

Volume Twelve, Issue 3



November 2011

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 from September to June, plus one summer issue, to communicate the plans, progress and events of the CHS PSFA.

Editor: Mary Miele <u>aces98@hotmail.com</u>

Principally Connected By James R. Gleason, Principal

As many of you wonder what weather will be thrown at us next, I'm writing to let you know that our communication through OneCall will remain the same for this year. Announcements of school closing or delayed opening will be handled through the district run OneCall network. Please note if you listen to radio or watch television, we are listed as Monmouth County Vocational School District.

Congratulations to Mrs. Mulshine and *The Inkblot* staff for winning the NJ Distinguished Journalism Award at the recent Garden State Scholastic Press Association – Fall Press Day. The following statewide awards were also won: <u>First Place</u> Jackie Tempera - Editorial Writing; Andy Cernera – Column; Mike Smith - Sports

Writing; Brian Murphy – Artwork and Illustration/<u>Second Place</u> Brianna Merriman – Column; Mike DeSocio – Photography; Brian Murphy – Layout and Design/ <u>Third Place</u> Alex Pettit – News Writing; Lauren Brielle Neville – In-Depth Reporting; Sara Wallach – Reviews and Entertainment; Caitlin Barruso – Photography.

Congratulations to all the student inductees to this year's National Technical Honor Society held on October 19th. Aislinn Brennan, Michael DeSocio, Sarah Gleason, Carly Goldstein, Sagar Gupta, Kelly Morris, Gia Reilly, Austin Smith, Sabrina Serani, Danielle Siminerio, and Taylor Walters.

November 9th is the end of our first marking period. CHS will hold mid-term exams on Tuesday, November 8th and Wednesday, November 9th.

Our Information Sessions are off to a great start with a record number of students attending. Thank you to all our community for your positive support as we continue to highlight our fantastic program. Our last information session is November 16th at 6:30 PM. It is a requirement that both student and parent attend in order to get an application.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD AT 7:30 PM: PSFA MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH SCHOOL CLOSED - NJEA

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CO–PRESIDENTS' CORNER By Debbie and John Talamo

The month of November is a time to be thankful, and at Communications High School, the PSFA has so much for which to be grateful. We are grateful to Eda Saeger and Susan Svikhart and the Hospitality Committee. Already this year, they have organized the delicious refreshments for Back to School Night and PSFA meetings. They will also provide bagels and drinks before mid-term exams for all of our students. We must also thank those who participated in the *Magazine Drive*. If you were not able to take part, you can still contribute 40% of all your magazine subscriptions and renewals by ordering through the online connection throughout the year. Thank you to our Membership Committee: Mark Allen and Paula Dazio. Because of their extraordinary efforts, 83% of CHS families have joined the PSFA. In addition, directories and addenda have been produced and distributed to all members. We are thankful to the many families who used the **One-Time Donation** option to help support the goals of the CHS PSFA. It is because of these contributions and all of the PSFA fundraising efforts that we are able to provide the activities and events that enhance the education of CHS students. We are very thankful for the tremendous community spirit at CHS that resulted in CHS Team Spirit raising funds for Breast Cancer research by "walking for the cure." It is thanks to our involved CHS parents that the PSFA is able to be an active and important part of Communications High School. Our many thanks to all of you! We hope to see everyone at the PSFA meeting on November 3rd. The meeting will include the distribution of the Faculty Grants and the gearing up for the Dinner Dance and Gift Raffle

CHS PSFA 2011-2012 OFFICERS

Co-President: Debbie Talamo <u>dtalamo@optonline.net</u>

Co-President: John Talamo dtalamo@optonline.net

Vice-President: George Amadeo Ninigeorge716@verizon.net Treasurer: Isabella Grove isabellagrove@optonline.net

Recording Secretary: Cindy Allen cindylouallen@comcast.net

Corresponding Secretary: Eda Saeger edas@optonline.net

Outsmart the SAT

LEARN A STRATEGY FOR EVERY QUESTION YOU'LL FACE ON THE SAT

OUR UNIQUE GUARANTEE: Catalyst's weekend SAT Bootcamp is the <u>only</u> SAT prep class designed by instructors who have earned multiple perfect scores (2400) on the actual SAT. Catalyst is uniquely poised to help students succeed because we take the real SAT every time the test is offered to make sure our strategies address all aspects of the exam. We use our insider knowledge to help students turn the SAT's predictability to their advantage. Topics include:

