

CHS Communiqué

Parent Student Faculty Association Newsletter

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

CHS Communiqué is published monthly to communicate the plans, progress and events of the CHS PSFA.

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Submissions are welcome.

Co-Presidents' Corner

By Debbie Talamo



Now that June is here, we will soon be completing another school year and enjoying a relaxing summer. As our seniors prepare for graduation and then college life, the members of CHS Class of 2016 are completing middle school and looking forward to the excitement of high school. We wish all of them the best of luck.

The next PSFA event is on Friday, June 1, when CHS will hold the annual Color Wars competitions. The PSFA will be on hand under the direction of Gary Weber to provide a wonderful feast at the annual end of year barbecue.

On June 7, at the Senior Recognition Dinner for the CHS Class of 2012, the PSFA will present ten seniors with PSFA Graduation awards in recognition of their achievements in scholarship and citizenship. Each student will receive a \$500.00 award.

As you may know, PSFA elections were held earlier this month. Congratulations to the newly elected

officers. Kathy Gilbert will serve as Co-President and Rosalie Taylor will serve as Recording Secretary for the 2012-1013 school year. Good wishes to them as they undertake this responsibility.

We extend our gratitude to the officers who are departing the Executive Board and thank them for all they have contributed to the success of the PSFA. We are grateful to John Talamo, who served as Co-President and Cindy Allen, who served as Recording Secretary. Both have done exceptional work and their service to the PSFA is greatly appreciated.

Please check into your PSFA Membership Status. Paula Dazio and John Talamo will be preparing the directory over the summer months and the sooner you can get your form to them the better.

The PSFA looks forward to another year of supporting the goals of Communications High School and bringing our school community together beginning in September 2012. Until then, enjoy a happy, safe summer.

**THURSDAY, MAY 31 AT 7:30 PM:
LAST PSFA MEETING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**

The PSFA Needs Your Help!!!

The PSFA is looking to fill some very important committee positions for the upcoming school year. Being part of one of the school's committees is a great way to stay involved and have fun working with some great people.

If you have any interest in any of the following, please contact our President, Debbie Talamo at dtalamo@optonline.net

Hospitality - providing the set up of the refreshment table at various CHS events held throughout the school year and maintaining inventory of the items used.

Princeton Review - This person is the liaison between CHS and The Princeton Review. Our goal is to put in place review courses and free practice tests for the SAT and ACT thereby providing a substantial savings to CHS families. (all done via e-mail)

Catalyst Prep - Liaison between CHS and Catalyst Prep. Put in place boot camp classes for the SAT held at CHS. Also, provides a substantial savings to CHS families. (all done via e-mail)

Fund Raising Committee - We are looking to create this committee which would oversee all of the school's fund raising events. This Committee Chair will work with the PSFA Treasurer and another Board member.

Current fund raisers include; the annual dinner dance and gift raffle, magazine sales, one time donations, book fair, apparel sales, magnet sales, etc. We are not bound by these fund raisers and this new Committee would determine what functions will most benefit the school as a whole. We have also discussed holding a telethon which has shown to be successful at other MCVSD academies.

Membership - Manage and coordinate the school directory and membership status.

Newsletter - You will be working with our current Chair, Mary Miele. Her son will be graduating in 2013 therefore she will need someone to work with her who will ultimately run this very important task.

Driver's Education Classes - Liaison between CHS and a local driving school. Put in place a course for students wishing to enroll in a driving class which once completed will provide a savings in car insurance. This class does not provide the student with a learner's permit nor actual road driving. It only provides classroom instruction for the benefit of reviewing for the written test so the student may be prepared when they are ready to take it. (all done via-email)

Barbecue - Coordinate for the annual barbecue's food, beverages, table set up and recruit helpers for the day

Pasta Party - Coordinate this event which is held in October for all CHS families - Food, beverages and helpers need to be coordinated. The PSFA is looking to fill some very important committee positions for the upcoming school year. Being part of one of the school's committees is a great way to stay involved and have fun working with some great people.

PSFA MEMBERSHIP

CHS PSFA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2012-13

We would like to begin our last article for the year by saying a big thank you to Mark Allen. Mark's expertise in handling the database, printing our **CHS Student/Family Directory** (even when we make last minute changes) will be missed. Thank you to Mark and Cindy for all their rides to/from CHS to attend PSFA meetings. Mark, your patience in explaining google docs to me once again, never seems to amaze me! You will be **very missed**.

We would also like to welcome John Talmo to the Membership Committee. John, I look forward to working with you!

In the next few weeks, we will be sending out renewal emails/letters to all families whose membership needs renewal. Please consider supporting the CHS PSFA so that we can support **your student**.

Watch your mailbox – either electronic or the one at the curb! We'll be in touch...

Submitted by –
Paula Dazio
Membership Committee

CHS PSFA BARNES & NOBLE BOOKFAIR

The CHS PSFA held our first bookfair at Barnes & Noble at Monmouth Mall on Saturday, May 12, 2012. Thank you to all parents and students who helped support the PSFA by wrapping gifts with us. Thank you goes to all parents/students/teachers who supported the PSFA with their purchases, in the store and on-line.

