

From: Dear JCPS moderator@dearjcps.com
Subject: Fwd: Urgent: Important Info Re: JCTA Elections
Date: February 9, 2024 at 1:07 PM
To: [REDACTED]



From 2021.

Gay

Begin forwarded message:

From: <moderator@dearjcps.com>
Subject: FW: Fw: Urgent: Important Info Re: JCTA Elections
Date: November 7, 2023 at 4:29:42 PM EST

Remember this?

From: moderator@dearjcps.com <moderator@dearjcps.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 12:22 PM

Subject: FW: Fw: Urgent: Important Info Re: JCTA Elections

Read this again...

Look for Sarah Weedman.

From: moderator@dearjcps.com <moderator@dearjcps.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2021 8:34 AM

Subject: FW: Fw: Urgent: Important Info Re: JCTA Elections

Good morning,

If any of the information presented below makes you uncomfortable, imagine how I feel. But many of you have been alongside me for much, if not all, of this journey, and you deserve to be armed with the truth.

JCTA officer elections quietly come around every three years. This Wednesday will kick off the next triennial 8-day popularity contest. Their long-standing President, Brent McKim, has a Black female challenger. Incumbent Vice President, Tammy Berlin, seeking her third term, has a Black male challenger. The Treasurer slot is being sought by a vocal critic of McKim's handling of the pension crisis. Despite promises to the contrary, Brent has remained in power for 20 years, after removing term limits shortly after becoming elected in 2001.

Their entrenched white leadership continues to abuse their power to suppress members' votes, restrict access to information that impacts members' financial security and representation, sow discord, and spread confusion and fear in order to prevent non-white stakeholders from sharing in the decision making that affects their union, their district and their community. The email below is yet another example. Unfortunately, their latest efforts appear to be working, based on the number of you who have told me to stop poking the bear, a tried-and-failed strategy that continues to leave me vulnerable and exposed, while their harmful and dangerous behaviors grow rampant and remain unchecked.

The gaslighting and manipulation in this latest message from DeeAnn Flaherty (a McConnell Scholar) is complex, but let me break down a few things I noticed:

Their first implication is that I did not send the email to all candidates, or provide them with equal opportunity to participate.

This assumption is not factual and easily proven as such. I sent the email to more than two dozen candidates in contested downballot races, specifically so that everyone WOULD have the same opportunity to be aware and apply. When my email tracking software showed ZERO opens after some time had passed, I called or messaged a few candidates that I knew to make sure it had not been blocked, as has been done previously. (See Exhibit B)

Kyle, Greg, Ivonne and Sara B. located and opened theirs after I notified them. Most of them told me it was buried in a spam folder. I could finally see some "opens" but after the initial three or four that I notified, the reporting became stagnate again. So I prepared another email to send to the same candidates from a different address to instruct them to check their spam folder, because I wanted to make sure they saw it before the deadline we had given them. Unfortunately, members of our planning group instructed me not to send that email because they feared it would create even more distractions. So I waited.

In the meantime, Sarah W opened her email and completed the form within, providing her home address, phone number and tshirt size.

I sent follow up questions to her to try to differentiate between her and the other candidate on that ticket, Jenna Fracasso. She did not respond before the deadline. Jenna had already been attending our meetings and confirmed to us that she supported the shared vision of the coalition, so the nomination for the endorsement went to Jenna instead of Sarah W.

Despite not receiving our nomination, I still wanted Sarah W. to have the tshirt she had requested. Since time was of the essence, I didn't want mail time to delay receipt of the tshirts. I made several contactless deliveries Friday evening. (Ironically, Tammy Berlin condemned me on her personal FB page, and specifically criticized the estimated 2-3 week delivery time I had posted regarding the tshirts. She did not realize I had a batch in the works that I was planning to deliver to those who ordered early. Seems like no matter what I do, it is a no-win situation with her.)

They indicated someone received an unsolicited late night unannounced visit.

Using the address and phone number provided by Sarah W on the form, I placed a package containing the tshirt she requested on her doorstep. Due to concerns that she may mix it up with some trash and other packaging that was also on her doorstep, I called her (again using the phone number she provided to me for this purpose) to let her know it was there, after I drove away. We had a great conversation. I explained why she didn't get the nomination and she indicated she understood. She told me her reasons for running, which sounded in alignment with our work, and I invited her to come to the next Zoom call. That was that. Or so I thought.