- How to spot hidden clues that instantly reveal the main idea in long reading passages
- How to avoid the four sneakiest ways SAT Grammar questions try to trick students

How to shortcut math questions that stump more than 90% of test-takers

 \checkmark How to compose a perfect-score essay – <u>no matter what question the SAT asks</u>

Catalyst's SAT Bootcamp is not a "mock" SAT or an infomercial for our services. It is a momentum-boosting weekend seminar designed to make sure students head into the SAT with every key strategy fresh in their mind. Students receive Catalyst's prep materials, self-study materials, vocabulary list, diagnostic tests, and copies of essays that have received perfect scores on actual SATs.

LOCATION: Communications High School

DATE: Saturday, January 21st and Sunday, January 22nd.

SCHEDULE: 9am – 1pm both Saturday and Sunday. Students attend both days. **COST:** Just \$165 to enroll by Monday, January 16th at 6pm. We unfortunately cannot accommodate walk-in students. *A portion of the proceeds benefits the Communications PSFA.*

TO ENROLL: Visit www.CatalystPrep.com and click on Bootcamp Sign-Up. For more information, email info@CatalystPrep.com or call 800.235.0056

Princeton Review Course for March SAT

Cost: \$499 for CHS students – regularly \$599

Location: CHS

Dates: Class dates to be determined We need at least 10 commitments Course would run from January - March 2012

6 classes - once per week- to be held after school at CHS 4 tests - Saturdays

Please contact Eda Saeger at <u>edas@optonline.net</u>, by November 1st or sooner, if you are interested in this course.

Once we have determined the interest, Princeton Review will mail you out an application in mid- November. You can then apply in writing, on-line or via telephone.

We need at least 10 students

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Get all your CHS news and information in



The *Communiqué* uses a "paperless" distribution system. We distribute the newsletter and other important PSFA announcements via our email system. **Please take a moment to register online at http://chs-psfa.org/communique/.**

You may register as many emails as you would like and can un-subscribe at any time. Of course, we never give away your personal information. Contact Mark Allen at 732-216-4350 or mark@redbankweb.com with any questions.

/CHS STRIDES 2011





Thank You, Thank You, Thank You CHS. Our eighth annual 'Hope Starts Here Walk', the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event, was again a great success! CHS had 57 walkers representing students, alumni, family, friends and faculty. We were one of the largest teams so large that ACS considers us a 'Company Team'. At last count, CHS has raised over \$5,200.00 this year. In our short, tenure at the walk, we have denated just over \$40,000.00 to this worthy cause.

Thank you PSFA for your generous donation of team shirts every year. CHS is nothing if not stylish at the walk. Thank you friends and family who were unable to attend, but sponsored a walker, Finally, Thank you CHS Team Spirit, for walk ng, because its important.

There is nothing more heartwarming than to see this many members of our community be so generous with their time, money and spirit. This event has become a CHS Tradition, one I am so proud to be a small part of.

Looking forward to Strides '12. If you missed the pre-wak tailgate party which included buttercream cake, music and lots of pictures; don't worry we'll be back again next year.

- with gratituce, Mrs. Rod

T-SHIRT LOGO

Hope is still here, at CHS. I'm proud of every single one of you!



We have some extra t-shirts, if you'd still like to make a donation to ACS, we'll be giving away the extras for a donation. (checks payable to ACS.)

MAGAZINE SALE CONTINUES...

Many thanks to everyone who took the time to order or renew their magazines!

If you did not participate in the Magazine Drive, you can *still* contribute to CHS with your future magazine orders or renewals. *Anytime* you want to purchase or renew a magazine subscription, 40% of your purchase will be donated to CHS if you:

- 1. Go to the CHS home page www.chs.mcvsd.org
- 2. Click on "PSFA".
- 3. Click on "Magazine Sale...renew or order."

Remember...Magazine subscriptions make thoughtful holiday gifts! Remember, you can check or confirm your order at www.MagTrak.com or call 877-289-6247.

If you have any questions, please contact George Amadeo at 732-787-3333.

Driver's ED

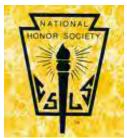
The PSFA would like to set up a Driver's Ed course starting in early January. If your student is interested in participating, please contact Sophie Weiner at <u>soweiner@optonline.net</u> or 732-493-0560. A minimum of 15 students is required for the class to go forward.

