Call to Order: PTSA President Denise Bunting called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm in the TJ Library.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the PTSA Board Meeting held on December 8, 2011. Draft minutes had been emailed to members and attendees and were distributed at the meeting. Secretary Sara Schneider advised the members that information had been added to the draft minutes in the President’s Report, Membership, and New Business. After members reviewed the updated minutes, a motion to pass the modified minutes and attachments was made, which was seconded and passed unanimously.

President’s Report: Denise Bunting thanked the Hospitality Committee for the refreshments. She reminded parents that Senior Night is January 18 and that $25 class dues must be paid in order for students to receive their diploma. Denise told junior parents that the Student Services Flip Book and power point on the college application process are both extremely helpful with navigating college admissions. Denise announced that Curriculum Night for current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be on Thursday, February 16. Leslie Culman asked parents to sign up for class coffees with Student Services. Denise reminded committee chairs to pay their PTSA dues and issued a last call for volunteers for the nominating committee. She asked the group for their thoughts on the new format for the Techcetera and said that the PTSA is putting together a committee to coordinate fundraisers for all of the Booster groups at TJ. Denise said that FCPS Staff want to amend Regulation 5810 to require that all Booster funds be managed by FCPS Finance employees. Parents questioned the need for the change, asked if FCPS was planning to compensate Booster groups for their capital assets, and inquired why FCPS employees were initiating policy changes which are within the purview of the elected School Board. Dr. Glazer said that he didn’t think FCPS planned to buy out booster groups and noted that TJ Crew Boosters would probably be treated differently than other booster groups at TJ since Crew is not an FCPS-sponsored activity. Denise said that the PTSA Board will be meeting with Booster Presidents on January 19 to discuss the proposed changes to Regulation 5810.
SGA President’s Report: Helen Hastings said the Under Armour competition would announce the winner on ESPN tonight (subsequently, the PTSA learned that TJ did not win 1st place). She said that SGA would be awarding two $200 grants for service projects during Service Week. She spoke about the 7th grade Leadership Conference and the SGA retreat at Camp Highroads in March, which was rescheduled from last summer. She mentioned upcoming class events included the Senior Talent Show, the Junior Pi Miler, the Sophomore Winter Dance, and the Freshman Lock In.

Faculty Report: Jim Rose introduced the Faculty and Staff member in attendance: Sean Burke, Mike Auerbach, Rick Monteverde, Adam Wong, and Betsy Sandstrom. Jim Rose said 2nd quarter will end early on January 20 and that the exam schedule has been posted.

Principal’s Report: Principal Evan Glazer introduced staff and shared photos of neuroscience, bioscience, prototyping, robotics, astronomy lab, gymnastics, and the swim team. He thanked teachers for working on recommendation letters for seniors over Winter Break. He spoke about the need for bus passes caused by bus overcrowding and said that FCPS will be running a study in June to see if a bus depot approach would serve students better. Dr. Glazer said that there has been a significant jump in thefts in the school. The 5-7 incidents per day, which tend to be of electronics and wallets, are occurring primarily in the Cafeteria, Gym 2, Aud-Lob and are occurring during the school day as well as after hours. He asked parents to let him know if they become aware of electronics being available to students at “bargain” prices. He said that he doesn’t plan to install surveillance cameras before the renovation, unless a “high need” - like the current situation - presents itself. He feels the cameras will be most helpful with solving problems on the access road. He commented that the morning traffic patterns have changed and that they are looking at creating a 2nd drop lane on the access road. He said that TJ will probably gain and additional entrance or exit with the renovation. He said that he will be sending out a KIT seeking corporate partners to advance the curriculum and to work with the Partnership Fund. Dr. Glazer then spoke about the TJ Honor Code and said that academic cheating is the largest violation of the SR&R at TJ. Next month, he will initiate a dialogue with students, teachers, and parents to discuss how TJ handles cheating. He said that the spectrum of disallowed activity ranges from inappropriate collaboration to the extreme of stealing tests and changing grade books. He noted that sometimes student inadvertently plagiarize when they fail to appropriately cite their sources.

Treasurer’s Report: Frances Kim said that as of December 31, PTSA Membership Dues were at 89% of budget at $6,000, Free Money was at 54% of budget with $8200 and that ANGP Ticket Sales were at 43% of budget at $25,000. She reminded parents to use the TJ link when they shop on Amazon. She said she currently has $1,000 in Staples money and told members to send her to email her if they need a coupon for a PTSA project.

Membership: Pam Swift reported that the PTSA now has 918 members and reminded people to please join, if they have not already done so.
Government Relations: Cheryl Buford explained that TJ gets money through the local school districts and $4,479 through the VA Legislature. Cheryl said that this allocation reflects an increase of $41 over the prior year’s funding. She said Capitol day is on March 5.

Letter Jackets: Celeste Fritzon and Dr. Glazer modeled the new letter jackets and reminded everyone that the jackets are available through Burke Sporting Goods.

ANGP: Bruce Summers said they had filled 109 of the 600 volunteer slots. He thanked Frances Kim for her support. So far, ANGP has raised $15,000 in donations in addition to ticket sales. They are also looking for volunteers to help put together a senior class DVD.

Academic Boosters: Linda Loffredo thanked parents for their support and said Academic Boosters will be holding a call-a-thon in March.

Crew Boosters: Sara Schneider asked parents to support TJ student-athletes who will be erging in Crew’s Annual Million Meter Ergathon on February 10.

Orchestra Boosters: Denise Bunting said that Orchestra Boosters purchased 6 practice cellos and 4 bows for the orchestra. Three of the cellos were presented during their last concert.

Partnership Fund: Hilde Kahn said the Partnership Fund has raised $70,000 so far. She said that the Partnership Fund will be holding a phone-a-thon for the freshmen and sophomore classes during the last week of February. They will also conduct a separate “Junior Lab Appeal” to raise money from junior parents for each parent’s child’s chosen lab.

New Business: None.

Announcements: Dr. Glazer announced that students, teachers, and parents will be invited to participate in the ethics meetings next month.

Adjournment: Denise Bunting announced that the next meeting would be held on 2/2/2012. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.