

JMST PTO Meeting 081722

Call to Order at 9:51am

JMST Board Present: Cathy Scheid (President), Alison Kaphon (Vice President), Randi Woodard (Co-Treasurer), Amy McCarthy (Secretary)

Jade Noecella  
Talia Wascom-Simpson

Introduction of staff by Ms. Haste: 7th grade assistant principal Holly Beer, Guy Marino 6th grade assistant principal, School Police Officers, Mr. Vega Ortiz ESOL counselor, School nutrition.

Reports:

Principal's Report - Ms. Haste

There is an issue in the kitchen and the district is looking into the issue to get it quickly resolved so that hot lunch can be resumed quickly. The past two days there was hot lunch available. Despite the problems, there has been breakfast and lunch provided daily.

Smooth opening to the school year. It's the first traditional opening in two years. There are still strides being made to cover the learning loss that happened over COVID. Staff is continually working to help bridge the gap for both the learning and emotional developmental losses.

Jupiter Middle School is still rated an A rated school as is Palm Beach County. Very proud of continuing to be an A school given all of the challenges that have been placed in front of the school. There were significant gains in 7th grade math. 10% gains in 8th grade math. Minor gains in science and civics as well.

There are concerns in the ESE and ELL populations. There is still work to be done on bringing those students up. Bringing these students up will not affect those that are in the middle or on the high end.

Because it is the beginning of the school year there is a lot of repetition of the rules of the school.

There is one teaching vacancy in reading. We have a lower enrollment than projected, about 100 students short. Because of this, holding off on filling the position until the 11 day count has been done. Orchestra position is vacated (1/2 time position) that was unable to be filled. Looking at different ways to move students around so that the number of students that may need the additional support have other ways to fill the loss. There may still be changes in schedules, particularly in the 6th grade classes.

Ms. Casey Runner–New teacher on special assignment. Applied and got the position for AP at Jupiter high school. She is leaving to go back to Jupiter HS.

Thank you to Juanita Deal in the Map to Success Program. Thank you to PTO for making the schedule pick up day go successfully.

Under renovation. Getting new furniture in the library. 88K of new furniture being installed in the library. Somewhat delayed because of supply chain issues. The lights in the hallway are also delayed because of supply chain issues. This has been a big issue. The lights are not standard issue size. The lighting in the main hallway is not great, but fingers crossed that it will come in soon. New furniture in the cafe. New furniture in building one and five as well. New lighting in classrooms throughout the year. Plan is to relocate teachers 2 weeks at a time as the lighting renovations move throughout the school. Making the best of it.

Thank you for a wonderful breakfast. The teachers appreciated the gift card raffle.

Chromebook distribution. Prioritizing the 8th graders. Those students that do not have chromebooks will not be penalized for not being able to do work.

Mental health–continue the Suite 360 mental health lessons. Continuing of the no place for hate. Continuing the global ed program.

Safety updates. Much tighter handle on students movement throughout the school. At each transition time all the doors are opened by staff. They are then locked during the class times. Students are escorted during times when the doors are closed.

No cell phone policy is new and stricter than in previous years. Cell phones off and away or they are taken away. Kids need to be focused on education and less social media.

HOSA kids went to an international leadership conference in Nashville, one group took 3rd place, one student took in the top 10, and one student placed 13th in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Q: What are the chances of getting orchestra back? Ms. Hastey would like to get it back. It was not a financial decision. Unable to find a quality teacher. There were no candidates.

Q: What is up with the marquee? Half of the marquee works. If you are driving North it works, but heading South it does not. There is someone scheduled to come and repair the marquee soon.

Q: School anxiety, are there staff available to help my student deal with this? It could be COVID related or it could be general middle school related. Victoria Shepard is a resource to the students who feel like they need additional assistance.

Q: Is normal volunteering back to normal? Yes, as long as it's approved with a particular teacher that is all great.

Q: Tutoring program? Not sure what the tutoring program will look like yet, but we would like implement both before and after school programs.

Open positions:

Looking for 5 Star Coordinator -

Spirit Night Coordinator -

6th Grade Party Chair - Robin Walder 6th grade Halloween dance, would like a co-chair

Honor Roll Chairs (one chair per grade level) - Nicole Knapp 6th grade, Kimberly Walesch 8th grade

Business Partner Coordinator -

Sign up for newsletter from Juanita Deal and also Facebook for the parent JMS page.