NATIONAL ART HONOR SOCIETY

On Thursday, October 20, 2011, the National Art Honor Society held their first after school workshop. Senior and Activities Officer Kira DiSomma led this splatter painting workshop by first demonstrating the painting technique. Using canvas and tempera paints, participants then dripped, threw, smeared, stepped, and painted abstract works of art in the style of mid-century abstract impressionists like Jackson Pollock.

NAHS will continue its workshop series in November with a cake and cookie decorating workshop on Tuesday, November 29, 2011. The artistic and delicious treats created by members at this session will be part of the luncheon provided during the NAHS induction ceremony. Fifty-six new members will be inducted on November 30, 2011 during the lunch and activity period. Parents are welcome to contribute food and / or attend this ceremony. Please contact Shelly Ortner or Laura Gesin prior to the event if you wish to contribute or attend.





National Honor Society

National Honor Society welcomes the following students to its ranks:

Annunziato, Alana Bertekap, Sarah Blodi, Caroline Cangialosi, Tara Cleffi, Casey Cocchi, Francesca Cooper, Kaitlyn Cornette, Ciara Coulter, Jennifer Dean, Sarah Del Virginia, Jessica DeSocio, Michael Doyle, Christina Erskine, Kevin Ferre, Marc Anthony Frazee, Emily

Garruzzo, Anthony Gleason, Sarah Gupta, Sagar Hennessy, Morgan Hoskins, Taylor Karch, Lillie Kern, Rhianna Leung, Danielle Longo, Gabrielle Mendelson, Dylan Merriman, Brianna Olson, Kristiane Palfini, Victoria Pavacich, McKenzie Pirogovsky, Jacob Reilly, Gia Reulbach, Katherine Richardett, Tyler Rowe, Katherine Russo, Summer Saeger, Valerie Smeaton, Michael Smith, Austin Soltes, Sarah Turner, Stephen Woods, Kevin Yu, Michael Zimmer, Laura

The new members will be formally inducted on Tuesday, November 15 at 6:30 at CHS.

National Honor Society is also participating in the Food Bank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties 2011 Pounds for Dollars campaign. Both food and monetary donations will be accepted through November 21st.

Submitted by Priscilla Wu, NHS Secretary for Public Relations

DRAMA CLUB

The Drama Club's production of **"Elf"** is coming along very well. We are very excited to be presenting it to you on December 9th and 10th, both at 8pm. Tickets are \$7 for CHS students and \$10 for everyone else. They will be available the week leading up to the performances and the night of the performances, but we do recommend getting them in advance. Last year, over 300 members of the CHS community came out to see "Humbug," but **we hope to have even more people attending this year's production.**

Also for **"Elf"**, a particularly family-friendly show, the Drama Club will be offering a new program for young children in which parents can drop their children off for the show, and we will provide supervision, snacks, and, of course, entertainment. Parents can use this time to get caught up on holiday shopping! More information to come.

The Drama Club would also like to thank the PSFA, who will be assisting the Drama Club financially with our production of Laughing Stock, which will be in April at the Jersey Shore Arts Center in Ocean Grove, NJ. We are very excited to be able to expand into this beautiful space which seats about 600.



On Friday, October 14, Drama Club students Rachel Belli, Gabby Maurer, Jen Hout, Alana Annunziato, Kevin Erskine, Caroline Palsi and Danielle Cooper attended Drama Workshops at Farleigh Dickinson University. They participated in physical and vocal warm-ups, improvising and bonding exercises, monologue presentations and diologues on stage with Broadway actors, Laurie Birmingham and Don Burroughs of *Mama Mia*. Stephen Hollis the Director of Visual and Performing Acts at FDU conducted the monologue portion and will send students a critique of their work.







BROADCAST CLUB

The Broadcast Club is off to a great start this year! We are currently in the mix of several projects including making commercials for the Cultural Communications Club, producing a PSA for the Academic Lab, and creating commercials for the SGA on this year's spirit week events. Also, several students just finished competing in the national Student Television Network Challenge: an intense six day competition that requires students to produce a three minute feature story based on a given prompt. The Broadcast club entered two categories: news and sports. The news video can be viewed online here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-8WH_8-Ipo

The Broadcast Club meets on Thursdays at 10:30 in room 204, and anyone interested in television or broadcast journalism is encourage to join!

