



**CHMS GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES from May 20, 2021**

**Featuring Guest Speaker: Dr. Hector Garcia**

**In Attendance:**

**Co-Presidents** - Jenny Driscoll and Michele Schubkegel

**Co-Vice Presidents** - Anastasia Nystedt and Becky Rush

**Treasurer & Assistant-Treasurer** - Jennifer Buffardi & Margie Jeffords

**VP Communications** - Michelle Crowe

**Web Master and Remote Learning Liaison** - Geegee Kan

**Teacher Liaison:** Lisa Albano

**Principal** - Levi Brown

**Secretary** - Courtney Stach

**Approval of February 18th General Meeting Minutes:**

Motion to Approve the February 18th General Meeting Minutes and Motion Approved.

- A) PTO News**
- B) Updates from Dr. Brown**
- C) Member Votes and Approvals**
- D) Guest Speaker Dr. Hector Garcia**
- E) Q&A with Dr. Garcia**

**I. PTO News**

- A. Despite a challenging year, the PTO made a ton of accomplishments.
- B. From the **Fall stylus purchase**, to the encore enhancements, virtual Pizza Wars, and current support of an in person graduation, the PTO and CHMS families continued to focus on making our children's school experience the best it can be.
- C. **Fort Nightly, the PTO** partnered with the Community House to offer our 8th grade boys and girls this time honored tradition that teaches the basics of dancing and decorum. Thank you to Jill Conley for taking this on during the most challenging of times.
- D. **Pizza Wars- Pandemic Style**- We want to thank our families, students and staff who participated in a unique version of Pizza Wars this year!

Thank you to our local vendors: Guilliano's, Altamura and Sarpino's for their time and making this a successful event. Congrats to this year's winner: Giuliano's Pizza. Thank you to the amazing chairs for Pizza Wars: Kate Hickey, Jackie Kostich, & Katheryn Mansell.

- E. **Caudill and Soar Awards** - Every year the PTO partners with Ashley Rasmussen (MRC Director) and works on this program to encourage CHMS kids to read. To reward students who participate, the PTO purchased gift cards, books and even a Kindle Fire for one lucky winner. Thank you Sandy Bonino for leading this tremendous effort!
- F. **Spring Book Fair** was a success and kick-started the Summer reading lists for all the students. Thank you all who participated as the MRC benefits from the book fair proceeds and will be selecting new books for the new year. Grade-level reading lists are available on the PTO website, so please check them out today. A special shout out to the chairs: Elaine Gilman, Susan Blumberg-Kason, Laura Bashir for a creative book fair option!
- G. **Staff Appreciation Week was a great success!** May 3-May 7th, 2021. We celebrated our faculty and staff. We made sure to also celebrate the bus drivers and crossing guards too! They were offered lots of yummy treats and gifts throughout the week. Thank you CHMS Faculty, Staff, Bus Drivers and Crossing Guards for all you do to keep our kids learning and safe! Special thank you to those chairs: Julie Rzeppa, Angie Deppe, & Marie Strimaitis for a very well-planned week!
- H. **Paving the Way to Our Future**- Brick Sales are a great way to treat a graduate to a lifelong mark at CHMS! Dan Lambert is heading up brick sales again this year and he's overseeing final orders. Commemorative personalized bricks will be installed this Spring and Summer.
- I. **Spirit Wear** - Final push, our deliveries for the Rising 6th graders will take place next week. Thank you Katie Gjeldum for all your wonderful effort, planning and organization to get these sales done for our kids and for providing all of the fabulous CHMS fashion. Looking forward to seeing your Blue and Gold next year!
- J. **Spring is in the Air** - the Landscaping Committee has been hard at work with the CHMS Wind Turbine Garden and front entry flower beds. Check out the new limestone accent stones, the spring perennials and the summer hostas and evergreen shrubs for year round color. The planters will be in great shape for graduation photos and we want to give a very special thank you to: Klaudia Zapol and Anastasia Nystedt.

K. **PTO Registration is OPEN!** Don't forget to register for PTO! It includes free access to the school directory. PTO supports/funds: Spirit Lunches, Spirit Wear, Staff Appreciation, and Pizza Wars. There is so much more but those are just to name a few of our programs! The PTO's goal is to enrich our children's experience with enhanced programs and materials.

