Navigating TJ
Online Resource Guide for Students and Parents

Part I:
Daily Life at TJ

2014-2015

Online Access: http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/stayinformed.htm

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology,
6560 Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA 22312
703-750-8300 www.tjhsst.edu
Navigating TJ – Guide for Students and Parents

Part I:  Daily Life at TJ

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About TJHSST

Governor's School for Science and Technology in Northern Virginia

Established in 1985, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is the result of a partnership of businesses and schools created to improve education in science, mathematics, and technology. Representatives from business and industry and staff of the Fairfax County Public Schools worked together in curriculum and facilities development for the school. In recent years, local business leaders and Jefferson parents have formed the Jefferson Partnership Fund to help raise money to maintain and equip labs and classrooms in the school. As the Governor's School for Science and Technology in Northern Virginia, the school is also supported by the Virginia Department of Education. In addition to providing a specialized education for selected students in Fairfax County, Jefferson also serves other school districts including Arlington, Loudoun, and Prince William counties as well as the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

Mission Statement

The mission of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology is to provide students a challenging learning environment focused on math, science, and technology, to inspire joy at the prospect of discovery, and to foster a culture of innovation based on ethical behavior and the shared interests of humanity.

TJHSST Administrative Staff

- Evan Glazer (Principal): evan.glazer@fcps.edu
- Mary C. McDowell (Assistant Principal): mcmcdowell@fcps.edu
- Shawn DeRose (Assistant Principal): spderose@fcps.edu
- Tinell Priddy (Assistant Principal): tinell.priddy@fcps.edu
- Brandon Kosatka (Director of Student Services): bpkosatka@fcps.edu
- Rusty Hodges (Director of Student Activities): berkeley.hodges@fcps.edu

Helpful Links

TJHSST Home Page: http://www.tjhsst.edu/
TJHSST Calendar: http://www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=tjhsstcalendar&jsenabled=1&winH=905
TJHSST Dept. of Student Services: http://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/
TJHSST College and Career Center: http://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/career-center/index.html
TJHSST PTSA: http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/
TJHSST Athletics: http://www.colonialathletics.org/
Links to Booster Groups: http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/links.htm
TJ Partnership Fund: http://www.tjpartnershipfund.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TJHSSTStudentServices
Twitter: http://twitter.com/#!/TJHSSTDSS
tjTODAY (Student Publication): http://www.tjtoday.org/
PTSA Weekly Newsletter: “This Week at TJ” - Subscribe by registering at http://www.tiptsa.org/login.php

General Information

Back to School Forms

See TJHSST’s Department of Student Services website for online forms that should be completed for the new school year: https://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/incoming/index.html. Forms will be placed online when available. Also, visit the PTSA’s website page just for new families, which includes helpful documents, like this, written by parents for parents: http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/NewStudent.htm.

Bell Schedule (Anchor Days, Red Days, Blue Days, JLC)

The TJ day begins at 8:30am and ends at 3:50pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Thursday is designated as a Jefferson Learning Community Day (more information about JLC in the next section), where classes begin at 9:00am and end at 3:50pm. Mondays are Anchor Days, where all 8 classes are held for 45 minutes each. The other days are Block Days, where 4 classes are held for one hour and thirty minutes each. Block days can either be Blue days, where class periods 1 - 4 are held, or Red days, where classes 5 - 8 are held. Students take 7 academic classes and 8th period is for clubs and activities. 8th period is subdivided into two blocks (A & B) on Red Days. Please see chart below for a detailed bell schedule. (Source: http://www.tjhsst.edu/about/tj/bellschedule/)
Variations on this schedule occur periodically due to testing, all-school speakers, pep-rallies, etc. These changes will be posted on the TJHSST calendar. Closures, early closings and late openings will be posted on the Fairfax County Public Schools web site.

**Detailed Bell Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Anchor</th>
<th>Blue</th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Light Blue (JLC)</th>
<th>Red</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TYPE</strong></td>
<td>Anchor</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Light Blue (JLC)</td>
<td>Red</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>9:15</td>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>12:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>1:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>1:05</td>
<td>2:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>2:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>2:05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Jefferson Learning Community Day (JLC)**

**JLC Day** – the Jefferson Learning Community occurs each Thursday morning from 8:00am to 8:50am while faculty meet. Student bus schedules run as normal, but students who drive or get rides to school in cars may arrive at 9:00am. Students use this time to socialize, buy and eat breakfast/snacks, and study. Parent volunteers help provide supervision.

