

CHS Communiqué

Parent Student Faculty Association Newsletter

Volume Eighteen, Issue 6



January 2018

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

Beth Chunn
newsletterchs@yahoo.com

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

<https://www.facebook.com/CHS.PSFA>
[@ ComHS_MCVSD](#)

Submissions are welcome.

Co-Presidents' Corner

By Jody Sackett (parent of Julianne, Class of 2018) and Laura Andersen (parent of Julianna, Class of 2019)

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year to all! As we begin 2018, we look forward to continuing to work with the students, parents, and faculty of CHS to support an outstanding environment for learning.

Over 150 folks attended our second annual *Mingle & Jingle*, which was a huge success and enjoyed by all. Over 16 student clubs and organizations participated, including lively performances by our Drama Club and CHS Chorus, selling CHS swag & sportswear, collecting toys for the Red Cross, selling club fundraisers, games, crafts, and lots more. Many thanks to all the parents, students, and faculty who made this event possible, especially the Parent Student Activities committee for their hard work, and Hospitality Chairs Gayle Topper and Lynn Shuling for arranging the tasty treats and Cookie Swap. A festive time was had by all.

If you want to recover from the holidays by kicking back and relaxing with a good book, come join the PSFA's *CHS Parents' Book Club*. This friendly

club meets once a month at members' homes to read and discuss current selections. Join us by emailing the group at chs.psfa@gmail.com.

The first-ever *CHS Alumni Homecoming* was held on December 28th at CHS, organized by the PSFA's creative and industrious Alumni Committee, with help from Parent-Student Activities and Hospitality. We are enormously indebted to Chairs Vivien Cheng and Mary Ellen Landolfi, who worked for months on this event, which was an overwhelming success as over 90 grads returned for conversation, games, tours, and brunch. No one wanted to leave, and already alumni are eagerly awaiting Homecoming 2018.

The lovely CHS *Winter Ball* will be held on Friday, January 5th. Students, wearing gorgeous dresses and elegant suits, will dance the night away in a beautifully-transformed CHS cafeteria. What a marvelous way to start the winter!

Mark your calendars for the 14th Annual **Dinner & Gift Raffle: All That Glitters**, to be held on Saturday evening, April 14th at the Jumping Brook Golf Club in Neptune. Invitations will be mailed soon, so keep an eye out! Be sure to RSVP early and take advantage of our Early Bird Special. This event, the PSFA's

main fundraiser, provides the capital to enrich our children's education with events and programs offered throughout the year, and we need you to make it a success. Please come! The proceeds from the Dinner/Gift Raffle will go toward class trips, Color Wars Barbeque, school-wide events, Bagel Breakfasts, graduation expenses, and much more. Please also consider making a donation, or volunteering to wrap baskets, solicit donations, or set up the event. It's a fun and fabulous way to meet CHS parents. For more info or to sign up, email our Chairpersons Sharon Jemas and Louise Krall at DGR@chs-psfa.org.

Wondering what's going on at CHS? Don't forget to check out the **PSFA's Facebook Page**, which is a wealth of information!

CHS will be hosting its annual **Driver's Education Course** this winter beginning Wednesday, January 10th. Registered students should bring the \$150 fee to the first class (or contact Just Rite ahead of time to arrange a credit card payment). The class will run for 10 consecutive weeks. Please contact chair Ronnett Sagman at chs.psfa@gmail.com for a late registration or with any questions.

Final exams will be held on January 25th and 26th. Once again, our energetic Hospitality Committee is ready to provide their nutritious Bagel Breakfast for all students, on both mornings, to help them do well on these important tests. Many thanks for the brainfood!

College questions? CHS scheduling questions about next year? Come to a **Parent Chat session on February 1st at 7:00 pm** in the CHS cafeteria (just prior to our regular 7:30pm PSFA meeting), where you can ask experienced upper-class parents questions about the college admission process. Our March Parent Chat session (on March 1st) will discuss course selections for CHS electives (including APs, etc.). Come join us as parents share their communal knowledge.

