

April 22, 2026 PTA General meeting

Location - Virtual

Time: 6:00 p.m.

1. PTA Member Introductions

Shakeara Knowlin, Parent Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 6:06pm. The PTA Executive Board was present: Donnette Lyttle, Co-President, Monica Barretto Co-President, Alyceson Reyman, Vice-President, Roxana Struss, Treasurer, Marisa John, Co-Secretary, and Helen Lai, Co-Secretary.

2. Review of PTA Mission & Vision

Donnette Lyttle welcomed everyone and presented the PTA's mission and vision statement. She then asked the group to share what they think the PTA's responsibilities are at TU. Parents responded that the PTA is the bridge between school and family engagement, supports teachers and school-wide events, and develops initiatives along with school leaders to change school policy. Donnette explained that the main purpose of the PTA is to support students and staff and provide nourishment to students during performances. She encouraged more parent involvement to increase funding so that the PTA can have a greater impact on areas such as supporting teachers and the college advisor, and better programming for the students.

3. Review of last meeting minutes: 3/25/26

The last PTA meeting was held on 3/25/26 and the minutes were shared via attachment. Rosa Diaz made a motion to approve the minutes and Vadim Korol seconded the motion.

4. Budget Update

Roxana Struss informed the group that the budget update will be shared in the May PTA meeting. She informed everyone that Teacher Appreciation Week was 5/4 – 5/8 and donations were being accepted. When sending Teacher Appreciation donations, put a comment that it is for that event and if those donations were already sent, then email the PTA with the amount donated. Ms. Knowlin will send more information about Teacher Appreciation week and the deadline for donations is 5/1/26. A parent asked about who decides on the type of Teacher Appreciation event and if there is money in the PTA treasury for this. Donnette explained that the goal is to have a luncheon for the teachers based on the donation amount and the PTA treasury funds are used for priority needs.

5. Spring Gala “Where Stars are Born”

Our First Annual TUHS Spring Gala will be held at TU on 5/7/26 at 6pm. Ticket sales are in progress (1 ticket \$45) and the silent auction is live on the PTA website. There are special discounts on tickets such as a party pack of 5 tickets for \$200 and other discount promotions sold at student shows. There are 2 dance shows this week and gala tickets will be on promotion. Parents and students are encouraged to share the links and flyers for the event with their friends, family, and social media. We are still looking for alumni to attend/support the gala and are accepting sponsors and partnerships in the areas of event planning, food, silent auction items, music, decorations, and set-up. If anyone has a friend/family member/organization that can donate experiences,

excursions, restaurant food, silent auction items, gift certificates, etc., please reach out to the PTA. Volunteers are needed for the night of the gala and anyone interested can sign up via the link provided in the chat.

6. PTA Election Nominations

Ms. Knowlin reminded the group that PTA nominations can be sent to her and descriptions of the positions were sent out in an email. The descriptions were dropped in the chat and Ms. Knowlin will send out a follow-up email. The three mandatory positions to be filled are: President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Co-runners were also encouraged for these positions. Rosa Diaz expressed her interest in running for PTA President and Monica Barretto, Alyceson Reyman, Roxana Struss, and Helen Lai also expressed interest in running for their current positions. Sheree Gibson, SLT Chair, informed the group that per Board of Ed guidelines, PTA nominations should be sent to a nomination committee and if there wasn't a committee, then open nominations could be accepted at the next PTA meeting. Also, nominees that are interested in Co-positions should be run together, not separately. Ms. Knowlin asked for volunteers for the nomination committee and Talbot Katz, Lisa Guerney, and Vadim Korol volunteered. Further communication on the nominations process will be sent out via email by Ms. Knowlin.

7. School Updates

Joshua Wickline, Science Teacher, shared that next year's destination for the travel abroad trip will be Costa Rica. This annual trip is held during spring break and the students just returned from this year's trip to Italy. Monica Barretto shared that she and her daughter had an amazing time on the Italy trip. It was very organized and they had a group chat and meetings to go over the activities and logistics of the trip beforehand. The same company, EF Tours, will be coordinating the Costa Rica trip for accommodations, itinerary, airfare, meals, and transportation. This trip will be focused on the biology and ecosystems in Costa Rica. There will be no water/swimming activities for safety reasons and the trip will involve a lot of walking to observe the animals and plants in the region. There is a discounted price for returning students and grades 9 -11 (no seniors) are eligible to attend. There will be an informational zoom meeting on 4/29 to discuss the trip and an email will be sent with more details.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm – Next PTA meeting will be held on 5/20/26 at 6pm