

CENTRAL PARENT COUNCIL

February 13, 2025
CHAIR REPORT

“Black history isn’t a separate history. This is all of our history, this is American history, and we need to understand that. It has such an impact on kids and their values and how they view black people.” – Karyn Parsons

Welcome to the February meeting of the Central Parents Council, I don’t know about you all, but when I looked at my February calendar, I count the number of free hours on one hand; it feels like March is already knocking on our door.

The Council would like to thank the District, the teachers, the High School students, and the CSH Educational Foundation for putting together another amazing STEAMANITES event. After three years, the ice cream recipe has been nearly perfected! As a parent of younger children in this District, I applaud all of you parents with children in the high school who dedicated their time to truly engaging with our young ones; you should be proud of the young men and women they have become and I can only hope my boys will pay it forward when they are in High School.

Congratulations are on hand for our Model UN members for their excellent work at the Ivy League Model United Nations Conference in late January. We would also like to congratulate the High School on a successful production of Mamma Mia. We were so pleased to hear your Thursday evening preview was so well received by the Senior Community and the show must go on, even if there is a snowstorm. Finally, congratulations to our winter Athletic Teams, I just went through the CSH Athletics Instagram profile and as usual the Accolades are nothing short of impressive, Boys Basketball Conference Champions, Girls Basketball in Playoffs, Gymnastics sending two members to NYS Qualifiers, Indoor track qualifying 5 girls for NYS Championships, Swim Team members making All County, Wrestling, Ice Hockey, Fencing; just impressive.

On Tuesday night, Ms. Costa presented the first pass of the 2025-2026 School Budget; I encourage everyone to watch the replay and refer to the Agenda Packet on the District website to learn more about the individual school budget requests. Budget discussions will continue over the next few months; Ms. Costa is expected to present the final adopted budget at our April CPC Meeting. There will be the Annual Budget Hearing on May 13, 2025 in the evening ahead of the Budget and BOE Vote on May 20, 2025.

The BOE also accepted the resignations of many great teachers and staff members. Superintendent Monastero mentioned that between them they had 100s of years of service to our District. One of those retirees is in the room today, and I just want to take a moment to thank Ms. Genevieve LaGatutta for the outstanding work you have done for our Community

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during your tenure. You brought transparency to our Curriculum and introduced the Grade Specific Curriculum Guides, you've worked tirelessly with teachers, staff, BOE, and our Community to bring rigorous yet exciting new courses to our secondary students, your dedication to bringing changes to our Literacy, Math, and ELA programs and as we saw at last month meeting, you just light whenever we talk about Universal Pre-K. It truly has been a pleasure to work with you as a parent volunteer and although I look forward to working with you as part of the Elementary Report Card Committee through the rest of this year, I can safely say that June 30, 2025 can certainly wait a little while longer. Thank you for your service and we wish you a relaxing and enjoyable retirement.

Today's meeting we look forward to our Superintendent's Update and our discussing our upcoming District Wide Family Sports Night. Before we get into that, the CPC will have the Self Nomination Form for CPC Officers and SIT Committees available before the Mar 13 CPC meeting. According to our By-laws the Officer Positions for 2025-2026 will be West Side School for Chair, LHS for Vice-Chair, CSH for Secretary, and GH for Treasurer. If you are interested in learning more about any of these positions, please feel free to reach out any member of the CPC Executive Board.



Erin Rechler
Chair