

CHS Communiqué

Parent Student Faculty Association Newsletter

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December 2016

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

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The PSFA also has important PSFA announcements via our email system. **Please take a moment to register online [HERE](#).**

Co-Presidents' Corner

By Janice Quattrocchi (parent of Anthony, Class of 2017) & Jody Sackett (parent of Julianne, Class of 2018)

Are those holiday sleigh bells ringing? No, it's the PSFA's *Mingle & Jingle!* This holiday Meet & Greet, held on Thursday, December 1st at 6:30 in CHS, is open to everyone who loves festive treats, meeting other CHS folks, supporting student clubs, and shopping for CHS-logo swag. Swap cookies at the Cookie Exchange, meet new CHS friends over a luscious cup of cider, and start your holiday shopping at the "CHS Mall." The PSFA is offering baseball caps, cell phone accessories, coffee mugs, flash drives, and lots more with the CHS logo; and many student clubs will have representatives selling fundraising items like sportswear, books, even CCC Breakfast Sales gift cards. Come support our beloved school and have fun doing it.

If you can't attend the *Mingle & Jingle* but still love *CHS Swag*, contact Tammy Perconti at Tperconti@me.com. Many thanks to this freshmen parent for creating our swag line and coordinating ordering & delivery.

The PSFA has already awarded two student club grants this year, the first to the Digital Video team. We're so proud that

they won *two* awards at the national AT&T Film Invitational competition last month! And CHS's newest official club, the Junior States of America debate club, is off and running as well, using the grant to prepare for competitions. Student clubs interested in applying for PSFA grants should complete the *Student Club & Activity Request Form*, found at the PSFA website under Welcome/Forms, and email it to chs.psfa@gmail.com.

The *CHS Coffeehouse* will be held at 6:30 on December 9th in the cafeteria. It's a splendid talent show put on by students that highlights their impressive skills. Parents are welcome, so come see this performance of music, readings, dance, and more.

Our hard-working Hospitality team is busy this month, as always. They will create a holiday wonderland for the *Mingle and Jingle* on December 1st, and ensure a delicious lunch awaits the CHS *Career Day* folks on December 2nd. We are always grateful to chairs Dania Bruneau, Lang Holtz, and Sorca Gill, and to Skills USA for organizing Career Day.

Don't forget to register your student driver-to-be for the *Driver's Ed* class that begins in January. There are still a few spots open, so email Chair Ann Sasso at chs.psfa@gmail.com if you are interested.

Finally, our *Dinner & Gift Auction* team is revving up for their March 25th event at Jumping Brook Country Club. This delightful event is enormous fun to attend; and volunteering to help with it is the *best* way to meet other parents (and find out what CHS is *really* all about!). Many of us have met dear CHS friends this way. Contact Co-Chairs Sharon Jemas at Sjemas@aol.com or Tammy Perconti at Tperconti@me.com if you'd like to volunteer.

Happy Holidays, and see you next year!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

We're excited to announce...
Just in time for the holidays!...
When you shop smile.amazon.com,
a percentage of your purchase
will be donated to the CHS PSFA.

Choose from a variety of products and
help the PSFA earn funds for the
various programs which directly benefit
our students.

First time users should copy and paste this into your browser,
smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3759364 or visit smile.amazon.com,
and select **COMMUNICATIONS HIGH SCHOOL PSFA INC**
as your preferred charity. Your selection will be saved for future purchases.
Thank you for your continued support of the PSFA!

PSFA Annual Donation Campaign



THANK YOU to the many, many generous CHS families that donated funds or volunteered for committees in our recent *Annual Donation Campaign*. The response was wonderful and we are ever so grateful to you all for your support. Donations will be used to directly support CHS programs such as Student Club Grants, scholarships, school assemblies, Day Planners given to all students, education programs like the SAT/ACT reviews and Driver's Ed, busing for field trips, social events like the Beach Bonfire and Color Wars, printed Directories, Teacher Appreciation Week, Bagel Breakfasts before exams, and much more. Volunteers are necessary to make all these events and projects happen, so we are always also so thankful for your donation of time, a most precious commodity. Thanks for helping our beloved school!



Please join us at the PSFA's *Mingle & Jingle*, a **Holiday Meet & Greet, on December 1st at 6:30 pm at CHS.**

This is a splendid opportunity to meet other CHS parents while enjoying festive treats and the celebrations of the season.

