

# CHS Communiqué

Parent Student Faculty Association Newsletter

Volume Fifteen, Issue 6



February 2015

CHS Communiqué is the official publication of the CHS PSFA, The Parent Student Faculty Association of Communications High School, a Monmouth County Career Academy.

Editor:

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The PSFA also has important PSFA announcements via our email system.

**Please take a moment to register online at <http://chs-psfa.org/communique/>.**

## Co-Presidents' Corner

By Jessica Evans and Kathy Gilbert

We begin February looking forward to a great second half of the school year, gearing up for the PSFA's biggest event: the Dinner and Gift Raffle for parents and faculty on March 21st at Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune. Join us as at the "Midnight Masquerade" and enjoy an evening of good company, good food and good prizes.

The students completed their final exams for the first semester on January 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Even with the last minute challenge of the Blizzard of 2015, the PSFA Hospitality team provided a Bagel Breakfast on the second day of the exams. Many thanks to our Hospitality Chairs **Joanne Boyle and Cyndi Hogan, as well as our dedicated volunteers**, who fed our hungry students. We hope to continue this tradition of keeping all of CHS fueled with a healthy breakfast for those grueling exam days!

Now that the first semester is almost behind us, the **PSFA Graduation Awards** program will begin its process. The application form will be given to seniors with a 90.0 or higher grade point average. See below for more information.

We thank the many wonderful volunteers who keep the PSFA flourishing. However, there is always room for additional help. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity, please contact one of the PSFA officers. **We hope you will consider starting off the new semester with a commitment to help the PSFA have an even more successful second half of the year.**

We always welcome volunteers to help create a successful **Dinner and Gift Raffle**. This single event funds the many events and programs that our children enjoy throughout the school year. We need **everyone's** help to make it a success. Please consider volunteering your time and making a donation to help with our efforts to make this event a great evening for all! Contact Kathy Gilbert at [pkgilbert@att.net](mailto:pkgilbert@att.net) or Judi Taglieri at [jtags1@hotmail.com](mailto:jtags1@hotmail.com) with any questions.

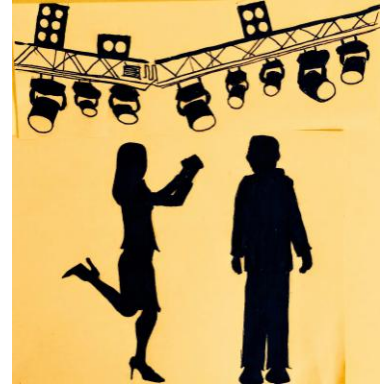
We hope to see you at our next meeting: Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

## Annual Graduation Awards

Once again, the PSFA will present monetary awards of \$500 each to a select group of seniors upon graduation. Application forms will be distributed from the Guidance Office to all seniors with a cumulative grade point average of 90 or above and whose families have been PSFA members during their tenure with the school. Selection of award recipients will be determined by the MCVSD District Office. All interested seniors should complete the application and return it to their counselors no later than Friday, **April 24, 2015**. If you have any questions, please contact the Guidance Office or contact Kathy Gilbert at [pkgilbert@att.net](mailto:pkgilbert@att.net).



# Improv-Ability



The CHS PSFA is pleased to be able to present Eight is NEVER Enough ([www.eightimprov.biz](http://www.eightimprov.biz)), NYC's interactive improv & musical comedy show for a school-wide assembly on March 27th, right before mid-terms. All students are also invited to sign up for a FREE workshop 2:30-4pm titled Comedy 4 Teens. Walt Frasier (Letterman, MTV, VH1 and other TV, Theater and Comedy Club experience) and his team of professional comics teach public speaking via popular improvisational comedy games (Made popular on WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY and WILD 'n OUT) that teach valuable Public Speaking and Leadership skills including Focus, Projection, and Self Confidence. While a must for any future star, Mr. Frasier presents these same workshops at Fortune 500 companies to build these individual and team skills. Comedy 4 Teens aspires to teach these skills to youth so that you may enter the workforce ahead of the curve. Every workshop is a Master Class in warm-up, technique and performance games designed to practice crucial communication skills in a fun way. [www.newyorkimprovtheater.com](http://www.newyorkimprovtheater.com)

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## All invited to screening of 'Standardized' in Middletown

You're invited to a free screening of 'Standardized,' scheduled for Feb. 28 at The Middletown Arts Center, located at 36 Church Street, Middletown, NJ 07748. There are two showtimes, at 12 noon and 3 p.m.

