J.P. Taravella High School
School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, Sepetmber 28th, 2026
Media Center – 4:30 pm

I. **Welcome**
II. **Reports**
  I. SRO Report-Officer Anderson/ Officer Hatem

- Members discussed the increase in accidents involving e-bikes and e-motos near the school. Families were encouraged to educate students about safety and applicable traffic regulations.
- Concerns were raised regarding unauthorized access through an exterior exit near the student pickup area. Administration will ask security personnel to monitor the area more closely.
- Administration emphasized the importance of immediately reporting unauthorized door or gate openings to maintain campus security. Security footage is reviewed, and appropriate consequences are assigned when violations occur

  II. Principal-Mrs. Mary De Armas and/or any JPT Assistant Principal Reports
    I. Monthly SESIR Incident Report (https://www.browardschools.com/Page/38107)

- Administration reviewed preliminary discipline data for the 2025–2026 school year and compared it with current-year figures.
- Reported fights decreased from 13 during the comparable period last year to approximately five this year.
- Physical attacks also decreased, from five to approximately three during the comparable period.
- Vaping incidents remain a concern and will continue to be monitored.
- The school is increasing restroom supervision and implementing bus restrictions for students involved in certain disciplinary incidents.
- Updated district reporting data will be reviewed when available.

    II. Accolades (Monthly Newsletter)
      I. Teacher of the Year and School Employee of the Year (shout out)

- The August newsletter was reviewed, featuring school activities, open house events, student accomplishments, JROTC recognition, and athletic achievements.
- The September newsletter is in progress.
- Families were encouraged to submit student achievements and school highlights for future newsletters.
- Congratulations were extended to the Teacher of the Year, Mr. Bozan, from the Mathematics Department, and the School-Related Employee of the Year, Mr. Markowitz.

III. High School Grade Information

- The district-required presentation explaining Florida's 2026–2027 school grading system was shown.
- Administration reviewed the school's performance components, including English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, graduation rates, and college and career acceleration.
- The school earned 708 total points, maintaining an A grade under the applicable grading scale.
- Administration expressed confidence in the school's continued academic success.

III. Student Reports

I. Class of 2027

- Planned October snack and drink sales during lunch, a fall-themed photo opportunity, and senior activities. Senior photographs are due October 31, and senior dues and contracts were discussed.

II. Class of 2028

- Planned to sell small pies during October lunches for approximately $4 each.

III. Class of 2029

- Class officers planned to meet with their advisors to establish fundraising goals and strengthen student leadership.

IV. Class of 2030

V. Student Government Rep.

- Preparations continued for homecoming, including ticket sales, dance arrangements, pep rallies, chocolate sales, and the upcoming harvest drive.

III. **Old Business**

I. Review Minutes of 5/18/26 Meeting

- The May meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by a majority vote.

IV. **Accountability Funds**

- No formal update was available regarding accountability funds.
- Administration will request a report to verify the remaining balance and determine whether funds from the previous school year were fully allocated.
- An update is expected at a future SAC meeting.

V. New Business/School Business

I. Review, Vote and Approve Minutes of 8/24/26

The August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved following a motion and a second.

II. YMCA Presentation

- The YMCA after-school program provides academic assistance in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.
- A ninth-grade transition support program helps students adjust to high school expectations and routines.
- Enrollment increased to approximately 110 students, compared with 50–60 students the previous year.
- The program provides food and uses an online application process for enrollment.

III. School-wide Positive Behavior Plan

- The school reviewed its schoolwide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports plan.
- Schoolwide expectations emphasize being considerate, accountable, respectful, and excellent.
- Students are taught behavioral expectations for classrooms and common areas.
- Positive behavior is reinforced through recognition, certificates, and rewards.
- Staff follow consistent procedures for addressing behavioral concerns, and the PBIS team reviews data to determine necessary adjustments.

IV. Professional Study Days

- The first Professional Study Day was held on September 3.
- Teachers participated in professional development related to testing, ESE support, departmental meetings, and Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).
- Teachers meet weekly to review student performance data and develop strategies to improve achievement.
- The next Professional Study Day is scheduled for November 5.
- Members received copies of the School Improvement Plan and were encouraged to review the plan and its supporting documents on the school website.

V. School Counseling Presentation

- The school counseling department reviewed counselor assignments, and student support services.
- Counselors are available in the cafeteria during both lunch periods to improve student access and communication.
- Senior graduation-status checks were scheduled to review graduation requirements and provide students with status letters.
- Students will receive support with college applications, Common App, Xello, and scholarship opportunities.
- Upcoming opportunities include career and technical education activities, a technology event with Full Sail University, and college tours for 10th- and 11th-grade students.
- Families were encouraged to access the School Counseling Canvas page and follow school counseling social media accounts for updates.

VI. Testing Presentation

- Testing accommodations were reviewed for students receiving ESE, Section 504, and English Language Learner services.

- Families were reminded that College Board testing accommodations require the appropriate consent and application process.
- Industry certification testing is expected to begin in late fall, with additional testing scheduled throughout the school year.
- The school testing calendar is available on the school website. Some spring testing dates remain pending confirmation.
- Upcoming assessments discussed included the PSAT, SAT, FAST assessments, ACCESS for ELLs, industry certifications, and Advanced Placement exams.

VII. SAC Nomination and Vote of 26-27 SAC Slate

- SAC membership and officer nominations were discussed for the 2026–2027 school year.
- Nominations included a chairperson, secretary, parent representatives, teacher representatives, a gifted parent representative, a BTU representative, an ESE parent representative, a community school representative, a non-instructional employee representative, and student representatives.
- Two student representative positions were discussed, and a student representative was nominated.
- Please see the attached document for SAC membership.

VIII. Review, Vote and Approve SAC Bylaws

- Members reviewed the SAC bylaws, including membership composition, officer responsibilities, terms of service, and election procedures.
- The council discussed holding annual officer elections at the September meeting, with nominations beginning in August when possible. Elections remain subject to the required quorum.
- The proposed bylaws and membership slate were approved by vote, subject to any district review or adjustments needed to ensure compliance with membership composition requirements.

VI. **Adjournment (Next SAC meeting: October 26th, 2026 @ 4:30 P.M. – Media Center)**

- The annual SAC meeting schedule was reviewed. Meetings are scheduled to take place in the Media Center at 4:30 p.m., as listed on the meeting agenda.

J.P. Taravella High School
School Advisory Council Composition
2026 - 2027

Name	Position
Renee Hudson	*SAC Chair*
Maureen Collins	*SAC Secretary*
Jacqui Luscombe	*SAF Chair*
Brent Maffett	*BTU Steward*
Mary DeArmas	*Principal*
Erin Pope	*I-Zone Representative*
Elizabeth Kirschner	*Gifted Parent*
Kara Rodman	*ESE Parent*
Michelle Engram-McKnight	*Community School Representative*
Drialys Taimi Fonseca-Rios	*ESOL Parent*
Althea Chin	*Non-Instructional Employee*
Yvonne Needham	*Teacher*
Jeanette Thomas	*Parent*
Iliana Rosario	*Parent*
Desiree Ramirez	*Parent*
Ninet Ponce Deras	*Student*
Andre Coley	*Student*
Ariana Rosario	*Student*
Jaylene Phillips	*Student*
Layla McFadden	*Student*
Nicole Cabellero	*Student*
Ava Levy	*Student*
Nikol Naydenova	*Student*