Following a *very* brief meeting, there will be lots of fun stuff, such as a Cookie Exchange – just bring 1 or 2 dozen of your favorite cookies to swap with other bakers there; you'll bring home a bag of treats your family will love.

Also available will be our informal "CHS Mall" where you can check out our brand-new CHS logo merchandise (such as flash drives, cinch sacks, coffee mugs, water bottles, travel mugs, fleece blankets, pop sockets and more), as well as fundraising offerings from various CHS student clubs.

You can meet new friends, start your holiday shopping, and support your school – all at the same time!

Now *that's* the holiday spirit!
We hope to see you at CHS on December 1st!





**The Class of 2018
is sponsoring a toy drive to benefit the local
American Red Cross**

The Toy Drive will kick off at the CHS Mingle and Jingle on Thursday evening December 1st.

We will be accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys. This cause is near and dear to one of our students and has become important to the entire junior class. Please read the following from Junior, Felicia Aschettino:

On December 2nd, 2009 at 2:32am, my mom woke up to the smell of smoke. I was nine at the time, and my little sister, Isabella, was only 2 months old. My mom tapped my dad on the shoulder, asking him to look out the window to see why she had smelled smoke. When he opened the blinds, he saw that our entire addition was up in flames. They grabbed my sister, and ran to my room to get me. I remember opening my eyes to my father screaming "Fire! Fire!", as he was yanking me out of bed. I could see the fear in my family's eyes, as we never expected that something like this could happen to us.

Everything else is crystal clear, yet at the same time a blur. It's hard to forget one of the scariest moments of your life. We sat in the car for what seemed like days, waiting for the firefighters to put out the flames. At around 5am, we went to my grandma's house. When we arrived, the Red Cross was there with survival kits, bags of clothes, and everything else we could possibly have needed.

The Red Cross were a huge help to our family. They gave us money, gift cards, clothing, food, water, blankets, pillows, and so much more. They even offered to pay for us to live in a hotel for as long as we needed. We wouldn't have survived without them.

Later in December, my grandma heard a knock at her door. She opened her door to three kids dressed as elves holding bags and bags of presents, that had been donated to the Red Cross to give to my family. Because of the Red Cross, I had a Christmas that year.

My family was the first family to receive gifts from the Operation Santa Run, and since then, the foundation has grown. Last year, I was able to collect, wrap, and deliver toys to kids who have been through the same thing I have, and it was a truly wonderful experience. I was able to see the joy on the children's faces as they unwrapped toys, and could see how thankful they were for this simple act of kindness.

This year, we will be wrapping and hand delivering gifts to children who are victims of house fires and children with parents in the military. The Red Cross is such an amazing organization that has helped millions of people during their time of need, and it would be amazing if you could donate some unopened toys to such a great cause. Thank you.



UNDER THE SEA



Watch for the **13th Annual CHS Dinner and Gift Raffle Invitations January 2017.**

We are looking forward to a wonderful evening and hoping you can join us! Please see below to find out how you can lend a helping hand!

Together Everyone Achieves More! 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, YOU CAN HELP BY:

VOLUNTEERING TO HELP WITH THE EVENT. Volunteers are always needed and so appreciated!

MAKING 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 payable 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 **Saturday, March 25, 2017** at Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, NJ. Mark your calendar & we hope to see you there!

We are in need of gift baskets & frames, kindly consider donating any extras you may have

Please send all donations to the school office, attention "PSFA DGR" or we can pick them up.

Contact us at chsagr1740@gmail.com with any questions.

WISHING YOU A PEACEFUL AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!



Parent Student Faculty Association

1740 New Bedford Road, Wall, NJ 07719-3740

chs.mcvsd.org 732-681-1010

PSFA 13th ANNUAL DINNER and GIFT RAFFLE: UNDER THE SEA

Saturday, March 25, 2017

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 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 17, 2017.** We will be happy to pick up your donation if you prefer.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Jemas: 732-915-2789 or e-mail chsdgr1740@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Communications High School PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle Committee



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

PSFA 13th Annual Dinner and Gift Raffle: Under The Sea
Saturday, March 25, 2017
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 the ads by **Friday, February 17, 2017**. Please make checks payable to: “CHS PSFA Dinner and Gift Raffle”.

