TROJAN TIMES

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

November & December 2025 J.P. Taravella High School

Welcome Back

As we wrap up the first semester, we are incredibly proud of all that our students, staff, and families have accomplished together. This semester has been filled with growth, hard work, and many moments worth celebrating. As we head into the holiday break, we hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved time of rest, reflection, and connection with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming the new year with renewed energy and excitement for the bright beginnings ahead.

Mark your Calendar:

December 16-19:
Midterms (Early dismissal)

December 19:
Early Release (12:30 PM dismissal)

January 5:
No School (Employee Planning)

January 8:
Advanced Academics Night @ 6 PM

January 22-24:
Drama Play "Harvey" @ 7 PM

January 26:
SAF & SAC Meeting @ 4 PM

Harvest Drive







Thank you to our students, families, and staff for their generosity during our **Harvest Drive**! Through your kindness and community spirit, we were able to collect an impressive number of food items to support local families in need. This meaningful effort reflects the compassion and teamwork that make our school community so special. We are proud of our students for showing how small acts of giving can make a big difference.

NJROTC Success









Our cadets participated in **Nova HS Brain brawl Competition** where they placed 2nd out of 16 teams! Their dedication to studying and diligence was rewarded. Team 1 (2nd place): **Cadet Oliver Luscombe, Cadet Alicia York, Cadet Alex Moses, Cadet Aurora Coughlin, Cadet Miguel Gutierrez** Team 2: **Cadet Aaron Bien-Aime, Cadet James Robinson, Cadet Michelle Vincent, Cadet Jaylen Benitez**

Congratulations to all the participants of the **Boca Gold Coast NJROTC competition: 1st Place individual female push ups: Cadet Jada Thelwell, 3rd Place- individual academics: Cadet Oliver Luscombe, 4th Place: 100m relay: NJROTC relay team, 5th place: Unarmed Basic Drill- NJROTC Drill Team**

DECA



JPT DECA members showed up and showed out at the CTACE Entrepreneurship Leadership Day Conference where they heard from amazing guest speakers and were challenged with various problem-solving scenario-based competitions and exercises. They took on these tasks with excitement and had lots of fun in the process!





School Beautification Project







We are thrilled to share that our recent school beautification project was a wonderful success! Led by Taylor Maffett, students came together to enhance our campus, creating a more vibrant and welcoming environment for everyone. A big thank you to all the students who participated!

STATE Champ!





Cole Youngblood competed in the 50 Freestyle and 100 Freestyle at the FHSAA State Swimming Championships AND WON ON BOTH COUNTS!!!!
Cole is one of only two disability swimmers competing in the FHSAA State Series. Way to go!

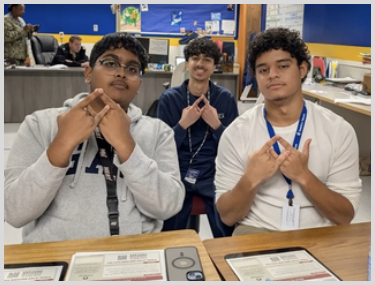
School Duel



J.P. Taravella has been selected (for the second year in a row) to compete in the **School Duel** high school trivia competition on Beacon Tv. Filming will be in January with March or February air dates. Currently team sponsor, **Mrs. Kirschner** is practicing with interested students and finalizing the 2025-2026 Trivia Team!

Blood Drive

DECA teamed up with One Blood for our annual blood drive. Many students stepped up to contribute to this incredible cause.







Mentoring Leaders of Tomorrow

Students in **MTL (Mentoring Tomorrow Leaders)** and teachers spent a Saturday volunteering their time at The **Broward Education Foundation second annual School Culture and Student Support 5K Run**. The event raised awareness and funding for mentoring and prevention programs that directly benefit students throughout BCPS. Kudos to all those who participated.