**Curriculum and Graduation Requirements**

Information about TJ’s unique graduation requirements, course guide, AP course expectations, prerequisites to senior research labs and a 4-year planning worksheet can be found at [https://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/academic-resources/index.html](https://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/academic-resources/index.html).

**Grading Scale and TJHSST Academic Standards**

The FCPS grading scale is

- A (93-100) = 4.0
- A- (90-92) = 3.7
- B+ (87-89) = 3.3
- B (83-86) = 3.0
- B- (80-82) = 2.7
- C+ (77-79) = 2.3
- C (73-76) = 2.0
- C- (70-72) = 1.7
- D+ (67-69) = 1.3
- D (64-66) = 1.0
- F (below 64) = 0.0

Honors courses are weighted with an additional 0.5 quality points; AP and post-AP courses (for which an AP is a prerequisite) receive an additional 1.0 weight. Please contact your counselor with any questions.

Additionally, according to TJHSST Regulation 3355.10, “An enrolled student shall maintain a cumulative B average (unweighted 3.0 grade point average) at the end of each school year in order to remain a student in good standing at TJHSST.” There is no class rank at TJHSST. Please contact your counselor with any questions.

**Honor Code**

As members of the Thomas Jefferson community, we honor academic and personal integrity. We uphold the values of honesty, integrity, respect and responsibility. For more information about the honor code, reporting academic integrity violations and the procedures the school will follow for a first, second and third offense, see [http://www.tjhsst.edu/abouttj/integrity/honorcode.html](http://www.tjhsst.edu/abouttj/integrity/honorcode.html).
Advocacy Guidelines for TJHSST Students

Students should expect that...

- All assignments requiring additional materials posted by the teacher and due the next class period must be posted on BlackBoard by the end of the school day in which the student attended the class. There should not be any surprise assignments added over a weekend.
- Flexibility is considered with more than 2 major tests or assignments due on a given day. Under such a condition, students may ask any one of the teachers, in advance of the test day, to reschedule the assignment. The student must respect the teacher’s decision to grant or refuse the request.
- All members of assigned or student selected groups are expected to contribute at equivalent levels. They should make a determined effort to resolve group issues on their own initially. Students should ask for and expect assistance from teachers or their counselor to resolve issues related to group dynamics and achievement when their own attempts are unsuccessful. Students must make the teacher aware of problems prior to submitting the group work for grading.
- They receive timely feedback for all assignments. Generally, tests and quizzes should be returned within a week. Lab reports and lengthy writing assignments should be returned within 2 weeks. These times should be considered average and may not apply to all assignments/situations. Students have a right to ask a teacher when to expect an assignment to be returned.
- They have a right to receive feedback on all assignments/assessments that might inform understanding on future assessments. Students should receive this feedback prior to assessment of similar material a second time, in order to correct errors that might be repeated.
- They have the right to ask questions about content, for which they are responsible but for which they did not receive class instruction, prior to a graded assessment on that content.
- They have a right to review graded activities in order to learn from their mistakes.
- They have a right to understand the source of their grades (assignments that were included in the grade; weighting of assignments, etc...), and can request a grade sheet at interims and at the end of each quarter.
- They have access to a course syllabus and grading guidelines on BlackBoard by Back to School Night.
- Teachers to implement the TJ Program of Studies outlining appropriate knowledge and skills for their course at rigorous standards that will prepare them well for their next course.
- Homework assigned over extended breaks (winter, spring, etc...) will be not more than that equivalent to homework assigned on one regular school day unless additional opportunities to complete the homework were offered prior to or after the break (such as in the case of extended projects or writing assignments).

Appeal Process Guidelines

When students find themselves in situations where they believe their rights have not been honored, they should self-advocate through the following channels in order as presented:

- Attempt to resolve the issue with the teacher with a straightforward and honest conversation.
- Work with their counselor to better understand the situation and work towards resolution, perhaps with a meeting facilitated by the counselor.
- The student should report the concern to the class administrator if action has not been taken to address the concern.
- If students are not able to resolve the issue after following steps 1-3, then they should get their parents involved by setting up a meeting with the teacher, counselor, and possibly an administrator.