For any questions, please contact Sharon Jemas at 732-915-2789 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: _____

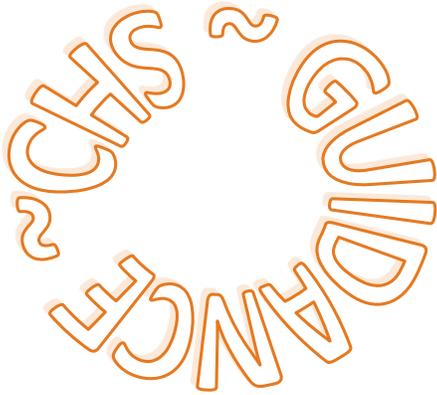
- ___ **Full Page Ad (4 ½ x 7 ½ inches)----- \$100**
- ___ **½ Page Ad (4 ½ x 3 ½ inches)----- \$50**
- ___ **¼ Page Ad (business card – 3 ½ x 2 inches)----- \$25**
- ___ **Booster (3 ½ x 1 inch) - Your own message----- \$20**

Wine & Design



The lively Wine & Design painting fundraiser, held on November 4th, was not only enormous fun for the 35 CHS parents and friends who attended, but also raised over \$500 for the PSFA. Taught by studio artists at Pinot's Palette in Red Bank, the parent-artists each painted a lovely beach scene which they proudly brought home that evening. A splendid variety of appetizers, desserts, and wines was shared by all as the parents had a chance to relax and meet each other over their canvases. All monies raised by the ticket sales and the 50/50 raffle are used to fund student and faculty clubs, events, and projects. Thanks to co-chairs Aphrodite Noone, Hope Raymond, and Jody Sackett for this event. Since everyone had so much fun, the PSFA was asked to make this an annual event..so plan on it again for next fall!





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

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*.

Keep an eye on deadlines and schools that require the CSS Profile: <http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>.

The FAFSA became available October 1st. Professional assistance to complete the FAFSA is available free of charge. Visit <http://njfafsadays.org/> to see a list of locations.

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

Midyear reports will be sent to colleges as soon as grades are finalized. You do not have to fill out a request form. Grades are sent automatically. See your counselor if your school requires first marking period grades.

Sophomores & Juniors: Ready to visit colleges? The New Jersey School Counselors' Association wants to make the process easier for you. These spring open house dates are not all-inclusive, and it's always recommended you register for your visit.

NJ Colleges: <http://njsca.org/college-open-houses>

PA Colleges: <http://njsca.org/pa-open-houses>

DE, DC, MD, NY & VA Colleges: <http://njsca.org/de-dc-md-ny-va-open-houses>

Mark your calendars for our local spring college fairs:

New Jersey National College Fair: April 26-27, 2016 Meadowlands Expo Center,
http://www.njacac.org/index.php?page=committees_national_college_fairs.php

Monmouth County Spring College Fair

April 27, 2017

Brookdale Community College

Ranney College Fair

April 17th from 7:30-9:00

Advice for Freshman: Stay focused on your grades, but don't obsess over them. Get involved. Don't take life so seriously. Avoid drama and gossip. Take time to be still. Popularity should never be your top priority. Don't let your happiness depend on others. Be kind. Follow your passion, and if you don't have one, don't believe that everyone else does. Get to know your school counselor. Be mindful.

Carol Caruso, 732-681-1010 x 3005
ccaruso@ctemc.org

Sandie Gidos, 732-681-1010 x3004
sgidos@ctemc.org



Parent Student Faculty Association

2016/17 Driver Education Written Test Preparation Course

GOOD NEWS! A Driver Education Theory Class will again be made available 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 25th and will run for ten consecutive Wednesdays through March 29th 2017 (weather permitting) from 2:30 until 5:30 pm. 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.** Any student who becomes a discipline problem will be given only one warning. If the problem continues they will be removed from the class without a refund

This is a theory class only- but enrolled students will also take the written DMV test on the last day of this course, a new 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, please contact Luanne, of Just Rite Driving School, directly at 732.534.4688.

Please email chs.psfa@gmail.com if you have any questions or need additional information (You may also contact Just Rite Driving School directly at 732.534.4688). To enroll, please email the following registration info to chs.psfa@gmail.com. The \$150 fee for this course will be collected at the first session.

2016/17 CHS Driver's Written Test Prep Course

Student Name & Age:
Parent Name:
Street Address:
Email Address:
Parent Phone Number:
Chaperone Phone Number (if different):
Preferences of Chaperone Dates (either preferred or unavailable)
Other information: