

COMMACK PTA COUNCIL
HUBBS ADMINISTRATION CENTER
CLAY PITTS ROAD
COMMACK, NY 11725

November 2009

DISTRICT-WIDE PTA GOALS AND PRIORITIES

- Continue to address the individual needs of each school based upon **the fluctuation of** population with regards to building space, support staff, education materials and provide additional opportunities for extra/co-curricular activity to promote student participation to facilitate social and emotional development, especially at the middle level.
- Continue educating students and families regarding CSIP opportunities that promote positive student behavior and motivate student participation.
- Maintain district-wide program to educate students and staff in the promotion and development of academic integrity. **(Example: the correct use of databases and the avoidance of plagiarism).**
- **Continue to** provide training to teachers, staff and all cafeteria aides in first aid, Heimlich maneuver, CPR and use of Defibrillators annually.
- **Continue to support and promote the efforts and programs provided by the Coalition of Caring.**
- **Continue to promote the district's "Going Green" policy, by encouraging all parents to sign up for e-mail notification and to utilize backpack news. Provide parent workshops to teach parents how to navigate the Commack District's Website.**
- Continue to provide programs to promote thoughtful positive decision making with respect to conflict resolution, developing social skills and character building at all levels.
- Continue to educate students and parents regarding Internet Safety.
- Continue to incorporate **and monitor** age appropriate study skills into the curriculum at all levels.
- The Commack School District's Board of Education should **make every effort to restore class sizes to below established contractual maximums.**
- **Continue to** maintain district Arts in Education funding and support throughout the district.
- Continue to provide information to parents and students about the IB program and its many options.
- Conduct all teacher in-service training and workshops and staff development **at times that have minimal impact on students.**
- **Continue to send state test scoring out to be graded by outside source,** to keep teachers in the classroom providing students continuity in the learning process.
- Continue to promote and improve the open line of communication - PTA, Teachers, Administration and Board of Education.
- Continue to promote a "partnership" through teacher, parent & student communication, especially encouraging teacher use of E-boards and parent use of email notification.

- Continue to monitor and assess adequate staffing of social workers and psychologists proportionate to student population and to address the specific needs of individual buildings.
- Continue to offer healthy choices in all cafeterias, promote physical activity, and physical well-being.
- **Continue to promote awareness of health and safety issues, such as the recent H1N1 notification, etc.**
- **Be an advocate for our community in budget related issues.**
- Continue to refurbish areas of need in all buildings.

SEPTA

- Require all instruction staff in district to identify students with an IEP, **within 3 days of the beginning of school**, and to work towards meeting the students needs within two weeks of entering class.
- **Continue to** standardize policies and practices for all schools.
- **Continue to keep** the lines of communication open between Special Education Parents and the district regarding changes in NYS and federal laws and regulations concerning Special Education.
- **Continue** to maintain and/or create programs to keep as many Commack students in district.
- Continue to offer the after-school social skills program with housing and video equipment furnished through the district.
- **Continue to require** the education of all instructional staff in the district on what the IEP mandates mean and what their responsibility is when a classified student is in their classroom.
- **Continue to** evaluate regent's requirements and curriculum to ensure that all students obtain a regent's diploma.
- **Continue to** create programs to allow Literature study for students with reading difficulties, such as studying using books on tape, viewing classics on video or attending plays.
- **Provide** Guidance Counselors who specialize in special education programs for special education students.
- **Continue to train** aides working with special education students, to provide continuity between student and aide on a consistent basis.