BSU and MTL presented a "Real Talk" assembly in the Auditorium. The purpose of the program is to have prosecutors and other lawyers visit high schools each semester to talk about the role of lawyers and prosecutors in the criminal justice system.



Trusted Adult Week

Broward County Schools' Trusted Adult Week is an initiative to encourage students to identify and connect with a caring adult at school. It helps create a school culture where students feel safe and supported by having at least one adult they can turn to for help. Our Student Support Instructional Specialist, **Ms. Medastin** in partnership with our School Counseling department led a week of making connections with students and highlighting all our trusted adults on campus.









BRACE







Mrs. Hernandez, BRACE Advisor has had a successful start to the year with lots of events for students to prepare them for college and career readiness. Some events include: **College and Career Week, BRACE Club Meeting, JPT College Fair, Teen Summit, UF College visit to JPT, Human Relations Student Council and Peer Counseling Student to the No Place For Hate Pledge.**

Class of 2029

Students from the class of 2029 spent their Saturday assisting **Commissioner Patterson** at the walk for Breast Cancer. They were able to run with **Olympic Gold Medalist, Yohan Blake and Miss Universe Jamaica 2025, Gabrielle Henry**. The Freshmen Class Officers also held their first Community Fundraiser of the year at Pasquale's Pizza and Cold Stone Creamery.
Although, they are the new kids on the block, they truly have embodied the trojan spirit. **Kudos to Ms. Young and all the Freshmen Class Officers!**











MTL Induction



Mr. White, Sponsor of MTL (**Mentoring Leaders of Tomorrow**) spearheaded this year's induction ceremony. MTL is a peer-to-peer mentoring and student leadership program that promotes academic advancement, pupil progression, student engagement and successful school completion utilizing the MTL Five Pillars. Way to go Trojans!

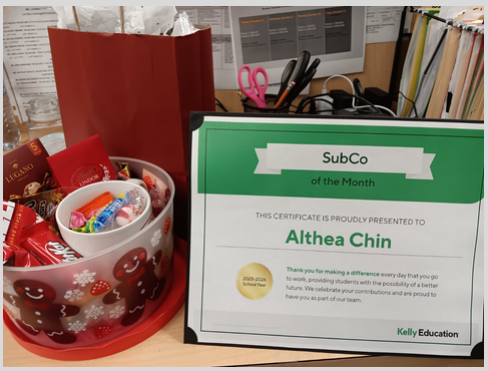
Kreul Showcase



Our **JPT Unified Olympics** team had the incredible opportunity to perform during the halftime show at the **Kruel Classic**, and they did a fantastic job! Their energy, teamwork, and school spirit truly shined on the court. The evening was especially exciting as our **Varsity Boys Basketball defeated Coral Springs Charter**! We are so proud of all our Trojans for representing JPT with pride and enthusiasm!

Congrats!

Congratulations to **Mrs. Chin** as the **Sub Coordinator of the Month** from Kelly Services! Her dedication, organization, and commitment to supporting our staff and students make a meaningful difference every day. Thank you for all you do to keep our school running smoothly—we truly appreciate you!



District Champs!



Our **Competitive Cheer team** clinched the District Title. We are incredibly proud of Coach Julie, and the amazing cheer athletes who brought home the championship with power and precision.

JPT Drama





For the first time in 11 years and 5th time in school history-their fall musical-A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum was selected to perform at the Florida Thespian Festival in March. This is a huge honor-and one very few schools achieve each year.

Choir



Our **Choir** had the opportunity perform at the **Parker Playhouse** with the professional ensemble Seraphic Fire at a Broward sponsored **SEAS concert**. Mr. Luechauer, Curriculum Supervisor to Music & Performing Arts K-12, shared the following sentiments with us, "**I would like to congratulate you and your choral program for doing such a wonderful job last week at our Winter Festival of Music at the Ft. Lauderdale airport.**" This is a testament to all the hard work **Mrs. Beharrie** and her choir students give!

