dr. Joe Rubens, JFK Principal
Kristen Walker Painemilla
Kirsten Murray
Ricky Ribeiro
Mimi Ramos
Erin Radebe, IB Program
Donniel Gamble, JFK Resource Counselor
Kofi Frempong, JFK LTI Program
Lorena Moyer
Claudia Alvarado
Andres Alvarado
Aida Sanchez
Sharon Atterbury
Maria Beck, JFK staff
Shirley Smifhson Martin
Adugna Dentul
Kelley Cormier
Carol Christensen
Aminatou Badjam-Koroma
Maria Leah Koroma
Clarisse Niadun

Blanea Diaz-Lowen Hill
Terry Rosemond
Sharon Rosemond
Verowpea Okito
Marilee Davenport
Faithe Bulls, SGA
Kendra Williams, SGA
Colleen Jeske
William Young
Julie Ryan-Silva
Rossalyn Arroyo
Mayuris Pimentel
Priscilla Sheffield

PTSA website: <https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com>

Pay your PTSA membership: <https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com/store>

Join JFKHS PTSA MemberHub: <https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com/join/5aeb11>

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