

# CHS Communiqué

Parent Student Faculty Association Newsletter

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December 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:

Jennifer Compagni

[newsletterchs@yahoo.com](mailto:newsletterchs@yahoo.com)

The PSFA also has important PSFA announcements via our email system. **Please take a moment to register**

## Co-Presidents' Corner

By Janice Quattrocchi (parent of Anthony, Class of 2017) and Jessica Evans (parent of Emileigh, Class of 2017)

It seems like the countdown to winter break is already upon us! We know how busy everyone is this time of year but hopefully you will 'save the date' and volunteer on a committee or at a one-time gathering to prepare for our Annual Dinner & Gift Raffle. This is our largest fundraiser for the year, and we truly need all hands on deck to make it happen. Please see the DGA committee requests in the *Communique*. To participate, please email Hope at [hoperaymond@yahoo.com](mailto:hoperaymond@yahoo.com) with your availability in 2016. Also, please be on the look-out for 'after Christmas' sales as a time to pick up affordable merchandise for the Raffle!

Thanks to everyone who supported the PSFA through our BEAST apparel sale! Items should be available for pick-up at RKE in Wall beginning December 18th. If you missed your chance to unleash the Beast this time, we hope you'll place an order in the spring. We plan to open the online store again in time for Freshmen orientation.

In other news, our recording secretary, Antoinetta Gibson, has accepted a new job which will require extensive travel at the outset and is therefore unable to continue in her role on the PSFA Executive Board. We are now seeking a replacement for her. This is a monthly commitment of about two hours (plus time typing up meeting minutes). If you are able to 'give back' to CHS as recording secretary, please email [chs.psf@gmail.com](mailto:chs.psf@gmail.com). Our next meeting will be January 7th, 2016. A big thank you goes out to Antoinetta for her contribution with well wishes for her new position.

We wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season filled with family and good friends. We're looking forward to greeting the New Year together with great enthusiasm at CHS!

### Save the Date

The PSFA's primary fundraiser, the **12th Annual Dinner & Gift Raffle: Game Night**, will be held on **Saturday, April 9, 2016, 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.** at the **Jumping Brook Golf Club, Neptune.**

See more information and relevant forms within Communiqué.



# The Inkblot

The Quill and Scroll Induction Ceremony was held on Nov. 17, 2015.

Inducted were 14 students who have done superior work for the Inkblot student newspaper and have met the academic requirements for induction to Quill and Scroll, which is the international honor society for high school journalists.

Inductees include:

Julie Alter  
Linda Badaracco  
Catherine Escueta  
Tommy Fletcher  
Sallie Haas  
Cayla Harris  
Samantha Hogan  
Allie Kuo  
Cat La Roche  
Sarah Lynch  
Julia Pardee  
Victor Riveros  
Anna Robinson  
Abby Silva



## CHS Skills USA Activities

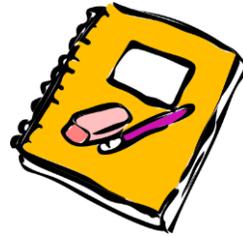


This year, SkillsUSA adopted the “UGotBrains?” competition that the Broadcast Club competed in previously. Students are challenged to create a project that will raise awareness about teen driving safety. On November 12th, Wendy Berk from the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey came to CHS to speak with the club. She presented the club with a \$750 stipend to put towards the campaign, and provided some helpful suggestions and tactics to produce the best outcome. SkillsUSA members have already started generating ideas for this year’s campaign. Students have divided into committees focused on one advertising medium: print, public service announcement, music video, or news package. The SkillsUSA council is optimistic about the results of this campaign, considering the talent, determination, and dedication of the club’s members.

Submitted by Sarah Lynch

## CHS Cultural Communications Club Activities

This December, the Cultural Communications Club will be having our annual Head Start holiday party on the 11th. Pre-schoolers from the Head Start program in Lakewood come to CHS for a celebration filled with student performances, presents, and a visit from Santa Claus. For most of these children, the only presents they receive during the holidays are the ones we give them. This year, we are accepting donations in the forms of stickers, Play-Doh, markers, crayons, and notebooks. The Salvation Army also donated teddy bears, which citizens at the Howell Senior Center created outfits for.



