

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE CAVALIERS

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES May 17, 2022 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

AGENDA

6:00 - 6:10 pm	Welcome	Kristen Walker Painemilla
6:10 - 6:20 pm	Principal Report	Dr. Joe Rubens
6:20 - 6:35 pm	Needs Assessment on Wellness Center	Luis Cardona from DHHS
6:35 - 7:00 pm	PTSA Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Approval of Previous Minutes● Bylaws Adjustment● Treasurer Report● Membership Report● MCCPTA Report● Voting on the Nominating Committee's Slate of Officers for 2022-2023	PTSA Officers & Others
7:00 - 7:15 pm	Post-Prom Planning and Update	The Jenkins & Keir Lewis
7:15 - 7:20 pm	Kudos and Thank-Yous	Kristen Walker Painemilla
7:20 - 7:30 pm	Any Other Business	

The meeting was brought to order by Kristen Walker Painemilla at 6:04 pm.

[PRINCIPAL'S REPORT](#) by Dr. Joe Rubens

[AP/IB Testing](#) going on now.

Parking lot changes because we ran out of space. There is now parking on upper field (wood chips & stones are not ideal); security is out there in the morning to help park cars.

5/3: College & Career Readiness Activities.

MCAP testing will be 5/16, 5/17, and 5/20.

5/18: Early Release Day for teacher planning.

5/19 at 6pm: Senior and LTI Virtual End of Year Awards Night.

5/23: Marking Period 3 Honor Roll and On-A-Roll Awards Assemblies.

5/24 at 6:30pm: End of School Year Senior Parent Meeting in the JFK cafeteria.

5/25 at 6pm: Athletic Awards Ceremony.

5/26 at 7pm: "Once on this Island" Spring Musical.

5/27: Last Day of School for Seniors.

5/30: No school for Memorial Day Holiday.

6/3 8-12pm: Senior Prom at Mayflower Hotel (ballroom). The ticket price includes an appetizer, full meal, desserts & soft drinks. \$95

6/4 12am-3am: Post-Prom at TerpZone. Some students prefer to just go to Post-Prom. In the past, charged \$15 at the door, if did not go to Prom.

6/10 & 6/13 7:45am: mandatory graduation rehearsals. Tickets & cap & gown will be given on 6/13.

6/14: 10am Graduation at DAR Constitution Hall (no school for underclassmen). Up to 7 tickets will be given per student.

6/16 & 6/17: Make-up days of school.

6/28: Final Report Cards distributed.

FEV Tutor and TutorMe education offering online tutoring & National Honor Society are still offering peer tutoring.

Construction/Equipment:

Building expansion expected completion date is Summer 2022.

New scoreboard with video screen & sound system by August 2022.

New lights will be installed in the gymnasium during Summer 2022.

Not sure if new Wellness Center will be operational when school opens in August 2022.

Needs:

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

Post-Prom volunteers.

We asked the SGA Junior Class Officers: Catherine Le (President) & Kendra (Vice President), “What do you want to work on with the PTSA?”

Kendra: Support for a lot of fundraising like field day & movie nights. Hoping the PTSA can provide food donations and sanitary supplies.

Catherine Le: SMOB has talked about providing donations of feminine hygiene products. Hope PTSA members can donate those. Hope for a combined fundraiser.

Kirsten Murray offered to coordinate a SignUp Genius to solicit those donations. Kristen Walker Painemilla said we can help coordinate our calendars/schedules. Betsy Alley-Strocher asked for detailed list of needs as soon as possible.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON WELLNESS CENTER: by Luis Cardona, Administrator Positive Youth Development Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and Leslie Reyes-Rosa, Program Manager II Department of Health and Human Services Children, Youth and Family Services

Dr. Rubens introduced Mr. Cardona and Ms. Reyes-Rosa, stating one of the luxuries that JFK will enjoy with the school expansion is the addition of a Wellness Center.

Mr. Cardona: (gave presentation of DHHS Positive Youth Development): JFK would be the 6th HS to host a Wellness Center. It will offer a wide array of services and positive youth development to support the social & emotional growth of students & their families. The Wellness Center will be opening at JFK in January 2023. Funding is already there. Focus will use a lens of racial and social equity. Yes, every school is different, but needs are often the same. He stressed this is the JFK **Community** Wellness Center.

He asked the PTSA “What are some of the things you would love to see be a part of the Wellness Center?”

