

PTO Minutes - May 9, 2023

6:30pm: PTO President Krista Zizzo welcomed 17 board and committee members to her home for an end-of-year meeting and social gathering. This more casual meeting featured a discussion of the year's successes and updates from Principal Mike Christoff (given via email).

UPDATES:

Auction: The event raised \$17,654, with about 100 fewer bidders! - Megan Perkins

Spartan Grants final amounts: 22 grants totaling \$22,645 - Brooke Bolinske

Prom / AfterProm Update - Christy Jordan

Staff Appreciation Week - Staff loved the treats last week, including the busiest "coffee cart" day ever (120+ orders) and the new ice maker in the staff lounge - Susan Dolson

Bottom of the 9th - Carrie/Sheila

Choice of Studies Night - Robyn Schiff - \$1800 in Spirit Gear sold. Class of 2027 is on fire!

Bus Stop Art Gallery - Robyn noted that a final installation will be up before school is out.

Events taking place next week were noted:

Senior Senior Tailgate (Tuesday 5/16)

Bad Daddy's Burger Bar Fundraiser for 2025 (Tuesday) - Kerry/Heather

Juniors & Junkfood (Friday) - Dyanna Spicher

SCHOOL NEWS

DPS Safety Survey - on the DPS website through 5/19. Please fill out / Site Based decisions...

New Bell Schedule - was sent out last week in the TJHS weekly newsletter

School day is usually 8:25am - 3:55pm (but Office hours M/F last 20 minutes of school and Wednesdays school starts an hour later / 9:25am for a faculty meeting each week)

***Per Mr. Christoff:** Part of our hope with Office Hours is to work with RTD to pick up students at 4:00 p.m. or 4:05 p.m. so students can access their teacher during the week and not have to worry about missing a bus. Students will be expected to utilize Office Hours if it is needed. Regarding the start of the school day, the cafeteria will be open and available to students 30 minutes prior to the start of first period everyday including Wednesdays.*

School Construction: I've seen several messages about **TJ going "under construction"** this summer. Do you have **news to share about the HVAC project?** Is it expected to be completed by the start of school? Or is there more going on? **From Mr. Christoff:**

- *Unfortunately this is a 2 year project. It will begin on June 5th and the building will be shut down until August 14th. My understanding is that this summer the main focus is on the Univent systems in the classrooms and throughout the building. The units will be pulled out and replaced with new ones that can handle cooled air. To do this work, boring holes through the floors of classrooms and connecting the plumbing so that the system can work once the chiller is installed. Constant asbestos abatement throughout*

the building and intermittent loss of electricity to the building are the main reasons for the full closure this summer. The chiller will be installed a year from now.

- *Electrical panel updates throughout the building as well.*
- *Lobby repairs to the terrazo tile (sinking issues from original install two years ago).*

No 9th Grade Academy (due to Construction) - that gives them 2 extra weeks to work

School Improvement - \$300K Bond Money from DPS (planning started two years ago!)

- *Outdoor Amphitheater with a solar canopy and seating where the current outdoor pool deck is located to be supposed to be built in 23-24 school year*
- *Outdoor seating/tables to be installed in the new TJ Garden near the current green house should also be installed in 23-24 school year*
 - *Tables look similar to the ones already in the front of the building*
 - *I'm hoping there is enough money left over to finish off the area near the outside concession stand as well as add some more outdoor seating for the students!*

Thursday, 8/17: Back to School BBQ: *Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 8/17 weather permitting and depending on our building access.*

Sunday, 8/20: Senior Sleepout: *First day for Freshmen is Mon 8/21, everyone else Tues 8/22. The permission slip is already in Schoology, it is due with \$24 payment (Prom fundraiser) 8/11.*

Retirements: We have 4 teachers retiring and 1 semi-retiring!

Bill Burns (PE)

Jerry Esparza (CCT / SkillsUSA)

Stacey Fornstrom (CCT)

Dana Starbuck (Math)

Marcelino Yantas (Spanish) - *coming back part time next year to teach Spanish AP and a Spanish ELA (Language Arts) class*

Staffing updates from Mr. Christoff:

- *Ms. Barclay will be moving from Social Studies to teaching PE next year!*
- *We currently have a Social Studies, Math, and Site Assessment Leader position open*
 - *Interviewed for Social Studies yesterday*
 - *Math interviews are scheduled for later this week/early next week*
 - *SAL interviews will happen after AP testing / Commencement*
 - *We have hired the following positions*
 - *PE (Ms. Barclay)*
 - *Math (Sam Klarner)*
 - *Dean of Instruction (Leslie Hillen)*
 - *ELA-S Resource (Kate Stecklein)*
 - *.5 Spanish (Mr. Yantas)*
- *To better support our Multi-Language Learners we have:*
 - *Both the Dean of Instruction and ELA-S Resource positions will support our MLE students and General Ed. teachers in closing our achievement gap*
 - *I'm very excited about these hires as this is a much needed area of growth for us!*

PTO RETIREMENTS: We celebrated the departing board and committee chairs, whose youngest student is graduating next week. THANK YOU to these women for their years of service to TJHS and the PTO!

Teri Hetzel - Treasurer
Lisa LoJacono - Secretary
Janet Willson - Member-at-Large
Christy Jordan - Class Committee Chair
Catherine Poirier - Class Committee Chair
Melissa Lindstrom - Grants Chair
Karla Henke - Past Store Manager

NEW TOPIC OF DISCUSSION - What would it take to move TJ to a “Junior / Senior Prom?”

The group discussed the pros/cons/challenges this presents and Heather Reeder, Monica Snyder and Sheila Tyler will contact Mr. Poole to explore this further, including getting student feedback.

Adjourned at 8:15pm. Next meeting - Next school year!