

Central Parents Council

Minutes from October 2, 2014

In Attendance: Lolita Reichbach, Beth Packert, Wendi DeSchutter, Sarah Trust, Nancy Israeli, Stephanie DiNozzi, Augusta Reese Donohue, Terri Coyle, Jana DeRisi, Ingrid Wright, Nicole Pultz, Karen Walter, Jill DeMarco, Kaitlin Eisenegger, Heather Savarese, Charisse Winthrop, Jenean Ketterer, Nicole Prizzi, Helen Daly, Tracey Greenberg, Karen Walter, Karen Marino, Ali Gladowsky, Maria Reilly, Rosemarie Kirchner, Amy Brogan, Angela Engel, Karen Spehler, Violetta Partrick, Tami Schneider, Maura McGloin, Pam Bell, Liz Squicciarini, Gloria Godsell, Andrea Buonfiglio, Jill DeMarco, Jennifer Leavy, Bianca Burman, Debra Aviles, Patricia Hammond, Cindy Samuels, Paris Pappas, Barb Grego, Colleen Haskell, Anabela Rivadaneiro, Laurel Moynihan, Pamela Sherlock, Anne Gummersell

Absent: Melissa Marasciullo, Christina Bruderman, Ginette Reynolds, Kristin Robillard, Lauryn Koke, Anne Scott, Tim Ruocco, Robert Taglich

CPC Business

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 by **Beth Packert, Chairperson**. Beth led the group in the the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sarah Trust, Secretary, asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 4, 2014 meeting. Ingrid Wright made motion to approve, Augusta Reese seconded. The minutes were approved.

Beth reviewed the highlights of the Board of Ed meeting on Tuesday:

- The Board voted unanimously to approve being removed from the National School Lunch Program for the Jr. and Sr. high school. There is a 60 day period to express concerns. People should contact Gerri Tiger.
- A movie shoot was performed at the high school over the weekend.
- Mrs. Cambria, the director of guidance, is retiring.
- The Board will vote on upcoming goals for the school year at their upcoming meeting. We will be presenting the board with gifts.
- Weather related pick-ups: parents are encouraged to pick their children up in the event of snow since the school prefers not to have early dismissal given the logistical problems of insuring that all children are out safely and that there is a parent to welcome them home. Early pick up by parents will reduce the number of students the buses must drop off making the routes shorter and safer.
- The robotics program has started.

Report from the Treasurer

Lolita Reichbach, Treasurer, stated that the budget is now available. Five years ago, CPC almost ran out of money and a parent generously donated \$2500. We currently have \$1800 available. Our goal is a \$250 surplus which would go to building up the cash available.

Nancy Israeli pointed out that on the refreshment schedule, CAC was listed as paying, but they should not as they are part of the CFA. Lolita clarified that she would send out an invoice for the refreshments.

Status and Resolution Report

Wendi DeSchutter, Vice Chair, stated that the S&R Report did not contain any new parent items. If they need to be added, please let her know.

School Reports

GPFA: Heather Savarese gave the report. See attached notes. Back to school picnic and Welcome Tea both went well. Parents Night out will be on 10/10 at Honu. They have GH reps for all organizations. Next meeting is 10/8.

LH: Gussie Donohue gave the report. See attached notes. The Little Apple Fun Run will be on 10/26. Sponsors are needed.

WS: Ingrid Wright gave the report. See attached notes. The first meeting was well attended as was Back to School Night. Tomato Sauce Day was on Monday. Photo Day is next week. Westside Win has sold 150 tickets, with a cap at 200. The Book Fair is 10/23 and 10/24. The Halloween Party is also on 10/24.

CFA: Nancy Israeli gave the report. See attached notes. The 8th Grade enjoyed their Caumsett Trip. 9/16 was the Faculty breakfast. 10/14 is the next meeting in the Jr. high library. There will be no Homecoming Dance.

Arts Booster: Pamela Sherlock gave the report. See attached report. They are looking for public relations interns to bring students of the departments (music, art, etc.) together.

Cultural Arts Committee: Anne Gummersell gave the report. See attached notes.

FOCUS: Lolita Reichbach gave the report. Nicole Prizzi is the new GH representative. They are focusing on Drugs, Alcohol and Tech dangers. Want to open those conversations. They hope to have a MADD presentation, vignettes at the PTAs, Lunch and Learn by Internet Crime Police. Any suggestions are welcome. Beth Packert asked if they would address texting and driving.

SEPTA: Lolita Reichbach gave the report. They have an increase in membership, but still need support. Send membership request with check in backpack to Main Office of school. Homework club started at Lloyd Harbor.

Seahawks Booster: Karen Walter gave the report. See form for membership application. See brick selling sheet attached. They are also selling year-long banners. They recently got their 501(c)(3) status approved.

