

CHS Communiqué

Parent Student Faculty Association Newsletter

Volume Eleven, Issue 10



June 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 to communicate the plans, progress and events of the CHS PSFA.

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Submissions are welcome.

Co-Presidents' Corner

By Cathy Smith

Now that June has arrived, 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 2015 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 3, when CHS will hold the annual Color Wars competitions. The PSFA will be on hand under the direction of Sean Magovern to provide a wonderful feast at the annual end of year barbecue.

On June 9, at the Senior Recognition Dinner for the CHS Class of 2011, 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 in May. Congratulations to the newly elected officers, and good wishes to them all 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 Sue Woods, who served as Co-President, Amy Goldberg, who served as Vice President, and Ellen Reilly, who served as Corresponding Secretary. All have done exceptional work at and their service to the PSFA is greatly appreciated.

Recently, all CHS families received a letter from the PSFA informing them of their membership status and asking them once again to support the PSFA with their membership. Please respond by June 10 to be sure to be included in next year's directory.

The PSFA looks forward to another year of supporting the goals of Communications High School and bringing our school community together beginning in September 2011. Until then, enjoy a happy, safe summer.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2 AT 7:30 PM: PSFA MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 3: CHS COLOR WARS AND PSFA BARBECUE
FRIDAY, JUNE 17: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
FRIDAY, JUNE 17 AT 6:00 PM: GRADUATION

How to have fun at CHS....

Volunteer to help at the CHS Annual School Barbecue on Friday, June 3, 2011

The annual CHS Color Wars competition will be held on Friday, June 3. All students and faculty are divided into teams to compete in softball, basketball, chalk drawing, and other activities. The PSFA will provide a barbecue lunch during the day of the events. We are still in need of volunteers for both shifts and food donations. Please contact Sean Magovern at seanmagovern@aol.com to volunteer.

Please be sure to provide the following specific information in your email:

- 1) Parent name, email address and phone number
- 2) Student Name/Grade
- 3) Please indicate for which of the following you would like to volunteer:
 - o Help on June 4th (set up, serve, clean up)
 - 8:00 am – 12:00 noon
 - and/or
 - 11:00 am – 2:30 pm (intentional overlap)
 - o Loan ice chest for beverages



You will be contacted to confirm your offer of help.

If you volunteered to donate food for the Barbecue, just a reminder:

- o All nonperishable items should be brought to the school office by Wednesday June 2nd.
- o Prepared food items should arrive the morning of the barbecue by 9:00 am.
Please label your donation with your name.

Submitted by Sean Magovern, Barbecue Chair

ELECTION NEWS

PSFA elections for the 2011-2012 Officers were held on May 5, 2011 at the PSFA meeting. The results are as follows:

Co-Presidents	Debbie Talamo and John Talamo
Vice-President	George Amadeo
Treasurer	Isabella Grove
Recording Secretary	
Corresponding Secretary	Eda Saeger

We would like to thank these members for their dedication to the PSFA and wish them the best of luck in their new positions. We hope you will join them at the next PSFA meeting on June 2, 2011 at 7:30 pm.

Please note that the position of Recording Secretary has not been filled. If you feel you can contribute to the PSFA by serving in this position, please contact Debbie Talamo at dtalamo@optonline.net.

The PSFA Needs Your Help!!!

Planning for the 2011-2012 school year involves seeking leadership and members for all PSFA committees. Please consider chairing or joining one or more of the following committees. Not only will you have the satisfaction of helping to enrich our students' experience at CHS, but you will also have the opportunity to work with the many other dedicated parents who volunteer their time and efforts.

- ___ **Fundraising:** Recommend, arrange, and conduct activities to raise operating funds. The fundraising activities currently planned for 2011-2012 year are:
 - ___ Dinner Dance and Gift Raffle
 - ___ Magazine Sales
- ___ **Hospitality** Welcome guests and new members, provide snack items and/or gifts for PSFA meetings, Back to School Night, Teacher Appreciation Week, etc.
- ___ **Membership:** Conduct the annual membership drive and ensure membership dues are current, maintain a list of all active members, and publish the PSFA Directory.
- ___ **Newsletter** Collect, edit, publish, and distribute information relevant to the activities of students and parents of CHS on a regular basis.
- ___ **Parent/Student/Faculty Activities** Plan, prepare, and execute the following events:
 - ___ Pasta Party
 - ___ Barbecue

Please check the committees in which you are interested and return this form to school in an envelope marked CHS PSFA. If you prefer, email Debbie Talamo at dtalamo@optonline.net with your information.

