

**CHS/CSHS PTO**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**September 12, 2017**

PTO members in attendance: See sign in sheet  
Call to order by Kathy Rodgers at 10:05

**Principal Reports:**

**Mr. Duhon (CSHS)**

- Arena scheduling working great for students and counselors
- 1,355 students= 640 Seniors and over 700 Juniors
- Gift card challenge for Hurricane Harvey relief underway, all CISD campuses participating
- Curriculum Night is next Thursday 9/19/17
- Coffee with Counselors next Wednesday 9/20/17
- Student Council working on Homecoming activities:
  - Parade/carnival/pep rally at Town Square on Wednesday 10/11/17
  - Homecoming dance on Saturday 10/14/17 at Irving Convention Center (1/3 the cost of Gaylord Texan), expect 1,200 students
- There are only a few new CSHS teachers this year.
- As a service project, the teachers went to volunteer at GRACE food pantry in Grapevine this August
- Teams off to a great start:
  - District win in volleyball
  - Football 1:1 record currently. Broken Arrow in Oklahoma gave a \$6000 check for Hurricane Harvey relief efforts
  - Tennis team/Cross Country gearing up
- Senior Activities
  - Talks given to Sr. and Jr. classes regarding expectations
  - Info given for picnic
  - Senior Remind 101 sign up
  - Letters to senior families to go out in March detailing events and sign ups

**Mr. Giamanco (CHS)**

- Most scheduling changes occurring have been for incoming Freshman and AP Classes
- Give Back Challenge (gift cards for Harvey relief) goal is 1,500 cards (one per student), due Friday 9/15/17
- Ozarka Water to donate up to \$5000 and 5,000 bottles of water to aid in relief efforts
- Guidance Counselors will focus on a different topic each month:
  - September is Suicide Awareness—CSHS student to speak about her own family's experience
  - October is Bullying Prevention—Dragons Go Blue on 10/2/17 (wear blue on Mondays), and Mix It Up Day (students encouraged to sit with new/other people at lunch)
- Coffee with Counselors 9/13/17 in Lecture Hall
- Site-Based Committee Meeting 9/13/17 at 3:30, in need of Freshman and Sophomore parent representatives, see Mr. Giamanco
- Curriculum Night 9/18/17 from 6-7:30 PM
- Student pictures 9/28-9/29, during English classes
- Green Out Football game 9/15/17
- Pink Out Football game 9/29/17
- Tennis cook-out 9/19/17 for Hurricane Harvey relief
- CHS teachers apologize for not being able to personally contact every student over the summer to welcome them back to school. If a student did not receive a visit or a welcome letter, please let Mr. Giamanco know
- Students needing to take bus between campuses after school for school activity practices must have a shuttle pass. Forms may be obtained from the activity's Coach or sponsor. The passes are only good for "in season"
- White Chapel Expansion project—unknown exact start time, will keep us updated

**Officer Reports:**

**Kathy Rodgers (President)**

- Membership and check writing campaign is the only fundraiser we do. All online, so it's very easy. All money goes back to supporting our students and staff. Our goal is to match last year—approximately \$30,000 in wish-list items granted. Encourage your friends to donate. Deadline for membership is 9/27/17.
- Introduction of Board members

#### **Jayne Araya-Carlisle (Treasurer)**

- Presented proposed budget (see attached)
- Estimated at approximately 80% of last year's budget
- Admin fees increased due to going paperless (Pay Pal) and CPA fees
- Donations are down 8% from last year to date
- Family memberships are down 14% from last year to date
- Shannan Needleman can make QRS code for flyers to be posted at Curriculum Night for parents to scan and join PTO. Will create a donation button on website separate from membership for those who would like to contribute or become a sponsor.
- *Motion to approve budget made by Kathy Rodgers, seconded by Angela Schwartz. Approved by committee.*
- *Motion to approve Kathy Marshall as Teacher Appreciation Chair made by Kathy Rodgers, seconded by Shannan Needleman. Approved by committee.*

