**TEXAS STATE JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE**

Fall Board Meeting Minutes

Virtual via Zoom

September 12th, 2020

1. **Call to Order and Attendance**

Kagan Baker, TSJCL President, calls the meeting to order at 9:39 AM.

Kagan Baker *President*

Emma Schmidt *First Vice President*

Monique Hoarau *Second Vice President*

Amy Zhou *Secretary*

Aubrey Falkiewicz *Outreach Coordinator*

Maddie Ray *Historian*

Abby Harn *Treasurer*

Bering Edwards *Parliamentarian*

Heidi Tamm *Editor*

Emily Ding *Proxy for Webmaster*

Kat Sabo *Co-convention Coordinator*

Alivia Mayfield *Co-Convention Coordinator*

Linh Nguyen *Area A Co-chair*

Lauren Dumont *Area A Co-chair*

Sarah Luciano *Area B Chair*

Doris Olenkiewicz *Area C Chair*

J.B. Lilley *Area C Chair*

Emma Engler *Area D Chair*

Aiden Keenan *Area F Co-chair*

Elijah Kleinman *Area F Co-chair*

Will Snider *TXSCL President*

Lorelei Ing *TXSCL Vice President*

Lan Nguyen *TXSCL Secretary*

Thelo Lewis *TXSCL Treasurer*

Ashley Xie *TXSCL Parliamentarian*

William Lee State *Co-Chair, Sponsor of Outreach Coordinator*

Lauren Dill *State Co-Chair*

Mary Beinemann *State Co-Chair, Sponsor of Second Vice President and Editor*

Kimberly Read State *Co-Chair, Sponsor of Area D Chair*

Melisande Santos *State Co-Chair, Area C Chair*

Jennie Luongo *Sponsor of First Vice President and Parliamentarian*

Michael Wells *Sponsor of Secretary*

Rebecca Thomason *Sponsor of Historian*

Rachel Butcher Conn *Sponsor of Area B Chair*

Andrew Ellis *Sponsor of Area F Chairs*

Laura Hedec *Webmaster Sponsor*

Michael Waehner *Convention Coordinator Sponsor*

Kyle Drugan *Area A Sponsor*

Patty Gaskamp *Area C Chair Sponsor*

1. **Old Business**
   1. Robert’s Rules of Order: Bering Edwards, *TSJCL Parliamentarian*

Bering Edwards posts a document in the chat to refer to if the officers have questions during the meeting. He quickly overviews virtual voting and the proper usage of the words move and motion. Specifically, you cannot motion to do something.

Mr. Lee reminds the board that only student officers are allowed to vote.

Bering Edwards gives a few examples.

* 1. Minutes from Spring Board Meeting: Amy Zhou, *TSJCL Secretary*

Amy Zhou reviews the minutes from the Spring Board Meeting.

* 1. Minutes from the Pre-Nationals Meetings: Amy Zhou, *TSJCL Secretary*

Amy Zhou reviews the minutes from both pre-national meetings.

* 1. Minutes from the National Convention: Amy Zhou, *TSJCL Secretary*

Amy Zhou reviews the minutes from the three state fellowships held during the national convention.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to accept the minutes from all meetings.

Bering Edwards so moves.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 10:22 AM.

* 1. Officer Reports
     1. Kagan Baker, *TSJCL President*

Since the Spring Board Meeting, I attended the virtual NJCL Convention, ran our state’s

NJCL t-shirt publicity and distribution, led the State Fellowships, and attended various officer

bonding calls. After the convention, I then sent out the official invitation and agenda for the Fall

Board Meeting. I have revised the English Oratory rules and judging sheets, as well as

completing this Officer Report. I also have been in communication with our NJCL president and

other state presidents on how to improve the JCL at a state level as a whole. I have looked at

potential new additions and revisions to the TSJCL and the State Convention, and also

proposed the new theme for the State Convention.

* + 1. Emma Schmidt, *TSJCL First Vice President*

Since the Spring Board Meeting, I have attended Nationals at which I attended colloquium for Vice Presidents and spent time bonding with fellow officers. I have revised the academic contest rules and Certamen rules. I have also made a plan for TSJCL Beyond Convention, a program I hope to implement this year. Finally, I have met with my mentor Ms. Dill to go over my rule changes and other plans for this year.

* + 1. Monique Hoarau, *TSJCL Second Vice President*

Since the spring board meeting, I have attended nationals and have participated in fellowships and various other activities. I have created lists of prompts for the prejudged writing contests. I have also been in contact with my mentor, discussing proposals for my term, and various aspects of implementation and other details (as well as started to contact other officers for their input on the proposals). In addition, I have edited my portion of the Classical Civilization rules, and have submitted them to the TSJCL google drive and my mentor.

* + 1. Amy Zhou, *TSJCL Secretary*

Since the last board meeting, I attended the National Convention and took minutes for our three TSJCL fellowships there, as well as for our pre-national board meetings. I also wrote the welcome letter for the membership packet and met with my mentor to discuss possible changes to the packet’s format. Besides this, I have been in contact with potential speakers for colloquiums for our state convention.

* + 1. Abby Harn, *TSJCL Treasurer*

Starting Balance (May 18, 2020): $39,115.60

Balance at Hand (September 12, 2020) : $36,053.58

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| **Income** | **$913.00** |
| Aristotle Award Donation | $440.00 |
| SCL membership & shirt sales (cash from 2018) | $473.00 |

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| **Expenditures** | **$4232.98** |
| State Convention | $254.02 |
| National Convention Officer Reimbursements | $440.00 |
| Scholarships (Aristotle, TCA, NJCL) | $2,990.00 |
| Winter Board Meeting (check rewrite) | $8.00 |
| Postage and Printing | $241.97 |
| Storage | $214.00 |
| Web Hosting Services | $84.99 |

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| **Adjustments** | **$257.96** |
| Adjustments for Meal Refund Checks not Deposited | $230.00 |
| Adjustments for checks not Deposited (WBM travel & Conv supplies) | $27.96 |

* + 1. Aubrey Falkiewicz, *TSJCL Outreach Coordinator*

Since the last meeting, I have updated the Social Media accounts, especially with updates pertaining to Nationals, informed and promoted the spirit and service events that were to occur at Nationals, helped promote the state-wide spirit contest, attended the meetings that were in preparation of Nationals, and I have helped coordinated and lead the Board bonding sessions.

* + 1. Maddie Ray, *TSJCL Historian*

Since the last board meeting, I’ve attended the 2020 Virtual NJCL Convention. There I attended events such as Certamen matches and the talent show. At the convention, I took pictures of various events, along with creating and running the school spirit contest in order to receive entries for the scrapbook. I have also revised the publicity, cartoon, scrapbook, poster, and illustrated quote contest rules in preparation for the state convention. Finally, I have attended the board bonding meetings in order to get closer to my fellow officers.

* + 1. Bering Edwards, *TSJCL Parliamentarian*

At Virtual Nationals, I ran Voting Fellowship with Kagan to collect the TSJCL’s votes for the National Candidates and NJCL Bylaw Amendments, and I used google forms to collect information from students who might be interested in running for TSJCL office in 2021. Since Nationals, I have been researching methods for the 2021 TSJCL Elections if the convention needs to be held online. Additionally, I have worked with my mentor, Ms. Dill, to write four proposed amendments for the TSJCL Constitution and Bylaws which I plan to (preliminarily) propose at the 2020 Fall Board Meeting.

* + 1. Heidi Tamm, *TSJCL Editor*

Since the last board meeting, I attended nationals and officer bonding sessions as well as planning meetings before nationals. I have conducted two surveys: one for participants' experience at nationals and one for getting to know the officers. I have also received stories from the intermediate Certamen team members and a “That’s Entertainment” participant.

