

## **CFA Minutes – September 12, 2012**

[www.CSHCFA](http://www.CSHCFA)

Meeting held in PAC

In attendance. J. Farynick, M. Hooks, G. Smith, N. Aboff, S. Sica, T. Ruocco, S. Bianco, J. Matuk

Audience: There were many audience members, however, we did not take attendance. It was held in the PAC.

### **President's Report**

- Minutes approved from May.
- Mini Calendars are available for \$3.00
- Welcome Back Tea for Faculty was held on 9/11 starting at 7 a.m. Received great feedback from teachers. This replaced the Welcome Back Tea whereby Parents could meet the teachers. However, due to poor attendance, it was changed to a breakfast for the faculty. Parents can still meet the teachers at Back to School Night.

### **Communications Report**

- New Website available.
- No longer distributing paper copy of website; users can print it

### **Membership Report**

- In the future, website blasts will stop if parents do not join as a CFA member for \$25.00.

### **JH Report**

- Looking for volunteers for JH dances. First dance is Halloween Dance 10/26 from 6 – 9.

### **Committee Report**

- Back-to-School Night for HS 9/27– Need volunteers to bring refreshments/food and help setting up. Contact Sandy Bianco
- Back-to-School Night for JH 10/4 – Need volunteers. Contact Sandy

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Fall off in dues last year so budget was lowered from \$11,000 to \$10,000. Hopefully we'll get more this year. Two fundraisers are Wrapping Paper and Book Fair. Value Drug provides Key Chain scan. It was noted that if you forget the Key Chain, please mention it to the cashier and they will still give the school credit.
- Gift to School – School didn't use it last year so we will roll it over to this year.
- Senior Experience – Usually there is a senior lunch, however, it didn't happen last year. Therefore, CFA took a photo of all seniors together outside on school grounds, and placed them in silver frames, and distributed one to every senior. They all loved it!
- Student Clubs – Stacy will hold additional meetings with clubs to remind them to use monies allocated to them (they didn't use them last year). There are @40 clubs.

### **Mr. Matuk's Report**

- Introduction – Mr. Monastero is Assistant Principal for 7/8<sup>th</sup> grades and Dr. Brown is Assistant Principal for 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades.
- One of best starts to school! Opened with 998 students (last year 1,000). A lot of new families came in end of August. 7<sup>th</sup> graders acclimated well.
- Mr. Diego is a new Science Teacher.
- AP Art History offered as a new course this year.
- Humanities offered as a new program in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. All 9<sup>th</sup> grade English and Social Studies classes will be linked together. They will have the same students in the same classroom. Social Studies will discuss literature and English will discuss World History. The goal is to energize children and improve writing.
- Presidential Debate will take place again across all grades. There will be a school wide vote and results will be displayed by demographics, e.g., what were results for 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls vs. boys etc.
- Gerwin Roundtable Forum will be held at the Gerwin Nursing Home for seniors. They will discuss wars, i.e., WW II, Iraq, immigration as they know it compared to now. They will discuss economies including the Depression etc. This is only for the Leadership Class.

- Winter Blues Breaker – During February/March the Student Government will hold a Spirit Week. Last year they had Dodge Ball. Some events being discussed include Tug of War and Pep Rally.

- Knock Hockey and Foosball tables will be placed in HS cafeteria. Seniors have Common Area and JH go outside so they felt 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> graders needed activities.

- Safe Driving presentation held this week – Discussed responsibilities as a parent. Talked about texting (“distracted driving”) and drunk driving. Audience asked if a separate mailing could be distributed to Juniors to explain what to expect next year in regards to driving, e.g., safety first, don’t just get in a car, find out who’s driving etc.

- Late Bus – Audience asked if late buses could drop students off in front of houses. Mr. Matuk replied that they had to stick to the designated drop-offs as indicated by their specific routes.

- Schedules – Audience discussed the lateness of the schedules (distributed the Friday before school). Mr. Matuk replied that scheduling is difficult and it is hard to finalize it earlier. Next year they will try to distribute it a week earlier. A parent talked about an instance whereby her daughter was assigned a summer assignment, however, she found out the week before school that she wasn’t assigned the class. Mr. Matuk said that in most cases the student would hear from the school earlier about a change in their schedule. He also discussed with teachers not to assign summer work for the “sake of assigning” it.

Parent Portal – Teachers’ “Grade Books” are now available via the Parent Portal. Parents will be able to see quizzes, tests, and homework grades entered by teachers into their gradebooks. Students will receive access codes so they can monitor their progress.

Senior Career Mentoring Program – School is investigating other schools to see how our students can benefit from it.

Smart Phones – Audience asked about Smart Phones being used in classrooms to assist with learning. In the future it may be, however, as of now, the software is limited. Until the school sees a practical use of it, they will not be used in the classrooms. Nothing replaces a good teacher.

**Endowment Fund Presentation** followed CFA meeting