Attendance

See Attendance Policy: http://www.tjhsst.edu/abouttj/attendance/ for information on absences, late arrivals, early dismissals, etc. TJHSST follows the FCPS attendance policy. http://www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/ssaw/SRR/index.shtml. Please call and leave a message on the school attendance line, Ms. Kathy Young 703-750-8315, with the spelling of the student’s name, grade, reason for absence, and a phone number where you can be reached, if your student will be arriving late or missing school. If your child needs to leave early, have your child bring a note signed by the parent/guardian to Ms. Young in the front office in the morning, and they will receive a pass to give to their teacher. (It’s best to make outside appointments during 8th period on M, W, or F).

Transportation (Bus Depots, Late Bus schedule, etc)

Each participating jurisdiction is responsible for the transportation of its students. In Fairfax County, for example, TJ students take their neighborhood bus to a depot stop (which is often their base high school); from there, they transfer to a different bus, which transports them to TJ. In the afternoons, these students take a bus from TJ to a depot stop, (usually a neighborhood elementary school), where they may transfer to another bus which takes them to their neighborhood.

When Late-Activity buses are involved, the Office of Security Services, a 24-hour number, should be contacted. Late-Activity buses for Fairfax County residents run only on Wednesdays. Late-Activity buses for Loudoun County run from Monday through Thursday. All Late-Activity buses leave school at 6:30 pm.

(Note: For weather-related delays in FCPS, bus transportation is still available from the neighborhoods to the base school and then to TJ on the delayed time schedule; and vice versa for early closings. However, if a specific base school has a scheduled delayed opening for other reasons, students must provide their own transportation to their base school in order to catch the TJ shuttle. Please check the PTSA Transportation webpage for these announcements: http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/transportation.htm.)
Questions regarding transportation in your area should be directed to:

- TJHSST Security Director: Bob McCormick 703-750-8331 rdmccormick@fcps.edu
- FCPS Office of Security Services (for after hour emergencies) 571-423-2000
- FCPS Transportation Services http://www.fcps.edu/fts/tran/index.shtml
- Fairfax Co. 703-750-8331 (Bob McCormick - TJHSST)
- Arlington Co. 703-228-6640
- Loudoun Co. 571-252-1700
- Prince William Co. 571-402-3916

Policy for Students Riding Different Buses

TJ students may only ride a different bus than the one to which they are assigned IF: 1) There is room on the bus which they wish to ride, and 2) It is a school related reason, i.e. an assignment, project, etc. which is verified through the teacher. Students need to request (via email to rdmccormick@fcps.edu) a day before they intend to change buses. Please provide the route on which the student will ride, the school project and teacher’s name. Students are not permitted to ride a different bus because of outside activities (athletic practice, dance class, stay over, etc.) Those are considered by Transportation to be the responsibility of parents.

Emergency and Weather Delays/Closings

The media is notified by 5:00am for school delays and by 10:30am for an early closing, whenever possible. Closures, early closings and late openings will be posted on the Fairfax County Public Schools web site (http://www.fcps.edu/news/emerg.shtml), on TV Channel 21, and via e-mail/text message to parents through KIT.

Delayed Openings:
- FCPS 2-hour delayed opening – TJHSST opens at 10:30am (Note: See Transportation section above for important bus information related to delayed openings).

Early Closings:
- FCPS 1-hour-early closing – TJHSST closes at noon, 12:00pm.
- FCPS 2-hour-early closing – TJHSST closes at 11:00am.
- TJHSST Activity Hotline 703-827-6002 for status of activities and sports events.

When participating jurisdictions are closed and Fairfax County Public Schools are NOT, students from the other jurisdictions are not required to attend school but students should inform their teachers of the reason for their absence and make separate arrangements and deadlines to complete work that was assigned that day.

Visitors and Volunteer Parking

All visitors to the building during school hours must report to the Main Office and will be required to present a picture ID, such as a driver’s license or log in at the Lobby Guard Station. After a background check, visitors will receive a visitor’s badge, which must be displayed while on school grounds. Volunteers must wear a volunteer name badge while volunteering in the building. Students wishing to bring a visitor to school must bring a permission note from a parent to the Main Office and obtain a “Request for Visitor Form” to be signed by teachers whose classes will be visited. Students should return the completed form to the Main Office for administrative approval two days before the expected visit.

Due to the construction related to our exciting renovation, parking is extremely limited. Look for Visitor and Volunteer parking signs, which may relocate from time to time. Currently, Visitor/Volunteer parking is in the small lot directly in front of the new main entrance, door #8. Overflow visitor/volunteer parking can be found on the right hand side of the access road leading up to the football field during the hours of 9:15am – 2:00pm only. The access road is used for “kiss-n-ride” and is the only road used to exit TJ. Outside of these times, if you are visiting TJ, additional overflow parking for visitors and volunteers can be found past the football fields in the senior gravel lot on the left side of the access road. Parking for staff and teachers will be around the back of the building and access to that area will not be available to others in the morning (other than buses). Parking rules change frequently due to the renovation and the school will email updates to parents if they sign up for emails through FCPS’ “Keep In Touch” system.

School Psychologist

TJHSST’s school psychologist is Greg Myers, a former TJ student himself. He works half-time at TJ, so is best reached at gdmyers@fcps.edu or 703-750-8365. Please note that students (and parents) are encouraged to consider their assigned counselor as a first point of contact. For FAQ’s about the role of the school psychologist, please visit http://www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/psychologists/faqs.shtml. For additional resources on mental health, substance abuse, bullying, domestic violence, and crisis hotlines, please visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/prevention/toolkit_agencies_orgs.htm#mentalhealth.

Social Worker
TJHSST’s social worker is Danielle Armstrong who is an expert on community resources (financial, mental health, neglect, and emergency services). She is available at TJ on Wednesdays and Thursdays and can be reached at dsarmstrong@fcps.edu. Ms. Armstrong hosts a social skills lunch group on Thursdays, and is the sponsor for B block yoga.

**Special Education Services**

The Department of Special Services provides specialized instructional, psychological, social, preventive, and related services to help meet the unique needs of students with a disability and those students who have a 504 plan or IEP. For more information, go to http://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/special-education/index.html or contact Martin S. Dubin, Dept Chair, at msdubin@fcps.edu.

**Clinic / Medications**

The health office goal is to provide a healthful and safe school year. Contact TJHSST’s school health aide, Kirstin Stamper, at 703-750-8320, or our school public health nurse, Diane Allen, at 703-388-1341 with questions. When medication must be administered during the school day, please follow the guidelines established in the current version of FCPS Regulation 2102 http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/healthservices/StudentHealthServices.shtml. Various health and medical forms are found here: http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/healthservices/forms.shtml.

**Lunch**

All students eat lunch during the same period and are free to eat with their friends in the cafeteria, outside in the courtyards, in the hallways, and other designated areas on campus. Students must remain on campus for lunch but seniors who are taking two online courses and who drive to campus will be allowed to eat off campus on Mondays, starting in the 2014-2015 school year. Students may pay for lunch with cash, check, or online through a pre-paid account at www.mylunchmoney.com. For more details about the FCPS food program, go to http://www.fcps.edu/fs/food/serve/lunchmenus.shtml.

**Lost and Found**

Lost and found bins are located on the first floor, near Gym 2, but may be moved periodically due to the renovation. Check there for various clothing items, books and binders, and lunch totes that are recovered by staff. For items of high value such as cell phones, calculators, jewelry, and wallets, check with the security office, Mr. McCormick, robert.mccormick@fcps.edu, to recover your property.

**Library Information**

The library’s electronic databases can be accessed from home through its web site at http://www.tjhsst.edu/research-academics/library/databases.html. The library phone number is 703-750-8325. The library is open most days from 7:45am -4:00pm, except on Thursdays. On Thursday mornings, parent volunteers supervise the library during JLC beginning at 8:00am.

**Personal Electronic Device Usage Policy**

During the school day, 8:30am - 3:50pm, students are not permitted to use personal mobile devices to make phone calls or send text messages without the authorized permission of a staff member. Under unusual circumstances, permission to make calls or send texts can be approved on the basis of instructional purposes or in an emergency. Students are permitted, however, to use personally owned devices based on SR&R conduct during lunch time, outside of classrooms during the school day, and also inside classrooms under the explicit permission of classroom teachers.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities (SRR) and Parent Companion Guide**

FCPS prepares a booklet known as SRR that delineates the legal rights and responsibilities of students and the rules of conduct and disciplinary procedures applicable to students in FCPS. For more information on topics such as attendance, dress code, right of expression, school records, rules of conduct, and disciplinary procedures, please visit http://www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/ssaw/SRR/index.shtml.

