



### **CHS PTO Meeting 10/7/13**

Attendees: Keke Walker, Maripat Gatter, Mike Stemmler, Ruthellen Osherow, Susan Ryffel, Paula Brandeburg, Susan Casteel, Bethany Sleckman, JAmie Marvel, Sue Hodapp, Syliva Massad, Karen Stern, Celeste Gillete, Stephanie Brown, Dan Gutchewsky, and Sandi Straetker. Minutes were approved, with all in favor.

Budget Report: Bethany Sleckman reviewed the current budget, then had to leave for another meeting.

Principal's Report: Dan reported that Homecoming Week went very well. There were MANY Powder Puff teams. They will consider some changes to reduce the time spent at PP. The parade theme was Classic Children's Stories. The Pep Rally and Spirit games were well-attended, and exciting, and CHS won the football game. Over 650 students attended the dance, and reports are that the DJ was good. The St. Louis Symphony will be performing with the CHS band and orchestra on October 22nd as part of the Clayton Centennial Celebration. Students will perform The Matthew Shepard Project on October 24, 25 and 26. He concluded by discussing the results of a district communications survey and focus group. In order to meet parent request, the high school will begin holding parent/teacher conferences in the 2014/15 school year. The administration is also working on the calendar to allow for longer days at the high school, and looking at late start versus early release.

Beautification Day: Mike Stemmler reported that the day was very successful, in large part due to the efforts of Mike Nelke. Fifty people attended to help with mulching and weeding. Other tasks are planned for a spring date.

Homecoming Bonfire: Celeste and Stephanie reported that the bonfire was well attended and successful. The large part of their supplies came from the PTO closet, so no additional requests for reimbursement were presented. They suggested that a more targeted marketing effort for next year's event might drive more attendance, and suggested a better sign. Karen Stern suggested that a more clear conclusion to the Bonfire activities might be beneficial. Dan mentioned that in the past a sound system and music was used, and might be brought out for next year's event.

Homecoming Dance: Sue Hodapp and Karen Stern reported that they had plenty of volunteers, and a great coat check experience.

Parent Connections: Sandi reported that the freshman Homecoming tailgate party was a great success. She mentioned that she is thinking about organizing a parent

handbook with FAQs and answers that might help new parents. Susan Casteel and Jamie Marvel are working on a sophomore event, no other classes were represented.

New Family Reception: Maripat reported that the event was high quality, and everything was done to ensure attendance, but only three families of the fifty new CHS families attended the dinner. The board moved and approved a motion to reimburse Maripat for expenses for the reception. A suggestion was made to perhaps hold any future reception in conjunction with other events.

Halloween Dance: Planned for November 1st. Jamie is responsible for volunteers, she will contact Lori Zimmerman for any volunteer needs.

FFE: Susan Ryffel reported that Funds For Excellence is in excellent shape. All thank you letters, save one, have been sent. Dan mentioned that he is in the process of accepted requests from teachers for the funds.

New Business: The Sports Team Golf Fundraiser netted \$30,000, approximately. Discussions are in process on distribution to participating teams. It was reiterated that only MSHAA teams, not club teams, can participate in the tournament.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 4th, 6:30 CHS Library