THE INKBLOT

The Inkblot, the independent student newspaper of CHS, is seeking patron sponsors for the 2011-2012 year. Advertising fees cover less than 50% of the expenses of the publication, so the Inkblot depends heavily on donation from the CHS community. All donations help pay for printing expenses, web hosting fees, and equipment costs.

The Inkblot strives, year after year, to provide students and members of the CHS community with a free copy of every issue of The Inkblot. Unfortunately, as printing and web fees increase, this goal becomes more and more lofty. This year we are having a patron drive. For a small donation of \$20, you can become an Inkblot patron, and have yourname listed in every issue. Additionally, if you make a donation of \$30, we will mail you a copy of each issue of The Inkblot, right to your house. These amounts are merely suggestions, as a donation of any amount is welcomed and greatly appreciated.

If you would like to donate, please contact Brian Murphy at bmurphy@theinkblotnews.com, and we will send you a form. Additionally, we will be mailing forms to each home shortly. We sincerely thank you for your assistance.

Submitted by Brian Murphy

The National Technical Honor Society Induction: An Intimate Yet Memorable Night

On Wednesday, October 19, 2011 eleven students were formally inducted into The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) for their commitment to the society's seven ideals: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship, and Leadership. The new members fulfilled the requirements set forth by the national organization by maintaining a high GPA, receiving various letters of recommendation, committing to SkillsUSA and competing in a specific technical field at the state level. As a member of this prestigious organization, students receive several scholarship opportunities and a membership to the American Careers Journal. Thank you to Mr. Allen for all of his printing assistance and to Mrs. Plumeri and the Chorus for the entertainment!

Congratulations!

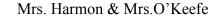
Aislinn Brennan Michael DeSocio Sarah Gleason Carly Goldstein Sagar Gupta Kelly Morris Gia Reilly Sabrina Serani Danielle Siminerio Austin Smith Taylor Walters

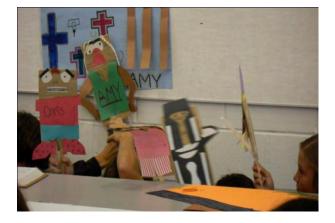
- Kelly Harmon, NTHS Advisor

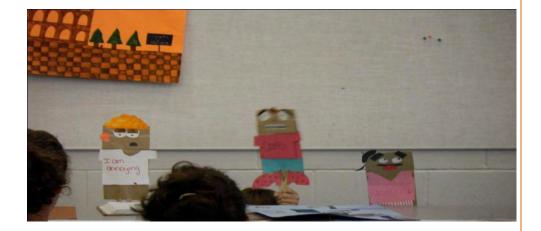


ENGLISH & HISTORY COLLABORATIVE PUPPET SHOWS: A CLASS ACT

On Wednesday, October 12, 2011 the World History and English I students came together to engage in some brilliant puppetry. After learning about the cultural achievements of the Renaissance period and about how the social/political history of Italian history influenced the time period, the students were ready to write a historically accurate script, create embellished scenery and quirky puppets. This gave students the option to be artistic and tell a creative story that was relevant to the time period. It was definitely a worthwhile experience to watch the puppet and human performers work collaboratively on their culminating project for the Renaissance unit.







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From the Guidance Department...

Seniors: Please remember an application checklist must accompany every application. If the school does not accept electronic documents, you must also provide 5 stamps with a 9x12 manila envelope along with a business-sized envelope addressed to the college admissions office. Our deadline for all applications is **November 21st**. If you have a December 1st deadline, then the application needs to be in the guidance office by November 13th. Think how grateful you will be on Thanksgiving if all the stress of applications and essays is over. Also, one last reminder: you must have the College Board send SAT scores directly to colleges. Students can still sign up for the December 3rd SATs. The deadline to register is November 8th for regular registration and November 20th for late registration.

Juniors: PSAT scores should be here in early December. Students will receive their test booklets back along with the score sheet that gives the correct answers to all of the questions. The teacher convention break is the perfect time to visit colleges. Many colleges schedule open houses during that time. Most schools require that you pre-register for campus events. You can go to the college web site for dates and information. *The Princeton Review* Guide to College Visits is a good resource if you need accommodations while visiting schools.