**Communication**

**Student Communications**

**Intranet** (https://iodine.tjhsst.edu/): All students are given their own TJ email address which can be accessed by logging into the TJ email system through the TJ intranet or at https://webmail.tjhsst.edu. Students also actively log onto the TJ Intranet for news and announcements related to activities and opportunities available. All students are also assigned a Blackboard account, where they receive assignments, links to presentations, and other information from their teachers, counselors, the Department of Student Services, and other school departments. **Students may wish to sign up for their own KIT account**, too, in order to receive information from TJ, Dr. Glazer, and related information to the TJ community, as well as information from FCPS about weather related closings, etc.
Parents should sign up for 3 different databases that TJ primarily uses to communicate with parents (KIT, Blackboard-Parent View, PTSA):

1. **Keep in Touch -KIT** (News from the Principal and FCPS)

2. **Blackboard/Naviance (Parent View)** – input email address in “My Information” (News from Department of Student Services/ Counselors, Teachers, College and Career Center)

3. **PTSA** (All school news, Academics, Athletics, Booster groups, etc):
   - PTSA Weekly Newsletter ("This Week at TJ") Subscribe by registering at [http://tjptsa.org/login.php](http://tjptsa.org/login.php)
   - PTSA Monthly Newsletter (Tech cetera) [http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/newsletter.htm](http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/newsletter.htm)

**Academics and Advising**

**Department of Student Services (DSS)**

From the beginning of freshman year to graduation day, the Student Services Department continuously works with students and their parents/guardians to design an academic plan that advances personal goals and satisfies the rigorous graduation requirements for a ‘TJ Diploma’. During the academic year, DSS offers a variety of programs on subjects ranging from ethics and leadership to the college application and transition process. Please visit the [DSS website](http://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/index.html) often to learn more about these services, including general counseling, academic advising, the College and Career Center [http://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/career-center/index.html](http://www.tjhsst.edu/studentservices/career-center/index.html), and Special Education Services.

To see a counselor, students may schedule an appointment on the Counselor Appointment Calendar and by obtaining an appointment pass from the Administrative Assistant in the Student Services Office. Parents may schedule appointments with a counselor either by phone or email. The Student Services office is open 8:00am to 4:30pm.

**Student Activities and Athletics**

**Department of Student Activities and Athletics (DSA)**

Currently, Thomas Jefferson High School offers over 165 clubs and activities and 25 varsity sports. For a complete listing of the clubs and activities offered, click [http://www.tjhsst.edu/students/activities/index.html](http://www.tjhsst.edu/students/activities/index.html) and click on the categories to view each activity. The Director of Student Activities and Athletics is Rusty Hodges, berkley.hodges@fcps.edu, and the Student Activity and 8th Period Coordinator is Joan Burch, joan.burch@fcps.edu.

**8th Period**

TJHSST maintains an eight (8) period schedule with every class meeting on Monday and block scheduling the rest of the week. Therefore, 8th Period meets on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Although 8th Period is a required part of the school day, there are no formal academic classes offered. Instead, this embedded time allows students the opportunity to receive academic assistance, to explore a new interest through a club or to socialize with friends in a supervised activity. Since the school day ends at 3:50 pm (an hour and a half later than other Fairfax County high schools), 8th Period enables students to explore a wide variety of interests, including athletics, performing arts, and the humanities, without having to stay after school. Attendance during 8th period is monitored through the 8th Period Office, under the supervision of the Director of Student Activities.

**Athletics**

**“We Came for the Sports!”**

Everyone knows that many TJ students will say that “We Came For the Sports!” A large number of our students participate in sports at TJ, including the 25 Varsity Sports teams. Our students not only work hard in the classroom, but also on the field. Please visit the colonialathletics.org website for sports news, team schedules and rosters, and important announcements. [http://www.colonialathletics.org](http://www.colonialathletics.org).

**Physicals**

Anyone who wants to participate in sports is required to complete a sports physical. The current physical form can be found here [http://www.fcps.edu/supt/activities/atp/docs/VHSL_PPE_Feb2012.pdf](http://www.fcps.edu/supt/activities/atp/docs/VHSL_PPE_Feb2012.pdf). For each year that an athlete participates, he/she must have an updated physical dated AFTER May 1st the previous school year. So for example, if you wanted to participate in sports next school year (2014/15), the earliest that you can have your physical is AFTER May 1, 2014. TJ's Athletic Boosters ([http://www.colonialathletics.org/](http://www.colonialathletics.org/)) holds a fundraiser each year to have physicals available at TJ. **Cost is $50; Date coming soon.**

**Concussion Testing**

Each year every athlete and one parent of every athlete must view a short on-line presentation about concussions before the athlete is
allowed to try out and participate in sports. Links for both the parent and student athlete tests are found here http://www.fcps.edu/supt/activities/atp/health/concussion/ceov_program.shtml. Once the parent has completed the slide show, the program will issue a certificate. Parent completion of the concession education program will be entered automatically into a database that the Athletic Trainer and Activities Office will access. After the student-athlete has completed the slide show, there is no certificate to print. His/her completion will also go into that same database. Additional required sports participation forms are to be completed BEFORE tryouts and are found here http://www.colonialathletics.org/index.cfm?action=main_fileslinks.

