



# PTO Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2021

*The PTO mission is to support the educational experience at TJHS and to foster a stronger school community for students, parents and staff.*

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**PTO Board Members in attendance:** Brooke Bolinske, Karla Henke, Teri Hetzel, Christy Jordan, Lisa LoJocano, Becca Mahoney, Carrie Oss, Megan Perkins, Eileen Robinson, Krista Zizzo

**Total attendance:** 16

## 7:03pm - Welcome

Eileen Robinson, PTO President, welcomed Board members and parents in attendance. The meeting was held virtually, via Zoom. As this is the final meeting of the year, there is no speaker.

## 7:04 pm - Treasurer Report (Teri Hetzel)

- The current financials were reviewed and will be available online. It has been a busy month for cashflow. The PTO has approximately \$109,426 in all accounts. Outside of class accounts and programs, there is about \$75,747 in available funds. Class accounts balances were reviewed. There are some matching contributions and King Soopers card money that has not yet been deposited. If anyone is aware of matching funds coming from a corporation, please let her know so we can expect it. The financial report will be posted to the PTO webpage.
- The PTO board approved a non-budgeted expenditure of approximately \$500 to cover student tickets for the State Championship football game this week for the students riding the "spirit bus."
- While this year was unconventional in many ways due to COVID, we can anticipate starting the school year with a budget of expenses.

## 7:09pm - Auction Recap (Megan Perkins)

Megan gave a review of the auction held last month. It was the fifth annual event and exceeded the co-chairs' expectations. The goal was to raise \$5,000 and to date they have raised \$18,000+, which includes \$6,600 in donations. Donations were up threefold from previous years. The "fair market value" of auction items usually yields 40-60% and our items raised 88.9%. The support from our community was impressive, considering that there were not as many auction items as in past years. THANK YOU to Megan and Becca Mahoney for their hard work and to all who participated and contributed.

## 7:14pm - Announcements (Eileen Robinson)

These school updates are shared in an effort to get information to parents whose students may not tell you what's going on at school...

**Remote Option for 2021-22 School Year** - Families who would like to enroll their student in the remote learning program for the entire 2021-22 school year should complete the Learning Option Selection form on the Parent Portal by June 4. **Teachers will be provided by the remote school, "Denver Online," not TJHS faculty.**

Families whose student will be returning to full time, in person learning next year do not need to take any action and their student will automatically be enrolled in in-person learning at their assigned school.

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**Bell Time Survey** - The [Healthy Start Times resolution](#) of the DPS Board of Education is up for consideration at the May 20 board meeting. If approved, the resolution would have all middle and high schools (district managed and charter schools) start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. daily, starting in the 2022-23 school year. (UPDATE: The resolution passed, but the start time is now no earlier than **8:20 a.m.**) A link was provided to encourage participation in a DPS survey to share your feedback. (UPDATE: Great job, TJ - the Southeast region provided 23% of the feedback received). New bell times for the 2021-22 year can be found online [here](#). For the 2021-22 school year, TJ's school day will be 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**DPS Year End Surveys** - are available now through May 21 for students and parents. Students will receive an email at their DPS email address and parents can access the survey [here](#).

Reminder that the final **"TJ Talks"** program is May 13 on the topic of Mental Health. It will be held by Zoom.

**Communication Update** - "School Deets" will not be used next school year. DPS Messenger will be used for DPS and TJ specific messages to parents.

**Vaccine Clinics** - The "Dose 2" clinic for those who were vaccinated in late April will be held this Saturday from 9am-3pm. A vaccination clinic for students age 12-15 (newly approved for the vaccine), is in the works for June.

The last **Food Bank Distribution** will be held on Wednesday, 5/19. Thank you to the committee for providing this valuable service to our school and community this year.

The **Stadium Party** has been scheduled for 8/28. Email [bbolinske@hotmail.com](mailto:bbolinske@hotmail.com) for more details and to reserve your ticket.

What: The Annual TJ Season Opener Stadium Party

When: Saturday, August 28, 2021, 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Where: Brooke & Rob Bolinske's Backyard

Who: All TJ Parents are Invited

Why: We had to postpone this annual TJ Fall tradition last year. If you bought tickets for this party at the 2020 TJ Auction, you are all set. Funds from any additional tickets we sold will be split among the Classes of 2022 & 2023 and matched by a corporate sponsor.

Tickets: \$30 per person

(This party will be held outdoors and will follow all current Denver guidelines for gatherings.)

### **7:36pm - Teacher Appreciation Week** (Eileen Robinson)

Since most teachers were not in the building the week of May 3 due to AP Testing, TJHS will celebrate our teachers the week of May 17. We have purchased a ten foot long appreciation banner that will be displayed in the school parking lot all week. The PTO is providing a food truck for lunch on Wednesday, 5/19 and an ice cream treat on Friday, 5/21. A box lunch will be provided on 5/26 during finals week. There are 8 staff who remain remote. We are giving them \$25 Amazon gift cards as they will not be able to enjoy the on-site appreciation events.

### **7:46pm - PTO Activities Next Year**

Eileen shared an annual calendar of PTO events. August and September are loaded with activity and the group usually starts working on back to school events in July. The first Saturday in August is usually the "TJ Cleanup/Work Day." And there's usually a Newcomer Cookout during 9th Grade Academy. Stay tuned for updates on our ability to provide these activities, per COVID rules. The Senior Sleepout is currently not planned due to COVID regulations.

Eileen shared her thanks to all who took on a leadership role this year with the PTO, including:

PTO Officers: Krista Zizzo, Secretary; Teri Hetzel, Treasurer, Wassila Hamitouche, Assistant Treasurer

At-Large Members: John Trujillo, Brooke Bolinske, Janet Willson, Megan Perkins

Spirit Store Managers: Carrie Oss, Karla Henke

Class Sponsors: Colley Moe, Teri Hetzel, Julie Rubin, Marlene Talavera, Christy Jordan, Catherine Poirer, Dyanna Spicier

Committee Chairs: Megan Perkins, Suzy Stone, Becca Mahoney

Thank you also to Lisa LoJocano for volunteering to be our Communications Chair next year. We are still looking for a Hospitality Committee for next year. This committee handles Teacher Appreciation and back to school events.

A heartfelt THANK YOU was returned to Eileen by those on the Zoom call. Her leadership this year has ensured that much support has been provided to the school and community. It was shared that Lisa Allen, former PTO President, and Colley Moe have their youngest students graduating. They have given 9 years of support to the school! Lisa passed on the comment that she has seen great changes and improvements in the school, culture and parent support in the last nine years.

Meetings next year are TBD (virtual or in person).

**8:07pm - Adjournment**