Juniors should take the SAT for the first time after they have completed their first semester. The January 28th date is a great first time opportunity for the SAT, because the College Board offers the Question and Answer Service for an additional charge. It is a great tool to analyze what sections need improvement. If students are planning to take the SAT Subject tests, they should take them as close to the completion of the course as possible. If they plan to take US History and Literature and have completed those courses 1st semester, then the January 28th date would be the ideal time to take those subject tests. Dec. 30th is the deadline to register. You can register online at **sat.collegeboard.com/register**. Our school code is **311586**.

Sophomores: The PSAT scores and booklets are especially important because there is a site that students can use to improve their score for next year. The 11th grade scores are used to determine eligibility for the National Merit Scholarship Program. Continue to encourage your children to participate in clubs and volunteer activities. In addition, they should keep track of their hours, because this time next year, as juniors, they may be considered for induction into the National Honor Society. Monthly hour forms and information can be found in the Clubs room of the BBS.

Freshman: Help your children prepare for midterm exams. This grade is on the report card and will be factored into the final grade. The exam periods are two hours, and with block scheduling half a year's material has been covered. The midterms are scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 8th periods 1 & 3 and Wednesday, Nov. 9th periods 2 & 4 after the teacher convention break.

Submitted by Sandra Gidos, Guidance Counselor

ONE-TIME DONATION A SPECIAL OFFER TO CHS FAMILIES

The Communications High School PSFA has a number of fundraisers planned for the 2011-2012 school year. Our goal is to raise money to support all of our planned student events and programs. Many CHS families want to support these efforts, but have trouble finding the time to respond to fundraising requests. Therefore, for your convenience, the PSFA is offering a **one-time fundraising donation option**.

For a one-time donation of \$100 or more, you can help our fundraising efforts, and then, knowing that you have done your part, simply disregard the PSFA fundraising that will be brought to your attention through the year. (Of course, if something appeals to you, please feel free to participate!)

If you are interested in this option, please fill out the section below and send to the school office with your check in an envelope marked "CHS PSFA – Donations". To ensure that your donation reaches us, you can mail your donation to:

CHS PSFA, 1740 New Bedford Road, Wall, NJ 07719-3740

Please note: Your family will still be informed about planned fundraising, but you can feel free to disregard the information.

As always, we thank you for your help and support.

PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS TIME-SAVING OPTION IN ORDER TO SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS HIGH SCHOOL WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN FUNDRAISERS.

Student Name:	Class of 20_
Address:	
City: Zip Code:	
Enclosed: One-Time Donation of \$ (Please make check payable	to CHS PSFA)

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Two easy ways to support CHS... at no cost to you!

1 OneCause.com

If you ever shop on-line, we have a great way for you to shop and benefit Communications High School at the same time:



OneCause.com, where you can shop at merchants like: *Aeropostole*, *Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, Staples, Walmart.com, Toys R Us, Dell, Apple Store, MacMall, Shutterfly, NetFlix* and many, many more!

Using OneCause.com is easy! Before you shop, start at <u>www.onecause.com</u> (or add it to your "Favorites", and remember to click there every time you plan to shop). Then check the list of merchants to see if your "store" is there, and start shopping. When you shop through OneCause.com, a percentage of every purchase you make goes to CHS!

HOW TO JOIN (www.onecause.com)

- 1) Click Join | Supporters | Join Now
- 2) Type School Organization: Communications High School

CLICK. SHOP. CONTRIBUTE !!!

2 Show your support with the **OneCause** Visa® Platinum

Contribute to Communications High School every time you shop with the OneCause Visa® Platinum! Anywhere you shop, for anything you purchase, you will earn:

- a 1% contribution on total purchases made.
- extra contributions at the stores and catalogs of <u>Visa</u> <u>Rewards Merchants</u>.
- a \$20 bonus contribution the first time you use your card!



Simply apply for and register your new card with OneCause, then use it to make all of your everyday purchases. The OneCause Visa Platinum also offers no cap, no annual fee and as little as 0% APR for the first six to 12 months. Learn more and apply now at our <u>secure online application form</u>.

PSFA Membership

We have completed the CHS PSFA Membership Drive for the 2011-12 school year. Directories were distributed at Back to School Night and also through Mrs. Clevenger directly to students. Please check your student's backpack if you have not received yours. Thank you to Mrs. Clevenger for helping us to save the costs of mailing the directories. We have also emailed an addendum to each PSFA member.

