

NEWSLETTER

Issue # 1 | October 2024



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

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NEWS AND UPDATES

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Hello, JKSIA community!

Welcome all to this amazing 2024-2025 school year and our very first PTA newsletter!

We're excited to share the latest updates, bios of our PTA leaders, schedule of events, and how to join the PTA. Balloons Aloft has us FIRED UP! To kick off this year's school events, JKSIA had its balloons aloft at Snow Park, featuring The Raven. The event was on October 4th and PTA hosted a fundraiser serving donuts and cocoa. Together we raised \$340.24! What a great success for our school and the families we serve. Principal Mondragon even got in the basket!



Next Up!

We have some exciting events planned for this year. This month, we're shining a light on JKSIA's annual Fall-O-Ween event!!

- **Community organizations will line the hallways for candy, games, and information.**
 - **Tickets can be purchased from the office. They will be needed and collected at the teacher game/booths as well as the haunted house.**
 - **JKSIA's middle school student council will be hosting it's first haunted house!!**
 - **PTA will be fundraising with sales of pizza, bottled water and lemonade.**
 - **Office staff will be fundraising with sweets!!**
- Be on the lookout for the flyer for this event.**



NOTE: THIS EVENT WILL BE CASHLESS.

JKSIA PTA FOOD FUNDRAISER FOOD PURCHASES WILL BE MADE THROUGH GIVEBACKS PREORDERS START ON 10/23/2024 AND CAN BE DONE THROUGH THE FOLLOWING LINK

<https://www.givebacks.com/causes/nmpta-12631070/campaigns/FalloweenFundraiser>

MEET THE PTA ELETED OFFICERS

Gilber R. Valdez - El Presidente

Known by "Gil" or "Red", he is a proud founding JSKIA PTA charter member (Circa: October 2023)! He has three beautiful daughters: a 1st grader and a set of 3-year-old twins. His wife of 12 years is a middle school educator. He serves our community as a mental health psychotherapist. What he loves most about our community is everyone's willingness to rally together and be the change we want to see in the world. When he's not hard at work for the PTA or full-time job he enjoys strength training, yoga, triathlon, reading, adventures with the kiddos, and playing pickleball with his wife.



Jonathan White - Vice President

Johnathan is the father of two and an avid education aficionado. Being a Research Scientist for the last 6 years specializing in Atom Chip Development, Johnathan earned a MS in Optical Science and Engineering from the University of New Mexico and a BS in Physics from the University of North Texas. When not learning or building, Johnathan enjoys reading books, playing games, or watching movies with the family.



Colette Rodriguez- Interim Treasurer

Colette Rodriguez is a dynamic and resourceful professional from Santa Fe, New Mexico, with a diverse background in business ownership, community involvement, and a career with the Department of Defense (but an Artist at heart). Beyond her entrepreneurial ventures, she's involved in her community, an active mentor, and is committed to personal growth. Her family is at the heart of everything she does, and she takes pride in balancing motherhood with her professional life, with the mentality that Family always comes first. Creativity, leadership, and dedication drive her in all her pursuits, and she's passionate about making a positive impacts on those around her.



MEET THE PTA COMMITTEES

Nikita Garcia - Events Planning Committee Chair

Born and raised in Michigan, Nikita moved with her family to New Mexico in 2020. She has been married for 11 years to Jose Garcia, and together they share three wonderful children who all attend Janet Kahn School. In addition to being an active member of the PTA, she dedicates her time to volunteering at the Agora Crisis Center. She is also pursuing her Master's in Social Work at New Mexico Highlands University. With eight years of experience in the education sector, she is passionate about contributing to her community. She enjoys biking, cooking, music, the arts, and camping with her family in her free time.



**Lyndsey Stephenson
Community Engagement Committee Chair**

Lyndsey is a mother of four JKSA students (wild!) and this is their seventh year as a JKSA family. She loves spending time connecting with others, being creative, making things, and making music.



**Mr. Ramirez
Teacher Support Committee Chair**

Mr. Ramirez has been teaching for 23 years, with the last 11 years as a teacher of gifted students. Last year, he also took on the job of running the STEAM Lab for Janet Khan. When he is not teaching he enjoys cycling, yoga, and spending time with his family.



MEET THE PTA COMMITTEES

Jennifer Beeman - Classroom Volunteers Committee Chair

Jennifer has been a part of Janet Khan School of Integrated Arts for a long time. She attended the school when she was little, this was when the school was still Eubank Elementary! Her oldest, who is now 16 also attended JKSIA, and participated in the name change! She also has a 5th grader and a Kindergartner at JKSIA. Her family are balloonists and showcased the Raven at Balloons Aloft this year. She is very passionate about the school and teachers! She feels that parents and teachers are a team and should work together to better the school experience for all kids, not just her own.



José J. Garcia - Communication Committee Chair

Jose moved to New Mexico to start graduate school at the University of New Mexico in 2020. He has been married for 11 years to Nikita Garcia and has three wonderful children who attend Janet Khan School of Integrated Arts. Besides teaching and conducting research at the University of New Mexico, he enjoys family time such as camping, trips to the park and movie nights. With his experience at the University and time tutoring Middle School students in Michigan schools he is passionate about helping teachers and students succeed. In his free time, he enjoys writing letters to his pen pals and watching anime.



Vacant Committee Chair Seats

Officer Seats

Secretary

Standing Committee Chairs

Fundraising Integration Committee

Membership Recruitment Committee

Special Committees

School of Excellence Committee

Email JKSIA @

jksiapta@gmail.com for more information

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall 2024 Event Schedule

- 10/22 50s Day for the 50th Day of School
- 10/25 Fall-O-Ween Festival *
- 10/30 Story Book Character Dress Up Day
- 11/12 PJ Spirit Day
- 11/26 Turkey Trot
- 12/5 Pep and Attendance Assembly
- 12/10 Tentative Educator/ Staff Appreciation Event *

EVENTS WITH ASTERISK * WILL BE RUN BY JKSI A PTA.

UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED FOOD PURCHASES WILL BE CASHLESS.

PURCHASES CAN BE MADE VIA GIVEBACKS.

Spring 2025 Event Schedule

- 1/14 Spirit Day- Dress as your favorite staff member
- 1/23 100th day- dress as a 100 year old
- 1/25 Tentative 2nd PTA Meeting *
- 2/11 Spirit Day-(Elementary) Stuffed Animal Day, (Middle School) Anything but a backpack
- 3/11 Mixed Matched Sock Day to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness
- 3/14 Kindie 500
- 4/4 Tentative Spring Fling *
- 4/8 Spirit Day- Friendship is Blue, Celebrating Autism Awareness
- 4/10 Art Night
- 4/19 Tentative 3rd PTA Meeting/ Officer Elections *
- 5/6-5/10 Educator Appreciation Week *
- 5/13 Spirit Day- Luau and Tropical Hawaiian Day
- 5/28 Field Day



Join Our PTA!

Fees are \$6 for a yearly membership. Purchase a membership today! Membership term starts July 1 of the current year and expires June 30 of the following year. Paid members have access to our private discord server and are allowed to vote at general meetings on items of business. Non-paid members are not allowed to vote or debate items of action. We do much of our communications via the discord app. Scan the QR code below and get involved today!

Thank you for reading! We appreciate your support and engagement. If you have any feedback or suggestions for next month's newsletter, feel free to reach out!

Stay connected,
JKSIA PTA
jksiapta@gmail.com
<https://www.instagram.com/jksiapta>