1. **Call to Order & Housekeeping**: Call to order at 7:18pm. We apologize about the delay in starting the meeting. The building and library were both locked when we arrived to set up for the meeting.

2. **Committee and Project Reports**
   a. **Membership** - Elizabeth Bentley: We currently have 93 members. The PTA will have a membership drive at the elementary school soon. The goal is to gain 30 new members.
   b. **Elementary Yearbook** - Diana Haldenwang: The yearbook committee is building the book pages and almost ready to start sending proofs to teachers. Candid photos are still needed and can be uploaded to the yearbook photo link. Yearbooks are currently available online for purchase.
   c. **Book Fair** - Joanne Gilles, (Nikki Banghardt-absent): Thank you to Maria Maier for her help with publicizing the book fair and recruiting volunteers. Thank you to Nikki Banghardt for her help with creating the flyer that was sent home with elementary school students. The cases of books arrived today. Each student K-8 will be receiving a gift certificate to use at the book fair for a free book. K-5 will receive a $5 gift certificate. Grades 6-8 will receive a $6 gift certificate. Thank you to the Middle School student groups that are donating money to cover the taxes for the free books. We still need more volunteers for the book fair. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at the link:
      https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094ea4ad23aaf94-scholastic
   d. **Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale** - Heidi Venero: The Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser runs until 4/3. We currently have 17 orders and just over $1000 in sales. This is historically one of our biggest fundraisers and we make 50% of sales. All orders are directly shipped to customers and are being shipped as soon as they are ordered. Please support this important fundraiser and share the order link with friends.
      https://fundraising.gertrudehawkchocolates.com/fundraisingproducts/index/index/organization_id/703301/seller_id/47

3. **Upcoming Projects** - Volunteers are needed for the following projects. If you would like to volunteer for the committee or to be the committee chair, please contact one of the PTA officers or email the PTA at ccsnypta@gmail.com
   a. **High School Scholarships** – We need a committee to work with the High School guidance office to award two $500 scholarships to graduating seniors. Award winners need to be determined by mid-May for planning purposes for the Senior Awards night in June.
   b. **Faculty/Staff Appreciation Lunch May 5th** – Last year we brought in a Food Truck for this event, and it was very successful. We need a committee to help plan and organize this year’s appreciation event.
c. Ice Cream Social June 10th – The ice cream social has had to be cancelled the past few years due to Covid restrictions. We are hoping to bring back this event and need a committee of volunteers to make it happen.

4. Potential Future Projects and Initiatives – The PTA is looking into how to expand Family School Engagement. Two ideas that have been proposed are a quarterly Parent Speaker Series and a quarterly Family-School Engagement Forum. If you are interested in volunteering to look further into either of these ideas and/or have other ideas that you’d like to offer, please reach out to the PTA.

5. Executive Board Reports
   a. Vice President - Nikki Banghardt - Absent
   b. VP Communication - Maria Maier - None
   c. Secretary - Heidi Venero – None
   d. Treasurer’s Report and Vote - Amanda Hance: The Treasurer’s report was presented, voted on and passed unanimously.
   e. Budget Amendment Vote – The Budget Amendments were presented, voted on, and passed unanimously.
      i. $5,000 expense for Book Fair
      ii. $150 expense for Zoom

6. Nominating Committee: A nominating committee must be elected to create and present a slate of officers for election. The slate must be presented to the membership in May and the election will take place at the June PTA meeting. The position of Secretary must be filled as Heidi Venero has completed two years in the position (term limit). There are also several officers who would like to step down from their current positions due to other personal/work obligations. The nominating committee was presented, voted on, and approved unanimously. The nominating committee includes Diana Haldenwang, Heidi Venero, Amy Randall, Meghan Jackson, and Sara Groh.

