

Carlisle School Association
April 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes
9:00 am - School Cafeteria

Attendees: Amy Caggiano, Christine Lear, Sarah Grallert, Phyllis Bewick, Amy Versaggi, Cary Keller, Margo Parent, Lisa Chaffin, Sara Wilson, Shilpa Goel, Amy Smack, Laura France, Emily DiRocco, Eva Mostoufi, Alyson Becker, Emily Richardson

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Christine Lear.

Approve March Meeting Minutes

Christine Lear Made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes with the added names of attendees: Melissa McMorrow, Melynda Gambino, and Karen Letteri.

Sarah Grallert Seconded the motion.

Vote: Approved

Administration Updates

Joan Wickman and Dennet Sidell were unable to attend. Emily Richardson read Joan Wickman's updates: Thank you to the CSA, the Center for Parents and Teachers, Cary Keller, Amy Versaggi, Sally Quinn Reed, Jennifer Clarke and all of the other parents who brought Dr. Cohen to CPS for a very informative presentation: The Opposite of Worry. The program was a **huge** success and very well attended. Thank you!

March Highlights:

- 7th Grade Play was outstanding. Thank you to all the parents behind the scenes for their hard work, especially the parent producers: Jenn Albanese, Dawn Buckelew, Heidi Kidder. The student actors and those students working on sets, tech, costumes, etc... did a phenomenal job!
- Math League hosted their Community Challenge last week. Seven schools competed. Carlisle did very well. The students worked extremely hard to prepare, but it's not an easy competition. Carlisle placed right in the middle, with 3 schools getting higher scores and 3 schools getting lower scores.
- Carlisle also did very well at the MICCA Festival this past weekend. Band received a gold medal and the chorus received a bronze medal.
- The School Committee and I have spent a considerable amount of time in March getting feedback on a new administrative organization. Tonight the School Committee will meet again to further discuss the two-principal model. They will be voting as to whether they will officially endorse that model. If the vote is affirmative, I will be posting the position for a Middle School Principal ASAP. There will be a Screening Committee brought together to interview applicants and bring forward finalists. Two parents will serve on the Screening Committee, but a process for selecting those parents has not yet been determined. There will also be teachers and administrators on the Committee.
- PARCC is still underway. However all grades have finished the ELA tests. We are currently administering math assessments. Grades 6 and 3 have finished these as well, except for a few make-up exams.

April Highlights:

- 5th grade parents have been invited to a presentation on the Outdoor Education program for 6th graders. That will be taking place this evening at 6:00PM in the auditorium.
- Kristen Jacobson will be doing a presentation for staff on the April 7th Early Release Day. She will share her work with students in the area of executive function (i.e. **Executive functions** (also known as cognitive control and supervisory attentional system) is an umbrella term for the management (regulation, control) of cognitive processes, including working memory, reasoning, task flexibility, and problem solving as well as planning and execution. Wikipedia)
- April 7th is the 8th Grade Science Fair. All are welcome.
- April 11th from 1:00 - 4:00 Carlisle will be holding its Multicultural Fair. More than a dozen cultures will be represented. There will be live performances, international cuisine and cultural arts/ crafts. It should be a great time for the entire family.
- April 13th -17th: CSA is hosting its Book Fair. I'm looking forward to participating in P.J. night April 15th.
- April 18th - 26th: School Vacation

Thanks again for all you do to make Carlisle Public Schools such a special place!!!

CSA Thank Yous!

- Cary Keller and Amy Versaggi for all of their work organizing “The Opposite of Worry: Helping Children with Fears and Anxieties” with Dr. Lawrence Cohen!!!!
- Lisa Chaffin, Amy Smack and their team for the two upcoming CE programs, noted below
- Suzan Baldoumas and Amy Caggiano for their work on the Summer Camp Fair
- Rebecca Besthoff for her continued work on the CSA Nominating process for the 2015-16 academic year
- Amy Versaggi and Cary Keller for organizing the Find Your Lost & Found during Parent - Teacher Conference week. Could put lost & found in popsicles on the plaza
- Phyllis Bewick and Emily DiRocco for their ongoing efforts for this year's CSA Book Fair

