Attendees: Dr. Evan Glazer, Denise Bunting, Celeste Fritzson, Amy Shaw, Frances Kim, Sara Schneider, Sharon Sneed, Robin Hatanpa, Anna Ryjik, Lin Zhang, Reghu Gopinathan, Luming Wang, Jim Rose, Jaheda Guliwala, Janet Minkler, Thuy Dang, David Quach, Eric Males, Carol Anne Kelly, Alice Tang, Bo Lu, Elizabeth Koser, David Rogers, Judy Bello, Stamo Georgiou, Helen Hastings, Warren Parker, Heidi Wernzt, Poonam Nangarlia, Anju Malhotra, Priti Jain, Kal Majumdar, Yuzhen Ge, Younghee Suh, Heenam Choi, Yvette Sutton, Shalini Srivastara, Aparna Puri, Yun Pang, Bruce Summers, Venkat Korupolu, Kanak Gupta, Meena Krishnan, Faye Henris, Andrea Smith, Hilde Kahn, Grace Chung Becker, Shawn Lukas, Sally Nanas, Vince Wang, Konstantin Sizov, Stephanie Bahm, Jeff Steele, Sanjay Pyrf, Brandon Kosatka, Ki Lee, James Sun, Kerstin Hildebrandt, Julie Klosky, Jeannie Conry, Balayi Doraiswamy, Ed Barbano, Julie Martin, Meera Abrishami, Madhavi Korupolu, Lakshmi Bala, Deidre Defoe-Jimenez, Rajni Goel

Call to Order: PTSA President Denise Bunting called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the TJ Library.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2011, PTSA Meeting, which had been distributed by email and made available at the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

President’s Report: Denise Bunting introduced Sharon Sneed, Parliamentarian, who briefly discussed her handout on Robert’s Rules of Order. Denise acknowledged the PTSA Board, the Administrators and Staff members in attendance and welcomed all new parents to TJ PTSA. She thanked the volunteers who worked over the summer, especially the Directory/Database Team, and the many people who helped with the Back to School Bash. Denise shared that TJ PTSA distributed $15,000 to support faculty development last year. She said the PTSA’s Diversity Test Preparation program began on the 24th and that a new outreach program called STEMbassadors would be kicked off in October. Denise encouraged everyone to join the PTSA and to enroll in the Free Money programs. She urged parents to sign up as 8th Period Volunteers. Denise mentioned the PTSA-sponsored AP Breakfast and spoke about the PTSA-purchased snowblower and floor cleaner. She touched on the new Lobby Guard system in the main office and reminded parents about the SR&R rules on medication and dress code. She also commented on the renovation and urged parents to support the bond referendum in November.
SGA President’s Report: Helen Hastings spoke briefly about Homecoming Week and rescheduling the football game from Friday to Monday. She said that 1500 tickets were sold for the dance and the Freshman class took 3rd place over the Sophomore class. Freshman class elections will be held the last week of October. The SGA’s service project to honor 9/11 First Responders will be held the same day as President Obama’s visit.

Faculty Report: Jim Rose thanked the PTSA for the BTS Faculty breakfast. He mentioned that both Sophomores and Juniors would take the PSAT on October 12. He acknowledged the faculty and staff who were in attendance: Judy Bello, Milde Waterfall, Andrea Smith, and Sharon Sneed.

Principal’s Report: Principal Glazer shared a slideshow of photos from Homecoming Week and President Obama’s visit on September 16. He spoke about his goals for TJ this year and reminded parents to attend BTS Night on October 5. He urged everyone to support the Bond referendum in November. If it is approved, TJ’s renovation will begin in 2013 and conclude in 2015. He said that staff would be submitting proposals in October on ways to satisfy the new Economics/Personal Finance requirement for the Class of 2015, including a proposal for Credit by Objective. He spoke briefly about this year’s One Question book about Henrietta Lacks. Principal Glazer gave an overview of the new security system in the front office and said that FCPS is considering installing surveillance cameras in common areas like cafeterias and lobby spaces. He invited parents to attend a meeting on surveillance in the Career Center on October 5, before Back to School Night activities. He then said that there had been some safety issues during morning drop off and reminded parents that traffic patterns on school property are predominantly one-way. He emphasized that Minor Lane is a one-way street.

Staff Report: 8th Period Advisor, Allison Agee, was not at the meeting. Denise requested that parents obtain FCPS badges from Gatehouse, so that they may volunteer during 8th period and serve as a club sponsor during weekend competitions.

Treasurer’s Report: Frances Kim gave a summary of the 2010-2011 Budget, with income of $44,000, expenses of $56,000, and a net loss of $12,000. She said that this was a planned loss. Last year, the largest expenditure was the faculty allocation. The largest revenue increase was in Free Money, which grew from $11,000 to $17,000. Denise said the September report would be filed for audit and presented with the 2011-2012 Budget for approval at the next General PTSA Meeting at Back to School Night on October 5.

Membership Report: Pam Swift said that there were currently 665 paid PTSA members and that she’d like to look into ways to increase memberships. Faye Henris suggested that the PTSA consider bundling membership with purchase of an Online Directory next year.

Government Relations: Ricki Guyant explained that the members of the Government Relations committee interact with individuals at the 19 Virginia Governor’s schools. Last year, 9 of the 19 school participated in the newly launched Capitol Art show. She said that the committee visited the Capitol in January and were instrumental in raising our funding cap.
Free Money: Vince Wang asked everyone to participate in our free money programs. He said that Amazon is our biggest contributor. Stamou Georgio reminded parents to renew their Giant cards.

TJ Letter Jackets: Celeste Fritzson said that the PTSA will have jacket samples at Back to School night and that parents can order their jackets at Burke Sporting Goods this year. She mentioned that students can earn a letter for sports, academics, and other activities, as well.

All Night Graduation Party: Deidre Defoe and Bruce Summers explained that ANGP was started in 1987 by the Virginia State Police and the State Board of Education. Volunteer sign up will be done online this year. Six hundred parent volunteers are needed! Parents of underclassmen are needed to set up ANGP so that Senior parents can attend their child’s graduation at the Patriot Center.

Reflections: Heidi Werntz said the theme this year is “Diversity Means ...” There will be a bin in the front office for submissions. The deadline is October 21.

Booster Groups: Sara Schneider said Crew’s Family Interest Night would be on 10/19 in the Cafeteria.

Volunteer Coordinator: Rajni Goel urged parents to sign up as volunteers in the PTSA database soon. Volunteer lists will be sent to committee chairs in the next few days.

Partnership Fund: Hilde Kahn said that the primary focus of the Partnership Fund is to support TJ’s Labs. She spoke briefly about the Corporate Advisory Board and an Alumni Advisory Board. She also said that the Partnership Fund is always looking for parent volunteers to help Ellen Smith with administrative work.

Safe Homes Pledge: Denise Bunting told parents about Safe Homes, a parent pledge program used by other area high schools. Parents who participate in the program sign a pledge stating that they will not allow minors to consume alcohol in their homes. The PTSA Directory could include a check mark next to the families who participate in the pledge program.

Announcements/Upcoming Events: Denise reminded parents about the Band Booster’s Spaghetti Dinner that would be held before the next PTSA General Meeting at Back to School Night on October 5.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.