Band



JPT Band performed at **Coral Springs Annual Holiday Parade**! What an honor and a sight to see from our talented Trojans!

Candy Gram

Freshman Class Sponsor **Ms. Young** had a MAGICAL time showing SGA Spirit. Thank you to our Staff and Students for participating in our **Candy Cane Grams**!



Choir & Orchestra Concert





Huge congratulations to all of our talented performers who participated in this year's holiday concert! You sounded absolutely incredible, and your hard work truly shined. What a fantastic performance, we are so proud of you all! Thank you to Mrs. Cartagena & Mrs. Beharrie's leadership all year long!

Medal of Honor of 5k



JPT NJROTC cadets participated in the 6th Annual Medal of Honor 5k! It was a fun and great event to honor great American Military Heroes. Our cadets integrated with JROTC units and displayed exceptional teamwork and camaraderie- and most importantly endurance!





Athletics



We are so proud of our Taravella Football & Cheerleading All-Stars who were recognized at the recent All-Star Banquet.

Football All-Stars (Seniors): **#61 Kaden Lawrence, #77 Myrlinski Jean-Charles, #80 Eddie James Jr.**

***Myrlinski Jean-Charles received a scholarship for his leadership on and off the field and for always being willing to help others.**

Cheerleading All-Stars: **Alyssa Rodelo & Aiden Ryscik**

***Alyssa Rodelo was recognized for the highest GPA at the banquet!**

So proud of how these athletes represented Taravella Athletics with poise and excellence.

Little Trojans

Our Little Trojans were so excited to receive a special visit from Santa! **A special thank you to our principal Mrs. DeArmas, and our SRO's Officer Hatem and Officer Murray (Santa)** for joining in on the holiday spirit!



Thespian Troupe 3502





Congratulations to the cast (**Samuel Caycedo, Mia Pagan, Marco Medina, Jaida Grossett, Mark Davis, Austin Blakely, Atlas Renda**) and crew (**Aubree Fogle, Emma Khodadadi, Sophia Greene, Eesha Mahabir, Miles Pope, Kailani Quintana, Gianna Duran, Alessandra Luna, Nicholas Gnann, Madelen Ryan, Davina Pitamber**) under the direction of **Alyvia Rigg** for their work at the District 7 Thespian One Act Play Competition! The troupe was once again selected as one of two plays to represent District 7 at state for their production of Dinner with the MacGuffins. Other awards as follows:

Superior Overall
Superior Tech
Best Tech for festival
All Star Cast-**Austin Blakely**
All Star Crew-**Alyvia Rigg** (Student Director)
Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Marco Medina
Best Actor in a leading role: **Samuel Caycedo**

Congratulations also to **Alyvia Rigg** and **Iliana Almanzar** for running the event!

Teacher Spotlight

The City of Coral Springs invited our ProStart (Culinary) team to serve and prepare lunch for their Commission Retreat.



"Dear **Chef Goodman**,
Kuddos!!!!
WOW!!!
Delish!!!!
People are still talking about the lunch your students prepared and served yesterday at the Commission Retreat. They are asking for the same menu at the next one, so well done."

Resiliency Resources:

The Parent Guide to Resilience:
https://resilienceguide.org/

Three Ways to Boost Your Resilience as a Parent:
https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/three_ways_to_boost_your_resilience_as_a_parent

Resilience Guide for Parents and Teachers:
https://www.apa.org/topics/resilience/guide-parents-teachers

Resilience for Teens: 10 Tips to Build Skills on Bouncing Back From Rough Times:
https://www.apa.org/topics/resilience/bounce-teens

REMINDERS:

- **IDs MUST be worn at all times while on campus**
- **Students MUST follow BCPS dress code**
- **Cell phones should be out of sight during the school day**

Together we made JPT an 'A' school!

Official School Page: jpttrojans
Events/School life: jptsga
PTSO: jptaravellaptso



