

**COMMACK MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA**  
Minutes of Meeting Held January 18, 2024

- I. **Call to order:** 9:30 a.m. Pledge
- II. **Approval of November-23 Minutes** – Approved
- III. **Principal’s Report – Dr. Larson**
  - Grade 5-6 parent orientation took place last night.
  - We do this because the parents start to get nervous about what to expect for their children coming into the middle school and this helps explain to them about the course selection process.
  - There were about 250-300 parents that showed up and the parents rotated through 5 different venues that explain and go over the different classes, clubs and activities that are offered.
  - This event is about 2 hours long in total. We are always looking for feedback when we run events like this to see how we can improve them if necessary.
- IV. **Assistant Principal’s Report – Mr. Agovino & Ms. Martin**
  - **Ms. Martin**
    - We are already in the process of scheduling for next year.
    - 6<sup>th</sup> graders have an enrichment course they can choose
    - 7<sup>th</sup> graders also choose an enrichment course and choose an art course
    - The 5<sup>th</sup> grade window is opening and they will get to choose their world language course and their technology course.
    - Report cards will be posted on February 2<sup>nd</sup> for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.
    - Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students scheduling options will be closing on 1/26.
    - Family Stem Night is on 1/25 from 6-8pm and is open to all middle school students and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students as well. This is great event that showcases math and science activities.
    - 2/9 is P. S. I Love You Day which is a day that is themed for spreading kindness. Students are encouraged to wear purple that day.
- 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** –
  - Students who get high honor roll and honor roll want to know if they get any recognition.
    - Dr. Larson said that they are currently working on this and are making certificates to be given out at the end of the year.
- VIII. **Presidents Report – Marta Sliwska**
  - T-shirts for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders are in the works.
  - There will possibly be an increase in the amount that we pay for dues. The current price is \$8.50 but we may increase the amount to \$10 that would go into effect in July. This is to stay ahead of the possible National Dues increase of \$1.50. We will take a vote on this at our next meeting.
- IX. **Student Council Report** –
  - Yearbook
    - 1/31 is the last day to place your order for an add
    - 1/19 is the last day to submit your family bonding pictures
    - 1/30 is the deadline to have your yearbook personalized with your name and add icons
    - The price of the yearbook will be going up to \$55 on 2/1.

- The Leaders Club formed teams for the gold and white night.
- T-shirt designs for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade shirts are due by 2/6.
- NJHS is preparing for Dr. Seuss Day where they will go and visit the Rolling Hills Students.
- Student Government is working on the carnival that is coming up.
  - Tickets will be \$25 and there will be a discount if you have a GO Card
  - The price will include all games and activities being held at the carnival
  - We are looking into putting together raffle baskets for the event
- We are in the process of holding 6<sup>th</sup> grade elections to join student government

#### X. **Standing Committee Reports**

- **Arts in Ed – Tracy Decena – Nothing to report**
- **Board of Education Report – Heather Gordon – No BOE Report Received**
- **Founder’s Day – Paola Aspromonti**
  - The Founder’s Day Celebration will be held on 2/1 @CMS from 6-8pm.
  - Donations for our Coffee Themed Raffle Basket are still needed
- **Health and Safety – Jenn Engheben**
  - Staffing, Mr. Oshrin – GSN training ongoing, hiring monitors at HS for safety/sec
  - Capital Projects – Mr. Palopoli
    1. Playgrounds at Wood Park and Rolling Hills to be worked on in the spring due to materials not able to cure below 40/50.
    2. Pickleball courts updated – concrete has to set for 60 days before they are able to be painted.
    3. HVAC and fire alarm systems are being updated in all buildings.
  - Security – Mr. Guiffre
    1. Security assessments were revised with SCPD. There are no major concerns.
    2. Nurses had stop the bleed training and kit deliveries were scheduled.
    3. Reviewing anti-semetic; after recent shooting – reviewing safest protocols to release people after a life-threatening event.
    4. There was a discussion of nurses treating/releasing off-site accidents
  - Technology – M. Pulliam
    1. Adding MFA (multi-factor authentication when logging in) for infinite campus in January for staff (this will not affect guardian or student login)
  - Drills/Procedures – Ms. Newman
    1. New placard for ERP for all offices
    2. Demonstrated emergency protocol when angry guardian becomes a safety concern to students; there was an incident at Burr
    3. Outside vendors doing electrical work
- **Membership – please sign up to support CMS Community**
- **Nutrition – Candace Scherrbelis**
  - A lot of students participated in free lunch day
  - There is a \$26,000 lunch balance deficit as of November 29<sup>th</sup> for the school district. This is a National Issue.
  - We are on track to reach \$100,000 deficit by the end of the school year which is twice as much as last year.
  - Pay your lunch balances!
- **PTA Council Report -Jenn Engheben**
  - Superintendent Report
    1. Russo – Visit from CHS to CMS, CMS night at CHS
  - Community Relations

- 1. Commack Chamber of Commerce meeting on 1/16 @6pm at the library
- Treasurer Report
  - 1. Founder's Day checks/paperwork due
- Presidents Report
  - 1. Vote on bylaws
  - 2. If people complain regarding health/medical issues – direct back to the building
- Committees
  - 1. AIE – KidsArt – contact us for card
  - 2. Community Relations – Hoop Dragon/Yankee Events will be live in memberhub
- District Action
  - 1. Freight Train – Decision is in the hands of local decision makers; look out for petition
- Founder's Day
  - 1. CMS Café this year. Send bios/thank you's/basket theme basket due 1/26
    - a. Need help with setup/takedown – email Heather
- REACH
  - 1. Community Service at Teen Center at Old Farms on Fridays
  - 2. Babysitting workshop flyer coming soon
  - 3. Cause club awarded a grant – allow them to provide
- Scholarship
  - 1. STEAM scholarship applications are due on Friday
- SEPTA
  - 1. Next Meeting at Cedar Rd.
  - 2. Share the Love – date not finalized
- Website – Brenda is retiring
- **SMBT – Nazia Khan – Next meeting is 1/23**
- **SEPTA – Nazia Khan –Nothing to Report**

XI. **Adjournment** – Next meeting will be on **Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am via zoom**

***THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!***

**MEETING ADJOURNED 10:30 AM.**

Upcoming Events:      MP2 ends 1/26/24  
                                  NYSSMA Piano Festival – sign up ends 1/26/24

Respectfully submitted by,  
 Desiree Carbonaro