Joe Jenkins: I know there will be mentoring & tutoring, but will it be after-hours?

Luis said a nurse practitioner can be on-site for medical appointments for students.

Ricky Ribeiro: what kind of impact have you seen so far at other high schools? Perhaps a reduction in student conflicts or misbehavior or increase in academic performance?

Ricky: Not sure how much it overlaps with MCPS services.

Luis said the center will cover topics around anxiety, confidence, managing technology & distractions.

Bryan Benesch asked when these programs will take place (so students don’t miss class). Luis says it will vary (weekends, during lunch, etc.) Depends on what the community needs. Bryan

said it has been very difficult to get the JFK community to be more active in things like PTSA. Have other schools w/ Wellness Centers had difficulty getting started up?

Luis: Dr. Rubens & I have a strong friendship. I live in the community. All my services are focused on that.

Annmarie Hart-Bookbinder put in chat: “A big second of support for mental health services. The need far exceeds services available in the community to meet it.”

Luis: there will 1 or 1.5 behavioral health practitioners available at Wellness Center but mentioned the county is struggling to fill behavioral health vacancies. Will also provide healing-informed / coping skills to address issues of trauma.

Kristen Walker Painemilla: the PTSA would welcome partnering with Wellness Center. Looking for culturally appropriate, accessible programs & services for ESOL students in their native languages and especially those who may have had gaps in their education.

Luis: high rates of strengthening around school connectivity (students were previously disconnected from school, absenteeism, family cohesion). Example in another school: Previous tension in LGBTQ+ student population; practitioners engaged both segments of the community, leading to a space where both did restorative justice, to help heal the wounds that existed. Culturally based and equity based, intentionally engaging the parents.

Luis will have Leslie provide copies of Year End Report to Dr. Rubens.

Luis and Leslie provided their email addresses (captured at the end of these minutes) so that parents could follow-up with anything that may not have covered.

REVIEW PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES by Kirsten Murray

Kirsten Murray reviewed the [April Meeting Minutes](#) with the PTSA body. Bryan Benesch moved to approve the April Meeting Minutes, Tanya Jenkins seconded the motion.

BYLAWS ADJUSTMENT by Kirsten Murray

Kirsten Murray explained that with the dissolution of MD PTA, the JFK PTSA needs to adjust our existing Bylaws to reflect our association with Free State PTA. She showed the membership the [Free State PTA Bylaws template](#). She also mentioned our PTSA should consider whether we should require our president to preside over every General Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting. She proposed that we [adjust the Bylaws \(Article VII, Section 1\)](#) to reflect that the president can send an alternate to a meeting, if needed. She pointed out the president already has that authority for MCCPTA meetings. Betsy Alley-Strocher mentioned presiding at general meeting should be an officer. Kristen Walker Painemilla agreed.

The membership first addressed adopting the [Free State PTA By-Laws Template](#): Kristen Walker Painemilla put forth the motion, Bryan Benesch seconded, voting was done in the Chat. 10 (at least 2/3 of the membership at the meeting) voted to adopt the template.

The membership then addressed adopting the adjustment that the president can send an [alternate officer to meetings \(Article VII, Section 1\)](#). Kristen Walker Painemilla put forward the motion to adopt, Bryan Benesch seconded; voting was done in the Chat. 10 (at least 2/3 of the membership at the meeting) voted to approve the change.

Betsy Alley-Strocher pointed out our fiscal year is not currently July 1 – June 30; she will be submitting paperwork to IRS to change that.

FINANCIAL REPORT by Betsy Alley-Strocher

Previous Accounts Balance on 4/26/2022 was \$8,413.65. \$60 come in appeal for donations. Current Accounts Balance as of 5/15/2022 \$6,164.80. Betsy proposed the [following budget amendments](#): reduce Membership Promotion down to \$0, State PTA & Convention down to \$0, Officers' & Chair's Reimbursements down to \$0, Dues to MCCPTA up to \$409.50, Supplies down to \$0. Still need to pay for insurance renewal in June \$226, membership fees \$183.50 for a total of \$409.50.

Betsy recommended carry-over \$4,436.50 to next year, leaving only \$662.50 for remaining expenses like Post-Prom. TerpZone is \$2897, food will be covered by donations (including existing \$60). Original Post-Prom budget was \$3000. Because of framing of what we would do with the PTSA Funds (in the Spring fundraising campaign letters), spending 50% of that amount on Post-Prom is not advisable. The membership agreed to vote the proposed budget amendments once we get an update on the status of Post-Prom (later in the meeting).