Submitted by –
Paula Dazio



STUDENTS

In early May, Communications High School received notice that Caroline Palsi, a sophomore Drama Club member, was nominated for a Count Basie Award. The Count Basie Awards recognize excellence in high school drama and musical productions in Monmouth County. There were over 1,000 student performers evaluated and critiqued this year. Caroline was one of six girls nominated for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama for her role as Cassie in the spring production, *Rumors*. Members of the Drama Club and Mrs. Wheeler, the advisor of the Drama Club, attended the awards ceremony to support Caroline. Unfortunately, Caroline did not win, but it was a huge honor and outstanding accomplishment in itself to be nominated for this prestigious award.

The MCVEA PRIDE Committee Provides Ice Cream For the Entire CHS student body!!

In April to celebrate National Poetry Month, English teachers at the five career academies asked their students to have some fun, be creative and write a poem about life as an academy student. This was not for a grade but rather for a chance to win ice cream for their entire school; then, teachers chose their favorite two entries from each academy. Finally, this list was posted online so students, faculty and parents could choose their favorite and submit their vote. After the votes were tallied, John Gray's poem "Spanish Stopping Time" blew away the competition with 544 votes. Thanks to John, CHS will receive ice cream on May 24 for winning the Inter-Academy Poetry Contest. Woohoo!!!

Mrs. Harmon
English I Instructor



Monmouth County Vocational Education Association
www.mcvea.org

Dine & Donate

Support the SkillsUSA National Team

When: 8-10 am on June 9, 2012

Where: Applebee's, 2301 Route 66, Ocean Township

Cost: \$10 per person

We will be serving you breakfast! You will receive a short stack of pancakes, eggs, sausage, and a drink; and the SkillsUSA organization will receive more than 50% of the proceeds ☺



**Enjoy a short stack
for a tall cause.**

For tickets, please email Mrs. Harmon @ Kelly_Harmon@chs.mcvsd.org or have your child see Mrs. Harmon in Room 206.



TEENS FOR GREEN

On May 10th students from CHS completed the herb and cut flower beds behind the school. The Broadcast Club won a video contest from New Jersey Natural Gas and one of the requirements was to use some of the funds to beautify the school grounds. CHS students and CHS ***Teens for Green*** participants pushed wheel barrels of organic topsoil and placed it in the beds and planted an assortment of perennial and annual flowers and various herbs like basil, cilantro, rosemary and oregano. The students will learn to tend and harvest.

The herbs and flowers will be available to all faculty and staff. A nice way to say thank you!

Thank you to our participants: Ciara Cornette, Brian Murphy, Sammi Mustari, Gia Reilly, Valerie Saeger, Austin Smith, Caroline Weiner, Mr. Clark (**the Broadcast Club advisor,**) Mr. Gleason, and Mr. Petersen.

Submitted by: Sophie Weiner, Beautification Committee

PS: Any student interested in participating in green projects, please contact me at soweiner@optonline.net

Teens for Green is a group of teenagers from local high schools whose main purpose is to help Monmouth County Master Gardeners complete community service projects.





Blood Drive

Thank you to all the parents and students who volunteered to donate blood and to Mr. Gleason for his support of this endeavor. The Central Jersey Blood Center collected a total of 69 units of blood on May 9. And a special shout out to Nurse Condon for the medical expertise she provided throughout the day!

NHS chairpersons for the event were:

General chair--Laura Reilly

Donor schedule chairs--Kristiane Olson & Sarah Gleason

Transport chair--Jennifer Hout

Wellness room chairs--Sammi Peterson & Gabby Maurer

National Honor Society Election

2012-13 Council

Pres. Rhianna Kern

Vice-President Kristiane Olson

Secretary Sarah Soltes

Treasurer Morgan Hennessy

The Freshmen Rally Around Research

As the semester begins to wind down, the Effective Speech students are busily organizing their sources, collecting their notes and preparing to give their final speech of the semester. While giving a research-based persuasive speech may seem like a torturous task to many students, the freshmen are excited and eager to complete the task because this isn't a typical speech assignment, this is a RALLY! Students are required to choose an issue that they are passionate about and lead a rally to argue their cause. They will write a speech to address the issue, explain why it's a problem and then present a reasonable solution/call to action. In addition, students will simulate a rally by taking on the roles of supporters, opponents, and reporters on rallies lead by their peers. So, if you walk by Room 209 don't be surprised if you see the students waving flags, wearing pins or chanting a slogan!

*A special thanks to Rachel Mandel who passed on this fabulous idea via her workshop entitled, "Rallying Around Research: Creating Change By Rethinking Audience, Engaging Audience and Improving Argument".

- Mrs. Harmon, English Instructor





Attention Facebook Users!
CHS PSFA has created a Facebook page! We thought it would be a time efficient way to get last minute information to members of the association.
Stop by and Like us!

JUNE AT CHS

JUNE 1	COLOR WARS	
JUNE 7	SENIOR DINNER	
JUNE 12	EXAMS PERIODS 2&4 (SENIORS ONLY)	
JUNE 13	EXAMS PERIODS 1&3	
JUNE 14	EXAMS PERIODS 2&4	
JUNE 14	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS	
JUNE 14	GRADUATION	6:00 PM