PRIMARY LEVEL

- Restore class size to 23 students or less for grades K-2.
- **Continue** to update computers in the classroom, libraries and computer labs, **and provide smart boards to all primary schools.**

- Continue to offer healthy food choices and promote physical and emotional well-being. **Encourage children to wash their hands several times daily, provide more dispensers outside classrooms and lunchrooms, promote cleanliness throughout building, with special attention to the bathrooms.**
- Continue to maintain and repair buildings in timely manner as needed to insure safety and quality of environment.
- Replace playground equipment and indoor recreation equipment as necessary.
- **Continue to** monitor and assess adequate staffing of social workers and psychologists proportionate to student population and needs of individual buildings.
- Continue to obtain adequate and trained coverage for students during nurses' lunch break.
- Continue to improve the communication between students, teachers, parents and administration via increased use of email notification, website, and teacher use of E-boards. **Encourage all parents to sign up for e-mail notification.**
- Continue character education programs and incorporate into curriculum
- **Encourage all parents to be involved, especially kindergarten parents and new entrants.**

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- Maintain lower class size in 3rd grade **and reduce class size in 4th and 5th grades. /Establish a cap of 6 special education students in integrated classes.**
- **Continue** and expand summer camp program.
- Refurbish areas of need in the buildings.
- Provide additional support services as necessary to meet the needs of the student population.
- Monitor and assess adequate staffing of social workers and psychologists proportionate to student population and needs of individual buildings.
- **Restore staff and provide additional staff where needed.**
- **Restore and expand Extra-Curricular offerings, workshops, and intramural programs.**
- Additional indoor and outdoor recreation equipment, including updating playground equipment.
- Continue to provide opportunities to participate in music program and upgrade equipment and add staff as needed to advance increased student interest.
- **Continue to increase implementation of computers and smart boards in the classrooms.**
- Expand present intramural program to promote student participation in school activities.
- Replace classroom furniture **expeditiously, as needed.**
- **Continue to support Camp Mariah.**

- **Continue to promote budget awareness and attendance at budget workshops.**
- Continue to improve the communication between students, teachers, parents and administration via increased use of email notification, website, and teacher use of E-boards.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **Continue to encourage the use of technology including e-mail notification, backpack mail, the use of the teacher's e-boards as well as the parent portal.**
- **Support and monitor the effectiveness of instruction without honors in classes as well as the Middle year's program.**
- Continue to support and enhance the Character Education Program **by bringing in Arts in Education programs that encourage positive decision-making and global awareness.**
- **Continue to** expand co-curricular, intramural, athletic, and recreational programs to provide opportunities for student participation in school activities and promote social and emotional development population and improve communication to parents on these activities.
- Continue to support and monitor the effectiveness of teaming within each house.
- Sustain an effective disciplinary program that encourages students to make thoughtful positive decisions to resolve conflicts, develop social skills and build character.
- Continue to refurbish areas of need in the building.
- Support the efforts of the wellness and nutrition committees by encouraging healthy eating habits and physical activity among students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

- **Continue to** support the acquisition of additional textbooks **(in hard copy or electronic form)** for classroom use.
- Continue to improve teacher, parent and student communication using the Internet, especially teacher use of E-boards.
- **Continue to** maintain improved communication between the Guidance Department, parents and students.
- Continue to encourage student participation in school functions at all grade levels, providing additional opportunities at the middle level.

HIGH SCHOOL

- **Promote the ease of obtaining information through regularly updated website.**
- **Encourage all students to frequently visit and familiarize themselves with the Naviance System.**
- **Promote and support the goals and activities of the “Social and Emotional Development and Learning Committee”, which includes strategies to address the social and emotional needs of Commack High School students.**
- Continue to promote availability of scholarship bulletins through website access.
- **Maintain the Counseling Center parent Advisory Committee.**
- **Maintain, and encourage attendance at, established Counseling Center programs such as College Fair, Financial Aid Workshops, and College Application Process.**
- **Continue to encourage teachers to create and use E-Boards.**
- Continue to promote communication between teacher and parent regarding student performance.
- Continue to promote “school spirit” by encouraging participation in school functions.
- Continue to provide Anti-Bullying”, violence prevention, and Addiction Prevention programs to all grade levels.
- **Continue to disseminate information relating to community service opportunities for students needing CSIP credit.**
- Continue the closed campus policy after buses are unloaded in the morning.