A joyful 2018 to all, and see you around CHS!



Like Us On Facebook

BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE CHS PSFA ON FACEBOOK FOR NEWS AND HAPPENINGS AT SCHOOL AND BEYOND!

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CHS.PSFA/](https://www.facebook.com/chs.psfa/)



CHS Driver's Ed Test Preparation

DATES: WEEKLY, JANUARY 10 – MARCH 21, 2018

TIME: 2:30-5:30PM

COST: \$150

AVAILABLE TO: AGE 15 AND OVER

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 age 15 and older. The purpose of the course is to prepare for the NJ MVC written test. Bob Estler, of Just Rite Driving School will instruct students on basic principles of driving and the rules of the road. The cost is \$150.

The class will start on Wednesday, Jan 10, 2018 and will run for 10 weeks through Wednesday, March 21 weather permitting (there's no class on Wednesday January 24). The class will be from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. 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.

This is a theory class only, but enrolled students will also take the written MVC test on the last day of the course. 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 eligibility.

'Behind the Wheel' training is a separate course. Just Rite Driving School offers six-hour behind the wheel instructions at a discount for CHS students enrolled in the A Driver Education Theory Class. For 'Behind the Wheel' registration, please contact Luanne, of Just Rite Driving School at 732-534-4688.

If you would like to enroll or need additional information, please email ronit_sagman@yahoo.com.

If you would like to enroll in the class, please send an email with the following info:

Student Name: _____

Student Age: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Address: _____

Parent Phone Number: _____

Chaperone Phone Number (if Different): _____

Preferences of Chaperone Dates (either preferred or unavailable): _____



Grade-by-Grade Tips

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START PLANNING AND PREPARING FOR COLLEGE.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR EVERY GRADE.

PSAT Results were distributed to students in December. Take the time to go over the paper report, but also be aware of the additional features available with the online report. PSAT results can be used to put together personalized SAT practice plan. Click [here](#) to learn how to connect your College Board and Khan Academy accounts.

Students Taking English 4, Spanish 4, Advanced Design, or Calculus Semester Two are eligible to purchase Seton Hall credits. We will be going into the classrooms to introduce the dual enrollment program. Instructions and information can be found here: <http://chsguidancedept.blogspot.com/p/seton-hall-credit-instructions.html>.

CHS will be participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) testing on Wednesday, February 21, 2018. NAEP is often called the "Nation's Report Card." It is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in core subjects. NAEP is congressionally mandated, and was first administered in 1969 to measure student achievement nationally. Teachers, principals, parents, policymakers, and researchers all use NAEP results to assess progress and develop ways to improve education in the United States. Fifty seniors were randomly selected to participate in this important assessment. Here is [a short video](#) if you would like to learn more.

Mark your calendars for our local spring college fairs on April 25th and 26th.
<http://chsguidancedept.blogspot.com/p/college-fairs.html>.

College is a costly venture and local scholarships can help, but only if you apply:
<http://www.monmouthcountyscholarships.com>

Thank you to the PSFA for enabling us to welcome back Dr. Michael Fowlin on December 11th. His presentation was thought provoking, inspiring and concluded with a standing ovation. Many of our students stood in line to meet him and to thank him for his message of hope and healing.

Seniors: Midyear reports will be mailed to your colleges as soon as grades are available. This is done automatically through the guidance office. This is a good time to clean up your Naviance account to reflect only the colleges you have applied to.

Please bring in your college response letters. You can record your results in your Naviance account by clicking on the pencil icon under *Colleges I'm Applying To* tab. Fill in the result in the drop down box. Cafeteria flags go up after we receive your letters of acceptance in the guidance office.