* + 1. Shruti Siva, *TSJCL Webmaster*

I have been creating the new website and mocking up its features with content from this past year. I have also been handling email transfers and name changes for the new TSJCL and TXSCL officers. And, I have been updating the current website with any applicable information.

* + 1. Linh Nguyen and Lauren Dumont, *TSJCL Area A Co-Chairs*

Since the Spring Board Meeting, we attended the NJCL Virtual Convention. We were also notified that the Area A teachers and sponsors have decided that the Area A Convention will take place in an online setting. Finally, we talked with our mentor and chose not to revise the Vocal contest rules due to there not being a past State Convention last year to base changes off of.

* + 1. Chantell Bolden and Sarah Luciano, *TSJCL Area B Co-Chairs*

We have so far looked into how T-shirts will be handled both for a virtual and physical convention.We have started looking into activities for both a physical and virtual convention. If things go according to plan we would hold a physical, but also want to hold a virtual convention for students who don’t feel comfortable attending physically (Still needs to be discussed and approved by San Antonio Classical League). The date right now is set February 26th for certamen and February 27th for the main events, but could still be changed. We have finished our revisions for Latin Oratory. I, Sarah Luciano, have also attended officer bondings.

* + 1. J.B. Lilley and Doris Olenkiewicz, *TSJCL Area C Co-Chairs*

The Area C Co-chairs were recently selected to organize and plan a Virtual Area C convention scheduled for February 2021. We are currently planning to conduct the convention wholly online, though Marcus High School is willing to host an in-person meeting should the COVID-19 pandemic allow it. The chairs met to revise the costume contest rules and align them with the new national nomenclature guidelines.

* + 1. Emma Engler, *TSJCL Area D Chair*

Since the Spring board meeting, I have attended Nationals, edited the play contest rules, and started preparing for Area convention. Regarding my revisions, because physical art, provided there is only one entry per school, will be accepted if made in the 2019-2020 school year, I thought we should accept plays written during that time period as well. In making preparations for Area, we are still unsure as to whether we will be holding the convention in-person or online, but we are thinking about what to do for both scenarios. I met once with my sponsor for a couple of hours to start organizing supplies.

* + 1. Aiden Keenan and Elijah Kleinman, *TSJCL Area F Co-Chairs*

We have scheduled the weekend of February 19-20, 2021 as the dates for the Area F Convention. We are on the calendar to potentially use Anderson HS that weekend provided that health guidelines allow us to use the facility. We are also making preparations to hold any and all events virtually. Aiden has attended bonding sessions in order to get closer with the other officers. We have felt it necessary to update only the year on the Talent Show rules document. We have also prepared a draft of the flyer for the talent show. This flyer includes the rules for the talent show, registration information, and our email.

* + 1. Alivia Mayfield and Kat Sabo, *TSJCL Co-Convention Coordinators*

Since the Spring Board Meeting, we have been able to start meeting again, and we’ve begun looking at dates for holding the 2020-2021 convention. The dates we are currently considering and working with our schools to get confirmed is the weekend of April 23rd-24th if all goes well, and we can physically have state at our campus. We are beginning to look back into the materials that we had prepped for last year’s state convention before it was cancelled, such as our scheduling and rooming. We will be adjusting these elements as needed to accommodate new restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. **New Business**
   1. Convention During a Pandemic:
      1. State Chair Update*: State Chairs*

Mr. Lee is hoping for an in-person convention, but for now we need to plan for both virtual and in-person. We'll make a decision in January.

Ms. Dill wants the officers to brainstorm how the convention can be virtualized. She tells them to consider how nationals were run this summer.

* + 1. Convention Details: Kat Sabo, Alivia Mayfield, *TSJCL* *Convention Coordinator*

Kat Sabo says they plan to hold state on April 23-24. Their district has given them no assurance that we will be allowed to have a large gathering in the Spring, nor would they expect them to at this point, so they’re waiting for more confirmation from the district. They’re keeping plans from last year in place but beginning to think of where they can alter things.

* + 1. Convention Theme: Kagan Baker, *TSJCL* *President*

Kagan Baker posts in the chat his idea for the convention theme: “Aut inveniam viam aut faciam,” “I shall either find a way or make one,” from Seneca’s Hercules Furens (line 276). He says it fits well with what’s going on right now, and he likes the idea of the TSJCL having perseverance. It’s also really fun because it’s attributed to talking about elephants and could be a good theme for T-shirts.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor for discussion or approve the theme.

Elijah Kleinman moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Kat Sabo seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 10:37 AM.

Elijah Kleinman likes it and praises Kagan for finding this theme.

Mr. Lee agrees that this is a good theme, and notes that the quote is attributed to Hannibal.

Ms. Dill comments that it is quite alliterative.

Elijah Kleinman moves to close the floor for discussion.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The floor closes at 10:39 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor for discussion or approve the theme.

Elijah Kleinman moves to go to voting in favor of the new theme.

Emma Schmidt seconds the motion.

The theme is approved at 10:40 AM.

Ms. Read notes that this will be the theme for English Oratory and the convention, but we are going to include last year’s theme on programs and T-shirts.

* 1. Trophy Report: Emma Schmidt, *TSJCL* *First Vice President*

Emma Schmidt states that the trophies are still in Houston. Most have not been not used, so she is planning to, based on how the state convention looks and what contests still happen, re-plaque most of them. We did use Certamen plaques, so we will need to reorder those.

Mr. Lee adds that we need to reorder medals for Latin Student of the Year and Certamen.

* 1. Contribution to William and Jane Nethercut Excellence Endowment, *State Chairs*

Mr. Lee says that after putting this on the agenda, Dr. Nethercut passed away. All of the sponsors know of the contribution that they made to the state of Texas. It is important to endow this scholarship in their honor for everything that they contributed.

Ms. Dill says she never had the privilege of being Dr. Nethercut’s student, but many of the teachers were at UT and colleagues with Jane. Originally this was an endowment in memory of his wife and in honor of his contribution at UT; now it is in memoriam for both of them. UT is petitioning individuals and organizations to contribute funds for that endowment. This has been discussed with Treasurer Abby Harn, and we’ve decided to be conservative with the endowment this year, but if membership improves, we can increase that endowment in the future.

* 1. Proposed 2020-2021 TSJCL Budget: Abby Harn, *TSJCL Treasurer*

**Starting Balance: $39,155.27**

**Expected Balance Forward: $29,194.27**

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| **Expected Income** | **$75,440.00** |
| State Convention Income | $70,000.00 |
| Membership Dues | $5,000.00 |
| Scholarship Donation (for Aristotle Award) | $440.00 |