New Business:

Beth Packert:

- Working Parents: Should we re-work meeting to address the needs of working parents, either having a few night time meetings or by having an electronic system set up. Suggestions were made for linking the minutes to the school sites for access to the information.
- Language Offerings: why are we limited?
- Community Service: Should we have requirements at the elementary levels? Ingrid Wright questioned why organizations give out more hours than have been worked. Stated lying was counter-productive to the purpose of instilling good values in our children. Lolita Reichbach stated that it is unfortunate that organizations award more hours than

- worked, but that it was a way that the organizations express their gratitude for the help.
- Unused Food: can the food not used at the schools be donated somewhere? That would require a lot of volunteers.

Gussie Donohue: The schools don't have a recycling contract. We need to find a company to pick up all of the material the students are recycling. Mrs. Herschlein stated that the sanitation company does its own sorting.

Terri Coyle: Little Apple Fun Run Posters can be distributed at local businesses. All registration is online now. Corporate donations are \$200 for a logo on the t-shirt. The new t-shirts are long sleeve wicking shirts.

Guest Speakers – The Principals

Mr. Simon from West Side School spoke about their 225 anniversary. They hope to have a celebration on one day and possibly have students give tours to alumni. Seussical will be performed in December. The Teachers College Writers Workshop is progressing in the classrooms including Small Moments, Habits of Good Writers, Realistic Fiction, Narrative, and Good Readers take Good Notes. Thank you to the PTG and Mr. Bongino for the new Rock Wall. They had Tomato Sauce Day on Monday. Thank you to the Education Foundation for the iPads – it allows for a lot of uses. WSS has a new tech teacher, Mrs. Diehl. The biggest challenge is making sure everyone is on the same page and working to do what is best for the children. Getting parents and teachers on the same page.

Mrs. Herschlein from Goose Hill spoke about a great opening. They now have 173 kids, 5 kindergarten classes and 4 first grades. They are enjoying the new playground; they have new cabinetry in the school. The Open Houses, Back to School Nights and Welcome Back Picnic were all a success. They will have a Parent University at Goose Hill meetings. At Spirit Day they talked about community and wrote their charter. Kids already have had computer assessments. They have had bus safety and will have fire safety with the kids. A Social worker goes to the classrooms and talks about friendship and other issues. The biggest challenge is fitting it all in and giving everyone what they need while still having fun.

Mrs. Massimo from Lloyd Harbor spoke about how great the Teachers College program and eSpark have been. They have 430 students, including 5 sets of twins in the 3rd grade. Their Ambassador Program was a great success welcoming people to the community. They had Summer Connections for summer reading: choice of four books and teachers also read the books and broke into groups and had a celebration and project for each book. At Back to School Night each special teacher was in their own space so parents could see other parts of the school. They had an evening news edition for Back to School Night where they highlighted what the school does. Their new program is Give Kids a Chance To Shine where kids are awarded based on the word of the month. The Student Council is running the school store selling merchandise. The biggest challenge is helping the students make good decisions. Especially with internet safety.

Mr. Matuk from CSH Jr./Sr. High stated that enrollment is a bit down. The drop-in assistance room is successful – children are hanging out there, with a social worker. Jr. High's is called The Nest, Sr. High is called Seahawks Suite. The 8th Grade Caumsett trip was a good way for kids to break out of their comfort zones and spend time with children they don't normally see. There were trust building exercises. They have a new Student/Staff mentoring partnership to help the kids identified as needing help. The Gottschalk Art Gallery is re-opening in a more visible space. They have a 3D printer in the tech room. They are looking to put Hawk Talk on line. They have a new Good Character Recognition program to award students for their great attitudes. Spirit Week

is October 14-17 with a pep rally. No homecoming dance this year due to lack of interest by kids. The biggest challenge is to help the students make good decisions and to keep them safe.

Jenean Ketterer asked if there will be a follow up to the Caumsett Outing. Mr. Matuk thought there would be. There has been a paradigm shift – they are getting to know each other online and thinking that persona is the real thing.

Mr. Bongino, Athletic Director spoke about the growth and improvement on the fields. Participation and Competition has increased. The girls' volleyball team has shown great improvement. They are working on the Code of Conduct, including time management and commitment. The students were wearing gold shoelaces for September's Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month (brought to his attention by Victoria Vallone on the tennis team), they will be celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness month in October. Health and PE include Decision Making, Leisure Activities, and Project Adventure. 3rd Graders will now know what is on the Physical Fitness Test so they can practice over the summer. They take it in 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. Mrs. Parent is now running the Elementary Health Program.

The biggest challenge is to bridge participation with a high level of instruction. Need high level coaches and may need to increase the number of teams so there can be more participation.

Question: How new is the equipment – all equipment is tested at the beginning of the year and reconditioned. Anything that fails is thrown out. All uniforms are within a five year period and they are always analyzing what team needs new uniforms.

Mr. Bongino also discussed the unfortunate death of the football player from Shoreham-Wading River.

Reminders: Mr. Bongino will be here in November. The next meeting is November 6th.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00.