

**COMMUNITY MAGNET CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**TOWN HALL MEETING MINUTES for October 20, 2011**

Meeting started around 7.08 pm. Sixty parents and staff were in attendance.

- Directories were not distributed, they were not printed yet.
- Town Hall Meetings used to be CSPA meeting which was more fundraising oriented but the current structure is School-wide Town Hall run by the Principal that meets 4 times a year where various committees can report:
- Introduced the Community Council members
- Introduced Community Family and Friends Board

1) Announcements :

New at CMCS - 470 students. We had a great beginning. 9 buses. 18 great teachers. Great enrichment, Art, Drama, Music, Spanish, Computer  
We purchased 35 new IpadS – which are now being introduced to students  
Carla is back and so not much got changed :)

- Oct 28th - Friday - Halloween Parade instead of the 31st.
- eChoice applications - comes out Nov 1st and closes Dec 16th.
- Nov, Friday 11 School is closed.
- Nov 12th – Community Day - clean up school day - Garden by the 5th grade needs help
- Prospective Parent Orientation - 1st 2 Fridays in December at 8:30 AM
- Dec 14 and 15 – Winter Music Program for parents
- 3 week winter break- December 19 through January 6
- August 14th - Early start 2012 school year - not a 100% but as of today that is the date.

2) Magnet application process - eChoices - new online process for anyone who want to apply to magnet school. eChoices - Parent has to create an account.

- Parent Access Portal - parents can go and access their account and get information regarding their kids. A place where parents are going to have to create an account. Parents can input their information, enroll students, buy lunches, info. regarding information. This is for better access to parents and saves paper/stamps for LAUSD.
- There is no paper choices brochures at all starting this year. You can access Meal programs, emergency cards, access children's grades/attendance on this website now.

School needs current email address and emergency cards. They should be correctly typed on the eChoice application and the school should have it correct in their system.

Parents self register by going on the web site. Parent Access System LAUSD, enter your email address and emergency contact number that was provided on the emergency card.

Send that information to the portal, they will send you an email back.

There is a tutorial on the site to guide you through the process.

Pam played the tutorial for everyone <http://parentaccess.lausd.net> This gives you a detail instruction as to how to navigate the website.

5th graders should be getting an email by the end of the week from the system, so if the 5th graders families don't receive by the end of this week, please inquire.

echoice application for this year will go live Nov 1st.

If parents need help with this electronic application cmcs can provide help.

3) CHARTER Application - process - Nothing big is changing in our charter. Pretty similar to our initial charter. New parent groups that were created are implemented in this charter. It is a very strong application. It is available for anyone who wants a copy of it. Pam can send an electronic copy to anyone who needs it. Planning to get it out by Monday. Board has to approve it. Gave a little summary of the contents of the charter per request of one of the parents.

4) Reduced Lunch Program - 58 more kids' are needed to apply and qualify for the application for the CMCS to receive a huge amount of funding and benefits. Bus Stop reps can send out a reminder to those families who have not filled out the forms to fill it out. We need them from the ones who qualify for this aid. Pam looking for ideas as how to get the parents to fill these applications.

1) Achievement Tests - How did CMCS perform in the latest tests. 2nd through 5th graders take these tests. A new kind of test is coming 3 years from now. Every state in the country will have a similar bench mark.

API score: bench mark score is 800, schools have to reach that score every year. Our score was 930 for the past year. We started from 600 or so ten years ago and have had an upward rise since the beginning. California schools are approaching 800 but CMCS is in a high category.

Sub groups in schools; African American, Asian, Hispanic, Socio Economic Dis Advantage, English Learners, Disability. Showed achievement scores by sub groups, and we would like to see improvement in all sub groups.

Talked about the proficient goals - all schools have targets

Science tests - Only 5th graders take the science tests. Our score did go down in that category.

1) Forum now open for questions to the parents. Pam's question how to improve our communication with parents. Currently we have the phone messages, email and there are news letters are on the websites. There is also a Twitter account created this year, which can help. There are 2 websites. The old website is in the process of being improved.

Respond: "The newsletter is fantastic". About 250 families reading it every week. There is no paper newsletter. So if someone doesn't read it online, then they are missing out on the information. Korean translation of the newsletter is going out on a paper copy.

Maybe if there was a newsletter instead of news.... Every Tuesday the News is updated on the new website. Website had to be separated because the fundraising is not allowed

on the main website.

There is a twitter on the bottom on the website as well.

How can we better improve the communication: Email alert is not getting to both parents, so maybe both parents' email should be on the alert email for news letters.

In room parents meeting - talked about telling the kids to set up a reminder to go on the website.

Parent Setter - Room 1 - open everyday except Mondays.

Room 17 needs help with - Ziploc bags / salt - need help with this project.

More teachers will advertise with what help they need.

7) Valerie to present a power point - President's Report:

CFF Fundraising is being tracked really amazing.

Lot of changes this year

CFF Bank Accounts: There were a lot of bank accounts in the past. Being consolidated. Being allocated per This year/Next year. Unbelievable amount raised already this year as only into the second month of the year.

Paypal account will be transferred into next year account.

Looking for 5 big events this year. Pump it Up was a fabulous and profitable event. The event was amazing..raised \$24K. Spring Thing, Silent Auction, Readathon are all coming up this year. The goal is to get a big participation in these events. Overall we are sooooo far ahead compared to last years.

Asking parents present to ask other parent's to attend and get involved.

Projections: Goal is \$300K. Broken out by categories.

Two positions are open: Treasurer. Current treasurer had to resign for personal reasons. So if anyone can volunteer, otherwise we will have to hire outside and pay them.

The other position is the correspondence secretary who had to stepped down for personal reasons.

Look at the website to see the latest retailers who will give us a discount if we shop those stores.

Pam took the microphone back and introduced Gared

Gared announced that the Council held their first meeting of the year and has elected officers for the Council: Gared Williams – Chair, Nina Neulight- Vice Chair, Patty Ryan & Kim Williams – Secretary, Fanahi Williams – Parliamentarian.. Council reports will be made, and minutes will be posted on the website. If ypu have an agenda item for the Council, please contact the chairpersons. There is a new Public Comment period first 5 to 10 minutes.

Pam taking agenda item ideas for the Feb meeting:

1) School Food

2) How can we get Wireless Internet wifi in auditorium/all school

- 3) Grants
- 4) Electronic Outlet on upper yard
- 5) Lunch Tables
- 6) Plastic cover for when its cool out/or outdoor heaters
- 7) Auction should be on the agenda
- 8) Success Maker
- 9) PE teachers
- 10) Better communications with the transportation branch

Lisa announced they will continue the bake sale tomorrow (Friday), need help.

Timing of Friday Morning Assembly? Maybe One Friday a month Assembly can be in the morning.

Pam concluded the meeting at 8:30 pm.