Supporting TJ

PTSA

The PTSA needs your volunteer and financial support to help with student activities, faculty/staff appreciation events, award receptions for students, much needed office equipment and supplies, community outreach and service events, landscaping, Reflections contests, and advocacy with the Fairfax County School Board and Virginia legislature. Your financial support benefits all students during the coming school year.

How Can You Help?

- **Become a Member or Make a Donation** - [http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/support.htm](http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/support.htm)
  - Your $25 membership fee includes a free TJ directory. Please note: If you put your contact information into the PTSA database, this does NOT mean you are a member. You must do this step separately.
- **Free Money** – Shop at Stores that Reward TJHSST [http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/support.htm#shop_at_stores](http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/support.htm#shop_at_stores)

Booster Clubs

TJ’s booster clubs are essential to providing the support needed to run many of the enrichment programs in which our students are involved. Parents are needed to run these organizations and provide the financial and volunteer support required to keep these programs active. Please visit the following links from the PTSA or TJHSST website for more information.

- **Academic Boosters** - [http://academics.tjhsst.edu/aboosters/](http://academics.tjhsst.edu/aboosters/)
- **Athletic Boosters** - [http://www.colonialathletics.org/index.cfm?action=main_boosters](http://www.colonialathletics.org/index.cfm?action=main_boosters)
- **Band Boosters** - [http://tbands.org/](http://tbands.org/)
- **Choral Boosters** - [http://www.tjhsst.edu/research-academics/fine-arts/choir/choir-boosters.html](http://www.tjhsst.edu/research-academics/fine-arts/choir/choir-boosters.html)
- **Crew Boosters** - [https://sites.google.com/a/tjcrew.org/tjcrewweb/boosters/boosters](https://sites.google.com/a/tjcrew.org/tjcrewweb/boosters/boosters)
- **Theater Boosters** - [http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/boosters/theatreboosters/](http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/boosters/theatreboosters/)

Thomas Jefferson Partnership Fund – [http://tjpartnershipfund.org](http://tjpartnershipfund.org)

The TJ Partnership Fund (“TJPF” or “PF”) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization that raises funds to meet TJ’s unique needs as a premier public science and technology high school. PF funds are used to supplement renovation costs, purchase equipment for TJ’s labs, to fulfill technology or other classroom needs, to make possible special events such as the tjSTAR research symposium, to enhance faculty support and professional development opportunities, and to fund initiatives such as the Principal’s “One Question” grants.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

TJ needs you! Please check out the wide variety of volunteer opportunities to suit any time commitment you desire. Share your talents and passions with other involved TJ parents to help support our school. Sign up today!

- **Boosters**: [http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/links.htm](http://www.tjhsst.edu/parents-community/ptsa/links.htm)
- **TJPF**: [http://tjpartnershipfund.org/](http://tjpartnershipfund.org/)

Outreach

**STEMbassadors** - [http://www.tjhsst.edu/~emglazer/ stembassadors/index.html](http://www.tjhsst.edu/~emglazer/ stembassadors/index.html)

STEM is an acronym for Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics. STEMbassadors volunteer at neighborhood school-based STEM events and TJ outreach events aimed at inspiring the joy of learning at the prospect of discovery to younger populations. STEMbassadors include TJ students, other area high school students, TJ parents, alumni, and corporate partners who work alongside us in promoting STEM. STEMbassador Parent Liaisons are needed to coordinate student volunteer needs with local schools.

PTSA Helpful Tips

Each week, the PTSA publishes a Helpful Tip in the weekly Newsletter “This Week at TJ”. Click on [Helpful Tips Archive](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BxjS5iDwaJ46RjVPQUR4VTZTTTA/edit?usp=sharing) to see all tips.
Navigating TJ was written by PTSA Parent Volunteers to help the next generation of TJ families.