



Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science & Engineering Parent Teacher Association

November 12, 2019

6:15 PM-7:45 PM, CSS Auditorium

- Minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and approved by all in attendance.
- Principal Miriam Nightengale gave an introduction on the issue of vaping among CSS students.
- Miriam Boublik from Parents Against Vaping E-Cigarettes (PAVe) then gave a presentation on the problem of vaping among youth. She discussed how advertising campaigns from e-cigarette companies target youth, and the prevalence of vaping among middle and high school students, with a dramatic increase in the past 2 years. She also indicated that a given vaping cartridge has roughly the equivalent of 20-30 cigarettes worth of nicotine, and can be easily missed by parents because of its size and similarity to pens and computer devices. She gave an overview of effects on body systems. She also discussed signs of possible vape use and ways to talk to kids about vaping.
- Danny Cooper presented new volunteer EB members Steve Nettles and Kenneth Drake for assistant treasurer and co-recording secretary. Members present unanimously voted in favor of their addition to the EB.
- Budget Amendment: Members unanimously voted in favor of adding a \$500 line item for the holiday extravaganza.
- Fundraising announcements: Dina Levy announced that picture day would be coming up tomorrow and the day after. Nydia Prishker stated that the school has a partnership with Modells Sporting Goods that will benefit the school.
- PTA treasurer's report: Danny Cooper gave an overview of the PTA's budget, noting that the PTA had roughly \$63,000 available. He noted that fundraising has been similar to last year. He also reported on expenditures, including grants to teachers and the purchase of translation equipment.
- Tri Melati spoke about goody bags for teachers and the teacher appreciation lunch in December and asked for 5-6 volunteers to help with the creation of the goody bags.

Your PTA: ptaexecboard@columbiasecondary.org

Co-Presidents: Karen Foncette-Moore, Alyson Browner
Laura Pfortmiller
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Treasurer: Danny Cooper PTATreasurer@columbiasecondary.org

Fundraising Chair: Nydia Prishker, Tri Melati

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Communications: Dina Levy

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PTA Rep to the SLT: Karen Foncette-Moore

Recording Secretary: Philip Yanos

Volunteer Coordinator: Nancy Marchetta

Vice President: Alexandra Toubia