

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE CAVALIERS

JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PTSA MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2023 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm

In person (in the Media Center) and virtually via Zoom

AGENDA

7:00-7:05 pm	Welcome to March PTSA Meeting	Kristen Walker Painemilla , President
7:05-7:10 pm	Club Spotlight: Marching Band / Drumline Club	Amanda Herold and the Kennedy Marching Band
7:10-7:15 pm	Club Spotlight: Healthcare Professions Club	Dr. Matrice Browne , Andrea Murrillo , and Samantha Lee
7:15-7:25 pm	Leadership Training Institute (LTI) Update	Kofi Frempong , LTI Coordinator
7:25-7:45 pm	School Improvement Plan (SIP) Update & Principal's Report	Dr. Joe Rubens , Principal and Dr. Leyla Fandey , Staff Development
7:45-7:55 pm	Spring Testing Update	Deyjah Chappell , Assistant Principal
7:55-8:20 pm	PTSA Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● February Meeting Minutes ● MCCPTA Update ● New Treasurer Nomination ● Formation of PTSA Nominating Committee 	Kirsten Murray , Secretary Sharon Atterbury , MCCPTA Rep Kristen Painemilla , President Kirsten Murray , Secretary

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-Prom Committee Update 	Takia Wormley , Post-Prom Committee Lead
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Kristen Walker Painemilla brought the meeting to order at 7:07 pm by welcoming everyone. [Link to presentation](#). The PTSA is especially proud to have been able to bring [Tony Hoffman](#) to JFK as part of our participation in the [Montgomery Goes Purple](#) initiative. Tomorrow (March 22), the State’s Attorney’s office is sponsoring a “Speak Up, Save a Life” assembly.

JFK SPOTLIGHT: MARCHING BAND AND DRUMLINE CLUB by Amanda Herold, Diana Silva and Ciana Robinson (virtual)

Amanda Herold is the first-year band director at JFK. The JFK marching band visited Woodline ES for Halloween festivities, participated in the Mont Co Thanksgiving Parade, performed in the 8th Grade Showcase, various football & basketball games, competed in adjudication (first time since 2019), resulting in 100% placement in Country Honors Ensembles and one student in All-State Band. The PTSA can support the band by providing financial support for instruments, travel, etc.

Student Diana Silva, senior, auditioned for All-County Orchestra; participates in JFK marching band. Ciana Robinson, freshman, loves participating in band.

JFK SPOTLIGHT: HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS CLUB by Dr. Matrice Browne, Andrea Murillo, and Samantha Lee (Healthcare Professions Club President and Vice President)

To spread awareness about physical fitness and its impact on general and mental health, the Healthcare Professions Club (HPC) is planning a Sports & Fitness Community Fair to promote fitness and encourage people to incorporate it into their everyday lives. Encourage the community to be active 30 mins / day. This fundraiser will take place on the track and basketball court on 5/20, 10am-2pm. (There will be no entrance fee.) Both [National Physical Fitness and Sports Month](#) and Mental Health Awareness Month and celebrated in May.

The HPC is requesting PTSA support in the form of donations as well as promoting the event. Please bring family & neighbors to the event. There will be game activities, so HPC needs canopies; blenders (for engineering project); and donated gift cards. Also looking for parent volunteers to help set up. Dr. Brown is the staff POC. Once they finish their marketing plan, they will share it with the PTSA.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE (LTI) UPDATE by Kofi Frempong

Kofi Frempong was proud to announce current & upcoming LTI events. SNAP Raise Fundraiser 3/1-3/31, LTI team-building overnight retreat is 4/13 -4/14, End of Year banquet honoring Seniors is 5/17. 30th Anniversary Celebration (for alumni) is 10/6/2023 (Homecoming Weekend) at Montgomery Country Club. Requests include funding, guest speakers (Mondays in May), positive messaging out to the greater community.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT by Dr. Joe Rubens

Dr. Rubens thanked the PTSA for sponsoring [Tony Hoffman](#) to speak to the students.

Events:

- 3/9: Third MP interims distributed; the MP ends 3/30. Free tutoring is available in-person & online.
- 3/22: SAT Day (information letters in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)). Activities for all grade levels. Lunch at noon for SAT testers.
- 3/23: Working with Diego @ Identity & Spanish-speaking families on Thursday on [mental health and drug awareness](#).
- 3/25: Paint Branch HS hosting Fentanyl Family Forum.

Announcements:

- Reminder about trading in old Chromebook to get touchscreen laptops.
- Congratulations to our KCTV team! They won “Outstanding Achievement” as a Broadcast Excellence Finalist at STN awards last week in California.

Construction Updates:

- Parking garage passed fire marshal survey, now waiting for cameras to be installed.
- New roof will be installed in summer of 2024.

Needs:

- Volunteers to assist with concession sales during sporting events.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SIP) UPDATE by Dr. Leyla Fandey

Dr. Leyla Fandey (Acting Staff Development) last spoke about the SIP at the 10/18/22 PTSA meeting.

Dr. Fandey started with mentioning all schools develop their own SIP (goals to work on throughout the school year). Each school has a bit of flexibility. JFK's goals are:

- Literacy
- Math
- Student Well-Being

Of the 430 potential graduates in Class of 2023: 146 graduation warning letter, 172 students still need to meet SSL hours.

Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) initiative to encourage AP & IB to students: 117 sign me up, 73 planning to enroll, 73% enrollment from EOS survey, 254 sophomores enrolled in AP/IB. JFK lost some staffing, which impacts ability to offer AP & IB.