CSA Updates

- EVP - no updates
- Treasurer - no updates
- VP Elementary School - no updates
- VP Middle School - The shed is coming; everything is in place. Might have a date in two weeks and discount was applied to the purchase price. Spaghetti supper chair will be Linda Tonies. Linda will determine whether she needs a co-chair. All set for sixth grade chairs and announcements went out for 7th and 8th grade class reps. Laura France volunteered to serve as 7th grade rep. There was an announcement that went out from current class rep and nobody had responded. Some discussion of process for nominations of class reps.
- Secretary - no updates
- Membership - no updates
- Book Fair Coordinator - Report - Phyllis Bewick - Calling all volunteers; has some critical gaps please sign up on the sign-up genius. Please reach out to middle school parents. Please forward the link to three friends and ask them to volunteer. Also remind people to buy gift certificates. Set-up is on Thursday this year, not Friday.
- Fundraising - Husky Apparel - Eva Mostoufi - Spring Sale will start May 4 and will run for two weeks. No fashion show this time. Considering producing a t-shirt designed by kids.

- Curriculum Enrichment - Lisa Chaffin & Amy Smack - The Seasons in Carlisle's Forest on April 10, and Shakespeare and Company on April 14. There will be an all school assembly on May 26th: (one assembly for elementary and one for middle school) Egyptian American who is a musician and entertainer. Colonial America on May 6 and Author Visit on May 4.
- Events Committee - Family Movie Night, April 10 - *Dolphin Tale 2* (SEPAC also has a meeting that morning and Carlisle School Student Art Exhibition at Gleason 5-7 pm.)
- Room Parent Coordinator- no updates
- Publicity - no updates
- CSA Summer Camp Fair Report - Camps and parents loved it. Eight new people attend CSA meeting that evening. It was great; three camps asked why we didn't charge anything. Most liked timing. Didn't compete with Concord as their fair is at CCHS and people don't think it includes younger kids. Altitude Trampoline Park and the Wizard camp have donated gift certificates to be given away at the Book Fair.
- Nominating Committee - Christine Lear presented the proposed slate - there are some gaps to fill: Services Coordinator, Book Fair, Box Tops, looking for a co-chair on Events Committee with Rachel Reynolds. Email Rebecca Besthoff, Christine Lear, or Amy Caggiano with additional ideas for people to fill open spots.

New Business

- School Supply Kits - Shilpa Goel - Needs to identify dates to lock in prices. Need to avoid April vacation. Last date we can end is June 28th for delivery week of August 23rd. Run sale from April 27th to June 19th. Will need sandwich boards to promote. School can print poster in one color, but we need to go through Joan & Dennet to get approval with each one. Buy paper and bring in. We'll give up the boxes for the elementary school. Prices have gone up a bit; but this bulk purchase still makes it cheaper for parents as compared with shopping for individual items.
- Retirement Party - June 8th (also Dennet's 50th birthday) Sue Bober and Donna Clapp are retiring. Beautiful cutting board will be gift, handmade by a local NH person. Put on your calendar and bring kids.
- SEPAC Meeting on Friday, April 10 at 9:00 am in the Corey Dining Room.
- Annual Meeting - will be held at Christine Lear's home. Very brief meeting so we can look back, and vote on the slate of officers, board members, committee chairs. If you're leaving the CSA please come, returning members should bring something to eat.
- Changing the CSA name - Christine Lear wanted to promote CSA to parents of incoming kindergarteners and asked about creating a tagline; discussion evolved into changing the name of the CSA. Magnets were made up with CSA website. Would need to change name on taxes, website, email addresses, etc. It would be good to do at the end of fiscal year. There was discussion of including "Teacher" in the name even though we don't have a position on the Board for a teacher. There was discussion of sending the agenda and minutes and inviting a teacher to attend the Board Meetings.

Alyson Becker made a motion to add a teacher representative, the President of the Teachers' Association, to the CSA roster.

Emily DiRocco seconded the motion.

Vote: Approved.

Cary Keller will approach Linda Vanaria, current president of the Teachers' Association to discuss this idea.

Christine Lear conducted a straw poll to assess interest in new names: 13 votes for "Parent Teacher

Association”, 1 vote for “Parent Teacher Organization: and no votes for “Parent Teacher Group”. There was additional discussion of logistics, finding out what other towns use for a name, and changes to the logo. The vote on the name change will occur at the Annual Meeting on May 7th. The new name would roll out in September.

Adjourn

Cary Keller made a motion to adjourn

Sarah Grallert seconded the motion

Vote : Approved

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.

Next meeting will be the CSA Annual Meeting on **Thursday, May 7 at 9:00 am** at 120 Oak Knoll Road.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Emily H. Richardson, Secretary.