7. Board of Education Report – Melinda Leising:
   The Board of Education has been invited to attend recent monthly meetings with Dr. Grimm and the building principals and building union representatives.
   The Finance Committee met last week and is reviewing RFP’s for the required external audit.
   On April 5th there will be a BoE Budget Workshop.
   On April 6th, there will be the annual BOCES meeting. Currently there are 48 CCS students in the CTE Program.
   In May, there will be an election for the Board of Education. There are two seats up for election this year: Mary Lou Lauchert (who will be retiring at the end of this year) and Erica Shaw. Erica Shaw is running for re-election. If anyone is interested in running for School Board petitions are currently available.
OMH BOCES will also be offering an informational Zoom workshop meeting entitled, “So You Want To Be A School Board Member.” Pre-registration is not required. The Zoom information is below:

Topic: How to Become a School Board of Education Member and What to Expect if Elected
Time: Mar 30, 2022 05:30 PM
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88412811151?pwd=TXVxeWM1NnhGbmhLTDZleklBuFhvZz09
Meeting ID: 884 1281 1151
Passcode: 522025

8. Superintendent’s Update – Dr. Grimm - absent

9. Updates from the Building Principals

High School - Dr. Lee:

NYS Regent Exams will take place in June. There are 5 Regents exams that you must pass to graduate high school.

Seniors gathered today in the bleachers to have their Senior Class Photo taken.

Dr. Lee met with the Senior Class Officers to discuss the Senior Class Trip and the Senior Ball. Both are being planned for the first weekend in June, with the trip being on Friday and the ball being on Saturday.

Model UN will be traveling to NYC March 27-29th to compete. Their assigned country is Russia.

Middle School – Dr. Carney:

NYS Assessments will take place this year. Dr. Carney asked for 100% participation in the NYS testing and said that the more students that test, the better off the district will be. He invited anyone who had questions and/or concerns about NYS testing to reach out to him.

The Middle School student groups are excited to be able to donate money to cover the tax on the free books for K-8 students. This kind of altruistic act helps to decrease depression and anxiety and to increase a sense of community and belonging.

Faculty is working to plan a trip for the 8th grade students this year that will tie into curriculum. The Middle School is working to plan a fundraiser to help cover some of the cost of the 8th grade trip and for the literacy program. The goal for the literacy program is to be able to send 1-3 books home each summer with students in grade K-8.

Dr. Carney also said that community engagement needs to be increased with the middle school. Several ideas are being considered as to how to do this. He welcomes ideas from the community.

There is a concentrated effort to focus on students emotional and mental health, especially following the pandemic. Students need additional support structures in their lives. Dr. Carney said that a Life Skills/Mind Skills class is being considered for all 6th grade students. This would help students identify
anxiety and depression, learn coping mechanisms, learn how to navigate relationships, etc. This would replace the current FLES class for 6th graders. Dr. Carney welcomes community feedback on this proposal.

**Elementary School – Mrs. Leuthauser:**

Mrs. Leuthauser echoed that NYS Assessments will take place this year and that the NYS Tests serve the district well. She stated that the tests help identify learning gaps.

The High School musical (including the Middle School participants) was phenomenal. The Elementary School concerts (orchestra, band, and chorus) were great, and it was so nice to see everyone together. Many students and teachers are no longer wearing masks now that masks are optional, but she respects everyone’s decision to do what is best for them.

There needs to be a real focus on play for elementary school students. Mrs. Leuthauser is encouraging students and families to have play dates outside of school and to have less screen time. She said that many students are having difficulty distinguishing between what can happen in video games and what can happen in real life.

The Elementary School would like to host a Fall Festival that included all three buildings and community involvement. If you are interested in helping with this idea, please reach out to Mrs. Leuthauser.

Elementary School classes have begun taking field trips again. Outside speakers have started to be invited back into the school.

The Elementary Science Fair was successful. There will be an Art Show for K-12 this spring. The end of year “Fun Day” for the elementary school will be held this year. The 5th Grade and 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremonies will take place this year.

Mrs. Leuthauser also thanked the PTA for all their efforts and specifically thanked Joanne Giles for all her hard work with the Book Fair. She also said that she loves the PTA meetings being hybrid and that it is nice to see people both on Zoom and in-person.

10. **New Business & Questions** - None

11. **Adjourn** – 8:26pm