

We had a terrific Homecoming a couple of weeks ago. The community turned out in force to watch the Seahawks football team beat Island Trees 40 to 6. As I would say to my kids, winning isn't the most important thing...but it is always especially gratifying and a great boost to morale to have a victory during an extra big turnout, after a week-long buildup of pep rallies. Spirits were extremely high, and a highlight of the evening was watching the kids in younger grades get in on the action with flag football and a run around the track. Students and families were invited that afternoon to the field house, courts, and turf to watch various other team competitions, such as varsity girls' volleyball, soccer, and tennis, and varsity boys' soccer.

We had other reasons to celebrate the CSH community at the October 12th Board of Education meeting. Several high school merit scholars were recognized and honored; it was wonderful to applaud them and their families in person. Three faculty members were awarded tenure, and the CPC and PTGs formally acknowledged the hard work of the Board of Ed in the annual Appreciation month.

The administration devoted the bulk of the October 12th meeting to an extensive presentation on how the administration conceives of DEI as an extension of previous efforts to make all students feel welcome and accepted in our schools. Because the presentation sought to put what is meant by the terms diversity equity and inclusion—which can seem abstract and vague without actual examples—it encompassed fifty slides which are available on the district website.

Today's meeting falls within National Bullying Prevention month, so we are hosting Deanna Latham, the West Side School psychologist, so she can discuss what we can do as parents when our kids are bullied themselves or engage in bullying behavior.

Right before we open up the floor to questions and comments, we will draw names from the lottery to serve on the district's DEI Task Force. Outcomes from the Task Force meeting, which will occur on the evening of Thursday, November 4th, will be presented a few days later at the November 9th Board of Education meeting.

Jennifer Kornreich Cahn
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