



# PTO Meeting Minutes | November 7, 2023

*The PTO's 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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**Welcome & Introduction of Guests** (Krista Zizzo, PTO President) - Meeting started at 6pm

Present from PTO Board/Officers: Zizzo, Schiff, Kimmel, Fall, Perkins, B Rimkus, Snyder, VanAbbema, Mahoney, Alleman, Reeder. Nine guests were also present, including: J Mackey, T Smith, J McMeekin, S Vigil, M Sadkhi, R Morales, S. George, J. Schlater.

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**Treasurer's Report** (Erin Kimmel, Treasurer)

As of 10/31/23, PTO Assets total \$116,086, which includes \$43,289 allocated to Class Funds and \$18,019 allocated to the TJ Food Bank. The complete Balance Sheet is available on the PTO website.

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**President's Report**

Grants to School: TJ's Dean of Instruction requested \$100 for Starbuck's gift cards for the staff who assisted with Fall Testing.

Follow up from October Meeting: Transportation Issues - Heather Fall to take point on setting up carpooling. Look for information by January.

January Meeting Date - 1st Tuesday (1/2) is during Winter Break, so the meeting will move to Tuesday, 1/9/24. The December meeting (12/5/23) will be a working Board Meeting to prepare for 2nd Semester, review the PTO bylaws, discuss Class Committee Operations and address filling vacant positions.

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**Vice President's Report** (Robyn Schiff)

Conflict Resolution Art Project Prizes & Bus Stop Art Gallery: We will hopefully have a new installation in the Bus Stop Art Gallery soon. There are issues with the large format printer at TJ, which is holding up this project. The PTO facilitates quarterly art installments at the Bus Stop.

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**PTO Leadership Updates**

**Hospitality / Teacher Appreciation - on behalf of Susan Dolson**

Thank you to those who helped or brought food for the Teacher Meal during Parent/Teacher Conferences last month. Next up: Holiday Gift or Event for Staff - Distributed December 4-11 or during finals. Budget: \$10-12 per person x 150. Ideas were brainstormed, which include: cookies & gift cards.

**Spirit Store Managers - Monica Snyder & Jill VanAbbema**

Online gear store is now available: <https://tjdenverswag.com/> Get your gear gifts in time for the holidays! Orders placed by December 1 will be delivered by December 17. Thank you to parent Rachel Geib for setting up the online store! The online store features several different types of merch that is not already offered with in-person sales.

**Food Bank - Megan Perkins & Becca Mahoney**

Please support the Skills USA/DECA Thanksgiving Food Drive Donation list found here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ADAA29A2FC1-45677482-thansgiving#/> The food bank is looking for donations of reusable grocery bags for future distributions. Please drop them off in the Office. The Food Bank started during COVID/2021 and currently serves around 40 TJHS families with a monthly distribution of food. We partner with organizations like the Food Bank of the Rockies to obtain food. Funding is from donations and a generous corporate sponsor, Newmont Mining. Slavens K-8 School also does an annual food drive to provide assistance. Skills USA & DECA student groups assist with the Thanksgiving food drive and December Holiday Gift / Adopt-a-Family program.

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**Special Guest Speaker: Samanda Davis, TJ's Social Worker**, thanked the PTO for support of the projects her office undertakes. This includes the Thanksgiving Food Drive, TJ's Holiday Helpers Program, which provides "adopted" families with food, gifts and clothing items. *Look for emails and information about this program after Thanksgiving.* In partnership with a local Rotary Club, she also provides a \$100 "shopping spree" for 20 students each December. New this winter will be a clothing drive for students and refugee families who have relocated to Denver and attend DPS schools.

The date for "Challenge Day" for TJ's Junior Class is February 12-13. Challenge Day is an annual tradition at TJ, where the Junior Class experiences a day of personal growth and class bonding.

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### **PTO Leadership Updates**

- **Class Committee Chairs:** We reviewed the purpose and goals of our Class Committees, which includes raising funds for After Prom and Class Activities as well as providing opportunities for parents to meet and support the classes through one or more planned activity each year. . The current Committee Chairs talked about the need to share planning documents and volunteer signs up from year to year. The PTO's Google Drive could be used as a repository.

- **2027 - on behalf of Kendal Mullins**

- Parent meeting will be held on Tues 11/14 from 5-7pm at Torchy's Tacos on Hampden
- Several 2027 parents were in attendance at the PTO meeting and discussed assisting Kendal as Parent Committee leadership. This includes: Jared Mackey, Julie Schlater, Sindhu George, Shanna Vigil. They'll attend the parent gathering next week and connect with Kendal.

- **2026 - Carrie Alleman & Sheila Tyler**

- Parent Committee Meeting will be held on Tues 11/14 from 6-7pm at TJHS (Room 111)
- Tracie Smith volunteered to serve as the Member-at-Large representing 2026 on the PTO Board. (Rod Morales will also fill in when needed).

- **2025 - Heather Reeder & Kerry Muhovich**

- Birdcall Restaurant Night: Monday, 12/4
- Junior Class Parent Meeting was held 10/26 with low attendance

- **2024 - Student survey re: After Prom has 50 responses.**

- Parent Committee Meeting will be held on Wed 11/15 from 6-7pm at TJHS (Room 111).  
A Zoom link is available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87628826962?pwd=QzBselBveE5Za0M5RGVBW9UQzFHQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 2882 6962 Passcode: 469214

### **CURRENT LEADERSHIP VACANCIES:**

1. Member-at-Large representing Class of 2027
  2. Class Committee Co-Chairs for 2024
  3. Fund Raising Chair(s)
  4. 2024-25 Leadership: Our President and Vice President positions will be vacant as of May. *We're hoping to have "apprentices" in place by January to shadow the current officers for a semester.*
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**Adjourn - 7:10pm**

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**Future PTO Meetings:** (Dates were revised from those printed in error on the agenda)

Meetings are usually held on the First Tuesday of the month, at TJ in Room 111

Dec Meeting = 12/5/23 = Board Working Meeting (see above topics)

Jan Meeting = 1/9/24 - kickoff to 2nd semester (meeting held on 2nd Tuesday of the month)

Feb Meeting = 2/6/24 - school or community speaker (any ideas?)

Mar Meeting = 3/5/24 - grant review/part 1

Apr Meeting = 4/2/24 - final grant approval + election of new officers

May Meeting = 5/7/24 - end of year celebration (not at TJ)

Don't forget to...

- Sign up for the school newsletter and follow TJ on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Register your King Soopers Card for Community Rewards Program
- Questions? Want to Volunteer? Email [TJHSpto@gmail.com](mailto:TJHSpto@gmail.com)