

CFA-PTO Minutes January 19,2011

Helen Daly opens meeting
Approval of minutes postponed

Principal Speaks

Mr. Jay Matuk gave an update of our Jr/Sr High School including-

Latin Club:

Latin Club will be cut due to budget cuts and, previously, no advisor. The school will still sponsor Latin festival celebrations and evening meetings if students are driven to participate. This is the beginning of many budget cuts for the 2011- 2012 year. Residents are encouraged to participate in budget discussions.

Audience Question: Can it still be considered a club for the the students' college applications?

Ms Cambria (guidance director) noted that having a club on a resume solely to show participation in a club would be less effective than if a student showed that they took a bad situation (ie. loss of a club due to budget cuts) and turned it into a positive by utilizing independence and inventiveness. (ie. searching for a group outside of high school through a local college or other organization to continue their interest in Latin, and, stating such on their college application)

Crisis Response Team update:

Crisis Response Team is made up of several key members from the High School including security, nurse, administration, teachers...

Their first responsibility is to manage the students well being.

(Before releasing information or reacting they must be assured that info is accurate.)

They then monitor students response.

A triage-like situation is set up at guidance to take care of the student's emotional well-being, especially monitoring students at risk.

Mr Matuk stated he was sorry and wished that info from district to the home, in the past, could have gotten to parents sooner and will try to improve the timeliness in the future.

Facebook/ electronic communication/ gossip will always precede the district on information.

Audience Question: How are teachers taught to deal with crisis?

Not every teacher reacts in the same way.

Please contact Mr Matuk if a teacher or staff member acts inappropriately or behaves exceptionally well.

Children At Risk:

Watch - If you see something then say something to administration.
Teachers are encouraged/asked to report anything they notice.
Not all problems are apparent. It takes many discussions.
Watch for crisis situations.

Audience Suggestion: A box for children to write problems or if they notice a child that they see are suffering a crisis.
It would work to unburden children who do not know who to turn to with this info and to send out a red flag alert for the children who may be seen by students to be in crisis.

Mr. Matuk: Crisis response team will consider it.

Ms Cambria: Guidance is always open to students and the counselors do try to seek out student with issues.
There must also be privacy in crisis situations for the families' sake.
Not all info is appropriate to be shared.

Guest Speaker: MS Cambria, Guidance Director

Ms Cambria gave a Naviance overview.

Naviance is a software program to help parents and students with the college process.

It is a personal, password protected site available through the school. No one but the student and the parent have access to the students info.

Info must be sent to the college if family wants colleges to have it. Colleges do not have access to students account.

Guidance can only send transcripts and recommendations to colleges. Guidance does not send SAT/ ACT scores etc.

More than one child, in a family, can be linked to the parent's account.

Student's aptitude assessment test result available along with linked recommended education and career paths.

Data is only posted after class graduates, data is only kept for 2 years and if their are less than 5 students for data that data will not be shown to maintain privacy.

Guidance will offer individualized training session (with aprox. 5 parents) to families. Hours offered between 9am through 2:30 or after school or evening.

Contact CFA.vpComm@gmail with your preferred time, name and email address.

Meetings to watch for:

*For 12th grade families: January FASA (Financial Aid) meetings

*Class Meetings for your child's particular year - ongoing through out the year

*General college meeting - September.

College Tests:

Register for the June SAT EARLY! (Jan or Feb)

Chemistry Subject test for Chemistry register AT LEAST 4 weeks early

Suggested that SAT Subject test be taken following when the student finishes the

accelerated/AP class in that subject.

No risk in taking the test because the student is not required to send them to the college.

All SAT is **score choice** - the student can pick and choose the tests and sections they want to send although some schools require all of them.

No school requires three subject tests anymore although it is still recommended.

HS/jr HS Scheduling:

Scheduling is not on a first come first serve basis. All students have equal chance based on their schedules and current grade.

The new course guide books are coming out next week.

CFA NEWS:

Attention all parents who have or will have a 7th - 12th grade student:

On behalf of the nominating committee, we would like to invite any parent who will have a child in the Jr/Sr High School during the 2011-2012 academic year to submit his/her name if he/she wishes to be considered for a position on the CFA Board (Parent Teacher Organization). Please go to the CFA website (cshcfa.com) to see a discription of all Board positions. Each board member must attend the monthly CFA meetings as well as CFA Board meetings. If you would like to submit your name to be considered for a position, or require additional information, please contact Amy Brogan at 631-692-9743 or 1amelia@optonline.net by Feb. 18th.

The CFA bookfair at Barnes and Noble has raised \$2500 dollars with many thanks to Mrs Sajewski.

Thanks to all the teachers and Department heads at the HS.

The CSHHS Music dept was amazing with the band, orchestra and individual student performances.

The Art Dept lent us beautiful student work and imaginative dresses form the fashion class.

The Arts Booster Club helped out by organizing the Peter Pan Cast

Thank you to the administration for their support.

And thank you to everyone who came down to the store and those who bought online.

This was our most successful book fair yet,
the students can use the money!!!

Thank you to Trish Colon for chairing a successful, appreciated holiday cookie bake.

Thanks to all the talented bakers (and buyers)!!

Motion to adjourn: Melissa D'Angelo

Second:

