

# JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

## HOME OF THE CAVALIERS

### JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES

January 18, 2022 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

#### AGENDA

6:00 - 6:10 pm	<b>Welcome</b>	Kristen Walker Painemilla
6:10 - 6:20 pm	<b>Kennedy Club Spotlight</b>	Open
6:20 - 6:35 pm	<b>Principal Intern Report</b>	Sam Levine
6:35 - 6:50 pm	<b>Discussion on COVID 19: Community Health and Wellbeing</b>	All
6:50 - 7:05 pm	<b>PTSA Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Approval of Previous Minutes</li><li>● Treasurer Report</li><li>● Membership Report</li><li>● MCCPTA Report</li></ul>	PTSA Officers & Others
7:05 - 7:20 pm	<b>Winter Fundraiser Update</b>	Discussion
7:20 - 7:30 pm	<b>Any Other Business</b>	

The meeting was brought to order by Kristen Walker Painemilla at 6:03 pm.

**KENNEDY CLUB SPOTLIGHT: HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS ACADEMY** by Esklareth Munoz, Senior in National Honor Society and Health Care Professions Academy (CNA Pathway):

Health Care Professions Academy: Ms. Munoz has been passionate about health care since she was a child. She has already taken her CNA test and is now doing an internship, working directly with patients. She likes that she actually gets to connect with the patients & residents. The CNA class requires 75 hours in internship. She goes twice a week for 2 hours, plus a 1-hour class, which she does after school (some students do it on the weekend).

National Honor Society: NHS offers peer-tutoring for students. This is her first year as NHS member. She is focusing on SSL hours. At NHS meetings, they talk about scholarships and, SSL opportunities. Being in NHS allows her to be part of the IB Diploma Program. Invitations

to join NHS are emailed to 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> graders w/ a weighted 3.4 GPA or higher; emails go out at end of May or early June. Must also have two recommendations. Once inducted into NHS, students must maintain the weighted 3.4 GPA

Cadet Duval, CCMA Pathway in Health Care Professions Academy, NJROTC, and Varsity Girls Basketball:

Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps: Cadet Duval was curious about the military, but she has always had a passion about health care. In NJROTC, cadets learn about self-confidence, dedication, and time management. They go on field trips such as exploring the ships at Baltimore Harbor. Its more than just push-ups. We're a big family in NJROTC. There are 7 teams, including orienteering, cyber patriot (free training!), athletics, color guard, air rifle, drill team, and starting a drone team.

CDR Bateman put in chat: Follow John F Kennedy NJROTC on Twitter at [@NJROTCJFK](https://twitter.com/NJROTCJFK)

Health Care Professions Academy: Health Care Academy provides lots of hands-on training. Cadet Duval is looking forward to talking to recruiters and doing pre-med and ROTC in college. She has many options available to her.

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT by Sam Levine

1/28: final day of his practicum. Dr. Rubens will return as principal (Mr. Levine will remain as Asst. Principal).

Please complete the consent form and register for COVID-19 PCR testing on Fridays (10am – 11:30am) in JFK auditorium atrium by CIAN. Please continue to use MCPS Reporting Google Form for positive cases.

1/18: Spring sports registration opened. Contact Athletic Specialist Amanda Twele for questions.

1/27: Virtual Cavalier Check In / Community Circles Event with Students and Staff 4-5pm (get 1 SSL hour, review flyer). Ms. Granados met with SGA before the break & came up with this idea. It is highlighting student-teacher relationships and attendance.

1/21: First semester ends.

1/24: Professional day for grading & reporting.

2/3: Reports available in Synergy & given out at school the following week.

Course registration meetings continue. Janae Robinson-Casey

College visits continue.

MLK Week of Service: volunteer information will be provided during CAVS time this week.

All bus routes were operating today; 3114 will not be running 1/19.

Zolfa Valiani-Merchant asked about getting College Board PSAT scores. Kirsten Murray mentioned students should check their email for a link to their scores.

**Construction/Equipment:**

Building expansion expected completion date is Summer 2022.

Turf field expected completion date is Jan 2022.

**Needs:**

Door prize donations for school events & the PBIS program (Positive Behavior Interventions); college/university T-shirt donations can be drop off to main office (any sizes); hand sanitizer donations.

Concessions support for winter sport concessions.

**DISCUSSION ON COVID 19: COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING** by all

Zolfa asked about Pool Testing. JFK staff pointed out ES was pool testing, but this is not feasible at the HS level. During the first week of testing, only 85 students; there were 300 students last week. CIAN only brings 150 tests to JFK. Ms. Lewis asked if CIAN could bring more & was told no.

Kristen Walker Painemilla: If child already had COVID, will likely test positive for a couple of months. Ms. Lewis said you should talk to your doctor about when they should test again (if already had COVID).

iHealth (rapid test) recommendation was to test again within 2 days but different information is being sent out. Mr. Levine said MCPS guidance was first test by 1/14, no guidance on second test. He will do some more research about that second test.

Zolfa asked how many staff members have been out due to COVID? Mr. Levine said staffing level has been at its highest level, but there has been some staffing turnover due to retirements & other leave. He said maybe a couple of teachers per department, but they have coverage within the department. Asked about percentage of students that turned in any kind of response on 1/14. Mr. Levine will research.

Less than 10% of staff have been out due to COVID? Mr. Levine will research.