To reserve a seat, email Chris Johnson [cjohnson@njea.org](mailto:cjohnson@njea.org)  
Learn more at [standardizedthefilm.com](http://standardizedthefilm.com)

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## CCC honored for participation in Special Olympics events

The Cultural Communications Club volunteered at Special Olympics in Lakewood this past January. The coordinator of the event honored the club with an award for consistently participating in and supporting the Special Olympic events. The club also spent January collecting games, movies, and toys for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, a hospital that has fostered innovations and discoveries in pediatric healthcare. During March, the club is taking fifty students to the Tenement Museum in New York City to explore the Lower East Side and the American immigrant journey. Most importantly, the club will be hosting its annual club fair. The club is asking students and parents for food donations and support to make the festival possible. Club members are currently working hard on decorations and country displays.

# CHOW DOWN AT CHIPOTLE



The Class of 2015 is holding a fundraiser at Chipotle of Sea Girt on Monday, February 9, 2015 from 3 pm – 7 pm. Mention "Communications High School Class of 2015" when buying food, and we will receive 50% of the profits. The money raised will be used for the upcoming prom and senior picnic. Grab your family and friends and have a delicious Mexican meal on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and help support the CHS Class of 2015!

The Class of 2015 is sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CHS Fashion Show on April 17, 2015. Students, teachers and family members will be modeling the fashions of 7 local businesses and the tasty treats of local bakeries and cafes will be available for purchase. Last year's fashion show was an amazing success and this year looks to be even better! Save the date and plan to come to the CHS Fashion Show on Friday, April 17, 2015! For more information please contact Sallie Haas or Leah Morgan.

The Class of 2015 would like to announce that the theme of the 2015 Prom is "Sand and Sea – A Night on the Beach." We are hard at work planning the decorations, invitation, favors and more for this beach-themed event.

*Submitted by Leah Morgan, Class of 2015 Advisor*

## 'Yule' be impressed with this effort by the sophomores

Floating candles greeted 300 CHS students and guests as they arrived for the annual Winter Ball held on January 9. Preparations for the Harry Potter themed "Yule Ball" began back in October with over 200 candles being painted, 300 snowflakes being cut out and song playlists being created. Guests enjoyed Muggle-inspired foods, including pizza bagels and pigs in a blanket, as well as HP favorites -- chocolate frogs, cauldron cupcakes and butter beer served up by CHS alum Kelsey Miller. Thank you to the sophomore parents who donated food, beverages, paper products, and decorations. Next year if you feel you are missing some holiday lights and wreaths, they may be living in the fitness closet! Congrats to the soph class council who organized the many committees that made sure Yule Ball ran smoothly!

Sam Bender strings snowflakes



Matt Miller, Linda Badaracco, Cate Escueta and Elizabeth De Furia paint candles



Jessica Jo paints Hogwarts





January/February

<http://chsguidancedept.blogspot.com/>

**Seniors:** Now that the application rush is over and we have acceptance letters coming in, it's time to start thinking about paying for college. Scholarship opportunities are available, and although we post what comes to the guidance office (Local Scholarship tab on the blog), there are many resources out there that never reach us. Visit these web sites to start your search:

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.meritaid.com](http://www.meritaid.com)

Also, revisit your college list and research institutional scholarships that you may qualify for.

If we have received acceptance and/or merit aid, your child's Naviance account should reflect this information. Under the Results column (under the Colleges I'm Applying To tab) you will see a pencil. Clicking on the pencil allows you to change "unknown" to other options. The left side of the screen gives an option to see Scholarship Applications. Any merit aid awarded (that we know about) will be reflected there. Please remind your child to thank the teachers that wrote their recommendations. This is a non-contractual service and our teachers put a lot of time and thought into what they write. As I'm sure you know, a small gesture of appreciation goes a long way!

