Commack PTA Council Executive Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 8:04 pm. President Diana Michel presiding.

The pledge was said.

Superintendent: Dr. James:

- School opening went well, with some transportation glitches. Drivers have been asked to time their routes so as not to arrive too early at school. Bus pickup times may change. Explained Idle Laws.
- Facilities opened well, athletics are off to a good start.
- 9/12 – Safety/Security meeting – We have hired Covert Investigations to review all safety protocol. They will spend a month in our buildings; should be complete in about six weeks. There will be public presentations. We will see how our plan compares to other districts. The community will hear their recommendations. We should hear their report at the November Board meeting.

Mrs. Ryan:

- ID badges are working well at CHS.
- We should receive an email about updating info on the Parent Portal. Eventually we will not need to fill out the white emergency contact info cards.
- Most of the new teacher websites are available.

Board of Ed: Steve Hartman:

- Summer was busy, appointing new staff.
- September board meeting – a presentation was given describing the role of a Board member. Presentation is online in the video section of the Commack website.
- All BOE meetings are able to be viewed live from the district website.

Treasurer's Report:

General Fund:

Share Draft Checking	$ 42,510.15
Savings	$ 18,583.29
Total	$ 61,093.44

The books were audited, and all was found to be in order.

June Minutes: Were reviewed and stand approved, with one correction: Rebecca Ben-Ezra had been left off the executive committee member list as Second VP.

Correspondence: Last year's scholarship recipients sent thoughtful thank you notes.

Community Relations—D. Virga

- The 17th 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony was successful and was dedicated to Chris Raguso and Dr. Guttenberg.
- 10/27 – Commack Coalition for Caring 5k at CHS.
- Red Ribbon Week – giving out bookmarks to primary and intermediate students.
- Email Debbie Virga with events that will need high school volunteers for CSIP.

President's Report:

Good evening. Welcome back, I hope that everyone enjoyed their summers and had a smooth first week of school. Please make sure if you haven't signed the attendance sheet to please do so after the meeting.

I would like to thank Nicole Perez for putting together the budget for this year.

There are still several slots open on council committees, if you would like to get more involved or know good people to recommend, please let me know after the meeting. We are still looking for people for Budget/BOE, District Action Awareness (ed./Adv/leg).

Everyone should have received an email invite for this meeting, if you did not, please see me after the meeting. Please make sure that your websites are updated with your current officer information, including executive board contacts, forms with current dates, By laws etc.…

All presidents should now be receiving email updates from NYS PTA and National PTA. Please take a moment to read through these emails. They are very quick and often include links to valuable information. For example, I have some flyers that were recently emailed from National PTA. They have info for all grade levels. Take a minute and try to have them available at your meetings or email them to your distribution lists.

Sept. is bus safety month, printed bus safety facts from Suffolk PTA website also emailed to all.

Memberhub is up and running for all units. NYS PTA has tons of YouTube videos and tutorials for anyone who needs to learn how to use memberhub. There are so many possibilities. Please take the time to learn it and use it.

All PTA budgets should be presented (have copies available) at September PTA meetings for approval. All checks must have 2 signatures!! If not signed correctly you put your unit in jeopardy with Aim insurance.

Every year we ask PTA units to write up goals and priorities for the year, they will be due at the October Roundtable meeting.

Superintendent liaisons dates: emailed to all units, please include your officers in these meetings. Please make sure your agenda is sent to Dr. James office a day before the meeting.

President's Round tables: PTA Presidents Welcome Meeting - **September 28 10:00 Hubbs bagels**.
PTA Presidents Roundtable Meetings: October **23; February 25; and May 1**.
All are at **Hubbs at 12 noon-3 and lunch will be served.**

Dates to Remember:
9/14 PTA Council AIE meeting @ WP at 9:30am
9/19 Yom Kippur school closed
9/28 – Suffolk PTA AIE showcase at N Babylon HS—previously sent info to presidents and arts in ed chairs
10/1 – Next council mtg 7:30

<u>Committee Reports</u>

Arts in Ed: First meeting is Friday at Wood Park@ 9:30am

Budget: Need a budget rep.

Disabilities Awareness: No report.

District Action Awareness:

- NYSPTA.org has two actions against sale of flavored e-cigarettes, which are marketed towards children.

Environmental:

- The Heartland project would like to add 9,000 apartments and create a mini city in our area. Visit stopheartland.org. 9/17 – Four Towns meeting at Commack Library.
- Henry St./Commack Rd – 1 acre was zoned residential, has been changed to Neighborhood Business (NB), for a 7-11 and gas station.
- Cracker Barrel – Town of Smithtown says no application has been submitted for this.

Founder's Day:

- Booking soon, will send info to units next month.

Health, Safety & Transportation:

- Our June blood drive helped 150 people.
- We need more volunteers the day of the blood drives; the blood drives are a Council community giveback event. Each unit should be helping and must have a rep. present
- This year's blood drives are 11/13 at Sawmill, from 1:00-7:00 and 6/5 at Burr from 1:00-7:00.

Nutrition:

- PTA Presidents – Please send names of your reps to Janine DiGirolamo and April Haupt.
- Remind units that registration is required every year for Free and Reduced Lunch program. The applications are on the school lunch page, same place as the lunch menus. This is anonymous.

Photography:

- Picture Days are booked and on the district calendar. Dates are on the calendars for grader K-5, any issues or concerns please email lindafraney1@aol.com

Reach CYA:

- Summer programs were successful.
- Babysitter Training – Mondays from 10/15 to 11/5 at CMS. Winter and spring training to be offered also.
- After school Friday Fun and Games – 2:45-3:30, starting 10/12 at CMS.
- Info will be on Backpack News when Building Use Forms are approved.
- Teen Rec Center at Old Farms School will run Fridays, 4-6pm starting October 12th. CMS students are invited to participate in community service projects, creative arts and fun activities. Must reserve a spot. Calendar should be on Backpack news soon.

Scholarship:

- All ten scholarships have been paid.
- Planned fundraisers include Macy's, Modell's, and Pampered Chef.

SEPTA:

- On June 12, 2018 we had our SEPTA dinner and Dr. Keingstein installed our new officers.
- Our first Executive Committee meeting was held in August.
- We also wanted to remind all about our Holiday & Craft Boutique on Wednesday November 14th at High School Cafeteria at 6:00 PM. Just let us know if any tables are needed for your Schools PTA's and we also appreciate any basket Donations or Sprit- wear you can provide us for our raffles.
- Our first General meeting will be held at Wood Park Thursday September 20, 2018 7:00PM. All are welcome.
- We look forward to seeing everyone in the upcoming weeks at our various schools' Open houses

Social Media:

- We have a Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Commack-PTA-Council-139115042900131/
- We have a Twitter https://twitter.com/cmk_pta_council

Teacher Representative – Ms. Wynn

- Smooth school opening last week.
- Tuesdays are CTA black and yellow spirit days.
- CTA is a sponsor of the CCC run on 10/27.
- Tomorrow is Primary Day in NY – please vote!

Website:

- PTA Council has a "teacher page", working on updating.
- Brenda will meet with website reps from each school and can create PTA pages for each unit.

School Based Management: No report, have not met yet.

New Business:

- Need one representative from each unit for the Council Dossier committee.
    - CHS – Lisa Silverman
    - CMS – Lisa Monte
    - Burr – Tiffany Carollo
    - MSIS – TBD
    - NR – Paula Montaldo
    - IH – Kate Van de Berghe
    - WP – Tonia Lopes
    - RH – TBD
    - SEPTA – TBD

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 pm. Next meeting is October 1, 7:30pm at Hubbs.