Today, I see that Sarah's email has been shared over 40 times, making it clear that it is her email at the bottom of this thread that was forwarded to JCTA. (Exhibit A)

Since that time, Patricia (who has since withdrawn from the race) and Shelley, appear to have located their copy of the email. JCTA not only falsely claims this email was not sent to all candidates, but in fact prior emails I have sent to teachers have successfully been BLOCKED by JCPS's Chief Information Officer at the request of JCTA. (Exhibit B) This could have something to do with emails from me continuing to be buried in teachers' spam folders.

inflammatory language

The language in their email is right in line with their other historical tactics of suppression, using words like solicitation, security, security, personal information, "undo what has been done" etc. They imply that our endorsements and support are somehow shady and put their favored candidates at a disadvantage, when in fact their white incumbents are arranging drop-in visits at PR meetings, sending rah rah emails to members with their faces and names all over them, and hosting zoom calls with high profile legislators like Morgan McGarvey, indicating that he has endorsed their lily-white slate. In fact, Ivonne brought this misstep to Morgan's attention yesterday and he indicated he was mortified. We have invited him to join our call today, but as of yet, the time has not been confirmed.

Hypocrisy and false narratives

Regardless, and this is important, there is NO REQUIREMENT, and in fact it is incredibly HYPOCRITICAL, for them to assert that all candidates deserve equal opportunity to apply for an endorsement from our committee. LOOK AT BSK, for Heaven's sakes! Are they practicing what they preach? No! Endorsements can and have been made based upon the endorsing entity's knowledge of a candidate's work, platform, and presence at our meetings. Our endorsements require candidates share our vision for third-party organizations in JCPS. We are an anti-racist organization. Therefore, individuals who have been enablers of white supremacy would be problematic to endorse, regardless of their completion of any forms or "agreement" to support our vision. Our meetings are open to the public and have been advertised as such repeatedly. We work as a consensus and anyone is welcome to bring their ideas and opinions but at the end of the day, we have an elected committee and we vote on who to endorse. This is a structure that was created and has been followed since the tax increase endorsement in November, with no objections.

The real reason this is happening.

We are exposing things they don't want people to see. We are presenting, for the first time in 20 years, a threat to Brent's dynasty that he has carefully built, orchestrated and protected. He's conducting elections using 15-year-old software that he commissioned and controls. There is no reason to believe he is not able to monitor votes in real time, see who is voting for and against his picks, and adjust tactics and messaging to his benefit. I have testimonies from people who have had his power and support dangled in front of them to intimidate them into voting for him and/or not speaking out against him. Members have repeatedly requested paper ballots, and in the Fall of 2019, another motion was passed by the PRs, but magically, electronic ballots keep resurfacing. Because he controls the software, he is able to report whatever election results he wants, and members are expected to trust the winners and losers at the end of the day. I believe this exposure ahead of Wednesday's JCTA elections is why these entrenched leaders are trying to discredit and dismantle the Alliance's rich history and important work. These actions are causing confusion for those loyal to Brent, making them want to distance themselves from the controversy and discomfort. I hope that everyone on this thread recognizes these racist, white supremacist acts for what they are, and that we honor the work of those who founded an Alliance that is specifically against racist and political repression, by continuing to stand against these heinous acts, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

I've sent messages to the superintendent and the commissioner letting them know what is happening. We've also reached out to the League of Women Voters to ask for their assistance in overseeing that the election is fair. Whatever they are saying about me is a distraction. This election has nothing to do with me, and everything to do with racist JCTA Members staying in power. I encourage you to do your own research.

I welcome questions and dialogue. I will also be responding to these allegations tonight at an emergency Alliance Board meeting tonight at 6:00 PM, but I'm sure this topic will also come up at our 3:00 PM Welcome New Members call today, so I wanted folks to be aware of what I've shared above. Join us at 3:00 if you can.