Anti-Racist School Leader Survey: goals include

- (1) ensure school equitability implements MCPS grading & reporting policy;
- (2) all staff show common understanding of how to be anti-racists;
- (3) all staff receive training on restorative justice, and trauma-informed and equity-centered approaches.

69 referrals this year.

MCPS is revamping the SIP process; Dr. Rubens thinks it is an “upgrade”.

Question from parent Rochelle Fink: she was very involved in PTAs in Whitman Cluster (where she lives); my son loves his experience at JFK, but the varsity tennis team has to leave school at 1:30pm to get transportation to matches because the tennis court is not ready yet. JFK is not only school w/ construction delays. Dr. Rubens agrees. She followed up and asked what can we do to bring this to light? Dr. Rubens will follow-up with athletic director to see what adjustments should be made to matches. Kristen suggested more parent involvement to help the PTSA voice these concerns.

SPRING TESTING UPDATE by Deyjah Chappell

Deyjah Chappell Spring State Testing Calendar (Algebra 1, English 10, MISA (Biology), NSL Government). 4/18 testing begins (Thursday & Friday make-ups). MISA & Government has to be completed within 2 weeks. [Testing memo](#) will be going out soon. Parent Marilee Davenport asked what time tests would be administered. Ms. Chappell said they usually are morning tests. State of Maryland said all students have to sit for the test; all four of these tests are needed for graduation.

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES by Kirsten Murray

Kirsten Murray presented the draft [February Meeting Minutes](#) to the membership. Marilee Davenport moved to approve the minutes, Carol Christensen seconded, and they were approved by voice vote.

Kirsten mentioned that as of 3/20, 2 additional adults became members since last month (total of 78 members: 20 faculty/staff, 5 students, 49 parents/guardians, 2 grandparents, and 2 business/community members). That is the same number of members as this time last year. Kirsten also mentioned that she emailed 30 potential members and offered them ½ price memberships.

MCCPTA UPDATE by Sharon Atterbury

Sharon quickly brought up the following items of interest from the MCCPTA. Please see the presentation for additional details.

- New plan for Board of Ed MCCPTA DCC Cluster Meeting on May 3.
- Montgomery College wants to be a community resource.
- Parent Square is here: new app that may help with language barriers between MCPS and communities.
- Crown Boundary scope underway, including redistricting.
- KLA-RA (complaint from the public) form improvements.

NEW TREASURER INTRODUCTION by Kristen Walker Painemilla

Mimi Ramos had to step down as PTSA Treasurer. The PTSA Board of Directors elected Bonnie Bender to take over as Treasurer.

FORMATION OF PTSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE by Kirsten Murray

[PTSA Nominating Committee](#) is comprised of 3 members, to be appointed by the Board of Directors 2 months prior to the May General Meeting (and Officer Elections) on May 16 this year. The committee

should elect a chair. The purpose of the Committee is to nominate an eligible person for each office to be filled and report its nominees to the general membership at least 10 days prior to the May 16 General Meeting (when the membership elect officers).

The only officer vacancy we have for next school year is the role of PTSA President (2-year term):

- Preside over meetings or designate an alternate officer;
- Coordinate the work of the officers and committees;
- Review bank statements monthly; and
- Represent Kennedy HS PTSA at council meetings or designate an alternate.

POST-PROM COMMITTEE UPDATE by Takia Wormley

Takia will meet with IHOP tomorrow to discuss providing breakfast for 175-200. She has already reached out to Mrs. Davis to ask how many students will show up at post-prom. Takia said she needs a POC at Wheaton Volunteer Rescue Squad. Dr. Rubens said he will be the liaison with Brian McGuinness & Roger Marks @ WVRS; they have already blocked off that evening for JFK Post-Prom. The committee has to determine the best time, but need to allow enough time to clean-up afterward for the church that uses the space on Sundays.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS by all

Staff Appreciation Week (May 1-5) is coming but we forgot to ask which day does Dr. Rubens want the PTSA to sponsor a breakfast? Kristen will follow-up with Dr. Rubens. The schedule last year was the following:

- Tuesday: PTSA provided yard cards & breakfast.
- Wednesday: Dr. Rubens/JFK provided lunch.
- Thursday: PTSA provided Cinco de Mayo lunch, as well as goodie bags in mailboxes; ice cream & treats provided by Dr. Rubens/JFK

We hope the new principal will be announced at the April 20 Board of Ed meeting.

Kristen Walker Painemilla moved to adjourn the meeting, Carol Christensen seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

14 ATTENDEES (PLUS 5 OF VIRTUAL ATTENDEES):

Kristen Walker Painemilla, parent/guardian

Ricky Ribeiro, parent/guardian

Kirsten Murray, parent/guardian

Bonnie Bender, parent/guardian

Sharon Atterbury, parent/guardian

Carol Christensen, parent/guardian

Marilee Davenport, parent/guardian

Dr. Joe Rubens, JFK Principal

Dr. Deyjah Chappell, JFK staff

Kofi Frempong, JFK staff

Leyla Fandey, JFK staff
Yancy Murillo, parent/guardian
Andrea Murillo, student
Samantha Lee, student
Amanda Herold, JFK staff (virtual)
Diana Silva, student (virtual)
Ciana Robinson, student (virtual)
Takia Wormley, parent/guardian (virtual)
Rochelle Fink, parent/guardian (virtual)

PTSA website: <https://kennedyhsptsa.memberhub.com>

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