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| **Expected Expenditures** |  | **$85,401.00** |
| **Board Meetings** |  | **$12,000.00** |
| Travel to Board Meetings | $10,000.00 |  |
| Expenses for Board Meetings | $2,000.00 |  |
| **State Convention** |  | **$63,800.00** |
| Food | $40,000.00 |  |
| Facilities (maintenance, security, nurse, etc.) | $5,000.00 |  |
| Awards & Trophies | $1,000.00 |  |
| T-shirts & Teacher/Chaperone favors | $4,000.00 |  |
| Supplies (pencils, printing, etc.) | $2,000.00 |  |
| Laptops | $1,500.00 |  |
| Convention Host Stipend | $4,000.00 |  |
| Grading Room Personnel | $2,500.00 |  |
| Colloquia Honoraria & Travel expenses | $2,000.00 |  |
| Insurance Premium | $700.00 |  |
| Talent Show Prizes | $100.00 |  |
| Miscellaneous (programs, bouncy house, DJ, etc.) | $1,000.00 |  |
| **Scholarships** |  | **$4,240.00** |
| Latin Student of the Year | $1,500.00 |  |
| Aristotle Award | $440.00 |  |
| Contribution to TCA Morgan & Miller scholarship | $1,050.00 |  |
| Contribution to NJCL Doris Kays scholarship | $750.00 |  |
| Contribution to UT William & Jane Nethercut Excellence Endowment (proposal, subject to future change) | $500.00 |  |
| **2020 National Convention (Virtual)** |  | **$1,705.00** |
| Registration for Officers (13 officers @ $55.00 each) | $715.00 |  |
| Registration for Certamen Players (18 players @ $55.00 each) | $990.00 |  |
| **Officer Budgets** |  | **$1,000.00** |
| President | $50.00 |  |
| 1st VP | $50.00 |  |
| 2nd VP | $50.00 |  |
| Secretary | $50.00 |  |
| Outreach Coordinator | $50.00 |  |
| Historian | $300.00 |  |
| Treasurer | $50.00 |  |
| Parliamentarian | $50.00 |  |
| Editor | $300.00 |  |
| Webmaster | $50.00 |  |
| **Web Services** |  | **$452.00** |
| Domain names (tsjcl.org & txscl.org - $15.99 ea.) | $32.00 |  |
| MyTSJCL application hosting ($23.00/mo.) | $276.00 |  |
| Squarespace site builder annual fee (proposed) | $144.00 |  |
| **Miscellaneous** |  | **$2,204.00** |
| TSJCL Officer Pins (20 pins/year @ $33.00 each) | $660.00 |  |
| TXSCL Officer Pins (6 officers @ $33.00 each) | $198.00 |  |
| Storage Unit ($68.00/month) | $816.00 |  |
| Membership Info Mailing | $200.00 |  |
| Post Office Box | $130.00 |  |
| Accountant Appreciation | $200.00 |  |

Abby Harn reviews the proposed budget for this year and discusses the expected expenditures based on if the state convention will be in person.

Elijah Kleinman asks if we'd cut almost all of the cost if the convention was virtual.

Ms. Dill says that we would have to make some accommodations for a virtual convention and pay for miscellaneous things. We will still see an expense if this is done virtually, but it will be much less in terms of facilities and food. They opted to do a budget based on if the convention is in-person, but they will look at a re-hashed budget in the winter meeting if the convention is decided to be virtual.

Kagan Baker asks what the Nethercut endowment is for.

Ms. Dill refers him to this link: <https://liberalarts.utexas.edu/classics/news/william-and-jane-nethercut-excellence-endowment>.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to approve the proposed budget or to open the floor for discussion.

Elijah Kleinman moves to approve the proposed budget.

Aubrey Falkiewicz seconds the motion.

The proposed budget for 2020-2021 is approved at 10:55 AM.

* 1. Writing Prompts: Monique Hoarau, *TSJCL Second Vice President*

Kagan Baker shares his screen for the Research Paper and Creative Writing prompts.

Monique Hoarau has one prompt for each, as well as a backup for the research paper. The Research Paper prompts are about the expansion of Rome’s economic system and the alliances of Ancient Rome with other countries. The Creative Writing prompt is about Caesar’s assassination.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to go to voting over the Research Paper prompts or to open the floor for discussion.

Bering Edwards moves to open the floor for discussion for three minutes.

Emma Schmidt seconds.

The floor is opened at 10:59 AM.

Elijah Kleinman thinks both prompts are very focused on economics and believes the first one allows for more exploration.

Kagan Baker thinks the second allows for more information to be included.

Monique Hoarau says that the first prompt is about explaining the economic timeline, how it evolved and changed with foreign alliances, while the second is about details of diplomacy and relationships with other countries–specifics of their system.

J.B. Lilley asks if writers have to talk about the benefits only.

Monique Hoarau says it mainly asks for benefits and how Rome became a major power.

Kat Sabo says she is leaning towards the first because people can talk about deeper elements of discussion with less choices in the first prompt.

Lauren Dumont says it’s better to have a larger variety of options people could choose from; there will be more variety in the papers, so she favors the second.

Monique Hoarau comments that people could choose which aspect they want to pursue in the second one.

Maddie Ray also likes the second one because people may be less experienced in writing about economics.

The floor closes at 11:02 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to extend the discussion or move to voting.

Monique Hoarau moves to open the floor for discussion for five minutes.

Aiden Keenan seconds.

The floor opens at 11:03 AM.

Maddie Ray continues, saying people with less experience who can’t really write about economics and politics, can write about the social aspects. The second prompt, instead of being a very niche topic, is more accessible.

Kat Sabo asks if variety would lead to complications in judging, especially looking at social vs economic essays.

Monique Hoarau asks if she means there may be inequalities in judging if a judge is more interested in social than economic aspects.

Maddie Ray says there will be balanced judging with multiple judges; they can avoid bias.

Bering Edwards says the second one gives more opportunity to analyze actions of ancient Romans and will encourage more people to participate because they have much more freedom. While there may be bias, having more people is better.

Monique Hoarau asks if we choose the second prompt should it include internal or only foreign alliances. Rome has more enemies than friends, so she’s not sure how much information can be found.

Ms. Luongo says it may be challenging for students to write the first prompt in a way that won’t come off as pro-conquest, pro- imperialism, and honestly pro-enslavement. She prefers the second because it forces students to be more nuanced. They can talk about the benefits to Rome, but we should ask them to talk about other perspectives as well.

Monique Hoarau sees where she’s coming from.

Mr. Lee adds that the second prompt can give students a more nuanced discussion, but we should also focus on international relationships, maybe other countries and city-states, so they can talk about some of the internal city-states in Italy and how Rome became an empire.

Mr. Waehner asks if “country” is a historically appropriate term

Mr. Lee says we can use regions and city-states.

Monique Hoarau asks for clarification on if we are strictly using international alliances.

Mr. Lee says including city-states allows for internal tribes, too.

Monique Hoarau asks for thoughts on including alliances within individuals.

The floor closes at 11:08 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor for discussion or move to voting.

J.B. Lilley moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Emma Schmidt seconds the motion.

The floor is opened at 11:09 AM.

Bering Edwards says allowing for not only Rome’s alliances allows for more interesting perspectives.

Mr. Waehner says some were not allies by choice, but allies by conquest.

J.B. Lilley asks if we are limiting the prompt to one time period.

Bering Edwards says allies is a general enough term to encompass everything.

Ms. Dill asks if it would help to include allies, and or conquests.

Mr. Lee thinks we shouldn’t limit the prompt to only the benefits to Rome, but also how it affected others.

Ms. Dill asks if it would help to specify in the prompt that the writer should select a particular time period first.

Mr. Lee thinks students should have a choice, and this should be left open.

Mr. Waehner says it’s stronger to say as the first phrase: “choose a time period of Rome and…”

Ms. Dill agrees that we should do this because we don’t want them to take us on a chronological journey of the entire history.

Bering Edwards comments that as a student it could be interesting to compare, for example, how Sabines vs Sassanids allied with Rome. He thinks having an entire history could be interesting.

Mr. Lee thinks that Ms. Luongo’s suggestion to use relationships instead of alliances would be better phrasing; it allows for consideration of both benefits and detrimental effects and leaves it open for the writer to come up with their own point of view.

The floor closes at 11:15 AM.

Elijah Kleinman moves to extend the floor for three minutes.

Monique Hoarau seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 11:15 AM..

Elijah Kleinman is concerned that because it’s open-ended, the prompt almost seems all-encompassing.

Monique Hoarau suggests changing it to “choose an alliance.”

Elijah Kleinman agrees with this.