Unknown
 waitlisted
 deferred

- Accepted
- Denied
- Guaranteed Transfer
- Conditional Accept
- January Admit
- Summer Admit
- Withdrawn
- No decision
- Incomplete

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*.

scholarship applications

Name	App Status	Result	\$ Awarded
A. J. Drexel Scholarship	Submitted	Awarded	\$79,800
RIT Presidential	Submitted	Awarded	\$52,000

Sophomores: Save the date for our parent night, March 28th, 2018. You will receive parent access to your own Naviance account as well as learn how to help your child with the college planning process.

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.



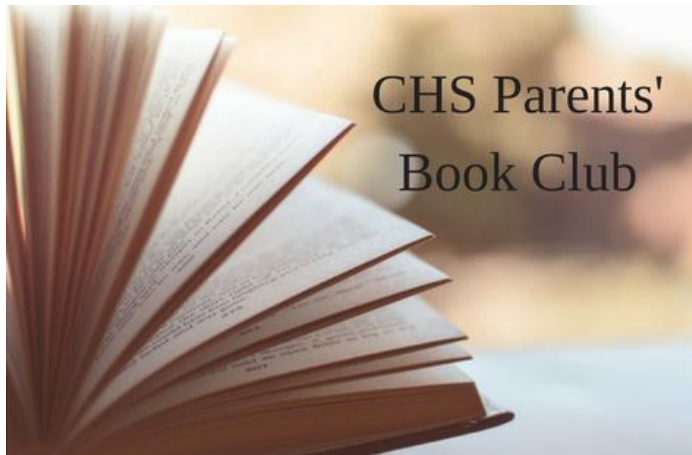
Thank You for Coming!

OVER 150 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE 2ND ANNUAL *MINGLE & JINGLE* FEATURING STUDENT CLUBS, PERFORMANCES AND REFRESHMENTS!

There was abundant laughter, applause, singing, munching, and shopping at the delightful 2nd Annual *Mingle & Jingle* held last month. Over 150 folks celebrated the joys of the season together at this festive event at CHS. The Drama Club and the CHS Chorus stole our hearts with their engaging performances, and spontaneous dancing erupted to many holiday songs. Luscious cookies were swapped and tasty treats consumed at the enormous refreshment tables. Mini-gingerbread houses were created and lavishly decorated. Toys were collected for the American Red Cross to help those less fortunate. Lots of pix were taken at the Selfie Station. Over 16 student clubs and grades sold fundraisers, including breakfast gift cards from the Cultural Communications Club, bookmarks and issues by the Literary Magazine and Student Book Club, original artistic pins by the National Art Honor Society, shirts by the National Honor Society, swag and sportswear by the PSFA, photos by the Photo Club, games, and much more. The camaraderie was fabulous. Thanks to all who made this fantastic event possible!

See pictures from the event on the following page!





Monthly Book Club

LOVE READING? DISCUSSING A FASCINATING BOOK?

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT REALLY GOES ON AT CHS?

JOIN US! *ADULTS ONLY – WINE WILL BE SERVED*

The CHS Parents' Book Club is an informal opportunity for parents to gather once a month and discuss books and CHS. Books are unanimously chosen by members, and we take turns meeting at each other's homes, the beach, or casual restaurants. We have a wonderful time! If you are interested in joining this very casual but very friendly group, please email the PSFA at chs.psfa@gmail.org.



Wish You Had Some Guidance?

GET INSIGHTS FROM UPPER-CLASS PARENTS!

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2018

TIME: 7:00PM

LOCATION: CHS CAFETERIA

Wondering about the college application and selection process? Come to the February 1st Parent Chat Session! Upper-class parents and faculty will be there to share their insights on SAT/ACT tests, when to start college tours, Common App essays, selecting colleges, scholarships, majors, and much more. The regular PSFA meeting will begin at 7:30 in the same place, so we hope you'll stay too (you won't even have to change your seats!).

Spoiler Alert: The Parent Chat topic for our March session will be Selecting CHS Electives. Come learn about AP classes, the many electives, mentorship, and more.