Once again, we would like to thank all families who joined the PSFA (84%). We would also like to thank Mrs. Mazzacco for coordinating the membership drive for our wonderful faculty. As always, we have 100% participation from our faculty.

Please keep in mind that it is never too late to support the PSFA with your membership. **Only PSFA members may apply for graduation awards in their senior year.** The classes of 2015 and 2014 must be members for all 4 years. Class of 2013 must be members through their sophomore year (both years for Design Academy students). Class of 2012 must be members through their junior/senior years.

If you would like to join the PSFA at any time, or have a question about your membership, please feel free to contact us at <u>mark@redbankweb.com</u> or <u>pdazio59@yahoo.com</u>.

Thank you for your support!

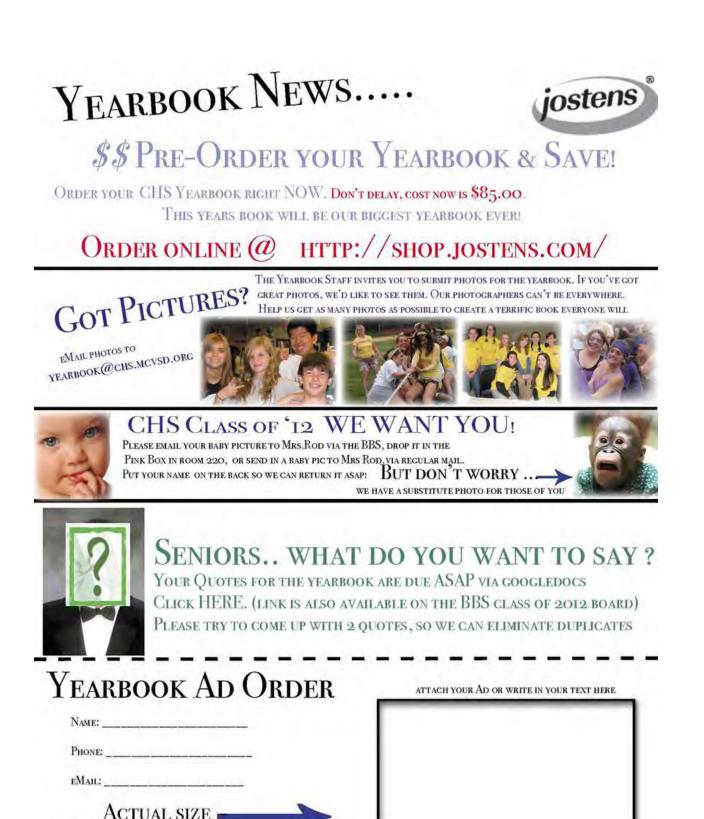
Submitted by – Mark Allen, Paula Dazio – Membership Committee

CHS PSFA BARNES & NOBLE GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER

Once again this year, the CHS PSFA will be wrapping gifts at the Barnes & Noble in Monmouth Mall. Our elves will be busy wrapping on **Thursday, December 1**, **2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.** There is no fee for our service, but we are able to publicize our school, and we can accept tips.

If you are able to join us, please contact me at <u>pdazio59@yahoo.com</u> or 732-741-3824. Thanks!

Submitted by Paula Dazio



ALL ADS WILL BE 2 X 3.5 \$25 EA PAYABLE TO 'CHS STUDENT ACTIVITIES'

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OCTOBER 31-	FALL SPIRIT WEEK	
NOVEMBER 4		
NOVEMBER 2	PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES	6:30 РМ
NOVEMBER 3	PSFA MEETING	7:30 РМ
NOVEMBER 3	3 VS. 3 BASKETBALL @ WALL HS	6-8 РМ
NOVEMBER 8 & 9	EXAMS	
NOVEMBER 10 & 11	SCHOOL CLOSED - NJEA	
NOVEMBER 15	NHS INDUCTION CEREMONY	6:30 РМ
NOVEMBER 24 & 25	SCHOOL CLOSED	
NOVEMBER 30	NAHS INDUCTION CEREMONY	LUNCH PERIOD
DECEMBER 1	PSFA MEETING	7:30 рм
DECEMBER 2	COFFEE HOUSE – JUNIOR CLASS	6:30-8:30 РМ
DECEMBER 9	DRAMA PRODUCTION: ELF	7 РМ
DECEMBER 26	SCHOOL CLOSED-WINTER BREAK	
JANUARY 2	SCHOOL RESUMES	