

**Community Middle School PTSA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
CMS Commons
September 15, 2011 – 9:30 AM**

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Carolyn Keurajian, Toni Hendry, Allegra D'Adamo, Michele Kaish

Call to Order: Carolyn Keurajian called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

- *Introduction of 2011-2012 PTSA Executive Board*

President	Carolyn Keurajian
Executive Vice President	Kelly Peron
Vice President/Fundraising	Allegra D'Adamo
Vice President/Administrative	Toni Hendry
Vice President/Student Activities	Gina Ochs
Treasurer	Evelyn Turney
Secretary	Michele Kaish

- *Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2011 General Membership Meeting – Michele Kaish*
 - Minutes were approved as presented.
 - Information on joining CMS PTSA's email distribution group was communicated.

- *Treasurer's Report – Toni Hendry presented for Evelyn Turney*
 - 2010-2011 Tax Return and Final Financial Report
 - Copies of the 2010-2011 Tax Return are available for review.
 - Ended 2011-2012 with \$21,903 in the bank, a net loss of \$192 for the year.
 - Yana Kavalov made a motion to approve last year's \$2,447 expense for the purchase of 8th Grade T-Shirts and Picnic, seconded by Anna Gostomski. The expenditure was unanimously approved by the membership.
 - 2010-2011 Audit has not been completed yet. Will be presented at the next General Membership meeting.
 - 2011-2012 Proposed Budget and Year to Date Financial Report
 - Year-to-date expenses reviewed.
 - Budget Highlights
 - Mini Grants - \$4,000
 - Gifts to CMS - \$15,000 - Approximately \$10,000 of this will be used to purchase books that support the LA curriculum – expenditure approved last year.
 - Dawn O'Brien made a motion to approve the carryover of the expenditure for the purchase of LA books, seconded by Tirza Wahrman. The expenditure was unanimously approved by the membership.
 - Allegra D'Adamo made a motion to approve the 2011-2012 CMS PTSA Budget, seconded by Nan St. Amour. The Budget was unanimously approved by the membership.

- *Fundraising Report – Allegra D'Adamo*
 - Just Write A Check (JWAC) campaign has begun. JWAC donation forms being mailed home today.

- *Principal's Report* – Gerard Dalton
 - Great start to the school year! Focus has been on the name of the school – “Community.” On the first day of school, all students gathered by grade in the theatre to review new Anti-Bullying laws. Evening presentation for middle school parents on Anti-Bullying laws will take place in the near future.
 - Back to School Nights to take place on Wednesday, September 21st (6th Grade) and Thursday, September 22nd (7th and 8th Grades). Parent schedules to come home with students.
 - The challenges of mailing vs. online communication were discussed.
 - The mailing of NJ ASK score reports is being prepared.

- *PTSA Teacher Liaison Report* - Pat Lepore
 - Will work on getting 100% teacher membership.
 - Will work with PTSA on improving communication.

- *Student Council Representatives' Report* – Pam Scott and Liz Keller
 - Year-long Student Council charity – Good Grief (helps families dealing with death).
 - There will be an informational meeting after school on Tuesday 9/20 in Room 304 for students interested in running for Team Representative. Forms will be posted on PTSA website and information will be sent in next email blast. Election will take place the week of September 26th.

- *PTSA President's Report* – Carolyn Keurajian
 - Carolyn Keurajian announced that she will be relocating to Williamsburg, VA. As a result, the PTSA President position will be open shortly. Anyone interested in this position should contact Carolyn.

- *PTSA Committee Chair Reports*
 - Athletes for Action – Dawn O'Brien
 - Students interested in joining may download membership form from PTSA website.
 - Book Fair – Anna Gostomski and Nan St. Amour
 - Setting up in 8th Grade Concourse on Friday, October 7th. Fair will run from Monday, October 10th through Friday, October 14th. Night hours on one day TBD. Volunteers needed.
 - Scholastic flyers to be sent home with students shortly.
 - Students will visit Fair during IRLA periods.
 - Several ideas about donating a portion of the proceeds to charity were discussed. No final decisions made at this time.
 - Box Tops and McCaffrey's Receipts – Lisa Redmond
 - PTSA gets rebates. Members asked to send Box Tops and receipts to school with their children. Collection box is located in the main office.
 - Directory – Carolyn Keurajian presented for Tracey Sugar
 - Paper directory being printed this year. Form may be downloaded from PTSA website. Deadline for purchase is September 30th.
 - Possible online directory in the future.

- Membership – Toni Hendry
 - For insurance purposes, you must be a CMS PTSA member to volunteer at any PTSA event.
 - Membership form may be downloaded from PTSA website. Volunteer opportunities listed on the bottom of the form.
 - Changes from last year
 - No fundraising for Outdoor Ed. WW-P Education Foundation will instead seek corporate donations.
 - Optional Sunshine Fund donation. Money collected will be used to support field trips for students with financial hardship.
- North/South Tailgate – Nan St. Amour
 - Last year, 175 people attended the event. This year, football game will be played on Saturday, October 15th.
 - Due to committee conflicts, committee is looking in to the possibility of CMS families joining the HS North Booster Club tailgate party.
- Panther Wear – Carolyn Keurajian presented for Nancy Mann and Mickey Weinberg
 - Order form may be downloaded from PTSA website. Items to be sold at Back to School Nights.
- Parent Programs – Bing Alfonso
 - Working on arranging presentation on the new Anti-Bullying laws for the next General Membership meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd at 7:30 PM.
 - *Race to Nowhere* Screening – Tuesday, November 1st at 7:00 PM in High School North Theater.
 - As a result of the date of the *Race to Nowhere* screening being only 2 days before our next scheduled General Membership meeting, there was discussion of changing the date of the next General Membership meeting.
- Reflections – Carolyn Keurajian presented for Susan Schwartz and Annette Briffa
 - Theme is “Diversity Is....”
 - CMS date of submissions to be determined; likely to be on or about November 9th. Submissions to state PTA is December 5th.
- Teacher Appreciation – Carolyn Keurajian presented for Maria Pugliese and Courtney Browndorf
 - Nothing to report at this time.
- *General Discussion/Call for New Business*
 - Dawn O’Brien discussed that parents may receive text messages regarding sports schedule changes by going to the district website (www.ww-p.org) and clicking on Athletics and then Sports Schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM.

Signed,

Michele Kaish
Secretary