Name: _____ Email address: _____

Phone: _____

Mailing address: CHS PSFA, 1740 New Bedford road, Wall, NJ 07719-3740

S. O. S. Save Our Subscriptions !

The CHS PSFA will once again hold a **Magazine Fundraising Drive** in September 2011. We hope to increase participation next year and be even more successful. ***You can help by saving your magazine renewals or new subscriptions until the Magazine Drive.***

But if a subscription needs to be renewed before September, or there is a new magazine subscription you want, please order online...it is simple and secure!
And CHS receives 40% of the price of each purchase!

1. Go to the CHS home page www.chs.mcvsd.org.
2. Click on "**PSFA**".
3. Click on "[Order or Renew your magazine subscriptions here](#)".

We ask all CHS families to **renew** the magazine subscriptions they **already** receive. A renewal will automatically add a year on to the end of your subscription, regardless of its end date. Of course, you can also sign up for new subscriptions as well. Either way, the school receives an incredible **40%** of every purchase.

Please renew your magazines through CHS. Imagine how we could benefit the school if **every** CHS family renewed **all** their magazines through our fundraiser!

PSFA MEMBERSHIP

The Parent/Student Faculty Association (PSFA) Membership Drive is well under way. Letters have gone out to families invited to renew their membership and to those who would be joining us for the first time. If you have already sent in your membership form and check, or if your membership is current, we thank you for your support. Not sure if your membership is current? Simply contact pdazio59@yahoo.com to check your status.

We need each and every family to join the PSFA to reach our goal of 100% membership! With your support, we can continue to enhance our students' experience at CHS. Please help us by completing the form (available at the CHS website – www.chs.mcvsd.org) and sending it in with your check for \$35 for one year. Even better, you can renew your membership for \$35 per year until your student's graduation. This will save you time; you will never have to think about your membership again! It also reduces a great deal of paperwork for the Membership Committee. Be green! Save a tree and join the PSFA until your student's graduation!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ellen Harrold for her devotion to the Membership Committee. We truly thank Ellen for all her hard work. We will miss you, Ellen.

***Submitted by Membership Committee
Mark Allen, Paula Dazio and Ellen Harrold***

A note from the editor...

I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make the Communiqué an informative and interesting newsletter over the past year. All contributions are gratefully acknowledged, as I could not produce a newsletter without the "news" provided by the the PSFA committees and the CHS faculty. Many thanks to Mark Allen, who makes it possible for the Communiqué to reach its readers via email and Mrs. Rodriguez who posts each issue on the CHS website. Finally, many thanks to Mr. Gleason, who always supports and encourages the efforts of the PSFA and this publication.

Submitted by Cathy Smith, Communiqué Editor

CONGRATULATIONS to the Student Government Association Council for the 2011-2012 School year!

President - Carly Ferreira
Vice President - Gabby Maurer
Council Members:
Kiera Brennan
Marc Ferre
Monica Marrone

CHS PROM 2011 - ARABIAN NIGHTS

Prom Facts:

- ◇ Theme: *Arabian Nights*
- ◇ Mrs. Gomez, the senior class advisor, was essential in planning the event
- ◇ The Prom Court was selected by student votes before and during the prom. The senior class voted during school and then a second ballot was passed out during prom to decide the court, Prom King and Queen.

Prom King: Ray Saker

Prom Queen: Brandy Saunders

Prom Prince: Bryan Brown

Prom Princess: Jackie Tempera

Members of the Prom Court:

Alex Pettit

Chrissy D'Amico

Mike Burke

Kelsey Miller

Corey Plunkett

Amanda Piazza

The 2011 Prom, *Arabian Nights*, hosted by the Class of 2011, was an incredible success! CHS juniors and seniors enjoyed the night with their guests, which included a few CHS sophomores and several CHS alumni. Even last year's Prom King, Razhon Forbes, attended the dance. The DJ staff included five enthusiastic members who kept the party going all night with great mixes and dance music. Things slowed down for a few minutes to play, "Halo," by Beyonce, the 2011 prom song.

Four years of planning, fundraising, and saving went into this event, and the five members of the Class Council (Natasha Backman, Mike Burke, Sara Wallach, Valerie Heinmets, and Becca Nappi) as well as several dedicated seniors who helped with the planning were well rewarded for all their efforts. They also got to enjoy the three hours of dancing, the buffet style dinner and the instant photo booth. The photo booth, which printed physical copies of pictures taken inside the booth, was a hit, and students got to take home a memory from the night. They also got to take a CD made by the Class of 2011 Council, which included many songs played throughout the night and other influential songs of the year. Overall, this year's Prom was another great success and will forever be remembered as a truly exotic night by the CHS graduating Class of 2011.