Monique Hoarau is worried that students might discuss conquered nations and slavery, which we’re trying to avoid.

Ms. Dill corrects her saying that we’re not avoiding these topics, we’re trying to avoid leading students down the road to saying there are only pros to this.

Bering Edwards believes adding a disclaimer at the end can fix the issue.

The floor closes at 11:19 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions for opening the floor or moving to voting.

Monique Hoarau moves to open the floor for an additional three minutes.

Emma Schmidt seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 11:20 AM.

Monique Hoarau asks if the new wording is good.

Bering Edwards suggests adding a disclaimer that you can choose a specific time period or the entire history. He also doesn’t think we should say choose “several” relationships because one relationship could be enough.

Mr. Waehner suggests using the phrasing “one or several.”

Bering Edwards alternatively suggests “one or more.”

Mr. Ellis comments in the chat that “one or more of us agree.”

Elijah Kleinman moves to close the floor.

Kat Sabo seconds the motion.

The floor closes at 11:23 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to approve the research paper in its current form or with the edits.

Bering Edwards moves to approve the second prompt with the edits.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The third prompt is approved at 11:24 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to approve the creative writing prompt or open the floor for discussion.

J.B. Lilley moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Aiden Keenan seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 11:25 AM.

Bering Edwards thinks the prompt is great, and there are only a few grammar issues we should fix.

Monique Hoarau asks if “getting revenge” is too aggressive.

Ms. Beinemann likes it.

Mr. Waehner suggests writing the first sentence in present tense.

Monique Hoarau asks if there are any other concerns.

Heidi Tamm says she’s worried that the last question is pushing people to take it in a certain direction and makes it a little less freeform.

J.B. Lilley suggests asking what he would do next because he was planning a large-scale invasion, e.g. “how would this affect his plans?” People could take it in a more creative direction.

Ms. Dill asks about the maximum length for the creative writing essay.

Monique Hoarau says it's significantly shorter than the research paper.

Ms. Dill doesn’t think we should write too many questions in the prompt so that they have to address everything.

Monique Hoarau agrees that we shouldn’t force them to explain what’s next.

Elijah Kleinman says if we want to be ambiguous, we could just ask what he does next.

Bering Edwards thinks just ending it at “would he get revenge?” would be fine. We don’t want people to feel like they have to answer all of these questions.

Sarah Luciano likes the phrasing “how would he respond to these conspirators?” because it’s open-ended but still pushes you to address the prompt.

Elijah Kleinman thinks we should cut off the “how would he use the information to avoid his death?” question. Any of the three other written questions would be fine.

The floor closes at 11:30 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Monique Hoarau moves to open the discussion for three minutes.

Emma Schmidt seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 11:31 AM.

Mr. Lee suggests wording it as “Tell us how Caesar will use this information, and how he will proceed next.”

Bering Edwards likes the idea.

Elijah Kleinman has a nitpick: we should use acts next instead of proceed–proceed sounds stuffy.

Heidi Tamm also has a nitpick: we should put closing parentheses before the period.

Bering Edwards has a third nitpick: we don’t need parentheses at all.

Elijah Kleinman moves to close the floor for discussion.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 11:34 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor for discussion or move straight to voting

J.B. Lilley moves to go to voting in favor of the highlighted fourth version of the prompt.

Elijah Kleinman comments, “I’m really moved, Mr. Lee.”

Emily Ding seconds the motion.

The edited Creative Writing prompt is approved at 11:35 AM.

Kagan Baker entertains motions for a lunch break.

Monique Hoarau moves to break for forty minutes

Mr. Ellis comments, “Motion’ sickness?”

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The board recesses for lunch for 40 minutes at 1:37 PM.

Kagan Baker resumes the meeting at 12:25 PM.

* 1. TXSCL Report: *The Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient, Indispensable TXSCL*

Will Snider introduces himself and reviews over what the TXSCL has been doing. They’ve been planning for the state convention to be online, doing video submissions for a marathon, and doing ludi events like chess. For outreach, they’re looking to put a flier in the membership packet, they’ve been connected to TXSCL social media, and they’re looking to reach out to their members. They’re also looking at the constitution and bylaws and planning to increase inclusivity amendments, as well as fix some grammar issues. They’ve created an online submission form for anyone who wants to suggest pages and are encouraging chairs to put volunteer information on the TXSCL website for area conventions. In addition, they’re talking about merch, creating new designs, and using a Redbubble shop.

* 1. Membership Packet: Amy Zhou, *TSJCL* *Secretary*

Amy Zhou moves to open the floor for five minutes

Monique Hoarau seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 12:30 PM.

Amy Zhou discusses the proposed changes to the membership packet, in consideration of new budget allocations and the pandemic. The plan for the new format is to use a postcard with a QR code linked to all of the information.

Elijah Kleinman has concerns over the QR code. He’s not sure how to use them.

Ms. Beinemann says it wouldn’t be much of a difference to add a shortened url code, along with some instructions if there are any troubles with it.

Ms. Santos says we definitely want instructions for older teachers.

Ms. Beinemann says including a url or link will allow people to open the site on their laptop or computers as well

Ms. Dill says we would have to have a publicly shared folder created in google drive and/or just links to places on our website, which Shruti Siva could help with.

Amy Zhou asks if there are no objections to the postcard format.

Ms. Beinemann says we don’t need to have a specific QR reader to scan QR codes.

Mr. Lee says that it’s necessary for Android phones.

Mr. Waehner says Apple allows scanning from the camera.

Mr. Lee says we may need to account for different versions of phones, having a tinyurl will be helpful.

Ms. Dill asks if we are planning to include basic info about joining TSJCL and TXSCL.

Amy Zhou says this will be included in the welcome letter.

Mr. Lee says having multiple documents in the shared drive may be an issue. He proposes just using one document and having the steps that need to be completed. It’s more helpful than having multiple documents, and that’s how old membership packets are done, so we should make it into one single PDF.

The floor closes at 12:35 PM

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Elijah Kleinman moves to open the floor for three minutes.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 12:36 PM.

Ms. Dill notes that when it’s published in a PDF form, it can be difficult to copy specific sections to send to students from a PDF version vs. a Word/Google Doc. Google Doc is a good second version that’s not editable, better for copy and pasting, and more user-friendly for sponsors.

Ms. Read mentions that Google Docs is sometimes blocked by schools.

Ms. Dill says we can use both a pdf and google doc format.

Ms. Beinemann agrees with this and says having the info easily accessible on the website as well as other places could be helpful. The sponsors are also thinking about doing a TCA email too.

Ms. Dill says the TCA list is pretty incomplete because people have to add themselves.

Amy Zhou shares her proposed welcome letter and asks whether any of the deadlines should be changed in consideration of new difficulties with virtual school.

Ms. Dill says the deadlines have a gradual payment amount. January 15th has the lowest payment, but people can still join after.

Amy Zhou understands but thinks it may be better to be more lenient in this situation.

Ms. Santos says she strongly encourages people to pay before the convention in Area C. If we push back the deadline to February 1st, this increases the likelihood that people will not have their dues paid, which may be more difficult for coordinating area conventions.

Ms. Dill notes that this is the reason for the gradual increase in payment.

Amy Zhou confirms that we will keep the dates the same as usual.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to approve the letter or open the floor for discussion.

Monique Hoarau moves to approve the welcome letter.

Maddie Ray seconds the motion.

The welcome letter is approved at 12:58 PM.

* 1. Proposed Constitutional Amendments: Bering Edwards, *TSJCL Parliamentarian*

Bering Edwards goes through his proposed amendments and discusses each of them. He first suggests removing gendered pronouns, and clarifying the number of area chairpersons and representatives from each area of Texas.