Time: Jan 24, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84136008134?pwd=Syt5RzIeQW1VZlkrRnltaE9DdkFtQT09>

Meeting ID: 841 3600 8134

Passcode: 557261

One tap mobile

+13126266799,84136008134#,,,,*557261# US (Chicago)

+16468769923,84136008134#,,,,*557261# US (New York)

Thanks for listening,

Gay

Exhibit A

ened

rt As CSV

Address	Opens	First Name	Last Name	Address
ia.concepcion@jefferson.kysc...	1	Patricia Concepcion	CONCEPCION	
ry.brown2@jefferson.kyschools...	1	Shelley Williams	BROWN	
.weedman@jefferson.kyschool...	44	Sarah Weedman	WEEDMAN	
ry.tichenor@jefferson.kyschoo...	2	Gregory Tichenor	TICHENOR	
utryn@jefferson.kyschools.us	1	Sara Butryn	BUTRYN	
e.rovira@jefferson.kyschools.us	1	Ivonne Rovira	ROVIRA	

Exhibit B

From: Dennis, Amy P
 Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:38 PM
 To: Belcher, Kermit E.
 Subject: RE: Sign the petition! JCTA Members demand better endorsements!

Will you let me know when blocked

From: Belcher, Kermit E. <kermit.belcher@jefferson.kyschools.us>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:33 PM
To: Dennes, Amy P <amy.dennes@jefferson.kyschools.us>
Subject: Re: ✓ Sign the petition! JCTA Members demand better endorsements!

Thanks, I'll make sure it's blocked.



Kermit Belcher, Ed. D.
Chief Information Officer
VanHoose Education Center
3332 Newburg Rd, Louisville, KY 40218
Phone: 502.453.3012 | @hebelcher

From: Amy Dennes <amy.dennes@jefferson.kyschools.us>
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 1:30 PM
To: "kermit.belcher@jefferson.kyschools.us" <kermit.belcher@jefferson.kyschools.us>
Subject: FW: ✓ Sign the petition! JCTA Members demand better endorsements!

From: DeeAnn Flaherty <DeeAnn.Flaherty@jcta.org>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Adams, Jimmy W. <jimmy.adams@jefferson.kyschools.us>; Dennes, Amy P <amy.dennes@jefferson.kyschools.us>;
Cc: Brent McKim <Brent.McKim@jcta.org>
Subject: FW: ✓ Sign the petition! JCTA Members demand better endorsements!

The below email from "Nominate Ivonne Rovira to BSK Committee <ivonne4bsk@gmail.com" needs to be blocked. It's not coming from JCTA, but it is someone "running" for a JCTA position and it also contains political material. Thanks, Dee

From: Berlin, Tammy L <tammy.berlin@jefferson.kyschools.us>
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 1:18 PM
To: DeeAnn Flaherty <DeeAnn.Flaherty@jcta.org>; Brent McKim <Brent.McKim@jcta.org>; Tammy Berlin <Tammy.Berlin@jcta.org>
Subject: FW: ✓ Sign the petition! JCTA Members demand better endorsements!

From: DeeAnn Flaherty <DeeAnn.Flaherty@jcta.org>
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2021 5:25 PM
To: JCTAKY@gmail.com <JCTAKY@gmail.com>
Subject: Urgent: Important Info Re: JCTA Elections

Dear Candidates,

JCTA has been made aware of a solicitation made to some, but not to all, association candidates for JCTA and/or KEA elected positions in the upcoming JCTA General Election. The solicitations were made by an outside organization that indicates it is seeking to influence JCTA's internal elections and is offering to provide funds and services to some candidates that are not available to other candidates. Because this could potentially impact all candidates, and because not all candidates have been made aware of these communications and activities, this email is to share this information with all association candidates. A copy of the solicitation email is provided below.

This outside group is soliciting personal information from at least some candidates and has invited some, but not all candidates, to apply for an endorsement from the group. As a result, we are aware that the personal information of some candidates has been collected and at least one candidate has had a late-night unannounced visit by someone from that group (based on the information collected). While there is nothing JCTA can do to undo what has been done, we wanted to make you aware of this situation going forward for your safety and the security of your personal information.

Below is the solicitation that some candidates received:

To Candidates for JCTA/KEA Office:

Dear **Candidate's Name**,

Congratulations on your decision to run for (*indicated seat*) to be the change you wish to see in your union. The Kentucky Alliance Education Committee of **The People's Agenda** supports transparent, democratic and reliable election processes within outside organizations with ties to our public schools.