L. **Get Involved Next Year! 2021-2022 Parent and PTO Sign Up!** Consider signing up and volunteering your time to make the childrens' school year the best it can be! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to: Co-Presidents: 2021-2022 Becky Rush & Anastasia Nystedt at [president@chmspto.org](mailto:president@chmspto.org)

M. **Dr. Levi Brown's Update** - Stuff the Squad was a great success! Thank you to all who participated in bringing donations for those in need. We are working on: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion all year long in the MRC and within our morning announcements and possibly with guest speakers. MRC will have books that have themes and authors that celebrate: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Recently, we were lucky enough to have a D181 guest speaker such as Rakeda Leaks, (Naperville District 203 appointed her the Director of Diversity and Inclusion).

1. **8th Grade Graduation Update-** It's an in-person graduation, held at the Westmont Park District Athletic Field. We will be decorating and sharing space with HMS. The last day of school is June 8th for the 8th graders and then June 10th is their graduation. June 8th they will receive gift cards for ice cream and pizza. The kids can sign yearbooks on June 8th and then the formal graduation event is June 10th. Four family attendees are allowed, plus the graduate. The families will be set up socially distanced.
2. **The Rotary Run** sign up begins now for the October 3, 2021 race.

N. **General Meeting Votes:**

1. **Encore Purchases** - Items purchased for the Encores included Family Consumer Science, Art/Digital Media, and Applied Tech classes: \$6,938 will be spent on specific items in need. Thanks to the generous support of our CHMS community, \$1,402 still remains in our fundraising budget.
2. With your vote and approval, the following additional items will be directly available to the students by using the balance left

from the year and by asking to use the left owner grade level supply budgets to benefit: 6th, 7th and 8th graders alike in the MRC.

3. A motion to vote for the capital expenditure of the mobile shelves, (2) sets of end panels, canopy top, and installation and freight: \$2,994.00. The additional dollars needed (\$1402) were found in grade level supplies and support budgets. In order to confirm the above spending was made with a proper vote; a motion was made to approve the above spending and motion was approved.
4. **2021-22 CHMS PTO Board** - The Executive Board would like to recommend the following slate for a vote:
  - a) Vice Presidents: OPEN
  - b) Secretary: Lindsay Patel
  - c) Assistant Treasurer: Elaine Gilman
  - d) VP of Communications: Megan Maduri
  - e) There were no other nominations from the floor.
    - (1) There was a vote to approve the aforementioned slate. There was a request to vote with your hand for all those who say YAY or NAY. There were all 'YAY' votes. The slate was ratified and approved.
5. **2021-2022 CHMS PTO Budget** - was presented to the General Meeting Attendees and posted on our website. The PTO Board and Treasurers have recommended increasing the budget for Teacher Appreciation and Landscaping. The suggested increases were: \$600-to-\$900 for the Landscaping budget and \$3500-to-\$4500 for Teacher Appreciation budget so we can reach all those who serve our school and children: faculty, staff, bus drivers and crossing guards. There was a motion to approve the newly proposed budget and the budget was approved.
6. **Guest Speaker Dr. Garcia & Short Q&A** - Our PTO's are second to none in the area and we thank you all for your hard work. Your schools took the challenges and ran with them! Student attendance is currently at 95% and we hope to have full in person attendance back next year.
  - a) The amount of social distance is being reviewed from 6 feet to 3 feet.
  - b) The quarantine guidelines have changed and differed between the elementary and the high school level

students. One mom from the crowd, offered that Fridays are a better start date for a quarantine than a Monday so they have the weekends in there.

- c) Dr. Garcia said in 2021-2022, we are looking hard at bringing back normalcy with Physical Education, Music and Lunch.
- d) Sports and other after curriculums are due to come back next year.
- e) The surveillance testing has had a low turnout across the district and low turn-in rate too.
- f) Dr. Garcia is hopeful for a great 2021-2022 and is very proud of CHMS and all of the schools in D181 and their accomplishments under Covid restraints.

**Meeting Adjourned 11:15am**