Mr. Lee asks if areas will have more votes if this change is approved.

Bering Edwards says we can add something that says they will only have one vote.

Bering Edwards also suggests allowing chapters to have more officers on the board.

Mr. Lee says having the one elected and one appointed limit is important because we don’t want a majority in the offices. It’s not equitable to other chapters.

Bering Edwards says that current restrictions are not equitable to younger students at bigger schools who don’t get the chance to run because a senior/junior already is on the board.

Kagan Baker entertaining motions to vote on the amendment or open the floor for discussion.

Elijah Kleinman moves to open the floor for discussion for five minutes.

Emma Schmidt seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 1:10 PM

Elijah Kleinman takes the side of Mr. Lee; if we eliminate the bylaw, people in lower ranks at schools that already have a lot of influence on TSJCL. We should allow schools without as much influence to have opportunities too.

Bering Edwards says he only wants to not restrict people from running and applying. He understands that we need to consider smaller schools, but it’s not fair if a student can’t run simply because they go to a school with students already on the board.

Ms. Read says Bering Edwards is talking more about running/applying for office than holding a position. In practice, only one person is allowed to apply for each appointed office, but multiple students can still apply even if only one can be an officer. Opening this up could create a perception that unless a student goes to one of the larger schools, they’re not qualified to be an officer.

Kagan Baker asks if we could clarify that this rule is waived if there's a state of emergency.

Mr. Lee says if we declare a state of emergency, we are allowed to suspend all bylaws. If nobody applies for editor, for example, the board can make new decisions adjusting to the situation. Having a numerical limit for the number of officers per school will give the idea that we are being fair to everybody.

Kagan Baker suggests we move on and table this for another meeting.

The floor closes at 1:15 PM.

Bering Edwards moves to the next amendment: allowing students who have completed all the classical courses at their school to run/apply for office. It may not be fair if students have an accelerated course of study, however they may not be in a class with their sponsor.

Mr. Lee says he wants to have an adult who can hold them accountable.

Bering Edwards believes that is just penalizing a student for their sponsor’s inaction and doesn’t think that it’s fair. They would still have to be in a chapter/club, as an officer. Also, students who see their sponsors in class may also not be held accountable by the sponsors.

Ms. Santos says she had trouble with contacting members who she didn’t see on a regular basis. how to be sure that they’re doing their duties

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor for discussion or move to voting.

Bering Edwards moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Elijah Kleinman seconds the motion

The floor opens at 1:22 PM.

Ms. Lehman understands everyone’s points, but she did have some kids who were very involved and whom she could communicate with after finishing their classes.

Bering Edwards says approval from the sponsor is already listed in the nomination form, and he doesn’t think it’s fair if they’re not in a classics class.

J.B. Lilley says this affects him because his school offers no classical courses senior year. There are a lot of schools with unique situations, and this punishes students who are high-achieving.

Kagan Baker reminds us that we could table this.

Maddie Ray notes that people who had been officers previously wouldn’t be barred later.

Bering Edwards says this is an equity issue; incumbents have a huge advantage.

Amy Zhou suggests asking for a recommendation letter from the sponsor to assure a student would act responsibly.

The floor closes at 1:27 PM.

Kagan Baker thinks we should table this. If anyone has concerns, they can reach out to Bering Edwards.

Bering Edwards highly recommends people discuss changes with him.

The other edits that Bering Edwards proposes are syntactical changes to Section 4, Article 3.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Amy Zhou moves to vote in favor of the edits.

Heidi Tamm seconds the motion.

The edits are approved at 1:30 PM

* 1. Revision of Contest Rules
     1. English Oratory Contest: Kagan Baker, *TSJCL* *President*

For rule revisions, Kagan Baker added the theme and translation at the top.

* + 1. Academic Contests and Certamen: Emma Schmidt, *TSJCL* *First Vice President*

Emma Schmidt updated the years and clarified that a student enrolled in both Latin and Ancient Greek courses will compete in the highest level in which they are enrolled. She also added a second example in the instructions for clarity. Some syntactical edits were made, and the source list for the academic contests were added for easy access. For Roman History, the period of time was updated for the Empire theme. She noted that students may only take one written test in addition to the sight rec contest. For the dramatic interpretation contest, the passages are no longer divided by gender, but rather Passage 1 and Passage 2.

Mr. Lee says there may be a misconception that one passage is more difficult if we call it 1 and 2,. He suggests we change it instead to the Purple Passage and Gold Passage.

Ms. Beinemann mentions that some chairs have already come to her asking about passage difficulty.

Kagan Baker asks if we could call them Passage A and Passage B instead.

Mr. Lee doesn’t think this would resolve the issue.

Elijah Kleinman suggests using Passage 1 and Passage A.

Mr. Lee says we can keep the nomenclature for this year, or we can add more information.

Ms. Dill understands the concern but doesn’t think we should change the nomenclature at this point.

Mr. Lee says it’s just something to discuss.

Emma Schmidt agrees this would cause confusion, but she can just put more information in the rules.

Mr. Lee states that it’s okay for this year. He just wanted to mention this and keep it in minutes so that we can revisit this next year.

Mr. Lee says we should add an addendum for additional chapters whose students may not be in Latin classes.

Ms. Dill notes that for chapters who want to add or revive a Latin club, this would create more enthusiasm.

Emma Schmidt made stylistic changes mainly for the updated Certamen rules. There are two options for Certamen placement on the NJCL competitive team: the first is to leave as is, and the second is to change it to what we did this past summer. Coaches would keep statistics and attendance for the competitive team, but the selection process can be modified at the discretion of the team coach, and it’s recommended that they invite the other Texas players to come to practice.

Ms. Dill clarifies that this is not eliminating the possibility for tryouts but opening other ways of constructing teams.

Mr. Lee thinks this is fine but mentions that she should delete the second sentence because of its redundancy. Also, he suggests she add an example/explanation of what Certamen practices could look like.

Ms. Dill notes that this could just be adding wording from the previous form to show what a challenge may look like.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor or move to voting.

Elijah Kleinman moves to go to voting in favor of the edited rules.

Sarah Luciano seconds the motion.

The edits of the Certamen rules are approved at 1:48 PM.

* + 1. Latin Oratory Contest: Chantell Bolden and Sarah Luciano, *TSJCL Area B Co-Chairs*

Sarah Luciano says the years have been updated, as well as the eye contact requirement because of the virtual format, and she added a note that students may take only one other written exam in addition to Oratory.

Ms. Dill suggests a syntactical change.

Elijah brings up concerns about reading off of the screen and eye contact.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor for discussion or go straight to voting.

Emma Schmidt moves to go to voting in favor of approving all academic revisions.

Heidi Tamm seconds the motion.

All academic revisions are approved at 1:53 PM

* + 1. Classical Civilization Contests: Monique Hoarau, *TSJCL* *Second Vice President*

Monique Hoarau updated the year and added that entries must have been created after last year’s convention in 2019. The date for submissions is still to be determined.

Ms. Read says we usually set those dates in the Fall meeting.

Ms. Beinemann proposes April 1st.

Kagan Baker questions if we’ll change this date for other contests because almost all contests would be prejudged if we have state online.

Mr. Lee clarifies some nomenclature on prejudged contests.

Ms. Dill says we will send out additional information if we decide on virtual contests.

Mr. Lee says that the date is usually around March 15th, as long as it doesn’t conflict with spring break.

Ms. Beinemann suggests March 22nd.

Mr. Lee suggests April 5th instead.

Ms. Read comments that if the deadline is on a Monday, students may forget.

Mr. Lee says they should remember to get it done, and they also have a final weekend to work on it too.

Ms. Read thinks March 26th would be better.