We are very excited to share a new dual enrollment articulation agreement between Brookdale Community College and Communications High School affording seniors the opportunity to take classes on a college campus. This release-time program (for courses on the Neptune and Wall campus') can provide students with the opportunity for a campus feel, and may provide transfer credits to colleges who would not otherwise accept transfer credits because they were taught at the high school. As part of this dual enrollment partnership, students may take one released-time class or up to two classes on their own time (including the Lincroft campus.) Please call the guidance office for additional information.

**Juniors:** The spring SATs and ACTs will be here before you know it. You must register for the test on the College Board or ACT website. Every time you test, you are entitled to send four free score reports to colleges. If you are not sure of college choices yet, but are considering playing a sport in college, then send the scores to the NCAA. If you are considering a military academy or ROTC program, then the scores should be sent to them. Even though there is now "score choice," some colleges prefer that all of the scores be sent.

Thank you to all the parents who rearranged their schedules to come in and speak with us about college planning. Junior year is a time for testing and research, and we hope to have provided you with the information you need to start this process. We ask that you stay in contact with us as we journey together to find a school that will challenge your child academically, provide an opportunity for personal and career growth, and not break the bank!

**Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen:** The SAT Subject Tests are one-hour-long exams that give you the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and showcase achievement in specific subjects. Colleges use SAT Subject Test scores to gain insight into your academic background and achievement in specific subject areas. In general, you'll want to take SAT Subject Tests right after you've completed the recommended course work because the material will still be fresh in your mind. You can check the recommended preparation guidelines for each subject test at [SATSubjectTest.org](http://SATSubjectTest.org). Did you really enjoy World History, Biology, or Physics? Now may be the right time to test.

Summer programs and internships are an excellent opportunity for you to explore your interests and hone your talents. Start planning now for a summer experience that may be right for you. Here are a few summer opportunities that we recently received information on: Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts provides intensive programs in music, dance, and visual arts for students to explore, create, and perform under the guidance of New Jersey's most distinguished teaching artists. Visit <http://www.masongross.rutgers.edu/extension/summer-programs> for additional information.

MICA Pre-College 2015 offers two distinct pre-college studio residency programs in Baltimore and Tuscany. Rising juniors and seniors are provided a college level art experience and earn college credits. Visit

[http://www.mica.edu/Programs\\_of\\_Study/Programs\\_for\\_Children\\_and\\_Teens/Programs\\_for\\_High\\_School\\_Students/Summer\\_Pre-College.html](http://www.mica.edu/Programs_of_Study/Programs_for_Children_and_Teens/Programs_for_High_School_Students/Summer_Pre-College.html) for additional information.

- Syracuse University Summer College for High School Students offers opportunities for students to explore possible majors, build resumes and portfolios, experience college life, and earn college credits. There are 6-week, 3-week, and 2-week program offerings. Visit [www.summercollege.syr.edu](http://www.summercollege.syr.edu) for additional information.
- George Washington University is offering Pre-College 2015 giving you the opportunity to make the Nation's capital your classroom. There are 6-week, 3-week, and 6-week online opportunities to earn college credits as well as a full-day summer immersion non-credit, 2-week program for rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Visit [precollege.gwu.edu](http://precollege.gwu.edu) for additional information.
- The pre-college program at TCNJ allows you to earn credit and participate in community engaged learning and live on a beautiful college campus with peers interested in service and learning for two weeks. Visit [www.tcnj.edu/intersession](http://www.tcnj.edu/intersession) for additional information.
- Immerse yourself in Art, Design, Architecture, Creative Writing or Cultural Studies at Pratt Institute this summer. For program dates and additional information, visit [www.pratt.edu/prostudies](http://www.pratt.edu/prostudies).

**Sophomores:** Please mark your calendar for March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. We are hosting a college planning night for sophomores and their parents. Junior parents are welcome to join us also.

**ALL:** Stay connected to us. Check the Guidance Blog frequently for updates.

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## STOP THE PRESSES!

The Inkblot held its first big fundraiser in January – a flapjack breakfast at Applebee's in Wall. The staff, headed by fundraising director Ashley Chu, raised enough funds to cover the cost of printing for one edition. The next edition is scheduled to go to print in mid-February. The Inkblot thanks all parents, relatives and friends who contributed and/or joined us on that chilly morning.

