**Coronado High School PTO**

**General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**March 17, 2021 9am Virtual Zoom Meeting**

***“Every child every day will have a challenge, a connection and a champion!”***

Call to Order – Jennifer Shoemaker, PTO President

* Meeting commenced at 9:07am

Welcome:

* Jennifer Shoemaker, President
* Bridget Shanks, Vice President
* Sarah Roughneen – Treasurer
* Anita Lorr – Secretary
* Shane Schmeichel – CHS Principal
* Karl Mueller, Superintendent
* Plus 16 members/guests in attendance

Treasurer’s Report – Jennifer Shoemaker presented on Sarah’s behalf due to technical difficulties

* March hospitality event – hosted St. Patrick’s Day luncheon for teachers and staff, comprised of Blue Bridge Hospitality sandwiches and salad, parents donated paper goods and drinks, total cost $800. PTO purchased $130 in gift cards from Starbucks and Mootime to reward students practicing social distancing. Hero snack packs to teachers ($160 cost) to celebrate 50% return to campus.

Heather Bice, Guest Speaker

* English department teacher, recipient of CHS PTO One Islander Grant
* The goal of the One Islander Grant $1200 request in coordination w Ms. Pehrsson was to bring in high-interest contemporary novels for students. Update the curriculum and meet the interests of the students. Idea for grant was to ask students what they want to read within given parameters of appropriate reading level and content.
* Senior English classes were given a poll from a list of 15 possible novels (non-fiction, fiction, science fiction, and memoir). Their homework assignment was to read book descriptions and select five favorites. The resulting top five novels were purchased with the One Islander Grant money, which covered 2 ½ class sets of novels. Many seniors provided feedback that they were happy to be given the choice to select the novels!
* The selected books were Code Talker (non-fiction about Native Americans who participated in breaking the codes during World War II), The Silent Patient (psychological thriller), The Hate You Give (young adult novel), We Are Not Free (young adult novel), A Woman of No Importance (non-fiction about a female spy during WWII), and The League (illustrated sports non-fiction about the development of the NFL).
* WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges). WASC accreditation process - outside educators come to our school to evaluate it. End result is a recommendation for how long the school should remain accredited for. Historically, CUSD has received 6-year cycle recommendations, which is highest recommendation. In order to participate in WASC, one staff member from the school must participate by visiting other schools to evaluate those campuses, and that is Heather Bice’s role (WASC self-study coordinator).
* Her purpose today at our meeting is to gather information from the parent community to include in her WASC report. Her main questions are to ask what are the strengths of our school culture from a parent point of view and what are the areas of growth? Does the school provide a safe, clean, orderly space and how does it nurture learning for our students? Do students feel connected to the school? Are there sufficient extra-curriculars offerings that tie students to the campus community?
* Parent responses:
* Over the one year that the school has been in pandemic mode, individual teachers have been great at personally checking in with kids and bringing parents into the process as well. Special attention to how students are doing both academically and socially.
* Many people are concerned about internet privacy. There seems to be a big discrepancy between the middle school and the high school. CMS focuses on trying to keep your kids away from social media as long as they can, while at CHS it seems the opposite. Facebook and Instagram accounts seem to be promoted at CHS. For example, ASB communicates primarily through its Instagram. Also, a lot of people at the high school have gmail accounts, which means google has access to student’s emails. We should be aware of the negative consequences that could occur if we use these platforms in the wrong way.
* School feels very safe - impressed with COVID safety protocols at school. Impressed by the school partnership with Coronado SAFE.
* CHS is fortunate to have the Student2Student (S2S) club that welcomes all new students and has been wonderful integrating new students. Not necessarily available at other schools.
* We are grateful for the CHS counselors, who are excellent advocates for students.
* Teachers seem to have very high expectations and try to get to know their students personally, but with the pandemic learning structure they just haven’t been able to connect as personally as they would in person.
* CHS has made a good impression. Parent knows that because his kid likes to go to school.
* CHS has not lowered academic standards as a result of the pandemic.
* Student involvement is high. Look at the list of clubs on CHS website. Provides many opportunities for students to engage. Plus add CoSA which is very active. Look at ASB Instagram page with its weekly Tiki TV updates on campus events.
* CoSA, NJROTC, and sports have helped my student feel connected.
* NJROTC has many after school activities and competitions. My daughter has thrived in NJROTC.
* I have had four children go through CHS and they have all been involved in many diverse extra curriculars. CHS is strong in this category.
* Nice diversity in student population, maybe not in socio-economic diversity but in the diverse interest of kids. Span lots of different perspectives and celebrate each other.
* Quality of teachers uniformly very strong and students highly regard their teachers.
* Many opportunities to get involved in extra curricular activities, follow passions and take classes that challenge the student.
* We have one daughter who graduated in 2018 and she keeps in touch with her former teachers.
* Computer literacy in general – students need to be educated in the dangers.
* There is so much screen time for classes and homework in COVID era.
* Mr. Schmeichel closing statement about WASC – minimum one year self-study truly is an intense internal reflection which results in hundreds of pages of report. CHS staff is very dedicated to find ways to improve the school.

Ella Worthy, CHS ASB Commissioner of Publicity

* ASB update. Today is Green Out in honor of St Patrick’s Day. Students are requested to post in their green clothes and by posting they gain class points for the class competition.
* Spirit Week is next week – full of fun COVID safe games during break. They may partner with Kona Ice to make it more fun.
* No Place for Hate initiative at CHS – activities start next week including Signing Day.
* ASB initiative to become more inclusive for kids who don’t have social media. ASB planning to setup a separate website apart from facebook and Instagram. Also, Youtube page to broadcast more videos from ASB.
* CHS class of 2021 has started a college commit Instagram account. CHS college 2021, trade school, gap year, any other plans.
* ASB is focused on becoming more inclusive and is taking steps to diversify its ASB class.

