

COMMACK MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA
Minutes of Meeting Held February 15, 2024

- I. **Call to order:** 9:30 a.m. Pledge
- II. **Approval of Jan-24 Minutes** – Approved
- III. **Principal’s Report – Dr. Larson**
 - Winter Carnival was a great success especially with having the primary schools come earlier and the older kids coming later on.
 - 25 Dollars was the ticket price for the carnival and it included all activities and games. Price may have seen steep but things are expensive but we still ran the event at a loss. We try to make it as affordable as possible and we are looking into other options to keep the price down.
 - Thank you to the Student Government for putting on this great event.
 - World language week is coming up on March 4th- 8th. Students are invited to attend activities after school March 6th & 7th. No sign up is required to participate.
 - Little Mermaid is in full development and the kids have been working so hard. Performances will be held on March 16th and 17th. Come and support them and see the show!
 - The students will see the play in an abbreviated version during school hours and Sawmill students will be invited to see the play as well during the day. The March 16th performance will be held at 7pm and the March 17th performance will be a matinee.
- IV. **Vice Principal’s Report – Mr. Agovino & Ms. Martin – Nothing to Report**
- V. **Vice President’s Report – Jennifer Engheben & Linda De’Angelis – Nothing to Report**
- VI. **Treasurer’s Report – Noel Darvassy** - \$32,000 in account and all bills have been paid.
- VII. **Correspondence – Alexandra Tsiolis – Nothing to Report**
- VIII. **Presidents Report – Marta Sliwska**
 - Book Fair will be May 20th-23rd
 - 8th Grade lawn sign presale will be open until 4/30
 - 8th grade T-shirt gifted by PTA is in production and should be ready soon.
 - The nominating committee chair is Robi Bart. Please send nominations to her.
- IX. **Student Council Report –**
 - Student government had the carnival on Friday that was a great success.
 - Spirit week is coming up March 11-15th and we are working on planning the themes for those days.
 - We are currently planning the 8th grade bbq and dance which will be held on June 7th and 10th.
 - Gold and White night will be ordering shirts soon and you can still join in time to get a shirt if you have not already.
 - Parents are invited to attend the event in April from 7-9pm.
- X. **Standing Committee Reports**
 - **Arts in Ed – Tracy Decena – Nothing to report**
 - **Board of Education Report – Heather Gordon**
 - Multicultural day is May 18th and we are still looking for family recipes. Please send them in and all info is on the district website. They are looking to make a district recipe book with all the recipes they receive.

- The next BOE meeting is on March 14th and we will start the budget discussion workshops. If you have something to say about the budget you need to go to the workshop meetings.
- **Health and Safety – Jenn Engheben**
 - Security reports – no major issues; stop the bleed kits are ordered and being distributed; additionally, tourniquets.
 - Reviewed lockout incident – discussed protocols, what to improve/what to continue. We will be discussing with admin and will make modifications based on incident result.
 - Ms. Newman – purchasing frozen yogurt machines for CMS/CHS – dairy foundation to come back and do another dairy day.
 - Ms. Oshran – In the process of finalizing district-wide Workplace Violence Prevention Program and related requirements. More info to follow at the next meeting.
 - Lipenholtz - Police presence increase – part of a county-wide initiative to build/strengthen relationship with schools. This is appreciated from the staff/admins point of view
 - Debbie Virga – NARCAN training will take place during the Parent University on 2/29@CHS
- **Membership** – please sign up to support CMS Community
- **Nutrition – Candace Scherrbelis**
 - On national “Hot Chocolate Day” whitsons included in CHS a French toast bar including bacon or sausages, fruit toppings etc.
 - Looking into upgrading equipment for CMS to include smoothies, soft serve, waffle machines etc.
 - Payments for unpaid lunch balances is imperative to keep accounts current
 - Working on Free lunch day and a possibility of “Ravioli Day” in the month of March
 - In addition to fruits that are currently included with lunches, whitsons would like to offer in the near future exotic fruits such as papaya, dragon fruit, guava etc.
- **PTA Council Report -Jenn Engheben – Nothing to Report**
- **SBMT – Nazia Khan**
 - Health & Wellness Day was on Thursday February 29th. We had 19 presenters. Each class attended two sessions. One session was physical activity and one session was a lecture.
 - Spring Charity Fundraiser “Drive for Dana”
 - 1. We will have a guest speaker, Nick, on April 30th to launch this fundraiser. All classes will attend and assembly to learn about the “Drive for Dana” initiative. The Adventure Race will take place on May 17th.
 - Spring Reading and Writing Initiative
 - 1. Some suggestions for the Spring Reading & Writing Initiative were shared. Event will possibly be in June.
- **SEPTA – Nazia Khan**
 - Looking to host Kindness Festival in April @ CMS
- **Multicultural Committee**
 - Looking for recipe submissions for their first cookbook. The cookbook will be created by CHS students using the new platform Book Creator. We appreciate your submissions. Please scan the QR code on the flyer.
 - The multicultural fair will be on May 11th from 12-3pm at Commack Middle School. There will be Flamenco dancers performing, games and lots of fun activities for students.
 - The committee is always looking for new parent members. If you are interested please email Lisa DeRienzo at lderienzo@commack.k12.ny.us

XI. **Adjournment** – Next meeting will be on **Thursday, March 21st at 9:30am via zoom**

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:30 AM.

Upcoming Events: 2/19 – 2/23 Winter Break

Respectfully submitted by,
Desiree Carbonaro