



THOMAS JEFFERSON PARTNERSHIP FUND

TJ PARTNERS

Giving to advance educational excellence —

Back to School Issue

AUGUST 2009

New School Year Brings Great Excitement, Pressing Needs

TJ Needs You !

Partnership Fund's #1 Partner, Principal Evan Glazer, Agrees:

Parent Support is Critical to TJ's Continued Excellence

Dear TJ Parents:

We all are aware that our building is outdated, that our science & tech labs are in need of refurbishing, and that our faculty has pressing needs for technology — software and hardware — to maintain TJ's national reputation for excellence.

Through the generous donations of cash, gifts of equipment, technology and volunteerism, many TJ parents have risen to the challenge of meeting our school's ongoing needs. They know that private contributions are essential to maintaining the dedication of our faculty, the determination of our students, and TJ's global reputation for educational excellence in the 21st Century.

Please join us in supporting this wonderful public high school. TJ needs your help now more than ever. To those who have given in the past, we thank you so very much. And to those of you who have not yet contributed to TJ through the Partnership Fund, now is the time.

Evan Glazer, principal, TJHSST

Mark A. Skolnik, chairman, TJ Partnership Fund

MONEY YIELDS EQUIPMENT; EQUIPMENT YIELDS RESULTS

The Partnership Fund **raised over \$500,000** during the 2008-09 fiscal year. **Parents donated over \$250,000**, including outright contributions, employer matching grants, and donations made through United Way/CFC. This past year, a generous TJ family made a four-year pledge to TJ of \$50,000!

A Complete List of 2008-09 Donors is inside this newsletter.

The Partnership Fund helped TJ **purchase several major pieces of equipment** for the School's science and technology labs, including the latest significant acquisition, a circuit board plotter.

Cost: \$25,000. Value: Priceless.



Students in the Energy Systems Lab “populate” their circuit boards. Robotics, Optics, Energy Systems, Prototyping and Microelectronics Labs combined their fund requests in order to acquire this state-of-the-art circuit scribe. Before, students either had to fashion circuits by hand - a tedious and time-consuming process that used dangerous chemicals and yielded mixed results - or worked with breadboards that then had to be taken apart and reused by others. The circuit scribe has allowed students to fashion permanent, factory-quality circuits of their own design, freeing them to spend more time on the application.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR DONORS!

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Partnership Fund 101

WHAT WE DO:

Our Mission is to support TJ's educational programs, particularly those special programs that aim to fulfill TJ's overall mission as a science and technology school. The balance of this year's Partnership Fund grants helped the School acquire priority items from the science and technology labs' wish list. Over the years, the Partnership Fund has also supported various non-lab needs of the School, and donors are welcome to direct funds specifically to non-lab priorities.

The Fund approaches potential donors among parents, alumni, alumni parents, corporations and foundations. We act as a broker in forging long-term educational partnerships — as, for example, in the case of Lockheed Martin — and we facilitate and manage relationships that will be beneficial to our school.

Gifts to TJ include cash, contributions through United Way, and employer matching grants. The Partnership Fund also helps facilitate the purchase, delivery and maintenance of hardware, software, supplies, and equipment.

With the approaching renovation in mind, the Partnership Fund has been careful to fund only equipment that can be moved. As the renovation draws nearer, we plan to launch a capital campaign to raise significant funds from corporate, alumni, as well as parent donors, in order to ensure that the new and improved TJ is equipped with what our students need.

HOW WE DO IT: (or, “The Science Behind the Partnership Fund”)

This year, the Partnership Fund is directed by a Board of volunteer directors and advised by three Advisory Boards – Corporate, Alumni, and Parent. The Corporate Advisory Board assists the Fund's director, Gary Bottorff, with corporate outreach efforts. The Alumni Advisory Board is reaching out to over 9,000 TJ alumni. The Parent Advisory Board continues the work of the dynamic and successful Parents Committee. There is no limit to the ways you can help out (*see back of donor form for information*). And remember, our mutually beneficial relationships with many of our closest corporate partners are the direct result of your connections. That's right: Most of our most important corporate partnerships originated through a TJ parent contact!

PARENT ADVISORY BOARD GOALS FOR 2009-10:

1. To raise over \$300,000 from TJ parents.
2. To increase parent participation to the point at which all TJ families are giving to the best of their ability.
3. To build awareness and understanding of TJ's pressing needs and priorities, and of the Partnership Fund's role in securing and managing charitable donations to the school.

ANNUAL FUND: MANY ELEMENTS; ONE GOAL

The Partnership Fund's Annual Fund Drive consists of four appeals — and there's something for everyone! Please find enclosed a donor form for our Annual kick-off, the *Back-to-School Appeal*. Our very popular *Year-End Appeal* features a special incentive gift. In March, our wonderful *Phonathon* volunteers reach out to every parent who has not yet contributed. And at the end of the school year, we offer to all parents the opportunity to recognize our fabulous faculty with a donation in their honor.

WHY WE DO IT:

Partnership Fund volunteers share one belief: That TJ is much more an inspirational 'state of mind' that stimulates, energizes and drives our kids to the achievement of academic excellence. We don't want to allow an aging infrastructure, obsolete equipment, and outdated technologies to hamper our wonderful faculty and hold back the success of our students.

The TJHSST Partnership Fund Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) educational foundation that supports the educational mission of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

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Combined Federal Campaign/United Way # 81947.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.tjpartnershipfund.org