

Central Parent Council Minutes: October 21, 2021

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Call to Order — CPC Chair, Jennifer Kornreich Cahn

Meeting called to order at 9:10am

3. Chair Report — CPC Chair, Jennifer Kornreich Cahn

4. Approval of Minutes from the 9/30/2021 CPC Meeting

— CPC Secretary, Joann Kuncewitch

Lisa Smith moved to approve the September 2021 minutes, and Michele Gulitti seconded.

5. Status & Resolution Report — CPC Vice Chair, Michele Gulitti

6. CPC Treasury Report — CPC Treasurer, Bernadette Flynn

7. School and Organization Reports:

Goosehill Primary School (GHPTG)

Lloyd Harbor School (LHSPTG)

West Side School (WSSPTG)

CSH Junior/Senior High School (CSHPTG)

Arts Booster Club (ABC)

Cultural Arts Committee (CAC)

Families of the Community United with Schools (FOCUS)

Special Education Parent Teacher Organization (SEPTO)

CSH Educational Foundation

8. Guest Speakers — Deanna Latham (West Side School psychologist), Wendy Moss (Lloyd Harbor School psychologist)

We welcomed two of our school psychologists, Ms. Latham and Dr. Moss who were also speaking on behalf of all our school psychologists in the primary, elementary, and

secondary schools. Ms. Latham and Dr. Moss talked about the Dignity for all Students Act (DASA) which states that all children have the right to attend school in a safe, welcoming, and caring environment. They also described that they follow the CASEL model (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning), which has five focus points: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making.

Following the presentation, A parent asked when the Lloyd Harbor peer mentorship program will be returning. Dr. Moss responded that it will be starting next week. The start of the program was delayed due to concerns about the space which have since been worked out.

A parent asked our psychologists to describe the process in which students become peer mentors. Dr. Moss answered by saying that students who want to be leaders work in groups and run through various types of role-playing scenarios. For example, situations that could happen on a bus, or during recess when a student feels alone or is being picked on. Our psychologists added that we don't call people "bullies" as a label, rather they work towards resolving conflicts and further develop social-emotional learning.

9. Lottery Drawing for DEI Task Force Members — (Parent/ Guardian representatives)

Prior to this meeting, using Sign-Up Genius, our PTG members compiled a list of parent/guardian volunteers using the following guidelines:

- *Only one parent per family/household may submit their name per school (e.g., Parent A and Parent B from the Doe family/household may not both enter their names to be chosen for the same school).*
- *Only one parent per family/household may serve as a Task Force representative (e.g., in the event that Parent A from the Doe Family is selected to represent a school/parent group for which they submitted their name, Parent A's name AND Parent B's name will be removed from the pool of any remaining school/parent group they may have submitted their names for. This is to avoid one family having outsized representation on the Task Force as a whole, and an effort to have as diverse a Task Force as possible).*
- *A total of seven (7) parent representatives will be picked out of a bowl at the 10/21 CPC meeting-- (1) Goosehill, (1) West Side, (1) Lloyd Harbor, and (2) Jr./Sr. High School. The remaining names will then be combined into a district-wide bowl, and two (2) more representatives will be picked from that district-wide bowl for the remaining spots.*

During the meeting, each PTG president announced the list of Parent/ Guardian volunteers representing their schools. As each name was read, the printed name on paper was dropped into a clear bowl:

Goosehill Primary School: 22 volunteers

Lloyd Harbor School: 33 volunteers

Cold Spring Harbor Jr/ Sr. High School: 55 volunteers

James Stucchio, Deputy Superintendent, selected the names blindly with the audience as witnesses. The guidelines as stated above were followed. During the selection process, duplicate names representing single households were removed prior to combining all names for the district wide selection. The parent/ guardian representatives can be found in the following link for the November 9, 2021 Board of Education document:

[DEI Task Force](#)

(<https://drive.google.com/file/d/116yaXVjU5d1pwG155iZiL4kXzJPUy30Z/view>)

Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Jill Gierasch announced that the Thought Exchange survey would be sent out next Monday. Additionally, she announced that the DEI Task Force will be meeting in the evening on November 4. It is planned to share the results of the DEI Task Force at the November 9 Board of Education meeting.

10. Parent Questions/New Business (10:35AM)

A parent asked why elementary school basketball is not happening at Lloyd Harbor School this year. Ms. Gierasch explained that right now, no outside organizations are allowed to use indoor facilities. She added that administration will revisit this plan in mid-November.

A parent asked a few questions about school bathrooms. First, it was asked if our school bathrooms have been designated as gender-neutral bathrooms as per New York State guidelines. Mr. Stucchio clarified that New York State requires single-stall bathrooms to

be gender-neutral. Our schools have implemented this change in compliance with New York State law. A follow-up question asked how the multi-stall bathrooms are being designated. Mr. Stucchio explained that multi-stall bathrooms continue to be designated as single gender. A follow-up question asked how the single gender bathrooms would be secured if someone of the wrong gender walks in. Ms. Gierasch answered and explained that this is a complex situation and that students understand their own gender. Ms. Gierasch added that students who may question their own gender identity may take the option to use the single-stall bathrooms or use the bathrooms in the Nurses office. She added that our district has not had any issues related to this topic.

Another parent had a question related to school bathrooms. The parent asked if there is security involved in ensuring that students who use the single gender bathrooms match the designated gender. Ms. Gierasch responded that instances also can occur outside of the bathroom. Students are asked to speak up when there are issues.

A parent asked if all parent volunteers need a negative COVID test within 36 hours of the school event. Ms. Gierasch confirmed that this is the current procedure.

A parent commented that English assignments from the Jr./ Sr. High School are not being returned to the students. Ms. Gierasch encourages parents to discuss this issue directly with their child's teacher. Ms. Gierasch added that administration is investigating the history of what has been done within the last five years and that Ms. LaGattuta has discussed this with department heads.

11. Important Dates:

Next Board of Education meeting — Tuesday, 11/9, 8PM

Next CPC meeting — Thursday, 11/18, 9 AM

12. Meeting Adjournment — CPC Chair, Jennifer Kornreich Cahn

Bernadette Flynn motioned to end the meeting, and Joann Kuncewitch seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:47AM