Additionally, the Cultural Communications Club will have various holiday gift wrapping events through the month of December at the Barnes & Noble in Howell. While the gift wrapping is free, donations are greatly appreciated as all proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Adult chaperones are needed for these events so if interested, please contact either Samantha Dellis at [sdellis@ctemc.org](mailto:sdellis@ctemc.org) or Mark DiSpigna at [madispigna@ctemc.org](mailto:madispigna@ctemc.org).



As always, CCC has Breakfast Sales every Friday morning and Exit Sales every Monday afternoon. The club always appreciates donations of tortilla chips, salsa, queso, and cookies. All the proceeds of these sales go to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

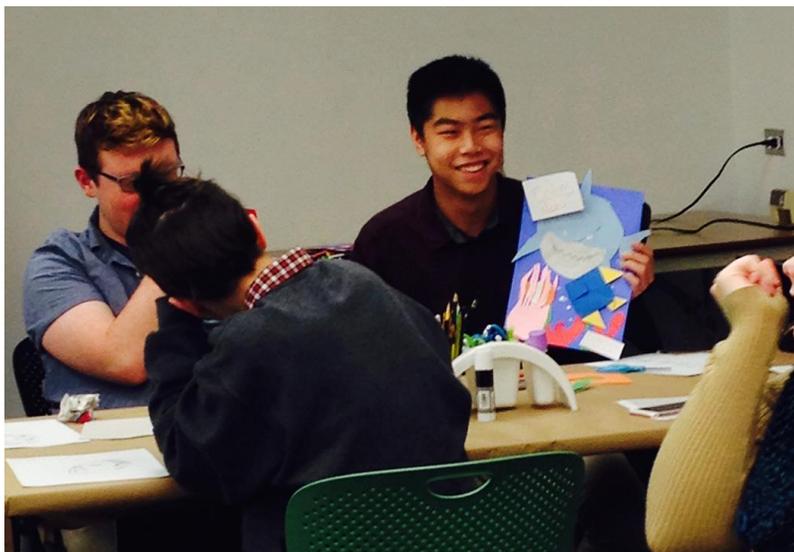


# National Art Honor Society



On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, thirty members of the CHS National Art Honor Society took a field trip to Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York City. Located in the renovated mansion of industrial magnate Andrew Carnegie, Cooper Hewitt is the only museum in the nation devoted exclusively to historic and contemporary design.

Exhibits on display within the museum featured posters throughout history and the methods in composition employed by the designers, architectural designs and scale models from London's Heatherwick Studio, and a glimpse into the creative process of Pixar Studios.



Students were able to engage in interactive displays throughout the museum independently and also tour with one of Cooper Hewitt's tour guides. Students then participated in a cooperative lesson and activity creating mini-posters employing one of the design strategies discussed in the tour. A ride down 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue to view the holiday-themed store windows was icing on the cake!

# National Technical Honor Society



The following students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society on December 1, 2015.

Sally Boniecki, Sophia Boniecki, Lilia Kang, Catherine La Roche, Sarah Lynch, Julia Pardee, Bridget Savage and Abigail.

The National Technical Honor Society currently serves approximately 80,000 active members in 2015 and nearly three quarters of a million since its inception in 1984. Over \$225,000 in scholarships is awarded annually to its members. NTHS honors the achievements of top CTE (Career Technical Educational) students, provides scholarships to encourage the pursuit of higher education, and cultivates excellence in today's highly competitive, skilled workforce. For over 30 years, NTHS has been the acknowledged leader in the recognition of outstanding student achievement in career and technical education.

At the induction ceremony, Sarah Lynch, a junior inductee, gave an inspiring speech on why she wanted to be in NTHS.

Good evening,

Congratulations to my fellow inductees into both the National Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. Your presence here tonight indicates impressive



commitment, determination, and initiative that will no doubt fuel many future accomplishments. It is an honor to be among you today.

