1. **Call to order:** 7:08 p.m.

2. **PTA 101:** Diana Haldenwang (PTA President)
   What is PTA and what have we been doing? We are a unit of the Leatherstocking Region and part of the NYSPTA. Locally we have many projects we would like to continue: Help with the elementary yearbook, fund author visits, PARP, book fair, large assemblies such as The Brain Show (which has been paused due to Covid), faculty/staff appreciation lunch, school supply kits, ice cream social, monthly newsletters, Farm-To-School (Pre-Covid), fundraisers including spirit wear, Gertrude Hawk, Utica Coffee and Square 1 Art.
   How do you get involved? Email us what you are interested in getting involved in, come to meetings, volunteer for events or fundraisers, join on committees as help or chair.

3. **Elementary Standards-Based Report Cards and Grading:** Deb Van Slyke, Director of Curriculum and Instruction.
   After the September Board meeting presentation, the information was shared on Parent Square. There is a video provided which gives an excellent overview. For grades K-5 teachers will use a 4, 3, 2, 1 scale (4 exceeds current grade level expectations, 3 meets current grade level expectations, 2 approaching current grade level expectations, 1 below current grade level expectations). We have changed to trimesters. CCS is also using School Tool (with the exception of the elementary school). What are we not doing? Ranking kids against each other. There is a slide on Parent Square with a Parent/Family Resource Guide and a link for the FAQ document. If you have any new questions, contact Deb or you can reach out to Diana.

   *Per NYS requirements, the school is conducting a digital equity survey to determine what kind of digital connectivity and access students have.*

4. **Committee and Project Reports:**
   a. **Membership:** Elizabeth Bentley (Membership Chair)
      Tonight, we are hosting a membership raffle drawing for $5 Dunkin gift cards. The winners are Annmarie Latshaw, Angelina Gogola, Katie Bono, Shaun Carney, and Jude Leising.
      We are up to 90 members. Thank you for joining. Remember you can keep joining through May. It is $6 for initial members, $4 for students or additional family members.

   b. **School of Excellence and Member/Parent Surveys- Maria Maier**
      As part of the national PTA, different programs are brought to our attention. The School of Excellence Program is a collaboration, something that happens once a year and could really include the whole community. The application period is closed for this year, so we have plenty of time to plan and prepare. The next application period will be in May 2022. The first step is to conduct a baseline survey. If anyone wants to help with this project, we would like to start a committee. If you are interested, please email us at ccsnypta@gmail.com
c. **Yearbook**- Our previous coordinator retired last year. We have formed a yearbook committee but need a chairperson/point person. If anyone is interested, please let us know. The yearbook committee has asked families to take lots of pictures! A link has been shared to submit your photos. The more photos the better!

d. **Spirit Wear**- There was an unanticipated vendor issue, and orders were not fulfilled. They are expected the first week of December. Some items were substituted so if needed, those items can be returned and refunded.

e. **Elementary Fall Book Project**- Due to Covid, the “trunk or treat” was cancelled. Instead, the PTA will be providing each class with a fall themed book. Classes should have the books soon.

f. **Book Fair**- Nikki Banghardt- Joanne Gilles has been doing a lot to prepare for the Book Fair. The elementary and middle/high school librarians both submitted wish lists. The PTA was able to fund 125 books from previously earned Scholastic credits. The in-person Book Fair is set for March 21-25 and will take place in the theatre lobby. Dr. Carney will help to direct student foot traffic through the theatre to cut down on traffic through the lobby. We would also like to ensure that every student gets a free book. We estimate the cost for that to be around $4000. We currently have a Scholastic Dollars balance of $3,393. Could the PTA fund the difference? Perhaps some families would like to donate? One student suggested providing a voucher to each student so that when they get the free book, they feel like they are “buying” it. We will continue to figure out the logistics.

g. **Elementary Author Visit**- Mrs. Parker is currently working on plans and arrangements.

5. **Executive Board Reports:**

   a. Vice President- Nicole Banghardt- none
   b. VP Communication- Maria Maier- none
   c. Treasurer’s Report- Amanda Hance -
      The balance has not changed much. Deposits were last year’s elementary yearbook and memberships. Disbursement was for the T-shirt requests by high school in support of two teachers battling cancer. We budgeted for more than they cost.

6. **Board of Education Report:** Not present

7. **Superintendent’s Update:** Dr. Steve Grimm- Not present

8. **Updates from Building Principals:**

   a. Elementary School- Ellen Leuthauser - Not present
   b. Middle School- Dr Shaun Carney- Not present
   c. High School- Dr Matthew Lee- Not present

9. **New Business and Questions:**

   - Students from CCS’s Indoor Track Team presented the following: We are here on behalf of the indoor track team. We wanted to raise more awareness that we disagree with the Board of Education’s decision to remove Coach Deep. We would like better communication in the future from the Board of Education. There
is a petition being circulated by community members in support of Coach Deep. We have shared the link in the Zoom Chat.

• Q: What are the benefits of being a paying PTA member?
  A: Benefits of paid membership include voting on the business of the PTA and newsletters and updates from NYS and National PTA.

• Amy Doggett - 9th grade teacher - The students wrote lovely letters to veterans that were distributed to various organizations locally over the years. Thank you notes have been received from all over, including one on Congressional stationary.

• Feed our Vets is collecting food for veterans.
• The National Honor Society is holding a coat drive.
• The Positivity Project is also doing a canned food drive.

10. **Adjourn:** 8:14 p.m.