All senior Inkblot staff members will soon enter several scholarship competitions, sponsored by the Quill and Scroll Society, the New Jersey Press Association and the Garden State Scholastic Press Association. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

The Quill and Scroll Writing and Photo Competition for all staffers is also coming up, with a Feb. 5 deadline for submission of entries that ran in the Inkblot between Feb. 1, 2014 and Feb. 1, 2015. All staff members were invited to submit their best work for the contest.

The newspaper's annual Patron Drive begins in February, when parents and friends are invited to make a donation to help cover our printing costs, which range from \$400 to \$500 per edition. Thanks to all who have supported us in the past. We hope you'll consider it again. Letters with details about the drive will be mailed soon.

Please contact Editor-in-Chief Hannah Wallach with any questions.





# Midnight Madness!!!

Invites to the CHS Gift Auction, Midnight Masquerade have been sent out and we are receiving positive responses to the dinner as well as donations. If you haven't received an invitation or have any questions about the dinner or donations please contact Judi Taglieri or Kathy Gilbert. [jtags1@hotmail.com](mailto:jtags1@hotmail.com) or [pkgilbert@att.net](mailto:pkgilbert@att.net).

As well as being a fun event to attend, this single event is our largest fundraiser and helps to fund the events and programs that our children enjoy throughout the school year. We need everyone's help to make it a success.

Our Goal: 100% family participation in gift donations!

Post-Holiday Sales are everywhere! Show your CHS support now a grab a bargain or two at sale prices for the Gift Auction. No gift is too small. We truly appreciate all contributions! Please support Communications High School, there are many ways to help:

**MAKE A CASH DONATION** OF \$25.00 to be used to purchase items to create gift baskets. We will do the shopping for you! Checks should be made out to: **CHS PSFA**.

## **DONATE A GIFT ITEM:**

- \* Got a gift that's not your taste? We'll take it!
- \* Got a \$5 (or any amount!) gift card to . . . anywhere? We'll take it! (We're planning a gift-card tree.)
- \* Got a perfectly good item in a scuffed up or damaged box? We'll take it! (We'll remove it from the box and make it look as good as new!)
- \* Picked up something at an after-holiday sale this month at a great price? We'll take it!
- \* Want to contribute something bigger? Gather a group of friends, chip in to get a bigger item and yes, you guessed it . . . We'll take it!
- \* Got **BASKETS** that you're not using of any size? We'll take them!
- \***THINK** about these categories to get you started: Home Goods, Sports, Fashion, music, Pets, Jewelry, Kids, Dining Out, Guy Stuff, Pamper Yourself, Entertainment, Back-to-College, Kitchen, Auto, and anything else that's fun.

**OBTAIN A BUSINESS CONTRIBUTION** from a place that you frequent. Do you own or work for a business that could make a contribution of merchandise or services? Perhaps you know a business or restaurant that might donate a gift certificate?

**SUPPORT THE AD JOURNAL** by placing an ad for your business or service in the Journal.

**OBTAIN AN AD** for the Ad Journal by approaching businesses that you frequent and ask them to place an ad.

**ATTEND THE EVENT!** The PSFA Dinner & Gift Raffle is scheduled for Saturday, March 21st at Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, NJ. We hope to see you there!

\*\*We are in need of baskets & frames – please considering donating any extras you have.



**Parent Student Faculty Association**  
 1740 New Bedford Road, Wall, New Jersey 07719-3740  
 chs.mcvsd.org                      732-681-1010  
**PSFA 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Gift Raffle**  
**MIDNIGHT MASQUERADE**  
 Saturday, March 21, 2015  
 Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune

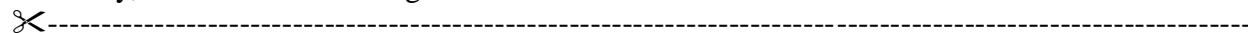
Dear Family, Friends, and Community Members,

The Communications High School Parent Student Faculty Association (PSFA) is pleased to announce that plans are under way for our annual Dinner and Gift Raffle. This event is our school's largest fundraiser, with the goal of ensuring that our students continue to realize their full potential through providing needed financial resources. Our success depends on the support of our families and community.

