

**Canon –McMillan School District Parent Council
Meeting Minutes - Friday March 18,2022**

The March 2022 meeting of the CMSD Parent Council was held at Canonsburg Middle School and was called to order at 9:33 am Friday March 18, 2022 by Mary Lynn Yurko. The 2022 Parent council Board members in attendance included:

Mary Lynn Yurko-President; Megan Clouner - Vice President; and Jayme Koenig- Secretary.

Welcome: Principal Dr. Taranto, Asst. Principal Mr. Shrag, Guest Speakers Michelle Tomicek (Principal - South Central Elementary), Mr. Craig Barzan (Guidance Counselor), and Lori Hedderman, Speakers Superintendent Michael Daniels and Asst. Superintendent Scott Chambers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Approval of last meeting minutes (February 2022):

Tammi Miller (First motion); Jennifer Beers (Second Motion)

PRINCIPAL UPDATES: Dr. Greg Taranto Principal Canonsburg Middle School

- Canonsburg Middle School will be performing High School Musical Jr. for their annual spring musical. Shows will be on March 31st and April 1st at 7:00pm in the CM auditorium. Tickets will be available at the door (\$5 for adults and \$3 for students).
- Transitioning current 6th grade students begins with CMS counselor visits to both intermediate schools: NSIS on April 7th and CIS on April 8th.
- The CMS band will perform their spring concert at the High School auditorium on April 21st at 7pm.
- Information about CMS can be found by following them on Facebook, Instagram (WeAreCMS25) and Twitter (WeAreCMS25).
- The New Middle School is coming along nicely, staff and students are very excited and looking forward to the transition to the new building.
- There is a plan in place to share the new Middle School with the community to showcase this latest project.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Michelle Tomicek/ Craig Barzan/ Lori Hedderman

Mrs. Tomicek started as a Guidance counselor 30 years ago and is the current principal of South Central Elementary School. Mr. Barzan (guidance counselor at CIS) and Mrs. Hedderman (guidance counselor at CMS) both joined the district in 1999

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- The first of 3 transitions begins in the tail end of 4th grade with a move-up day to either NSIS or CIS Intermediate schools (housing 5-6th grades), move-up days are scheduled in the spring. 4th grade students are taken on a guided by current 5th grade students.
- 5th grade is the introduction of Teams concept for the first time. Creating Teams for students allows teachers to accommodate and network with each other, getting to know the students better. Teachers are better equipped to recognize and detect any obstacles/problems students may be facing sooner than later. Students are excited about their Team and develop a comradery amongst other team members as well as a healthy competition. 5th grade students go from 1 teacher to 2 teachers.
- 6th grade transition is similar with a move-up day scheduled in the spring. Kids get a tour of the Middle School (housing 7-8th grades). 6th grade students go from 4 teachers to 5 teachers, making a sort of gradual climbing of a ladder, allowing for a smoother transition into each grade level.
- The final transition is from 8th grade to high school. As in previous years, students have a move-up day scheduled in the spring and are guided by current high school students on a tour. 8th grade students have a few more changes as they are in charge of scheduling their classes for their upcoming year. ,Guidance counselors from the High School come down to the middle school to guide students in the scheduling process.
- All of these transitions are to accommodate students' anxieties about making a change into a new possibly overwhelming building.
- Orientation is another part of the transition process. Orientation days are scheduled in early August and can include parent participation. Students receive their schedules and are able to come in and tour the schools and walk their schedules. This process eases anxiety and allows for a smooth first day of school.
- Teachers and building principals are available to ease concerns of both students and parents and they welcome any questions or concerns. If students miss a move-up day accommodations can be made.
- Communication becomes a little more technological as the students transition from Elementary level to the Intermediate, Middle and High school levels. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and parent links located on the district website and will provide useful information as students move through the district.

Important upcoming transition dates for 2022:

Counselor visits at Intermediate Schools:

- NSIS April 7th
- CIS April 9th

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6th Grade Move up days:

- CIS May 13th at 9:30 a.m.
- NSIS May 16th at 9:30 a.m.

CIS parent/student orientation August 10th

7th Grade Parent Orientation:

Thursday May 19th at 5:30 pm

8th Grade Move Up date

Thursday, May 26th

Grade Orientation at HS - August 7th

Tuesday August 9th (with schedule).

Please refer to CMSD Counseling webpage. There are both a student and parent section with a large amount of information and links to articles with advice for both parents and students.

Speaker: Mr. Michael Daniels-Superintendent of CMSD

Mr. Daniels began with the assurance that CMSD will continue to be diligent in the fight against Covid. Buildings will continue to maintain the cleanliness of high traffic areas with the current cleaning protocol.

- The district is currently still required by the PADOH to provide weekly aggregate data about Covid case counts in the district. These reports from the district will continue to be provided in emails to parents and be available on the district website as long as they are required by the state.

The below information is pending CMSD School Board approval:

- The message board at the High School will be replaced.
- Borland Manor will be offering EDS (extended day service). As space becomes available, other schools *could* be offering EDS.
- 4 new buses and 4 new vans will be purchased. This will enable the district to maintain the safety of its fleet of vehicles. This will also provide flexibility with transportation.
- High school gym floor will be resurfaced as it has become a safety concern.
- Renewal for subscription service for Renaissance Program (part of the Accelerated Reading Program).

The CMSD administration has rolled out a plan to the SB in 2014 this was a conceptual facilities plan. It included 11 options and asked the SB to consider 9 of those options. Currently some options have been approved and are taking place. The most notable would be:

- Middle School (under construction with a completion date of 10/2022).

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- High school renovations (completed)
- High School stadium / track/ turf area. (track completed/ locker room and bleachers still need to be finished) more phases to be completed.
- Wylandville Elementary
- Hills Hendersonville Elementary

With the expansion of North Strabane Twp. the district is preparing with future renovation projects that would include Wylandville Elementary. This could possibly be the size of Muse Elementary and add Borland Manor Elementary into the new facility. It could also require a redistricting of the entire district to maintain and ensure efficiency district wide. It's unclear at this time what Borland Manor building would be used for. These are all projections from demographic studies predicted to have a huge impact on the CMSD in the next 5-10 years. More information will be provided as the district takes steps toward renovations.

- An All-Day Kindergarten Program is also in the works and hopes to be added to CMSD in the next 5 years.
- Additional bus and van purchases also planned.

Old Business:

- Please contact the board members if you are interested in being part of the CMSD PC Board for the upcoming 2022-2024 school year. This is a great forum for parents and administration to gather and discuss district concerns. All interested parties with children currently in the CMSD should apply. Please check Parent Council by-laws on CMSD website for eligibility requirements. Must have attended prior PTC meetings

New Business:

- Next Parent Council meeting is Friday April 29, 2022 at North Strabane Intermediate School (NSIS). Topic / Guest speaker: Joni Mansmann - Director of Business and Finance who will discuss CMSD budget.
- Voting for fundraising for the 2022/23 school year will take place at the April 29, 2022 Parent Council meeting.

First meeting of the 2022- 2023 school year is expected to be in September 2022. Further details will be announced in August. Please check back on CMSD website for upcoming details.

We would like to thank Dr. Taranto and Mr. Schrag for hosting our Parent Council meeting today. Parent Council Board also wishes to thank our guest speakers Mrs. Tomicek, Mr. Barzan, Mrs. Hedderman; as well as Mr. Daniels- CMSD Superintendent and Mr. Chambers-CMSD Assistant Superintendent for their updates in the district.

Motion to Adjourn

Liz Gump (First motion)

Michelle Tomicek (Second Motion)

Meeting adjourned: 11:02 am