We follow up on the heels of the generation that brought us the iPhone and electric cars. A generation with a powerful workforce that created everyday objects and services we cannot picture our lives without. But we've enjoyed the fruits of this generation's work for too long. Soon, it will be our turn. The National Technical Honor Society prepares students to join America's workforce so that we can use our skills to improve our world. We are the future technicians, journalists, and entrepreneurs. We are the future of America, and it is an honor to be inducted into an honor society that recognizes and supports that truth.

NTHS recognizes a total of 80,000 members across the country, and their achievements in their technical field or career path. In order for members to be successful and effective in the workplace, they must possess more than just their skill. Members must exhibit key character attributes: honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership.

But I believe there are certain characteristics missing from this list that a member exhibits just by applying to NTHS. Taking that step forward requires a student who is proactive and confident, and one with the foresight to recognize the benefits he or she could reap from this membership. These traits, together with stellar grades, significant involvement, and a teacher recommendation, make a student eligible to join NTHS.

So to my fellow inductees: your induction tonight represents the hard work you put in, and the passion you have for what you do. Have pride in this accomplishment, and congratulations.

Though we celebrate our success tonight, our work is nowhere near finished. As NTHS members, we have a duty to continue rising to the occasion, and expanding our skill set to become the best we can be. We must picture our induction tonight as a catalyst kickstarting our journey to become America's skilled workforce; the first step in discovering how our passions can translate into our careers. I have no doubt about the success of our endeavors, as long as we maintain those essential attributes: honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership.

What will be our impact? How will future generations remember us? How will we do everything in our power to create a better society? Now is the time for us to start figuring out the answers to those questions. And by joining NTHS, we are already off to a strong start.

Congratulations to every inductee here tonight. Let's all dedicate ourselves to creating a better workforce, and a better country.

Thank you.

Sarah Lynch



## **December 2015**

**Seniors:** Please bring in your response letters from the colleges. You can track your own results by clicking on the pencil icon under *Colleges I'm Applying To* tab in Naviance. Fill in the result in the drop down box.

We also keep track of scholarships the colleges offer you. We update your Naviance account when you provide us with the merit aid information you receive from the college. A running total can be viewed by scrolling to *Scholarship Applications* under *Colleges I'm Applying To*.

The FAFSA will be available January 1<sup>st</sup>, and keep an eye on schools that require the CSS Profile: <http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>. You will be receiving a detailed memo from the Career Academy Counselors regarding current FAFSA information some time in December.

The <http://www.monmouthcountyscholarships.com> site is resource to keep you informed of local scholarship opportunities.

**Juniors:** The class of 2017 should be aware of the following changes regarding college planning:

1. **TESTING:** The new SAT will be administered beginning in March 2016. Khan Academy provides free test prep (<https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>). Additional information about the New SAT is available here: <http://chsguidancedept.blogspot.com/p/the-new-psat-and-sat.html>.
2. **ADMISSIONS:** The Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success (<http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/>) is something worth watching. Currently eighty colleges (<http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org/members.html>) are working to create a platform for high school students. The idea is to provide tools to help students think more deeply, and earlier, about what they are learning or accomplishing, and to create new ways for college admissions officers, community organizations and others to coach them. The goal is to help students emerge in their senior years with

a body of work that can be used to help identify appropriate colleges and apply to them. Organizers of the new effort hope it will minimize some of the disadvantages faced by high school students without access to well-staffed guidance offices or private counselors.

3. **FINANCIAL AID:** The Obama Administration announced that changes will be coming to the FAFSA as of next year. One change, deemed Prior-Prior, will allow families to report tax information from two years ago (2015 income.) This will also allow students and families to fill out the FAFSA form earlier than ever before (the FAFSA will be available in October, as opposed to January of the student's senior year) in hopes to have their financial aid packages before making college decisions.

Sophomores: Want to get a jump on the college planning process? Have your child download a practice SAT and a practice ACT. See which test they do better on and plan a testing strategy.