**Please support our students by placing an ad in our Dinner and Gift Raffle Program.** Our organization is tax-exempt under section 501(c) of the IRS code. Our tax-exempt number is 22-3759364.

All ads should be camera ready (black and white business cards are ideal). Ads may be mailed to "PSFA Dinner Gift Raffle Ads", at the above address. We would appreciate receipt of ads by **Friday, February 20, 2015**. Please make checks payable to: "CHS PSFA Dinner Gift Raffle".

If you have any questions, please contact Judi Taglieri at 732-425-2910 or jtags1@hotmail.com  
 Thank you for your continued support!  
 Sincerely, Communications High School PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle Committee



**ADVERTISEMENT INFORMATION:** Select ad size. Attach copy and graphics and send with check (payable to *CHS PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle*) to "PSFA Dinner Gift Raffle Ads" at the above address.

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ Full Page Ad (4 ½ x 7 ½ inches)----- \$100
- \_\_\_ ½ Page Ad (4 ½ x 3 ½ inches) ----- \$50
- \_\_\_ ¼ Page Ad (business card – 3 ½ x 2 inches) ----- \$25
- \_\_\_ Booster (3 ½ x 1 inch) - Your own message ----- \$20



## Parent Student Faculty Association

1740 New Bedford Road, Wall, NJ 07719-3740

**chs.mcvsd.org 732-681-1010**

PSFA 11th ANNUAL DINNER and GIFT RAFFLE

### ***MIDNIGHT MASQUERADE***

Saturday, March 21, 2015

Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune

Dear Family, Friends, and Community Members,

Communications High School, an academy in the Monmouth County Vocational School District, is located in Wall, New Jersey and serves 300 students from more than forty school districts in Monmouth County.

The Communications High School Parent Student Faculty Association (PSFA) is pleased to announce that plans are under way for our annual Dinner Dance and Gift Raffle. This event is our school's largest fundraiser, with the goal of ensuring that our students continue to realize their full potential through providing enhancements to their education. Our success depends on the support of our families and community.

**Please support our students by donating a gift, services from your organization, or by making a cash donation.** All donations will be prominently acknowledged on the raffle tables and in the evening's Advertisement Journal.

Our organization is tax-exempt under section 501(c) of the IRS code. Our tax-exempt number is 22-3759364.

Donations may be mailed to "*CHS PSFA Dinner Gift Auction*", at the above address. Please make checks payable to: "*CHS PSFA Dinner Gift Auction*". We would appreciate donations arriving by **Friday, February 20, 2015** We will be happy to pick up your donation if you prefer.

If you have any questions, please call Kathy Gilbert at 732-282-1291 or Judi Taglieri at 732-425-2910 email to [pkgilbert@att.net](mailto:pkgilbert@att.net) or [jtags1@hotmail.com](mailto:jtags1@hotmail.com)

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

*Communications High School PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle Committee*



# Outsmart the SAT!



Communications High School is proud to partner with Catalyst for an SAT Bootcamp, a one-weekend seminar that arms students with go-to strategies for every question they're guaranteed to face on the SAT. Catalyst's SAT Bootcamp is unique – no other program is designed by instructors who take the actual SAT every time the test is offered to gain insider knowledge of the exam. Selected topics include:

- ✓ How to crack math questions that stump more than 90% of test-takers
- ✓ How to craft a perfect score SAT essay, no matter what question the SAT asks
- ✓ How to spot hidden clues in long, convoluted reading passages
- ✓ How to maintain focus and clarity under pressure – indispensable skills for anyone tackling the 3 hour and 45 minute SAT

## DATE & TIME

Saturday, March 7th: 10am-2pm  
Sunday, March 8th: 10am-2pm  
at Communications High School

## COST

Just \$175 per student for the entire weekend and course materials

For more information or to enroll, visit [www.CatalystPrep.com](http://www.CatalystPrep.com) and click the Bootcamp Sign-Up tab on the website's menu bar. The deadline to enroll in this special SAT prep opportunity is Wednesday, March 4th.

***A Portion Of The Proceeds Benefits The Communications PSPF!***