Karl Mueller, Superintendent

* Registration for next school year’s 4x4 schedule currently underway. Our objective for 2021-22 is a full return to school and return to normal in the next school year. Five days a week in-person with teachers who want the same.
* County of Public Health will release guidelines on March 23rd regarding graduation and promotion ceremonies. Currently, a celebration similar to the one CHS staff had scheduled last year would be allowed. All protocols must be adhered to: social distancing guidelines including masks. This is promising news for all fifth, eighth, and twelfth graders.

Principal’s Report – Shane Schmeichel

* Next week at CHS is the “No Place for Hate” pledge signing week. This program falls under the Anti-Defamation League. There are 155 schools in SD county that participate. CHS has a committee that meets to discuss what actions to take and what voice to add. Goal is for all students to feel safe and that they belong at CHS.
* No Place for Hate pledge – has its own Powerschool page and access to this page has been granted to all CHS students and parents. Google form Pledge is embedded in Powerschool page – click on the google form, sign, then submit. All students are requested to sign next week.
* Teachers will discuss the pledge in their classes, and visual representation (banners, posters) will be placed all over campus.

President’s Report – Jennifer Shoemaker

* 2021-22 CHS PTO Board and committee openings - please reach out if you’re interested in volunteering as a Board or committee member next year!
* New 4x4 schedule for next school year resources – Coronado counselors created informational videos on their counseling page. ASB video interview with Mr. Schmeichel. CUSD School Board April meeting will address 4x4 schedule.
* COVID testing opportunities for all students available weekly at CUSD.
* March hospitality – thank you to parents Anne Hill, Kailee Burke, and Joanna Dietzman, and staff Janet Jimenez!
* Looking for volunteers for April hospitality. PTO wants to surprise students and staff with a “Kindness Walk” by chalking positive messages around campus and leaving healthy snacks and water bottles for them to discover in the quad.
* CHS teacher Katie Quinly with her class garden was featured in the Coronado Eagle newspaper. The classroom garden was sponsored in part by a PTO One Islander Grant!
* CHS senior parent coordinator Michelle Gilmore will be holding a zoom meeting for all interested senior parents next Tuesday, March 23 at 5:30pm. Please join if you’re interested in helping with end of year senior traditions!
* Support CoSA April Film Festival in CHS Quad - “Friday nights in the quad”
* CHS sports are back! Congrats to Robin Nixon, ISF, and players. Athletes are being tested for COVID per CIF requirements. Check spectator guidelines before you go to any games. There may be live stream opportunities. Please continue to model good sportsmanship.
* CHS library is open. Starting Monday, the library will be open to hybrid students at lunch and break with some restrictions.
* Summer school opportunity – both remediation and enrichment. Be on the lookout for CUSD summer school survey from Superintendent Mueller.

**Community Partners**

Mindy Hayes, School Liaison Officer

* Weekly newsletter directed at military families includes district updates, a lot of navy resources, webinars, and special events.
* Military family life counselor Kendra Miller available – confidential non-medical counseling for students, couples, and the entire family. If you need someone to talk to regarding COVID, moving, deployments, etc.

Tara Davies, Teen Librarian - Coronado Public Library

* Some events: scavenger hunt today, regular weekly steam camps.
* Earth Day poster contest with Emerald Keepers. Restore Our Earth theme. Collecting posters at library, due first week of April.
* Winn Room expansion proposal – expansion will improve quality and capacity of events. Town hall meeting for feedback and support. Two different options from architect Sean Riley. You can find information on Comment Coronado.

Jeanmarie Bond, CEO - Coronado Schools Foundation

* Calling all CHS juniors! CSF is looking for applicants for next year’s CSF student representative – joins monthly CSF Board meetings, acts as a liaison between CSF and CHS, great college resume builder. Information is in CHS smore newsletter. Application due Friday, March 26th.
* Telethon is Wednesday, March 24th. CHS hour is 8-9pm and will feature the game show “Tiki Time” hosted by CHS teacher Casey Tanaka. A take on the old pyramid game show.
* Golf cart tickets still available for sale and can be purchased up until 8:30p Telethon night.
* Spring Soiree and Balcony Bash at Loews Coronado – everyone who donates $1k or more to Telethon will be invited. There will be a live band, mini-auction, games and party favors. Photographer will be on site. Completely socially distanced. Includes use of all Loews resort amenities. Donate today!
* Jeanmarie Bond will retire from CSF on March 31, 2021, to become a full-time grandma.

Georgia Farrell, Executive Director - Coronado SAFE

* SAFE provides counseling services, youth programs, parent workshops.
* March Coffee Talk - Talking to Your Kids about Drugs. Coronado Police department has said that there is an increase in drug use and abuse. Please join the coffee talk to learn more.
* Aloha Club welcomes new families to Coronado. New staff to expand this program even further.
* May is mental wellness month. SAFE is partnering with a variety of groups: hospital, schools, Rotary, Ms. Teen Coronado, local businesses, on how to expand the SAFE program. The key is simplicity. How can we take care of our mental well being by doing simple things.

New Business

* Next PTO meeting is Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 9am.
* Raffle winner this month is Kathy DiMatteo! Please pickup your prize later this morning at the front desk in the CHS main office. Erin Rowan will be expecting you.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.