Mr. Lee agrees.

Ms. Santos asks about the requirement that submissions must be emailed by sponsors of the chapter. For past conventions, lots of students emailed directly, is that something that we want to come down on them for? A lot of times students copied their sponsors in their emails.

Ms. Read says we have been lenient in the past, but as long as no double entries, we should accept them.

Ms. Santos adds that as long as the sponsor is included in the email, it seems legit.

Ms. Read asks the other sponsors for opinions.

Ms. Dill agrees that the sponsor must at least be copied.

Ms. Santos mentions that sponsors are usually not emailing because students wait until very close to the deadline.

Mr. Lee says sponsors have to be on the students and often have to email late.

Ms. Beinemann says copying the sponsors is fine.

Ms. Read asks if we want to add another point about only one entry per school.

Ms. Dill says the point about only one entry per school seems pretty clear already.

Mr. Lee thinks we should add another reminder just in case that schools can only have one entry per category.

Monique Hoarau says in the event of a virtual event, she’s unsure if students can get a sponsor signature on the note card. Usually, pieces are disqualified if there’s no signature.

Mr. Lee says the signature is still important.

Monique Hoarau asks if this would still be grounds for disqualification.

Ms. Read thinks we can discuss this later.

Ms. Read sends point 5 in the chat.

Ms. Dill asks if we will get rid of the second revision on Point 6 about the case of an online convention.

Ms. Read thinks we should.

Ms. Beinemann asks Monique Hoarau to save it for the future.

Monique Hoarau asks if we want to accept both large and small models.

Ms. Read thinks we should accept the large model.

Bering Edwards asks if it’s possible to have both.

Ms. Read suggests making the larger dimensions an upper limit and accepting everything within the limits.

Monique Hoarau says that she will fill in the new prompts that we’ve decided upon for the creative writing and the research paper.

* + 1. Publicity, Poster, Illustrated Quotes, Cartoons, and Scrapbook Contests: Maddie Ray, *TSJCL Historian*

A mysterious whistling noise appears.

Amy Zhou thinks it’s a bird.

Elijah Kleinman refutes this saying it sounds mechanical.

Maddie Ray reviews some minor revisions for the art rules. In the publicity contest: pictures may be taken virtually for club events and formatting is fixed and aligned. She also updates the dates.

* + 1. Multimedia Contest: Aubrey Falkiewicz, *TSJCL* *Outreach Coordinator*

Aubrey Falkiewicz made updates for multimedia presentations allowing online submissions. She also adds a point that delegates are expected to maintain social distancing in the video, which will be penalized if not enforced.

Bering Edwards asks if we should disqualify instead of penalize.

Kagan Baker notes that some schools are back in person. Should we say maintaining school and state guidelines instead?

Ms. Read says we should just go with CDC guidelines to be consistent with what’s written above.

Ms. Dill suggests some syntactic changes.

Bering Edwards asks again if we should have a harsher penalization.

Ms. Read proposes writing “may result in disqualification” to leave some room for interpretation.

* + 1. Photography and T-shirt Contests: Heidi Tamm, *TSJCL* *Editor*

Heidi Tamm made formatting changes for consistency and clarified the criteria. She also added background information on using silkscreens to create T-shirts.

* + 1. Vocal Contests: Linh Nguyen, *TSJCL Area A Chair*

Linh Nguyen decided to keep the rules for an in-person convention; her only change was updating the names.

Ms. Beinemann asks if there are any concerns about masks dampening vocals.

Ms. Dill says that some choirs are not having rehearsals in person. We’ll need to really rethink how vocals work if we still need to be concerned with COVID in the spring.

Ms. Lehmann suggests making it pre-recorded for safety and processing.

Kagan Baker comments that they’ve been using face shields in his theatre.

Kat Sabo says masks make it difficult for breathing techniques but the sound is still good. Having pre-recorded videos is also an interesting option.

Ms. Dill says that even if we are in person, we don’t want TSJCL to be taking on financial burdens for getting appropriate materials for the contest, nor any liability in dealing with this. Right now, we are only looking at rules, and it’s not the time to discuss this. She suggests we could do this as a pre-submitted contest.

Ms. Luongo agrees that having pre-recorded submissions seems like an easy change that makes things much safer for everything this year.

Linh Nguyen asks if we should put a limiting number if we have ensemble in person.

Ms. Dill says we can discuss this in January.

Amy Zhou suggests for membership packet purposes to say this is subject to change as we continue monitoring the situation.

Aubrey Falkiewicz asks how we will make sure no one changes their voice and uses modifiers.

Ms. Read says we should refer to someone with more experience if we do this option.

Ms. Dill thinks pre-recorded is okay for now.

* + 1. Costume Contest: JB Lilley and Doris Olenkiewicz, *TSJCL* *Area C Co-Chairs*

J.B. Lilley made changes reflecting NJCL’s new constitution removing male and female nomenclature and allowing anyone to enter regardless of gender. He also updated years and contact information.

* + 1. Play Contest: Emma Engler, *TSJCL* *Area D Chair*

Emma Engler updated the years and noted that plays written for the last state convention can still be submitted. She also cleared up the syntax a bit.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor or move to voting on the Classical Civilization rule revisions.

J.B. Lilley moves to vote in favor of approving the rules.

Elijah Kleinman seconds the motion.

The rules are approved at 2:46 PM.

* + 1. Talent Show Contest and Flyers: Aiden Keenan and Elijah Kleinman, *TSJCL* *Area F Co-Chairs*

Elijah Kleinman updates the year. If the convention goes online, he has a backup plan, but he says we can decide that then.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Monique Hoarau moves to go to voting in favor of approving these changes.

Sarah Luciano seconds the motion.

The changes are approved at 2:48 PM.

* 1. Area Convention Updates: *All Area Chairs*

Area A:

Linh Nguyen reports that the Area A convention will be held entirely online. The dates will be spread through February: the first weekend held at St. Thomas will have the art contests, the second weekend will be academic testing at Klein Collins (she had a meeting with TXSCL to organize academic testing), and the third weekend will be for Certamen and rewards. The 20th could possibly be in person and hosted at Atascocita.

Area B:

Sarah Luciano is planning for both a virtual and physical convention for people who don’t feel comfortable. This still needs to be approved by the San Antonio Classical League, but she is holding back from meeting with them until they confirm that the physical convention will be possible. Their dates will be February 26th for Certamen and February 27th for all other events.

Area C:

Doris Olenkiewicz is currently planning for the convention to be virtual. They’ve set aside February 20th for an in-person convention if it is allowed, and they will be discussing more in a meeting next Saturday.

J.B. Lilley adds that Certamen will be held on the 13th, academic contests the next week, and art and oral contests spread out in between this week.

Area D

Emma Engler says she doesn’t know yet if the convention will be held online or in person. She’s had meetings to discuss provisions for either, but the convention will be held February 6th.

Area F

Elijah Kleinman says the bulk of convention will be held online. They’ve outlined rules for every traditional event and are planning for a minecraft art competition. They plan to hold some physical events if allowed.

* 1. Social Media, Spirit, and Service Project Plans: Aubrey Falkiewicz, *TSJCL* *Outreach Coordinator*

Aubrey Falkiewicz suggests having a spirit competition. She’ll teach them cheers in GA, do a roll call at the first GA, and points will be given on participation and volume. The competition will be separated by school size, and there will be prizes for winners if possible. If the convention is online, we can do a competition similar to nationals, where we create themes and have them send in videos doing fun activities that we can showcase on social media to promote TSJCL.

For service, Aubrey Falkiewicz has two plans. For in person, we can help food drives (the Houston Food Bank is accepting donations and gives kits.) If we’re virtual, we can type letters to those in nursing homes to lift up spirits and help out the community.

