

CMS PTO Minutes from the meeting September 13, 20102

Welcome

The meeting started off with a warm welcome from President Megan Pickette and VP Nancy Grayson. They addressed the attendees who were comprised of approximately 40 parents.

Megan announced that the printed School Agenda which every student received for the 2012/2013 school year was supplied by last year's PTO and budget.

Chenex Presentation

Kendra Blitz, Director of Chenex -

Kendra provided a brief description of the Chenex program. Chenex is the afterschool program at Chenery. It offers opportunities for students to participate in enrichment programs and community service, and allows for time with peers for physical and social play. Chenex operates from the end of the school day until 6:00 pm. All organized programs provided by Chenex start at 3:30 to allow students to take advantage of other after school programs offered by the District or the PTO. There are a few available spaces remaining for this year. If you are interested in the program please contact Kendra directly..

- Kendra Blitz, Director c_heneryextended@gmail.com
- (617) 484-8030
www.chenexprogram.org

Principals' Report

Kristen St. George, Principal of Chenery -

Kristen welcomed parents, new and old. The year is off to a wonderful start with almost full occupancy of the building. The largest grades are 5 & 7, with the total student population close to 1300. There are also 15 new faculty and staff members. Meet the new members of the Chenery team at the next PTO meeting on November 1st, 7-9 pm.

Back-to-School nights are September 20th for the Upper School and September 27th for the Lower School. Both programs start at 7 pm.

Daniel Coplon-Newfield, Assistant Principal of the Upper School -

Daniel opened his portion of the meeting by saying how much he enjoyed the quiet in the building over the summer, but the building doesn't feel right without the students in it! He thanked the PTO for the Agenda Notebooks, saying "now I know every student has a place to write their homework assignments and review the rules of the school".

Daniel reminded the audience to please check and see that you and your student have access to Edline. IF you do not, contact Steve Mazzola, Director of Technology Department at

SMazzola@belmont.k12.ma.us

617-993-5450

The 7th grade has a new math curriculum program this year. The new curriculum plan provides two levels of math so that the needs of the student body will be better met. Daniel spoke to the 7th graders in an assembly last week and explained to them that they are the new role models for the Lower School.

8th Grade has curriculum changes too. The social studies curriculum will focus on a humanities portfolio as opposed to the NHD (National History Day) focus. The switch to a more core curriculum humanities portfolio focus was decided because the timeframe for NHD is so short for our own school curriculum calendar. The NHD presentation and competition will still be available as a school club for those students who wish to take on the project. Daniel will present the 8th Grade DC trip to the School Committee, for their approval, in early October.

Heidi Johnson, Assistant Principal of Lower School – Transition of the 5th grade class is going well, the kiddos are beginning to think of Chenery as their school. If your child is having adjustment issues please advise your child's teacher and guidance counselor. There will be "meet and greet" for the parents of 5 & 6 graders the week of September 17th.

Exciting trips and programs for the year include; Archeological Dig and a semi-professional theatre experience (taking the students to a play) for 6th graders and the annual Ferry Beach Trip for the 5th graders.

Foundation for Belmont Education Overview

Presented by Ginny Arbeloff, publicity for the FBE.

publicity@fbe-belmont.org

Since its inception in 1993, the Foundation for Belmont Education has dedicated itself to making a difference in the Belmont Public Schools. Thanks to donation from thousands of Belmont residents and businesses over the years; we have granted over \$1.86 million to the Belmont Public Schools to support 456 projects initiated and organized by administrators, teachers and staff. We are always looking for donations and volunteers.

<http://www.fbe-belmont.org/index.asp>

PTO Committee Reports

Committee Chairs introduced themselves, made brief reports and pleas for volunteers.

Membership – Barbara Chinoporos

chinoporos@yahoo.com

Join the PTO for annual \$30 (or greater donation) dues. Please join, it is easy to make your payment with so many options; Paypal, envelope that was sent home from school and bring your checkbook to Back to School Night.

Fund Raiser – Janet Goldberg

janet.goldberg2@verizon.net

The Genevieve Wrapping Paper fundraiser has started. Your student should have brought home the information packet. Genevieve's Wrapping Paper is the largest PTO fundraiser for the year. Please participate! This sale ends Sept. 27th.

There will also be a cookie dough fundraiser sale in the Spring.

PTO Clubs – Constance Moore and Rita Butzer Carpenter

constance_moore2001@yahoo.com

ritaccarp@yahoo.com

PTO Club registration is now open with 15 clubs that will run starting Oct. 9th. All clubs are \$80 and scholarships are available. Registration is online this fall and can be accessed by going to the Chenery website under the PTO Programs tab.

Registration is only open for two weeks and will close on Sept. 28th.

5th Grade Pasta Dinner – Sharon Fletcher and Faye Blazer

fletchermail@yahoo.com

A welcome dinner for all 5th graders their families and families who are new to Chenery. The date for this annual favorite is October 18th. Please contact Faye and Sharon to volunteer.

Enrichment – Heidi Steinert and Carolyn Boyle, Upper School

Susan Black and Carolyn Boyle, Lower School

hlsteinert@yahoo.com

carolynfboyle@yahoo.com

susan_black02478@yahoo.com

This committee provides enrichment programs to Chenery that complement class curriculum. Programs are held throughout the year.

International Fair - Lucy Yeghayayan-De Lefevre

Lucy_pml@hotmail.com

This committee has been dormant for a few years. If you are interested in helping to get this program up and running please contact Lucy.

Directory – Lorriane Kermond

ldkermond@gmail.com

All 5th grade parents that would like to be included in the printed directory must submit completed information. All students new to Chenery must also submit contact information. Current students only need to submit information IF their contact information has changed from past years.

Volunteers needed for upcoming events, contact Nancy Grayson

kynancyg@aol.com

Volunteers are needed for Picture Day, October 11th and as a School Committee Observer. The Observer rotates with other school's PTO volunteers to sit in at the School Meetings and send in a brief report to all PTO Presidents. This is a rotating schedule position and requires just a few hours all year, depending on the number of volunteers.

Treasure Report – the final budget for 2011/2012 was approved.

Secretary Report – minutes from the June 7, 2012 meeting were approved

On September 10, 2012 the Executive Board approved allocating \$600 to the Chenery Courtyard Club.

There was a large amount of information distributed tonight, check the PTO and Chenery website for up to date and general information. Thank you all for attending.

<http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/cms/Home.aspx>

<http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/cms/pto/PTO.aspx>

2012-2013 PTO Dates

Thursday, September 20 Upper School Curriculum Night

Thursday, September 27 Lower School Curriculum Night

Thursday, October 18 5th Grade and New Family Pasta Dinner

Thursday, November 1, 7-8:30 pm PTO Meeting (topic: New Staff Welcome)

Thursday, January 10, 9am-10: 30am PTO Meeting (topic: Internet/Social Media Safety)

Thursday, March 7, 7-8:30pm Chenery PTO Meeting (topic: Adolescence Development & Wellness and Your Family)

Thursday, May 2, 9-10:30am Chenery PTO Meeting (Common Core Discussion with Curriculum Directors)

Thursday, June 6, 9-10:30am Chenery PTO Meeting (topic: thank you, elections)