SAT Practice Test: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/getting-ready-redesigned-sat.pdf>

ACT Practice Test: <http://www.act.org/aap/pdf/Preparing-for-the-ACT.pdf>

Freshman: It's not too early to start thinking about your college planning preparation. Colleges are looking for quality, not quantity when it comes to extracurricular endeavors. Start thinking about activities your child enjoys and encourage him or her to dedicate the limited time he or she has to take it to the next level. Be creative and think of ways that your child can demonstrate entrepreneurial strengths or leadership abilities. Good writers may want to pursue publication. Dancers may coordinate a performance for a local senior center. You get the idea.

I'm also a proponent of using the format of the Congressional Award in college preparation. Many of the things your child is doing can be logged, organized and recognized in a comprehensive package. Visit <http://congressionalaward.org/> to learn more.

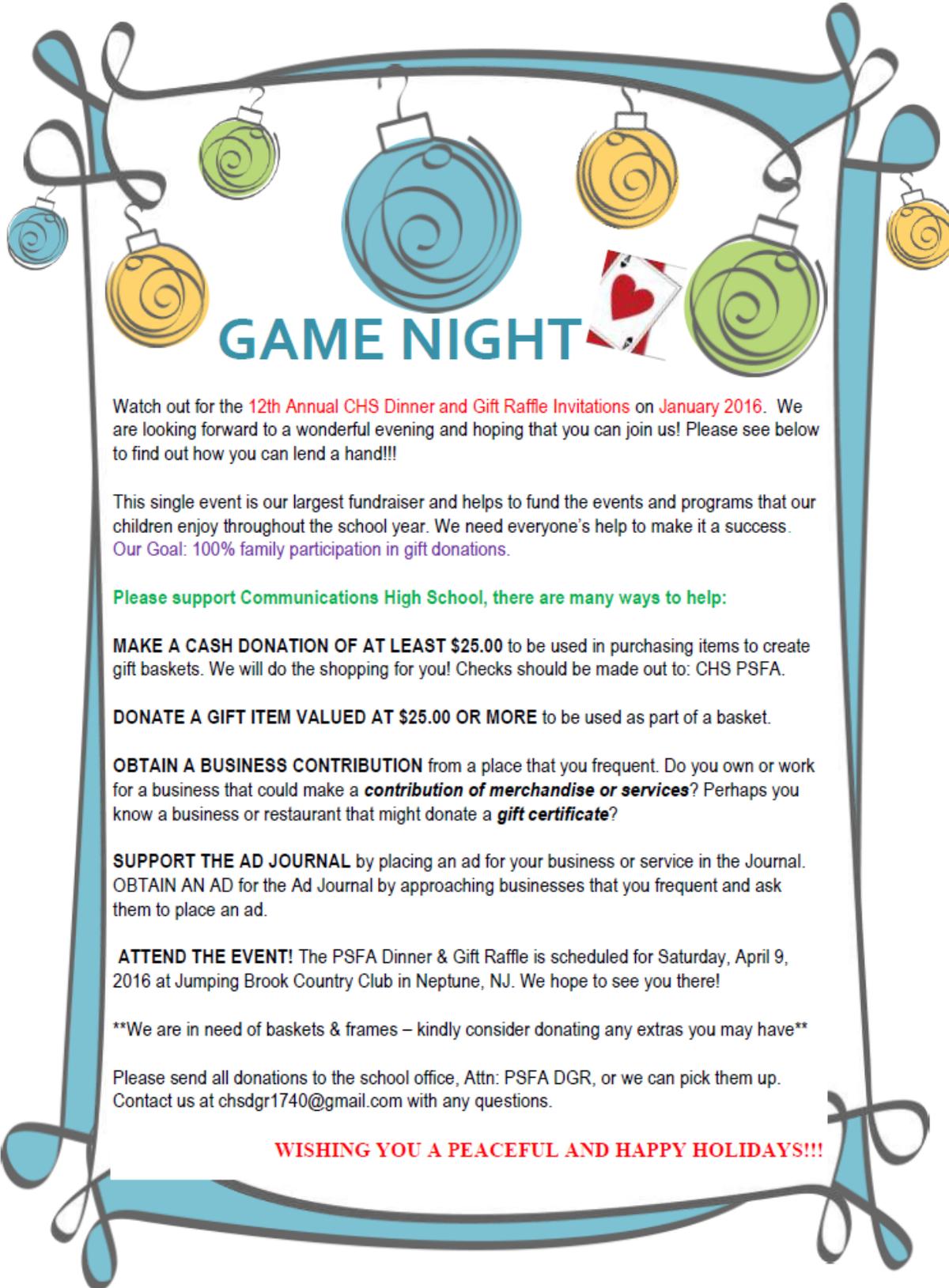


# Wine & Design 2015



The inaugural Wine & Design fundraiser held on November 13th was not only enormous fun for the CHS parents who came, but also raised over \$600 for the CHS PSFA. All monies raised are used to fund student and faculty clubs, projects, and events. Taught by the studio artists, participants painted a landscape which they proudly brought home to family acclaim! The splendid variety of appetizers, desserts, and wines made the event a hit as parents had a chance to relax and meet each other. The parent-artists had such a good time, they asked the PSFA to host it again next year.

# PSFA DINNER GIFT RAFFLE (DGR)



**GAME NIGHT**

Watch out for the **12th Annual CHS Dinner and Gift Raffle Invitations** on **January 2016**. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening and hoping that you can join us! Please see below to find out how you can lend a hand!!!

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.**

**Please support Communications High School, there are many ways to help:**

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

**DONATE A GIFT ITEM VALUED AT \$25.00 OR MORE** to be used as part of a basket.

**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, April 9, 2016 at Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, NJ. We hope to see you there!

**\*\*We are in need of baskets & frames – kindly consider donating any extras you may have\*\***

Please send all donations to the school office, Attn: PSFA DGR, or we can pick them up. Contact us at [chsgr1740@gmail.com](mailto:chsgr1740@gmail.com) with any questions.

**WISHING YOU A PEACEFUL AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!**

CHS Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



Parent Student Faculty Association  