* 1. Website Updates: Shruti Siva, *TSJCL* *Webmaster*

Emily Ding shows Shruti Siva’s video about the new website. She goes over the home page, introduces a new Club Website of the Month Contest where the prize would be being featured on the TSJCL website. She also added a part for Twitter updates. The Join Page will have the membership letter, with links redirecting to directions for joining/MyTSJCL and redirecting to running for TSJCL office. The archive will redirect to all of the competition archives with cleaned up organization. Dates will be added for every area convention in the events section, as well as the locations and websites for every area. The location of the state convention, registration forms, contest rules, previous tests and results are all clearly laid out.

On the student side is the forum with blog posts for any new additions to the site and posts tagged by category. Emily Ding pauses for feedback.

Amy Zhou thinks it’s great so far.

Ms. Dill confirms if we’re using Squarespace.

Emily Ding mentions that Shruti Siva is concerned about the practicality of the website competition because it’s new.

Mr. Lee says for most clubs, students are not allowed to make their own websites, but we can try the contest.

Ms. Beinemann asks about using social media pages instead.

Ms. Dill thinks that might be under Aubrey Falkiewicz’s purview.

Emily Ding pastes a Google Form in the chat to send suggestions and plays the rest of the video.

Shruti Siva discusses the media folder which includes the scrapbooks, Torches, and photos linking to Flickr. Under TSJCL Board is the officers page and the constitution.

Emily Ding says if anyone wants to take a further look, we can look at it more in depth.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to open the floor or move to voting on launching the new website.

Ms. Dill clarifies the purpose of opening the floor is not to discuss the content of the website but the design.

Bering Edwards moves to go to voting in favor of approving the website.

Elijah Kleinman seconds the motion.

The new website is approved at 3:12 PM.

* 1. TSJCL Beyond Convention: Emma Schmidt, *TSJCL* *First Vice President*

Emma Schmidt introduces TSJCL Beyond Convention, a program to get the community to go beyond conventions. Each month, there will be a couple of activities for contests, (e.g. September would have contests for Latin and Greek derivatives) and asynchronous activities. This month they’re doing a Quizizz, and later in the year, we can hopefully do synchronous activities to foster community and help students connect beyond our convention.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to go to voting or open the floor for discussion.

Bering Edwards moves to go straight to voting.

The motion fails at 3:16 PM.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Elijah Kleinman moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Emma Engler seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 3:17 PM.

Elijah Kleinman asks how we will inform people about the program.

Emma Schmidt says we will add a flier in the membership packet.

Kagan Baker whispers loudly, “Show them the logo!”

Emma Schmidt shows him the logo.

Elijah Kleinman moves to close the floor.

Sarah Luciano seconds the motion

The floor closes at 3:20 PM.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

J.B. Lilley moves to proceed to voting in favor of approving the program.

Monique Hoarau seconds the motion.

The program is approved at 3:20 PM.

* 1. Slack Integration*:* Emma Schmidt, *TSJCL* *First Vice President*

Emma Schmidt proposes we use Slack, a platform for an organization to communicate. It can have separate channels for areas and different resources etc., as well as a channel for state convention updates with restricted posting access.

Kagan Baker acknowledges that the state chairs are concerned about direct messages, but owners of the Slack can read all DMs for everyone in their channel. Also, the NJCL Discord servers are very popular if we want to use those.

Emma Schmidt says this is a great way to get to know other people. For Discord, anyone can DM you, but with slack you have to be part of the channel to talk to someone in the channel.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to approve using Slack or open the floor for discussion.

Abby Harn moves to vote to use this application.

Aubrey Falkiewicz seconds the motion.

The motion fails at 3:25 PM.

Ms. Dill asks who will be monitoring the Slack.

Kagan Baker volunteers.

Mr. Lee says we need an adult presence.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Monique Hoarau moves to vote in favor of the Slack.

Elijah Kleinman seconds the motion.

Elijah removes his second.

The motion fails at 3:27 PM.

Ms. Dill wants to know more about Slack.

Amy Zhou explains that Slack is used by a lot of professional organizations.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Sarah Luciano moves to open the floor for five minutes.

JB Lilley seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 3:30 PM.

Kagan Baker says we will be monitoring closely and can call for a chair if we see any issues. He knows that chair may have concerns.

Ms. Read is concerned that if it’s open all of the time, it could take a while for an adult to get to addressing an issue.

Emma Schmidt notes that there’s an option to pay more where only administrators could post.

Ms. Dill asks about the prices.

Emma Schmidt is unsure.

Monique Hoarau mentions that Slack bots can censor certain words/phrases.

Kagan Baker says we could use Discord.

Ms. Dill and Mr. Lee are fervently against using Discord.

J.B. Lilley says we can just make the officers admin so that the state chairs don’t have to do that much.

Ms. Dill agrees that it is a team effort.

Aubrey Falkiewicz asks if there is a way to limit it so it’s only open at a certain time of the day.

Emma Schmidt says we could schedule conversations.

Kagan Baker adds that there are chatbots that review things that are being said.

The floor closes at 3:35 PM.

Elijah Kleinman moves to extend the floor for five minutes.

JB Lilley seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 3:37 PM.

Elijah Kleinman argues that Slack allows for networking among the community that doesn’t exist right now. This is a really good way to have connections between areas and foster a sense of community that’s very difficult to have especially in the middle of a pandemic. There is a risk, but benefits outweigh the risks which can also be mitigated.

J.B. Lilley says we have middle school students in the JCL. Having a public communication system where anyone can access it and anonymously go in comes with many safety concerns.

Ms. Lehmann mentions that people have to be 16 or older to be on Slack.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

J.B. Lilley moves to open the floor for five minutes.

The motion fails at 3:41 PM.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Bering Edwards moves to table this discussion until the next meeting.

Aubrey Falkiewicz seconds this motion.

The motion passes at 3:42 PM.

* 1. Mentorship Program: Kagan Baker, *TSJCL President*

Kagan introduces a mentorship program where people would be paired with a TSJCL officer.

Emma Schmidt entertains motions to proceed to voting or open the floor for discussion.

Bering Edwards moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Kat Sabo seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 3:47 PM.

Kat Sabo asks if there is a set number of how many mentees there will be.

Kagan Baker says he will gauge interest by who applies. He doesn’t think we will be very overwhelmed,

Bering Edwards loves the idea but brings up the issue that it walks a thin line with pre-campaigning. He wants to make sure we don’t let this affect elections.

Maddie Ray thinks it shouldn’t count as experience for the position.

Bering Edwards thinks using it to showcase interest is valid.

The floor is closed at 3:52 PM

Elijah Kleinman moves to open the floor for five more minutes.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 3:52 PM.

J.B. Lilley asks how many ex-officers can be part of the program that aren’t on the currently on the board.

Kagan Baker doesn’t think we have enough of them. We could possibly look to TXSCL, but it may be too much for them.

Elijah Kleinman notes that this is optional though.

Kagan Baker suggests assigning random officers as mentors.

Bering Edwards believes this is a good idea.

Amy Zhou proposes adding a disclaimer that having a mentor does not help your chances in getting the office and asking for one office does not guarantee that you’ll get that officer as a mentor.

Kat Sabo suggests eliminating the option to ask for a certain mentor position.

The floor is closed at 3:58 PM.

Emma Schmidt entertains new motions.

Elijah Kleinman moves to table the discussion.

The motion fails at 3:59 PM.

Emma Schmidt entertains new motions.

Bering Edwards moves to open the discussion for five minutes.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 3:59 PM.

Mr. Lee is curious as to why the mentorship program is limited to officers.