There will be makeup distribution dates for giving out masks. Reach out to grade level administrator and counselor to get yours.

Kristen put in chat: The latest updates from MCPS of schools that will go virtual as of January 20th: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/publicinfo/community/school-year-2021-2022/Community-Update-20220118-final.html>

Ricky Ribeiro: asked about how the metrics are being weighted. Mr. Levine could not speak to it because there is an external team (not at JFK) that is reviewing the MCPS Reporting Forms. Kristen pointed out MCPS website says 3-day average student & staff, bus routes, etc.

Roberto Cienfuegos: pointed out the mask mandate is very difficult for his son due to other health concerns. Mr. Levine asked him to provide a phone or email address to speak directly about his son's situation. He mentioned a temporary policy through 1/31 about virtual option for some families; email the grade level administrator the request. That virtual experience would be: either (1) to Zoom in live to the class or (2) to coordinate with each teacher to have a one-on-one session w/ individual (teacher preference).

Kristen: asked about staff morale, given additional requirements about virtual options above. Mr. Frempong said staff worry about each other. He also pointed out he was missing 5 students already. If student needs to quarantine, contact your teacher right away. Its challenging. Luckily, students & staff can "take breathers" during upcoming days off.

Mr. Levine mentioned a student walk-out on 1/21 at noon about student concerns about COVID circulating on Instagram. Mr. Levine pointed out MCPS and JFK are not endorsing this walkout. Ms. Lewis said there was a student walk-out after Parkland shooting, so JFK staff & admin know how to handle this.

#### **REVIEW PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** by Kirsten Murray

At the December meeting, Kirsten had lost the draft version of the November Meeting Minutes, so the body reviewed both the November and December Meeting Minutes. Kristen Walker Painemilla moved to approve the [November Meeting Minutes](#), Bryan Benesch seconded the motion. Bryan Benesch moved to approve the [December Meeting Minutes](#), Kristen Walker Painemilla seconded the motion.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT** by Betsy Alley-Strocher

Previous Accounts Balance on 12/13/2021 was \$3,464.94. Current Accounts Balance as of 1/17/2022 \$3,191.94. Betsy paid \$308 to our PTA umbrella organizations. Bryan asked about how frequent AmazonSmile donations are deposited; Kristen said it comes in monthly.

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** by Kirsten Murray

We had 3 new members join in the last month. We now have 75 people who have paid their PTSA membership (11 staff, 10 students, 51 parents/guardians, 2 grandparents, 1 community member).

PTSA website:

<https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com>

Pay your PTSA membership:

<https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com/store>

Join Kennedy HS PTSA MemberHub:

<https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com/join/5aeb11>

#### **MCCPTA REPORT** by Bryan Benesch

Bryan said MCCPTA did not meet in December; meeting next week to vote on changes to By-Laws but do not affect individual PTAs. Most discussion on listserv has been COVID and Board of Education budget. There has been nothing about Free State PTA's ability to obtain IRS tax-exempt status (IRS not issuing that status during current pandemic).

**WINTER FUNDRAISER UPDATE** by Kristen Walker Painemilla

Kristen Walker Painemilla provided an update to our community-wide campaign to raise \$20-\$25K during 4 weeks in February, building up to the Kennedy Hall of Fame Ceremony. She is working with Ms. Lyons to identify key alumni as potential large donors. Already set up campaign page on MemberHub. She will ask volunteers to review the marketing material. The PTSA decided to scale back the student involvement due to pandemic. A letter will go out from Dr. Rubens and Kristen about this "PTSA Fund". Bryan pointed out we don't have tax-exempt status, so cannot say this is tax deductible donation yet. Betsy & Kristen will reserach it.

Kirsten confirmed the "Athon" portion will not happen due to pandemic. Bryan mentioned Staples offers 5% to schools & will share info with Kristen. Bryan also mentioned band concerts have been delayed and ask if there will be any band & choral concert this year. Ms. Lewis said it is scheduled for 1/27 but not sure if MCPS will allow spectators. If not, they will livestream it or record and replay as a webinar in the evening.

Kristen said PTSA may reach out to families for donations for Staff Grab & Go in next few weeks.

Bryan Benesch moved to close the meeting, Betsy Alley-Strocher seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.

**38 ATTENDEES:**

Kristen Walker Painemilla  
Kirsten Murray  
Sara Moskowitz  
CDR Lawrence Bateman, JFK NJROTC  
Sam Levine, Principal Intern  
Maryuris Pimentel  
Eskarleth Munoz, student  
Karla Antonio  
Betsy Alley-Strocher  
Bryan Benesch  
Bill & Lynn Hoffman  
Christina Lange  
Fred Azcarate  
Bryan Cockrell  
Margot Khoo

Ricky Ribeiro  
Roberto Cienfuegos  
Marilee Shelton-Davenport  
Alemayehu Mammo  
Amare  
Cadet Zenaé Duval, student  
Jennifer Granados, NHS Sponsor  
Kofi Frempong, LTI teacher  
Tara Cameron-Bloomer  
Henry Nguyen  
Maria  
Zolfa Valiani-Merchant  
Maria Vazquez  
Susana Iraheta  
Conte  
Keir Lewis  
Takia  
Zainab Hassan  
Maika Bediones  
Monica Duda  
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Celia Q. Torres Quispe