1740 New Bedford Road, Wall, New Jersey 07719-3740  
chs.mcvsd.org 732-681-1010

**PSFA 12th Annual Dinner and Gift Raffle: Game Night**  
**Saturday, April 9, 2016**  
**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 and Gift Raffle Ads*”, at the above address. We would appreciate receipt of ads by **Friday, March 5, 2016**. Please make checks payable to: “*CHS PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle*”.

For any questions, please contact Lang Holtz at 732-533-3067 or chsdgr1740@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,  
Communications High School PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle Committee

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

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ 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



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**PSFA 12th ANNUAL DINNER and GIFT RAFFLE: GAME NIGHT**  
**Saturday, April 9, 2016**  
**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 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 and Gift Raffle*", at the above address. Please make checks payable to: "*CHS PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle*". We would appreciate donations arriving by **Thursday, March 31, 2016**. We will be happy to pick up your donation if you prefer.

If you have any questions, please call Lang Holtz at (732) 533-3067 or Caren MacConnell at (732) 567-8577, or email [chsdgr1740@gmail.com](mailto:chsdgr1740@gmail.com). Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Communications High School PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle Committee

# LAST CHANCE!!!



## Parent Student Faculty Association

### ***2015/16 Driver Education Written Test Preparation Course***

Register for the Driver Education Theory Class at Communications High School. This program, being coordinated by the PSFA, is available to any student ages 15 and older. The purpose of the course is to prepare for the DMV written test. Bob Estler, of Just Rite Driving School will instruct students on basic principles of driving and the rules of the road. The class will meet at CHS beginning Wednesday, January 6th and will run for ten consecutive Wednesdays through March 9, 2016 (weather permitting) from 2:30- 5:30pm. The cost is \$150 (cash or money order). Students will be responsible for their own transportation home. In addition, a parent chaperone is needed at each class. Please be prepared to chaperone one class during your student's session. The schedule for chaperoning will be pre-arranged- a schedule will go out in mid-December to registered families. To register, please send an email with your student's name, date of birth and address along with a parent chaperone name, email & phone number to [chs.psfa@gmail.com](mailto:chs.psfa@gmail.com).