Dedicated to Community

DECEMBER IS ALWAYS ONE OF THE *BUSIEST* MONTHS OF THE YEAR FOR THE CULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS CLUB, BUT IT IS ALSO ONE OF THE *MOST REWARDING* ONES.



Throughout the month, the CCC held six Barnes and Noble events in Howell. Students volunteered to gift-wrap presents for the holidays and collected donations for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Although one of the events had to be cancelled due to a snowstorm, the students made the best out of it and still worked extremely hard during the other shifts.

On December 2nd, the CCC assisted Allaire Community Farm's Christmas Event. Two students dressed as Mary and Joseph for the live nativity, while the others wore holiday hats and managed the petting zoos.



On December 7th, the CCC attended the 2nd annual Mingle and Jingle at CHS. Club officers Veronica Yaron, Maura DeRose, and Sebrina Gao ran the table, which featured Señora Campbell's burritos, Allaire Community Farm petting zoo vouchers, and CCC Breakfast Sales gift cards. Students and their parents were able to learn about the club and donate to St. Jude throughout the night.

On December 15th, children from Head Start came over to enjoy a holiday program at CHS! Head Start is a non-profit organization that promotes school readiness for children under age 5 from low-income families through education, health, social and other services. Throughout the month, CCC members donated play-doh, notebooks, crayons, and stickers to prepare for the special day. The program featured eight CHS student performances. The children sang along with the singers, clapped with the dancers, and laughed as holiday stories were read.

Santa paid a special visit to the children as well, and he gave the gifts that the CCC had donated and packaged. At the end of the event, CHS senior Andy Wang gathered the children and made a collage of their hands by tracing them with markers. The artwork, titled “Hands 4 Head Start”, was a gift to the teachers. The event was a success, and watching the children smile was the greatest reward.

The CCC is looking forward to a great new year! We will be helping the Special Olympics Bowling Event in February, and as usual, there will be breakfast sales every Friday in the cafeteria. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us. Cheers to a new year!



Save the Date
ANNUAL DINNER & GIFT RAFFLE
THEME: ALL THAT GLITTERS
DATE: APRIL 14, 2018
LOCATION: JUMPING BROOK COUNTRY CLUB

Join us at Jumping Brook Country Club on April 14th, 2018.

We need you to help us help our students by supporting our school’s largest fundraiser of the year. Here are some ways you can help! (Visit <http://chs-psfa.org/support-the-psfa/dinner-and-gift-auction-2018/> for more details.)

Donate items for the gift raffle. We are looking for almost anything. Gift cards, or a gift that just wasn’t for you, sport, theatre, entertainment tickets or an unused timeshare.

Chip in with friends to purchase a large ticket item on our “**Wish List**” (*see following page for “Wish List” items*) OR **make a monetary donation** and we will do the shopping for you! Items can be dropped off at the CHS Main Office, brought to the next PSFA meeting or e-mail Sharon or Louise at the e-mail address below to arrange for pick-up.

Please and thank you for any **gift baskets** you received over the holidays and now have no use for. We can use any size! They can be brought to the CHS Main Office or we will gladly pick them up.

Solicit your local or favorite business for gift certificates, services or goods. Ask your favorite salon, bakery, restaurant theatre, gymanywhere! Visit <http://chs-psfa.org/support-the-psfa/dinner-and-gift-auction-2018/> for the letter to give the establishment.

Place an ad in our Dinner and Gift Raffle program. Advertising specifications and pricing details are available at <http://chs-psfa.org/support-the-psfa/dinner-and-gift-auction-2018/>.

Volunteer your time to help wrap baskets before the event or help out the night of the DGR or both! Sign-up will be forthcoming, or any/all wrappers can contact Hope Raymond 908-256- 3114. We need volunteers!

The Invitations to our **CHS families**, and the **Alumni** will be going out soon, RSVP to come and enjoy a good time! Keep in mind, every reservation postmarked by March 16th, will receive 15 Crystal tier one raffle tickets. We will also be auctioning off preferred seating for Graduation along with some wonderful prizes!

