

Carmel High School PTO Meeting 03/06/2024

Attendees: Lisa, Jessica, Gwen, Jennifer C, Kim, Melinda, Karen, Beth, Anne Marie Monty, Amy Blume, Stephanie Ramsamooj

Staff Liaison – Karen McDaniel

- Successful SAT day
- DECA state- CHS represented well
- PSAT day in fall for grades 9-11: almost certain that CHS will release after completion of test
- Top Scholar phasing out after this year- moving focus to be on Distinguished Grads
- Senior Celebration- 10 gift cards will be given away daily, more prizes at senior celebration breakfast
- Senior sunrise breakfast 7:30-9:30am on last day of school; to Fairgrounds for commencement rehearsal at 10am

Counseling Department – Melinda Stephan (had paper handout- highlights below)

- March 1- last day to change schedule for students; counselors can still change until May 1 (if there is room in a class)
- Mental Wellness week
- March 12- career fair at Grand Park (most colleges from Midwest)
- Seniors- FAFSA required for Indiana residents (4/15 deadline); help night with InverSTED Indiana on 03/19
- CEF- over 600 scholarship applications; many scholarships are coming into counseling office regularly (seniors should continue to check)
- Seniors should report scholarship information for graduation bulletin by May 2
- Skilled Trades Fair at CHS on April 24

President – Lisa Pellegrino

- Solar eclipse glasses- will be passed out during SSRT on 03/27
- Media Center- hoping International Flags will become permanent display
- Quarterly check from Kroger = \$400
- Extra funding / budget items approved for Staff Appreciation & Backpack Program
- Parent feedback on Greyhound Gazette- district wants a change in the newsletter format. This will be challenging for CHS because this was small fundraiser (~\$2500 per year from advertising). Emily Bauer to see if we can still use Academy or if we need to transfer to new platform.

Vice President- Jennifer Brosius Penick

- Slate for next year

- President- Jennifer Brosius Penick / Amy Blume
 - VP - Vinayak
 - Secretary- Beth or Stephanie
 - Treasurer- Gwen
 - Communications – open
 - Backpack- Jennifer C
 - Senior Celebration – Lisa
 - Hospitality – open
 - Top Scholar / Distinguished Grad – open
 - After Prom – open
 - Homecoming – Jen Penick
 - Membership – open
- Greyhound Connections – every new student is assigned a Connections mentor (Karen to work with PTO to create club sponsor & determine how we get in touch with new families)

Treasurer- Vinayak Tanksale & Gwen Shaneck

- Financials- check from Kroger came in
- Jess to start posting about getting donations for Senior Celebration

Backpack program- Jennifer Cassidy

- Chick-fil-a donating free meals / sandwiches / nuggets during spring break
- Food drive with football team this month
- Will purchase 100 shirts before Homecoming that can be distributed to backpack kids (add to beginning of school packs)
- Senior celebration will provide pajama pants to all students in backpack program

Hospitality – Kim Foote & Regan Summers

- Amazon wish lists are almost full! Many items being shipped to Karen 😊
- Will celebrate 275 staff between March – May (crossing guards, print shop, custodians, bus drivers, etc)
- May 6 – potato bar for teacher appreciation
- March Madness at CHS- evening out for CHS staff & families (PTO will donate drinks & cookies)
- Plan to purchase gift cards for bus drivers / custodians

Community Relations – Jessica Barrett

- Website is up to date; all volunteer signups posted for March

Senior Celebration – Jessica Barrett & Kim Seelig

- Signups for volunteers will be posted in March

After Prom – Lisa Pellegrino

- Planning underway- committee positions still open
- DJ, game company locked in; looking at Greyhound Station as an option

Top Scholar – Kristy Bryan, Sabrina Chu, Rama Varigonda

- Top Scholar & Distinguished grad invites emailed- changing name to Distinguished Grad / Hall of Fame
- Karen encouraged people to sign up to volunteer – alumni come back for this event to honor students