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Kirsten Murray

No new members have joined since February. We have 78 people who have paid their PTSA membership (11 staff, 10 students, 54 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

Didn't go to the last meeting; Kristen Walker Painemilla didn't have anything major to report. Really need someone to take over as Delegate.

VOTING ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2022-2023

by Marilee Shelton-Davenport, Kirsten Murray & Darrell Beutel

Ricky Ribeiro has offered to be a Vice-President. Kirsten Murray offered to remain as Secretary and Betsy Alley-Strocher has offered to remain as Treasurer. We still need a President. Kristen Walker Painemilla is willing to stay on as Interim President, for now. No one offered to be a MCCPTA delegate. Kirsten put forward the motion to elect the slate of officers to include Kristen Walker Painemilla as Interim President, Bryan Benesch seconded the slate. 10 members voted to elect the following Board of Directors for next school year:

Kristen Walker Painemilla, Interim President

Ricky Ribeiro, Vice President

Kirsten Murray, Secretary

Betsy Alley-Strocker, Treasurer

POST-PROM PLANNING AND UPDATE by Joe Jenkins and Keir Lewis

Tanya Jenkins said we still needs prizes to give-away as well as volunteers. Joe Jenkins will create a SignUp Genius for Dr. Rubens to share. Need an additional \$1500 for food, anticipating 200-250 students, can reduce it to snacks for 200 students. \$20.22 was to cover the food, if we don't get enough donations, then need to charge the students. Kristen Walker Painemilla said the Senior Parents Meeting on 5/24 can be used to share this donation request. Keir Lewis: In the past, JFK \$15 charged for students who didn't go to Prom, \$20 for someone outside of the class. Tanya mentioned the PTSA cannot bring in our food (have to buy food from the TerpZone vendor). Ricky Ribeiro expressed concern that the PTSA was hoping for the bulk of post-prom funding was to come from Senior Night Meeting & \$20.22 donation request. Bryan Benesch believes we didn't get a lot from Senior donations in the past; he mentioned the previous president paid out-of-pocket.

Parking is free in garage & lots near Stamp Union, Joe will get a map. Dr. Rubens is hoping more parents will come to in-person Senior Parent Meeting.

Betsy Alley-Strocher is advocating for charging an actual ticket price and not a "suggested donation". The PTSA needs to commit to the food prior to the event (food from Subway or Chick-fil-A). She mentioned we should charge \$22 if expecting 200 students, \$18 if 250 students. Tanya said it has already gone out as \$20.22. The membership discussed canceling the suggested donation request and instead charging for tickets. Total budget should be increased to \$4500. Tanya moved to approve Betsy's suggested budget amendments (mentioned earlier) and to increase Post-Prom Budget by \$1500 to \$4500 (which we hope would be covered by ticket sales & donations) and to leave it as an actual ticket price (not a donation request) of \$20.22. Kirsten Murray seconded, it was approved by the membership by voice vote. Joe & Tanya and Kristen Walker Painemilla will attend Senior Parent Meeting.

KUDOS AND THANK-YOUS by Kristen Walker Painemilla

Thank you all!

ANY OTHER BUSINESS by all

None.

Bryan Benesch moved to close the meeting, Betsy Alley-Strocher seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

23 ATTENDEES:

Dr. Joe Rubens, JFK principal
Kristen Walker Painemilla
Kirsten Murray
Joe Jenkins
Tanya Jenkins
Bill & Lynn Hoffman
Ricky Ribeiro
Bryan Benesch
Leslie Reyes-Rosa, MC DHHS
Colleen (Naomi Y)
Annmarie Hart-Bookbinder
Takia
Keir Lewis, JFK Assistant Principal
Catherine Le, SGA Junior Class President
Kofi Frempong
Betsy Alley-Strocher
Melissa
Kendra, SGA Junior Class Vice President
Je'Nelle Henderson, SGA Sponsor
TManley
Luis Cardona, MC DHHS
Hannah Sania Guerro
Nicol Enriquez
Mischa Hickman
Sam Levine, JFK Principal Intern
Darrell Beutel
Zolfa Valiani-Merchant

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