

RAIDER REPORTER



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

MARCH 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am so excited to be moving into spring soon! As this happens, I want to take a quick moment to highlight a few areas for you to focus on as we partner with you to support our scholars.

Auction Update: Another huge thank you to everyone that helped make this year's TJ RPM Auction such a success. With your help, our Raider Parent Movement was able to raise \$46,000 for our school. All of the proceeds from the auction go directly to our clubs, activities, sports teams and scholarships. We are so thankful to you all for helping us provide resources and opportunities for all of our children, with no monetary barriers. RPM works hard each year to support the 4 A's at school. Academics, Arts, Activities, and athletics. Students succeed when they feel a part of their school. At Thomas Jefferson High School, we work hard to provide multiple areas of interest for our students. If we don't have a club that interests them, we want them to create their own club. The auction was a beautiful celebration of our TJ community. It was a beautiful night. We celebrated the multiple talents we have on campus: students, staff and parents. I am beyond proud to call myself the principal of this incredible school.

Rebuild update: A huge thank you to all of the families that came out to share their ideas and concerns with our Architect team, Bassetti Firm, at our Listening Sessions earlier this month. The team also met with over sixty staff and multiple diverse teams of students from every grade level to hear specific ideas and focus points as we begin our planning phase for our new rebuild. This is an exciting time for us at TJ! There will be more opportunities to share if you were unable to join us during the last round.

School safety is paramount to us as educators. In light of recent events, the district has been working very hard to provide more in-depth training for staff around what to do in case of emergencies. TJ has one of the best Emergency Response drills in the state, but there are many different scenarios to prepare for. I wanted to share with you that we as a staff will be going through more training for these types of situations later this week. TJ is a big school, so we want to work together with our school staff, district security, and the local police to be sure our students are safe.

Attendance Focus: As we move into spring, please have a quick chat with your students about finishing the year strong. When the weather gets



Principal

Adrienne Chacon

Dates to remember:

3.30

**Appreciation of the
Arts Assembly (60 min)**

3.31-4.4

Spring Break

4.13

Talent Show

4.16-20

Multicultural Week

4.20

**Multicultural
Assembly**

4. 24

MYP Night

nicer, it is far too easy for students to make poor choices about going to class. If a student is not in class, they cannot learn. Please help keep them accountable by periodically checking their attendance on ParentVue, and checking for missing work in the gradebook. We want to work together with you to help our kids succeed. If you have not yet signed up for ParentVue, we will have people at Conferences available to help you.

Testing Update: We are heading into testing season at TJ, with the Smarter Balanced Testing for Juniors this month, and Sophomores in April. Juniors and Seniors will begin IB testing in May, then the WCAS, the comprehensive science assessment for Juniors in June. That does seem a little crazy, but standardized assessments do have their purpose. We use them as a tool to measure growth of students from year to year, so that we can adjust our teaching to better meet the needs of students at TJ. Please encourage your students to come and share how much they have grown this year during our assessment windows.

Graduation Reminder: Finally, one more reminder to our Senior parents that this year students will not be allowed to walk at Graduation unless they have completed all requirements by June 8th. For students still working to achieve that goal, there will be further opportunities for Credit Retrieval during Spring Break. Seniors always receive first choice, but we hope to serve some Juniors as well. Please contact your student's counselor for more information.

I hope you all have a wonderful Spring Break! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Principal Chacon



Raider Congratulations!

Speech and Debate

Congratulations to the Thomas Jefferson Speech and Debate Team for their best finish at the Stanford Invitational in years! Hakeem Shibly led the way with a second place finish in original oratory. Zach Wall and Amanda Fowler made it to finals and finished in sixth place in duo interpretation. And the team of Grace Scuderi and Erica Dillard placed 12th overall in duo interpretation making it all the way to the semifinals.



Raiderette Dance Team

Congratulations to the Raiderette Dance Team! They put in a lot of hours on this particular Saturday (13 + hours!) but it paid off. They placed 3rd in the Hip Hop category at the Kentwood Dance Olympics competition and 3rd in Pom at Lakes HS. They also qualified for state in all three dances and will be competing March 23-24 in Yakima. Good job, ladies!



Skills USA - Emergency Response

Congrats to the following First Responders for bringing home our 8th consecutive Puget Sound Skills USA Regional Championship!

1. Kieyzhaya Hicks	1035	6. Chase Schueter	977
2. Blanca Raymundo	1017	8. Jacqueline Roman	961
3. Praises Orji	1015	11. Alex Chon	914
4. Hieu Tran	995	12. Kimberly Salgado	887
5. Llesni Monico	981	13. Ana Zacarias	847

Reminders

Spring Break

Spring Break is during the first week of April from April 2nd to April 6th. (Not including weekends)

Stem Night

Scholars of all ages and their families are invited to attend the second annual STEM Exploration Night at Todd Beamer High School on March 28, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. You'll have the opportunity to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers by meeting representatives from STEM companies and college and apprenticeship programs. After-school STEM clubs will host interactive booths and show off pieces they've created, and there will be a live Sphero robotics programming competition, a chess tournament and more!

More information about STEM Exploration Night is available in the FWPS app and online at www.fwps.org/STEMExpo. We look forward to seeing you there!

Attention all freshmen and sophomore parents/ guardians:

We are thrilled to invite you and your child to MYP Awards Night! Please join us this evening to formally recognize the achievements of our Middle Years Programme (MYP) students.

Join us in honoring the following students:

- Our 9th graders who have been nominated by a teacher for embodying the mission of the MYP by exhibiting one or more "IB Learner Profile" traits
- Our 10th graders who have successfully completed the Personal Project, the capstone event of the MYP program, as they get ready to begin the Diploma Program (DP)

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, April 24, 6:00-7:30pm in the cafeteria for the celebration! Light refreshments will be available.

Lena Saed - Math Teacher TJHS - 253-945-5653

Spring Sports:

We currently have softball, track, baseball, boys soccer and girls tennis. Come and support our raiders at their games!

March Madness - Food Drive Style

This year's food drive is in the form of March Madness. Each advisory is competing against each other to bring in food with the most points. Advisories that beat the opposing advisory moves on to the next round, and the last advisory standing wins! Different foods are assigned different point values from 1 to 3 points. Advisories that have lost can still contribute to get an ice cream party if they get 150 points. Thank you to all who have donated to this worthy cause!



LEGO Leadership Lock-In Recap

That's what this year's theme was focused around the idea that "Everything is better when we stick together." Over 75 students spent the night at TJ and competed in Riff Offs, scavenger hunts, team building, and listened to Bryan Slater of Sumner HS talk about character capital and how we can use it daily. A big thank you to our student leaders, chaperones, and of course, all the awesome Raiders who spent their Friday night working on becoming better versions of themselves!