Kagan Baker says his initial plan was having teacher mentors as well, but he doesn’t want to put this work on them if it won’t work with students initially.

Bering Edwards suggests matching upperclassmen with underclassmen.

Kagan Baker says we could add what topic you want for mentorship, not specific to the board (i.e. DI, roman history, etc.)

Ms. Read says we’d need to send out forms for mentors first, then mentees.

Kagan Baker is concerned on how mentors will contact mentees and if that will be in a group chat with chairs.

The floor closes at 4:05 PM

The board takes a recess at 4:08 PM.

The meeting resumes at 4:19 PM.

Emma Schmidt entertain motions to open the floor for discussion or move to voting.

Kat Sabo moves to open the discussion for ten minutes.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 4:20 PM.

Kagan Baker asks again about how we will communicate. Not all mentors would have TSJCL emails.

Ms. Dill says we’d have to get sponsors involved for contacting through email.

Mr. Lee says we’d have to iron out a lot of details. Perhaps, we should allow Kagan Baker to think of all the details before asking the board.

Bering Edwards notes the next board meeting is very far away and asks if it’s possible for the board to approve the general idea, while Kagan Baker continues working on it and gets permission from the state chairs.

Mr. Lee accepts his proposal.

Ms. Dill, Ms. Beinemann, and Ms. Read express assent.

Kagan Baker goes over the general idea: he’d send out an initial form for mentor interest, then another form for mentees; once a month they would meet through some sort of communication (TBD), and he would make sure everyone is meeting.

Bering Edwards moves to go straight to voting in favor of Kagan Baker’s proposal and to close the floor.

Aubrey Falkiewicz seconds the motion.

The idea is approved at 4:26 PM.

* 1. *TSJCL “Spirit Gathering”:* Aubrey Falkiewicz, *TSJCL* *Outreach Coordinator*

Aubrey Falkiewicz presents Spirit Gathering, which is similar to the Beyond Convention . Once a month, there would be Zooms where the officers would host breakout rooms to connect with JCL-ers. One, for example, could be doing trivia, while one could just be talking or playing online board games, etc.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to proceed to voting or to open the floor for discussion.

Bering Edwards moves to open the floor for three minutes.

Kat Sabo seconds the motion.

The floor opens at 4:30 PM.

Kat Sabo suggests incorporating Spirit Gathering into TSJCL Beyond Convention.

Bering Edwards says this seems to be more fun-oriented, and agrees that this is a great idea. He asks if there would be a breakout room for each month.

Aubrey Falkiewicz clarifies that there would be 2-3 breakout rooms and 2-3 officers for each month. She asks if we would be choosing a specific day for Beyond Convention.

Emma Schmidt says right now it’s open continuously, but as we get closer to state we would have specific dates.

Kagan Baker says we could have them under the same name.

Kat Sabo asks if this will be under the umbrella term TSJCL Beyond Convention.

The floor closes at 4:33 PM.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Bering Edwards moves to approve the program but also to incorporate Aubery Falkiewicz’s initiative into Beyond Convention.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The plans are approved at 4:35 PM.

* 1. Winter Board Meeting

Ms. Dill says we’re considering January 9th for the meeting date. We’ll have to determine if the convention is in person or virtual as time gets closer. Alternatively, the board is considering the 16th, which is a holiday weekend.

* 1. Other New Business

Monique Hoarau is workshopping a proposal but has an idea for a Best in Show award at the state convention to give the art category a major award. Tentatively, the plan is for several pieces from the arts categories would be chosen and voted on by the entire convention.

Ms. Read says we may need this to be approved and put into the membership packet.

Kagan Baker entertains motions to approve the idea or open the floor for discussion.

Amy Zhou moves to open the floor for two minutes.

Monique Hoarau seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 4:41 PM.

Bering Edwards thinks it’s a great idea. It may be a difficult turnaround for voting because we only have one night to vote.

Maddie Ray notes that the pieces are prejudged now.

Bering Edwards says that he meant in the future.

Monique Hoarau says it would be several officers choosing five pieces and those would be put on a Google Form.

Monique Hoarau’s dog jingles.

Heidi Tamm is concerned that with randomly selected pieces, people may be hurt.

Bering Edwards says she didn’t mean randomly selected; she meant randomly from all the contests.

Kagan Baker asks to clarify that the pieces are chosen based on general opinion.

Bering Edwards says we should discuss whether this is judge-based or JCL-er based.

Ms. Beinemann wonders if students working in the art room will be the ones to help with selection.

Monique Hoarau says this is what she was aiming for–student-run rather than strict criteria.

The floor closes at 4:43 PM

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Kat Sabo moves to open the floor for three minutes.

Sarah Luciano seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 4:45 PM.

Amy Zhou points out that we need to discuss whether or not we put this in the membership packet.

Ms. Santos says the Best in Show name is not quite accurate. She suggests JCL Favorite as a potential name.

Monique Hoarau says she based this on the national convention and just adopted their nomenclature.

Ms. Read says the national’s Best in Show is chosen by general membership but the pieces considered are determined by judges. She also notes to keep in mind that the national convention lasts an entire week.

Maddie Ray suggests calling it the officer’s choice award.

Bering Edwards asks when art usually gets judged.

Ms. Santos says it’s judged starting Saturday morning, and we strive to be done with judging around lunchtime, but we usually finish mid-afternoon.

Monique Hoarau says that’s why we can have selected judging of the pieces. The Google Form can be released in the morning after we receive the pieces.

The floor closes at 4:49 PM.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

J.B. Lilley moves to open the floor for five minutes.

Kat Sabo seconds the motion.

The motion passes at 4:50 PM.

Kat Sabo asks how we combat a bias towards your school or friend’s artwork.

Monique Hoarau says that usually pieces are submitted anonymously, but she acknowledges that’s possible with friends.

J.B. Lilley asks what would happen if officers submit a piece.

Amy Zhou thinks that bias is okay because the competition is supposed to be a Fan Favorite, but she thinks officers should not select their own pieces for the award.

Ms. Read says we won’t need a preliminary run-through by judges.

Bering Edwards says that logistically, pieces would have to be chosen by officers, with all officers approving the pieces. He suggests we include it in the membership packet and then keep discussing.

Ms. Dill alternatively proposes that we don’t include it in and just keep it as a surprise.

Monique Hoarau reviews the general ideas: the contest will be an officer’s choice award, but how the pieces are chosen and voted for are still to be ironed out.

Kagan Baker entertains new motions.

Aubrey Falkiewicz moves to close the floor and vote to approve the idea.

J.B. Lilley seconds the motion.

The award is approved at 4:55 PM.

1. **Chair Announcements and Business**

Ms. Dill announces that we have added new officers. She offers congratulations to everyone and reminds them that all official TSJCL business will be conducted through the TSJCL email. Your state chair mentor should be kept in the loop. She also reminds us that officers are representing the TSJCL; everything should be above board with public representation in mind.

Kat Sabo has a point of inquiry: with the new theme, will we have both last year and this year’s T-shirts for sale?

Kagan Baker says there is an easy way of combining our themes because this year is about elephants, and the past design had mountains.

Kat Sabo suggests putting an elephant in a spaceship.

Kagan Baker likes this.

Ms. Read says we want to include last year’s theme as an honor to the last board and the work they put into a convention that couldn’t happen.

Mr. Lee says we’ve seen the astronaut design and having both quotes on the shirt works.

Ms. Beinemann adds that the program would include both boards and both quotes.

1. **Adjournment**

Kagan Baker entertains motions to adjourn the meeting.

Amy Zhou so moves.

Monique Hoarau seconds the motion.

The meeting is adjourned at 5:02 PM.