Remember, you have to be there to win!

Thank you again for your help to support our children! It is truly a wonderful night of friends, family, dinner and gifts! Please consider helping any way you can and we'll be looking forward to seeing you on April 14th, 2018!

Sharon Jemas & Louise Krall
Co-chairs of the Dinner Gift Raffle Committee Event Team
<mailto:chsdr1740@gmail.com>

"All That Glitters" WISH LIST

We appreciate your help to make our event even more successful with your donations! To help with this process we have provided suggestions below in order to make our event abundant with great & attractive prizes! Any additional items are welcome!

They can be brought to the CHS Main Office or we will gladly pick them up, please contact Louise Krall or Sharon Jemas at chsdr1740@gmail.com

Appliances/Cookware

- 17-pc set Farberware High Performance Nonstick... *\$59.00 - \$99.00
- Ronco Ready Grill... *\$31.68 - \$39.00
- Ninja Master Prep Pro System Crush, Blend, Chop ... *\$38.99 - \$49.99
- Cuisinart Mini-Prep Plus Processor... *\$39.99
- Cuisinart - DCC-3400 12-Cup Programmable Thermal Coffeemaker... *\$107.11

Outdoors

- Yeti Tundra 45 Cooler, Desert Tan... *\$299.00 - \$349.00
- Ladies Electra Beach Cruiser... **\$150.00 - \$249.00
- Men's Electra Beach Cruiser... **\$225.00
- Force1 Discovery or Rogue Drone with HD Camera (for beginners)... *\$99.00 - \$149.95
- Weber Kettle Grill... *\$99.00 - \$149.00

* *Available at this price*

Electronics

- Apple Watch Series 3... \$329.00 - \$399.00
- Apple MacBook Air 13.3" Display (i5, 8GB Memory, 128 GB Flash Storage)... *, **\$999.00
- Amazon Echo(2nd Generation) connects to Alexa voice, plays music, control smart home devices, makes hands free calls... *\$79.00 - \$89.00
- Amazon Fire HD 10 - 10.1 Tablet... \$99.00 - *\$149.99
- Apple - AirPods... \$159.99
- Beats Wired Headphones... *\$99.95
- Sonos Play 3 (wireless speakers)... *\$249.00
- iRobot-Roomba 690 (WiFi)... *\$324.00
- Microsoft xbox- One x 1TB Gaming Console... *\$499.00
- Apple iPad Mini 4 Rose Gold (128GB, WiFi)... \$364.69 - *\$399.00
- Nintendo - Switch 32 GB console... *\$299.00
- GoPro HERO 5 Session - 4K video action camera, WiFi & bluetooth ... *\$249.00 - \$299.00
- Kindle paperwhite... \$89.00 - *\$119.00
- Sony Wireless Headphones... *\$69.95 - \$228.99

** *DGR Committee will purchase this item for you*



Thanks for Coming!

OVER 90 CHS ALUMNI FROM THE CLASS OF 2004-ON AND THEIR GUESTS ATTENDED THE FIRST-EVER ALUMNI HOMECOMING!

HUGE KUDOS TO VIVIEN CHENG AND MARY ELLEN LANDOLFI FOR COORDINATING THIS INAUGURAL EVENT!



Over 90 CHS alums and their guests came for the first-ever Alumni Homecoming last month. Funded by the PSFA, and organized by the energetic Alumni Committee, with help from the Parent-Student Activities and Hospitality committees, the event was a huge success as graduates from the first Class of 2004 onward arrived to share their stories and explore changes at the current school.

In the blue and silver festively-decorated cafeteria, the guests and faculty enjoyed an expansive brunch, games, selfie booth, swag sales, and a basket raffle.

Mr. Gleason gave a school tour to eager alums who were amazed at the changes. Friendships were re-ignited, new acquaintances formed, and NHS volunteers enjoyed interviewing the grads to learn about life in the early days of CHS.

See more pics on the following page!