This is a theory class only- but enrolled students will also take the written DMV test on the last day of this course, a benefit being offered to CHS students through Just Rite Driving School. 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 carriers. Please call your specific insurance company to determine your specific eligibility. Also, note that 'behind the wheel' training is a separate course. Just Rite Driving School offers six-hour driving instruction at a discount for CHS students also enrolled in driver education theory. For 'behind the wheel' registration or to pay for Driver Theory with a credit card, please contact Luanne, of Just Rite Driving School, directly at 732.534.4688.



# Yearbook News!



## Seniors... what do you want to say?

Quotes for the yearbook are due ASAP!  
Check your email for a survey or stop into Room 220.



## You must have been a beautiful baby...

Class of 2016, please put your baby picture in the shared Google folder or stop by room 220 with a physical copy.

Put your name on the back so we can return it!



Yearbook Ads Order Online:

[www.shop.jostens.com](http://www.shop.jostens.com)

## Got Pictures?

The yearbook staff invites you to submit photos for the yearbook. If you have great photos, we'd like to see them. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have.

Put all pictures in the shared Google folder.

\$\$ ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK AND SAVE! \$\$

Order online @ <http://shop.jostens.com/>

Don't delay! \$85 before Christmas, \$95 after Christmas

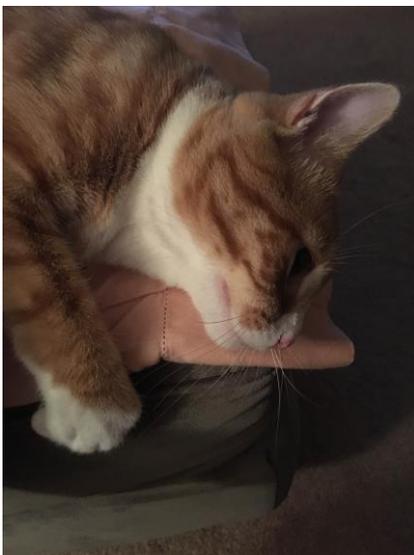
# Pet Adoption Opportunity!!

My name is Jaime Vander Velde and I teach English IV at CHS. However, I'm writing to you today, not about English, but about two cats named Sunny (f) and Troy (m). In early November I adopted this pair of bonded pair of cats and it turns out that I have a severe cat allergy. As a result, and with much sadness, I had to relinquish Sunny and Troy to the rescue, Calling All Cats Rescue. They went back to their great foster mother, but still need a permanent home. As a result I am writing to see if your family or any families you know would be interested in adopting these wonderful animals. Please take a moment to read their descriptions below and share this information.

Sunny (f) is a 2.5-year-old grey and tan tabby cat who has an incredibly sweet disposition. Her favorite activities include sleeping by your feet, sleeping on the couch, and occasionally indulging you by playing with a mouse on a string or a light laser (if you put it close to her). If you are looking for an incredibly chill cat, with beautiful eyes and markings, she's the one for you.

[http://www.shelterexchange.org/save\\_a\\_life/40446](http://www.shelterexchange.org/save_a_life/40446)

Troy (m) is a 9-month old orange and white tabby cat with white "mitten" front paws. He is an incredibly sweet boy, has the softest fur under his chin, loves to be pet, and would love nothing more than to be able to nap next to you. He is also incredibly playful and loves to chase the laser light, his mouse on a string, toy mice, and ball. He gets along with other playful cats, comes when called, and is an energetic and all around great cat. [http://www.shelterexchange.org/save\\_a\\_life/46230](http://www.shelterexchange.org/save_a_life/46230)



If you are interested, but can't adopt right now Calling All Cats Rescue is always looking for donations of supplies (food, litter, toys, scratching posts), volunteers, and foster families. The cats are available to meet every Saturday at the Petco in Howell (4755 U.S. 9) from 11-3. Private appointments can also be made.

As list of all cats in need of adoption can be found on-line and on Facebook at:

[http://www.shelterexchange.org/help\\_a\\_shelter/282](http://www.shelterexchange.org/help_a_shelter/282)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Calling-All-Cats-Rescues/152025251532421>