

2025-2026 JPLIS PTG GENERAL MEETING
September 9, 2025 9:15AM
JPLIS Cafeteria

Meeting Called to Order and Welcome

Introduction of 2025-2026 Board Members

- a. Amber Smith – President
- b. Jenn Kelhart – Vice President
- c. Kristin Dudish – Treasurer
- d. Sandy Chisholm – Secretary
- e. Julie Bird – Corresponding Secretary f. Email us at jplisptgboard@gmail.com

The board members made Introductions to the attendees.

Principal's Report

a. Back to School Update - Things are going as expected. The buses are running smoothly. Procedure wise we are hitting our stride. The largest enrollment in years 776. 4th grade bubble is almost 300 kids.

b. Title I - Functions similar to our multitier system of support. We use EF time to deliver targeted academic interventions. Expands our ability for 2 aides and a full-time teacher to dedicate time to academic intervention during EF. We are a targeted program because we use those funds just for that. We keep finding ourselves with an inability to use those funds. We proposed a school wide program so we can expand it to benefit across all grade levels. It comes with a lot of different benefits for parents. Title 1 ensures that all staff are properly certified. It is targeted now and we hope it will be school wide soon.

c. Positive feedback about potential of moving field day to the fall. We would keep tug of war in the spring. This change would give us more flexibility to reschedule if the weather does not cooperate. Will get a final decision soon if we will or won't move it to October to simplify the schedule in May.

d. Mr. McGinty shared that another idea that is being considered is costumes for Halloween again in anticipation of the 3rd graders entering the building. Thinking simply to wear a costume to school and have some common sense rules like no inflatables, no weapons, etc. Parents requested they would like the events to be consistent across the grade levels.

Treasurer's Report – Kristin Dudish

All the updates are on the back of the budget. Raised budget for 6th grade celebration and 6th grade musical since the rights for the musical have increased and got sponsorship money for the t-shirts. Staff appreciation budget increased to accommodate for inflation and Field Day.

Small increase for yearbook. Eliminated music dept and sunshine fund line items since we are not holding the finances anymore.

Total income for 24-25 - \$22,244.11

Total expenses for 24-25 - \$22,652.87

We spent \$406.76 more than we earned for the year which isn't much given we didn't have our major fundraiser.

Voted to approve the budget. M. Cenname, C. Alifirenka.

Turn in forms and membership money anytime, it is a fundraising mechanism for the PTG.

Spirit Wear - Jenn Kelhart

a. Using the same company as last year. Just waiting for mock up ideas to be sent and we will pick a few designs and the website will be live by this week or next. The sale will run for likely 2 weeks. Be on the lookout for that.

Parent question: "How will we get this information?" On the JPLIS facebook and from Mr. McGinty in Infinite Campus. Also in the PTG Newsletter.

Spartan Service Corps – Jenn Kelhart, Julie Bird, Kim Bedrosian, Jen Weber

a. Explained the purpose of the club and the ideas that we have been using and inquiry about any new ideas or connections others may have. This is a new group of parents taking over. Students/Parents should look for the link to come out through email soon - it will include a google form and be first come, first serve with the first meeting on October 1 from 3:30-4:30. December meeting will be Friday December 5th 3:30 - 5 for Sassy Massy Toy Drive.

PTBoard – Julie Bird

a. If your child attended LB or Hopewell - you are probably familiar with PT Board. We are going to implement that here at JPLIS to disseminate information to the parents without having to go through the typical channels, while those will still be utilized. At the next meeting there will be a code for you to scan so you can join us. Just another form of communication that you can embrace. A lot of excitement around this coming up :) You can toggle between the schools on the app easily so it is functional from that viewpoint.

Color Run – Erin Stauffer, Angela Perich & team

a. Explained the premise of what a color run is and what the motivation is for moving it to evening or fall. The Color Run has been scheduled for Friday, October 3rd 5-7pm (Rain date Oct 5). The team has been hard at work organizing this event. This is our primary fundraiser of the year with a goal of \$7500 (\$100/student). The fundraising platform will be Get moving. We will have to pay some fees, but it is user friendly and familiar to all the Hopewell families. You can

send money directly if you want to avoid any fees. We will have some incentives along with the fundraising goals. Swag bags for the first 100 kids to get to the benchmark. Gift cards for the top donors. If we reach our school wide goal Mr. McGinty has agreed to do something silly. May have a poll of the kids to see what they want him to do. Aiming for Monday the 15th to send it out. Family members can pay \$10 to run as well. Students will run for free based on fundraising. Event will also include swag and snacks for sale, photo station, mini dance party and more!

b. Discussed that \$2500 will go toward a Hammock Garden (organized by Mrs. Rasich, our librarian). Mrs. Rasich came to explain about the hammock garden and what it is all about. She shared images of the plans. It will include 30 hammocks in a dual hexagon shape in between the bridges. The purpose is an outdoor reading and relaxation area that is safe and gives the students a change of scenery. They can do academic work, silent reading, reward time, etc. Under the current plan (if the funds are raised), the project should be completed by the end of the calendar year for use come springtime. The hammocks will have shades above, they will be low to the ground and she is looking into ground cover being wood chips or rubber pieces. The facilities part has all been approved. So the project is greenlit - now we just need to raise the funds.

Action Items

- a. Watch for monthly newsletter via email and posted on FB (JPLIS PTG)
- b. Directory needs to be updated by October 10th
- c. Please become a PTG Member
- d. Watch for volunteer sign-ups as events approach or contact us to get involved!
- e. Sign up for Box Tops – search Bethlehem PA 18015

Meeting Adjourned

Principal's Report Upcoming Reminders and Events

9/11/25 - Wear your red, white & blue in honor of Patriot Day.

9/19/25- Southern Lehigh School District is Going Gold! Show your support for childhood cancer awareness by wearing gold and/or black.

9/22/25- No School for Students - SLSD professional development day

9/26/25- Southern Lehigh Attire! Wear anything that says SoLeHi or wear blue & white.

10/3/25 – Color Run Spirit Day!! Dress in as many bright colors as possible in anticipation of tonight's colorful celebration!! – Registration starts at 5pm, run at 6pm (Rain date 10/5 – Time TBD)

10/7/25 - District Dig Pink Day/Breast Cancer Awareness Month~ Get decked out in PINK or wear your Dig Pink shirt. Support the volleyball team by attending their game.

10/10/25 - Southern Lehigh Attire to celebrate Homecoming! Wear anything that says SoLeHi or wear blue or white. Don't forget to head to the football game.

10/13/25 - No school for Students - SLSD professional development day

10/31/25 - Happy Trick-or-Treat Night! Please reference our costume guidelines.

11/3/25 – 6th Grade Musical Parents Meeting (evening – time TBD)

11/11/25 – Pottery Painting Night (evening – time TBD)

11/17/25 – 11/20/25 – 6th Grade Musical Auditions

11/19/25 – 11/25/25 - Scholastic Book Fair

11/24/25 – 12/1/25 – No School for Students – Thanksgiving Break

General PTG Meetings – all held at 9:15am in JPLIS Cafeteria: 10/14, 11/18*, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12

*Note that the November meeting is not being held on the typical 2nd Tuesday of the month. No December meeting.