Submitted by Class of 2011



CHS PROM COURT 2011

CLUB CORNER CLUB CORNER

Cultural Festival 2011

Can it get better? Yes! Amazingly, the festival this year was even better than last year. After it was over I had several parents approaching me asking, "How can you do it?" The answer is really simple. Just follow the following recipe:

- Ninety something kids giving their best
- Tons of amazing talent and a desire to help
- Some great parents bringing and warming up food.
- Add a few drops of imagination and craziness.
- Mix and shake well and enjoy.

Each year, the Cultural Communications Club chooses a charity to sponsor. This year, the officers and advisor chose St. Jude's Hospital. In total, the money raised through countless different fundraisers surpassed how much was raised every other year. Usually about \$3,000 is raised, but this year the club raised over \$6,000. Of course, a portion of that money went into this annual festival. There was a wide range of very talented performers, a majority of whom were students from Communications High School. Though many were from within the school, there were also performers visiting from local dance schools and even High Technology High School. There were dance numbers, bands, exotic and classical instruments, karate demonstrations, and other entertaining performances that kept the crowd delighted.

Another big part of the festival each year is the array of country displays all around the school. Members of the club divided up to work on a total of seventeen countries, displaying information about culture, government, history and more. The winning country was Italy and the runner up was Colombia, but all of the club members really pulled together to present the best cultural fair possible.



Marc Anthony Ferre and Meaghan Smith perform.

Before the festival is held, members of the club were asked to donate food and desserts of different cultures for the buffet after the entertainment. Students and their families really pulled through, donating enough food to feed almost 250 people. The club really appreciated all the help

from parents who prepared food and helped create the buffet table. It really was a great success.

We would like to express our gratitude to all the parents, students, administration, and community representatives for their support. Without the efforts of each one of these components, we would not be able to present an event like this.

Submitted by Sabina Campbell, Cultural Club Advisor

From the Guidance Department...

Seniors:

The year is winding down, the college deposit checks have been sent, and college freshman orientations are being scheduled. The guidance counselors want to leave the students with these words of advice.

1. Get a job this summer! College is expensive, so save your money. If possible, get a job at a place that will need you during the winter break so you can refill your coffers for spring semester.
2. Keep yourself safe and healthy while in college. Use a buddy system when going to unfamiliar places.
3. Use your time wisely while at school. You have to **Work Hard Before You Play Hard.**
4. Find a quiet place to study...NOT your dorm room. Look for a spot in the library or a lab so that when you are there, you only focus on your assignments and you are away from distractions.
5. Take advantage of internships, mentorships and job opportunities that will build your resume.
6. Take a semester abroad if it works with your program.
7. Enjoy these four years and know that we are still here to help if you need us.

The guidance office will send the final transcript from CHS to the colleges. **It is your responsibility** to request that Seton Hall sends the transcript to the college you are attending. Transcript Request forms and directions are posted on the Guidance Room of BBS and are also available in a PDF format at <http://www.shu.edu/alumni/transcripts.cfm>

Juniors:

Thank you for the wonderful parent and student response forms. It is so helpful when we write letters of recommendation. We will be preparing their transcripts and they should be polishing their resume of activities and community service as well as jobs they have held in the past four years. Also, juniors need to be thinking about their mentorship for next year. This summer is a great opportunity to finish college visits and find a summer job.

Any students interested in playing a sport in college should register with the NCAA at www.ncaa.org. They can contact college coaches and schedule official visits in the fall. Students interested in ROTC scholarships need to apply now as well. www.nrotc.navy.mil; www.goarmy.com/rotc; www.afrotc.com With the cost of college, the ROTC programs are a great opportunity for full tuition scholarships. Finally, the common application for 2011-2012 will be available after August 1st. Summer is the perfect time to look over the application and essay topics. www.commonapp.org

Don't forget to utilize the resources provided through Naviance. There is the college and scholarship search, CHS application history, and career assessments. www.connection.naviance.com/communications

Sophomores and Freshman:

The summer is a time to explore camps and courses that might help direct them toward college majors and career possibilities. Also, this is a great time to become involved to volunteer activities and focus on leadership skills. Remember that the National Honor Society requires 100 hours of community service and 50 hours of leadership, along with an overall 92 GPA at the end of 10th grade. Job experience is a great resume builder and shows responsibility as well as a strong work ethic.