#### **Tobin Osterberg (Disbursements, Baccalaureate)**

- Teacher wish lists due 9/27/17
- Items over \$500 will be brought to the October General Meeting for vote
- Baccalaureate Service to be held, 5/27/28 at 4PM, at White's Chapel
  - Service to be similar to last year (good feedback), 11 faiths represented, 50 senior students in the service itself.
  - Over ½ of senior students/families attended

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **Yvette Carmona (Craft Fair)**

- Craft Fair will be held 11/4-11/5, 2017.
- Approximately 185 vendors so far
- \$26,000 collected to date

##### **Marcy McTaggart(Directory)**

- One directory for CHS/CSHS
- Ad sales benefit our PTO
- Directory to be distributed in October

##### **Hospitality:**

- **CHS (Aimee Mikolasik, Lori Wardin)** Staff Luncheon 9/28, tailgate theme—Babe's, sign ups for volunteers and donations to be posted
- **CSHS (Martina Bonzagni)** Staff Luncheon 9/21, Black Eyed Pea

##### **Debbie LeBlanc**

- Membership is currently down from last year at same time (506 vs. 832)
- Reminders to go out at Curriculum nights, Dragon Diaries, Facebook

##### **Project Graduation (Angela Schwartz, Marcy McTaggart):**

- Presented slideshow from this year's event
- 85% participation from senior class
- \$22,000 worth of prizes given away

##### **Scholarship (Suzanne Adamson):**

- Families/faculty must join PTO by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered for scholarship

##### **Outreach (Michelle Clay):**

- Update on summer activity
- Gave Carroll Education Foundation update—Gala was this past weekend
- Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> is North Texas Giving Day—Carroll Band Boosters marked as a recipient

##### **Other:**

- Spirit Shop to be open 9/13 with \$5 close out items

**Guest Speaker: Laurie Starks, President of Starks College Connection and former CISD parent**  
**“Extracurricular Activities and Academics for College Applications: How Much is Enough??”**  
[www.starksec.com](http://www.starksec.com)

- 4000—4 year colleges in the United States
- Last year 65.8% admission rate overall
- Less than 20% of the colleges admit fewer than 50% who apply
- 84% of students get into their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> choice

- Colleges have regional representatives that cover areas, Carroll ISD is known for exceptional students
- There are only about 50 truly exclusive colleges (Ivy League, etc.)
- 3 main areas:
  - How many AP Classes?
    - Good for exclusive schools
    - College credits
    - Student should enjoy the subject
  - How many extracurriculars?
    - Individualized
    - Colleges want to know what kids are passionate about
    - Colleges want to see leadership roles
    - Colleges want to see part time jobs
    - Good material for college essays
  - What are colleges looking for?
    - Colleges are businesses too, they want to stay open
    - Shifting priorities depending on administration, trustees, enrollment
    - Transcripts
      - Grades, some just core subjects (not athletics/electives)
      - Rigor of schedule
      - Test scores (ACT, SAT, subject tests)
- How to stand out
  - Essays—highlight something they can't see about you from the resume
  - Resume—can give more detail than the application. 1/3 of colleges take resume and common application. 1-2 pages max
  - Teacher recommendations—usually 2 core subject teachers. Ask in spring of junior year.
- Common Application
  - Formally send ACT/SAT scores
  - Can specify AP classes and future schedule
- Other tips
  - Have student take mock exams, PSATs
  - Create separate email account(s) for just college application process and scholarships
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Thank you to Dunkin Donuts for donating refreshments.

Raffle Prize: Thanks to Ame Beanland for donating prizes. Winners are: Lynn Shelton, Rebecca Hindman, Lori Wardin, Kelly Zenick, and Jennifer Robbins

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 PM

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Cipriano

Next General Meeting: Tuesday, 10/10/17 at 9:45 at CSHS Library