Founded in 1974, The Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression is Kentucky's oldest and most respected organization fighting for racial justice in our community. In 2002, in anticipation of the further degradation of power and voice that our most marginalized community members would experience as a result of the city/county merger, several dozen grassroots and progressive organizations and individuals came together to form the Coalition for **The People's Agenda**.



The Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression
was founded in 1974 by Anne Braden, Angela Davis, Bob Cunningham & Suzy Post to address systemic racism and injustice prevalent in our society. The Kentucky Alliance is one of the longest-running grassroots organizations serving Jefferson County and Kentucky. The volunteer-run organization operates out of the historical Carl Braden Memorial Center at 3208 W. Broadway in Louisville, KY.

The nominating committee invites you to seek an endorsement from *The People's Agenda*.

Just as we have done in previous elections, *The People's Agenda* works with Kentuckians for Real Options as our political action committee (PAC) to endorse candidates (including school board, state and Federal elections), to take a stand on issues (as we did [in support of the JCPS tax increase](#)), and to raise funds to support these campaigns. Additional donations to support our campaign efforts are always welcome at <https://politics.raisethemoney.com/KRO>.

The Coalition will make the following items available to endorsed candidates:

- a telephone and email script to build your phone/email tree,
- access to a master database of names, schools, phone numbers and home email addresses,
- access to campaign volunteers who will follow-up with your list of supporters as election day nears,
- personalized, branded marketing support with your own \$400 budget,
- 10 **#ItsOurTimeJCTA!** yard signs to put in the yards of your supporters or wherever you choose, and
- your own soft, red **#ItsOurTimeJCTA!** Long-sleeve t-shirt. (Please let us know your size by completing the [volunteer sign-up form](#) by 1/20/21).

Endorsed candidates must share the vision of *The People's Agenda* Education Committee, which includes:

- transparent, democratic and reliable elections conducted by organizations and committees that serve our public schools,
- fully funded teachers pensions, including new hires, utilizing accurate and accepted accounting measures and projections,
- racial justice for all students, and in particular Black, Brown and marginalized students living in West Louisville; and for all educators, but in particular Black, Brown and marginalized JCTA members, and any educators who have been targeted when standing up for racial justice,
- other concerns that have been raised and continue to be raised through open and transparent meetings that are conducted and shape *The People's Agenda*, which is a coalition made up of 13 committees, including Education, led by the oldest and most respected association committed to racial justice in Kentucky, the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. (You may recognize some of the work that is currently being done around educational justice as part of our [#EARNThePeoplesVote campaign](#), as well.)
- for meeting archives, agendas, and additional information about the history and accomplishments of the organization, please visit www.thepeoplesagenda.net.

To be considered for an endorsement from the Coalition for *The People's Agenda* Education Committee's [17-person decision-making council](#), please click on the button to complete the [form](#). Be sure to check the box to indicate that you are a candidate. Additional questions will pop up, asking you to confirm that you share the vision of the Coalition and why you are seeking our endorsement. Please submit your information by January 20, 2021.

[Request Endorsement](#)

Endorsements may also be made based on candidates' public platform statements. Your participation in this process, should you choose to take the additional steps to submit the form to ensure your consideration, is completely anonymous.

Please direct any questions regarding the above to *The People's Agenda* Education Committee Chair, Gay Adelmann, by phone at (502) 565-8397, or via email at moderator@dearjcps.com. You may also contact JCPS teacher, JCTA member and JCTA Board Candidate, Ivonne Rovira at (502) 439-1441 or via email at missivonne2010@gmail.com.

IMPORTANT: Please respond from a non-JCPS email address.

Thank you and good luck!

The entire "It's Our Time, JCTA!" team!

You're invited to join the Kentucky Alliance People's Agenda Education Committee meetings every Monday at 4:00 PM via zoom. To request a link to the meetings, email moderator@thepeoplesagenda.net.



Past meetings and agendas are archived on our website at www.thepeoplesagenda.net

Sincerely,
DeeAnn Flaherty, JCTA
Executive Director

"Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." - Albus Dumbledore

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Kentucky Alliance 2020-2022" group.
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to kentucky-alliance-2020-2022+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.
To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/kentucky-alliance-2020-2022/CANtM2NQ1t1035%3DHwbrB4GRnRr1ZSJNCEJDXgN1rMQSBL%2BjQeOg%40mail.gmail.com>.