

## **Central Parents Council Minutes: September 10, 2020**

### **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **2. Welcome, Call to Order — CPC Chair, Cristina Monterroso**

Meeting called to order at 9:08 AM.

### **3. Approval of Minutes for March 5, 2020 Meeting — CPC Secretary, Jennifer Kornreich Cahn**

Lisa Smith made a motion to approve the March minutes, and Lynette Simmons seconded.

### **4. CPC Chair Report — CPC Chair, Cristina Monterroso**

- Our group exists primarily to act as a voice for the community and a liaison between the administration and the parents.
- For the foreseeable future, our meetings will likely be virtual.
- We will allow for live questions toward the end of each meeting via the hand-raising feature within the “participants” button on Zoom.

### **5. CPC Status and Resolution Report — CPC Vice-Chair, Heather Morante Young**

### **6. CPC Treasurer Report — CPC Treasurer, Genevieve Cimino**

Although Genevieve Cimino was not present at the meeting, she submitted a report indicated that the CPC has engaged in no new activity since the lockdown began in March.

### **7. School and Club Organizational Reports:**

#### **Goosehill Parent Teacher Group (GHPTG)**

- Changed name from GPFA and in the process of creating a new GHPTG website
- Purchased lanyards for all students, distributed with technology packages at Meet the Teacher last week
- New amphitheater completed in May
- Estimated distribution date of school directory is September 15
- Ongoing apparel sale through September 18
- Presented GH faculty with Welcome Back gift certificate to Dunkin Donuts
- Welcome Back Tea on September 16 changed to Zoom meeting
- Chairs and volunteers for Bulletin Board and Beautification Committees needed
- Parents Night Out has been rescheduled from 11/20/20 to 04/22/21

### **Lloyd Harbor School Parent Teacher Group (LHSPTG)**

- New Family Ambassador Program began in early summer to welcome the 12 new families at LHS
- Our annual online school supply sale garnered over 250 orders, and collected over \$5000 in annual dues
- Held a fall apparel sale in August and sold over 150 LHS face masks
- Gave LHS face masks as a Welcome Back gift to all faculty and staff
- Held New Family Orientation on September 1
- PTG Committee Chair Virtual Meeting and Welcome Back Virtual Breakfast to be held on September 17

### **West Side School Parent Teacher Group (WSSPTG)**

- WSS has 5 new families, a new sixth-grade teacher, and a new music teacher
- The PTG greeted the teachers with a Welcome Back breakfast
- Our Beautification Committee planted new flowers
- Upcoming events include a Picture Day, a virtual book fair, and a new take on our Fall Festival

### **Junior/Senior High School (CHSPTG)**

- CHSPTG meeting to be held on September 15 via Zoom
- Welcome Back Faculty Tea will be held on September 17
- Weekly notes will be sent to all families through the end of September; then they will be available only to PTG members

### **Arts Booster Club (ABC)**

- ABC membership provides funds to support all aspects of the arts at the junior and senior high school, and to grant seniors with ABC scholarships for their artistic endeavors
- Kudos to our 2019-2020 recipients: Colin Bacchi, Julia Bavaro, Christopher Geraci, Lucia Kasper, Julia Kopp, Serena Li, Sianna Monti, Grace Posillico, Anna Tesoriero, and Katherine Tuohy

### **Cultural Arts Committee (CAC)**

- No updates reported at this time.

### **Families of the Community United with Schools (FOCUS)**

- Held a spring presentation of "Parenting Through the Pandemic" with Ms. Campbell, which featured a Q&A
- Send feedback and suggestions to [focuscoldspringharbor@gmail.com](mailto:focuscoldspringharbor@gmail.com)
- Follow us on Facebook @CSHFOCUS

### **Special Education Parent Teacher Organization (SEPTO)**

- Hosted a Zoom call with Ms. Campbell on Sept. 2 to address parents' concerns.
- The Special Education department has requested label makers and supply kits for each student to store in their special ed classroom
- “Back to School 101 During COVID” will be held at 9:45 AM on Sept. 22
- SEPTO parents and students made a “thank you” video for staff members
- Gift cards for the Special Ed staff will be distributed this week
- The feasibility of holding LH Homework Club and Friendship Fridays will be discussed in October
- Contact us at cshsepto@gmail.com

### **Seahawks Booster Club (SBC)**

- No updates reported at this time.

### **Cold Spring Harbor Education Foundation**

- Provided an emergency grant of \$30K to cover web cameras and other equipment to aid in this challenging school year
- Cocktail party to be held at the Kean Building on October 20-21 for businesses who have supported the Foundation, as well as interested new businesses
- Main fundraiser this year will be a golf/tennis outing this spring
- Other planned events: a Tory Burch sip-and-shop, and brunch

## **8. Presentation**

Mr. Fenter and Ms. Campbell discussed school reopening from 9:50 AM to 10:18 AM. They reported that the first two days of school had gone smoothly overall despite the many new challenges. They reviewed the rationale behind the decision to choose reopening with a hybrid model—which, they noted, though imperfect, will afford the district the combination of optimal safety and the flexibility to pivot to either full-time in-person or virtual learning as needed. Mr. Fenter provided general parameters that will facilitate reopening in-person learning five days a week: continued low rates of infection in the area; additional guidance from the state and health department; and the outcomes of other schools who have reopened five days with greater numbers of children in the classrooms. Ms. Campbell reported excellent compliance with safety protocols among the student body and district families.

## **9. Parent Issues and New Business (10:19 AM-end of meeting)**

—A few parents pressed for further specificity on full-time reopening criteria: what the numbers (rate of infection) have to be; will a return to a 5-day schedule happen in phases; how does the willingness of the community to return play a

part? The administration responded that there are no further specific criteria at this time. Later this month, along with the BOE, the administration will be assessing the feasibility of potential plans for full-time in-person learning.

—A parent inquired about potential student latenesses due to one-way walkways in corridors for social distancing purposes; administration assured that teachers know to be flexible and lenient at this time.

—Another question was about how mask breaks are determined by teachers; administration said that it is up to the discretion of the teachers though there are guidelines for frequency and duration (< 10 minutes).

—Another parent wanted to know why masks were required rather than optional when students are seated at desks, when this wasn't clear in CDC guidelines. Mr. Fenter and Ms. Campbell explained that as more detailed research emerged over the course of the summer, it became clear that masks are crucial in preventing the transmission of aerosolized virus, especially indoors.

—A parent asked how the community will be alerted if someone tests positive. Ms. Campbell responded that all families will receive written notification of cases in the district. Confidentiality of affected individuals will be respected, but specific families will be further apprised of any potential exposure of their children as well as any quarantine requirements.

—The CPC board received question ahead of time from a parent who couldn't attend the Zoom meeting about whether children learning remotely would have a chance to respond to teacher questions; the administration indicated that while there may be a learning curve, teachers are planning on including remote learners in class participation.

—A parent asked about the status of school sports; Nassau County has made the decision to postpone all athletics until January 2021.

## **10. Important Dates**

September BOE meeting (virtual): Tuesday, September 15 at 8 PM

Next SEPTO meeting (virtual): Tuesday, September 22

Next CPC meeting (virtual): Thursday, October 1 at 9 AM

## **11. Meeting Adjournment — Cristina Monterroso**

Meeting adjourned at 11:19 AM.