As in the past, the guidance office will be open on **August 16th and 17th**. The schedules for next year will be sent home before those dates, so if there are any concerns **please contact us then**. Everyone have a safe and happy summer. Congratulations to the Class of 2011! I know you will make us proud.

Submitted by Sandra Gidos and Joe Senerchia, Guidance Counselors



National Honor Society News

May was the most exciting month yet for the NHS. The annual Blood Drive held on May 11, was an extraordinary success! We ended the day with 72 successful donors, topping last year's record of 66. The blood drive was run through the Central Jersey Blood Center. The NHS would like to thank everyone who participated in the blood drive in any way: those students and family members who registered to give blood; the NHS members who donated food and drinks and worked the day of the drive; and especially Mr. Gleason for his continual support of this important project.

This month, NHS members also created tiles to decorate the Child Advocacy Center of Monmouth County, a shelter for runaways. NHS members kept up with weekly exit sales. The NHS is wrapping up the year nicely with its annual Awareness Assembly, which will address issues of self-image and eating disorders. A panel headed by Dr. Donald Erwin, a well-known Monmouth County psychologist who specializes in this topic will address the student body on May 27. The assembly speaker has been funded by the PSFA.

The NHS would like to thank everyone who has helped thus far to make this month a great one.

Congratulations to the CHS National Honor Society Council for 2011-12:

President: Laura Reilly
Vice-Presidents: Jacqui Curran and Jessie Kraus-Lavy
Secretaries: Gay Maurer and Priscilla Wu
Treasurer: Ally Kowalski

Submitted by Alli Cooper, NHS Public Relations Officer





STUDENTS

Seniors Hit the Water

The sun was shining on the Class of 2011 as they hit the water for the first ever Senior Canoe Trip. On Friday, May 6, the class traveled to Princeton Canoe and Kayak thanks to our PSFA for providing the transportation and spent some time paddling on the Delaware and Raritan Canal. After canoeing, we went to Allaire State Park where we picnicked, played ultimate Frisbee, toured the Park, and just relaxed.

Submitted by Ginny Clevenger, Fitness Instructor



Inkblot Staff Recognized with National and State Awards

The Inkblot student newspaper had a great year, thanks to the hard work of its student journalists and the support of parents and friends who donated generously to our Bowl-a-thon fundraiser. The staff also made great inroads in growing its online news site, thinkblotnews.com.

The Inkblot staff was led this year by Editors-in-Chief Jackie Tempera and Ryan Pettit. The 2011-12 Editorial Board will be led by Editor-in-Chief Ally Kowalski, Managing Editor Brian Murphy, Print Editor Laura Reilly and Online Editor Jessie Kraus-Lavy. The new editorial board has taken the helm for the final edition of the year, which is expected to be on school newstands during the week of June 13.

All CHS students are invited to join the Inkblot, which meets at 10:30 am Fridays. Please encourage your student to become part of the staff.

Below are this year's winners of national and state journalism awards:

Quill and Scroll Society National News Competition

Feature Story: Jackie Tempera, "Lost in a Sea of White."

Editorial Cartoon: Priscilla Wu, "Genie."

Columbia Scholastic Press Association – National Awards

Feature Page Design: 1st Place - Christina Stefan, "Alone."

Design of News/Feature Spread: 1st Place - Staff, "Insomnia and Caffeine."

Design of Op-Ed or Analysis Page: 3rd Place - Brian Murphy, "February Issue Op-Ed."

Feature Story: Honorable Mention - Jackie Tempera, "Lost in a Sea of White."

Computer Generated Art/Illustration: Honorable Mention - Christina Stefan, "Alone."

Garden States Scholastic Press Association Annual Awards

Robert Stevens Memorial Scholarship \$1,500: Sara Wallach

Inkblot Staff Recognized with National and State Awards (continued)

First Place Awards, GSSPA:

Editorial Writing: Megan Berkowitz, "We're Cheating Ourselves."

Editorial Cartoon: Kevin Chu, "Pandan."

Layout and Design: Christina Stefan, "Alone."

Artwork and Illustration: Christina Stefan, "Alone."

Second Place Awards, GSSPA

Editorial Writing: Jackie Tempera, "Color Wars debacle brings many lessons."

In-Depth Reporting: Jackie Tempera, Sara Wallach, Laura Reilly, Christina Stefan, "The Homefront: Life Behind the Lines."

Editorial Cartoon: Kevin Chu, "The Budget Tree."

Third Place Awards, GSSPA

Sports Writing: Mary Beery, "In Sport of Sabres, Morris is Home."

Reviews/Entertainment: Mae Smith, "The downfall of all that is good and holy: Kindle."

Photography, Ana Santos: "Senior Prank."

Honorable Mentions – GSSPA

News Writing: Jackie Tempera, "Senior Prank Gets Creamed."

Feature Writing: Jackie Tempera, "Lost in a Sea of White."

Sports Writing: Mike Smith, "Marr is #7 at States competition."

Editorial Writing: Megan Berkowitz, "Inkblot applauds McCorkell."

Photography: Mike Roslanski, "Lost in a Sea of White."

Editorial Cartoon: Priscilla Wu, "Snow Computations."

Overall Excellence – GSSPA

Inkblot Staff: First Place, C Division.

Distinguished Journalism Award – GSSPA

CHS is proud of our distinguished student journalists!

Submitted by Andi Mulshine, Inkblot Advisor

Senior English

English IV: Creative Writing -- The seniors are currently working on their final book projects and are looking forward to graduation. Good luck to the Class of 2011!

Media Writing: The juniors completed their 30 page screenplays, as well as their full-length college essays with supplements. Ms. Gesin's E-Commerce class came in to speak to the Media Writing class about their experiences with the college application process. Alumni who just completed their first year of college will come to speak to the class at the end of May or start of June.

Submitted by Jaime A. Vander Velde, Senior English Instructor

To order photos from any 2010-2011 CHS events, go to
<http://www.shutterfly.com/pro/CommunicationsHS/2010to2011SchoolYear>

COMMUNICATIONS HIGH SCHOOL JUNE 2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JUNE 2-THURSDAY	PSFA MEETING	7:30 PM
JUNE 3-FRIDAY	COLOR WARS-PSFA BARBECUE	
JUNE 6-MONDAY	OPEN AFTER SCHOOL	2:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 8-WEDNESDAY	OPEN AFTER SCHOOL	2:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 9-THURSDAY	OPEN AFTER SCHOOL	2:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 9-THURSDAY	SENIOR DINNER-DOOLAN'S, SPRING LAKE	6:30-9:30 PM
JUNE 13-MONDAY	OPEN AFTER SCHOOL	2:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 15-WEDNESDAY	FINALS-PERIOD 2 AND 4 SENIORS ONLY	
JUNE 15-WEDNESDAY	OPEN AFTER SCHOOL	2:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 16-THURSDAY	FINALS-PERIOD 1 AND 3 ALL STUDENTS	
JUNE 17-FRIDAY	FINALS-PERIOD 2 AND 4 UNDERCLASSMEN/ LAST DAY	
JUNE 17-FRIDAY	CLASS OF 2011 GRADUATION AT POLLACK AUDITORIUM, MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY	6:00 PM
JUNE 22-WEDNESDAY	REPORT CARDS MAILED HOME	

Fall 2011 Driver Education Written Test Preparation Course

A Driver's Education Theory Class will again be made available to CHS students, coordinated by the PSFA beginning in September 2011. The class will be taught by Mr. Ron Conley of Coast Driving School. The purpose of this course is to teach the basic principles of the rules of the road, and will prepare students for the written test that will be taken at the DMV. (This test is not included in the course.)

There are 25 slots available on a first come, first serve basis. There is a required minimum of 10 students to hold the class. Additional students may be placed on a waiting list. There are 13 classes total **and a parent chaperone is needed at each class. Each parent of a registered student will be expected to chaperone one class. The schedule will be arranged by phone.**

The class will begin in early September 2011 and will meet Tuesdays through December 2011 from 2:45 until 5:00 pm at CHS. ***These dates may be subject to change.*** The cost of the class is \$140. Students are responsible for their own transportation home after the class. The course is open to any student, but is geared to the student that will be eligible to obtain their permit in the next year). This is a theory class only; behind the wheel training is a separate course arranged by the student. Coast Driving School also offers the 6 hour behind the wheel course, which can be arranged by calling Lori Conley at 732-531-1378.

Each student will receive a certificate upon successful completion of the class for possible insurance discount purposes. Please note that insurance discounts vary by individual insurance companies. Please call your specific insurance company to inquire.

If you are interested in having your student attend this class, please reserve their space now. You will be contacted in September with details of the course and asked for payment at that time.

Please contact Debbie Talamo at dtalamo@optonline.net with the following information to reserve your place in the fall class.

- Student Name and Parent Name
- Address
- Email address
- Phone Number and Secondary Number