



March General Meeting Minutes (2022-2023)

Location: ZOOM

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

6:15PM to 7:30PM

1. Call to Order & Welcome

- Co-presidents Nydia Prishker and Leanne Gonzalez-Singer call meeting to order at 6:20p.m with 88 participants
- Muna Heaven served as Spanish interpreter and translated the meeting live on Zoom.

2. Approval of Minutes

- The link and QR code for minutes from last month's meeting were projected on screen for all those present to review.
- Co-Recording Secretary, Laurie Brown Kindred, summarized last month's meeting minutes.
- Motion to approve minutes from February meeting and minutes were approved with 100% participation.

3. Co-President's Report - Leanne Gonzalez-Singer

- Farewell and Congratulations Principal I.A. Lenice Nelson! Thank you for your service! She has been promoted to Student Services Manager for Community School District 5
- Welcome to our new Principal: Vikram Arora! Principal Arora started at CSS on Monday, March 13th, 2023 and previously worked as the Assistant Principal of Mathematics at Bronx Science.
- **Communications Updates:**
 - PTA Executive Board has emailed Superintendent Sean Davenport regarding the space issues at 425 West 123rd; the email mentioned that a new space is being vacated by another charter school that could serve as a possible relocation site for KIPP STARR; Supt. Davenport responded that he will elevate this issue to the Deputy Chancellor.
 - PTA Co-Presidents have contacted the NYPD requesting additional security (a temp guard was placed at security desk on Friday, March 10). Officer Pamela Lifesly admitted that there is a shortage of school security officers, but PTA is working on getting the position permanently filled.

4. Treasurer's Report

- As of close of business Feb 1, 2023 there is \$72,710.63 in the PTA bank account. There are \$250 worth of pending charges, leaving a current register balance of \$72,460.63
 - Receipts for February
 - Uniform/Spirit Wear Sales = \$1232.00
 - Bake Sale = \$957.00
 - Membership Donations = \$855.00
 - Expenses in February
 - Dept./Grade Level Grant -\$136.88 Community Builder, 8th Grade
 - Dept./Grade Level Grant - \$918.62 Replacement Robotics Kits and Tools, 10th

COLUMBIA SECONDARY SCHOOL

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION INC.

425 West 123rd Street, New York, NY 10027



Grade

- School Wide Support - \$266.26 Tissues,
 - PayPal/Square/Ludus Expenses - \$53.50
 - Cultural Heritage - \$28.11 Black History Month Flags (3)
 - Cultural Heritage - \$250 Piano Accompaniment for Black History Month Showcase
 - Cultural Heritage - \$200 Performer for Black History Month Showcase
 - Food for Events/Conferences - \$59.96 Open House Refreshments, \$480 PTA Parent Mixer
- We are in great shape to fund items that CSS needs and we want to continue to support our students and teachers. Please donate what you can through the spiritwear store portal or paypal!
 - Also, the PTA Assistant Treasurer position is currently vacant. If you are interested in volunteering for this position please contact me.
 - Finally, please feel free to contact the PTA Treasurer, Starr Peoples, or any PTA Executive Board Member with any questions you may have.
 - Reminder, we have IRS 501(c3) status as a public charity, so donors can deduct contributions.
 - The Running Budget Worksheet was presented.

5. WELCOME TO OUR NEW PRINCIPAL Mr. Vikram Arora

- Principal Arora introduced himself and described his background on getting into education as an instructor and then an administrator at Bronx Science (and talked through the improvements).
- CSS is the first school for which he sought the position of Principal and he is very happy to be a part of the CSS community! He talked about how he's filled with confidence as he talks to CSS teachers, and is open to communication and talking about problems (please make an appointment with his secretary). He discussed the need to be strategic and logical regarding space issues.

6. CSS DIPLOMA / COMMUNITY SERVICE - Bilingual High School Counselor, Elsa Cordoba

- Ms. Cordoba discussed the credit requirements and Regents requirements for four options for high school diploma (see table of graduation requirements in slide show attached below):
 - NYS Regents Diploma
 - Credit Requirements: 44 minimum **required** credits (every student must complete these REQUIRED credits: English, Social Studies & PE, plus 2 years of Foreign Language)
 - Assessment Requirements: 5 required Regents exams (65+ passing score) Math, Science, ELA Regents, Social Studies Regents (at CSS only give US History Regents), +1 regents exam (another Math, Science or LOTE, aka Spanish Regents)
 - NYS Advanced Regents Diploma
 - Credit Requirements: 44 minimum required credits (above NYS Regents Diploma plus 3 years of 6 credits of Foreign Language)
 - Assessment Requirements: 9 required Regents exams (above, plus 3 math - Algebra, Geometry and Trig; plus 3 Science exams - Living Environment, plus option to pick 2 of 3, Earth Science, Chemistry or Physics)
 - CSS Diploma (not required for graduation but consistent with CSS's curriculum):
 - Credit Requirements: 55 minimum required credits (above for NYS Advanced



Regents Diploma plus 5 engineering and 5 philosophy)

- Assessment Requirements: 9 required exams + 1 College Course + 150 hrs of service (of which 100 hours must be from high school, 50 may be from middle school); Community Service hours must be submitted to Counselor Cordoba (community service hours are service that does not include compensation)
- NYS Local Diploma (for Students with IEPs who don't pass any of the above credit and/or assessment requirements)
 - Credit Requirements: 44 minimum required credits
 - Assessment Requirements: 5 required Regents exams (55+ passing score)

7. CSS COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (CSS-CU) COURSEWORK - AP ERIN FLAHERTY - open to 8th - 11th graders now!

- CU College Edge (receive a transcript)
 - Credit-bearing; a "real" college course
 - Significant time commitment; meets multiple times per week and may have additional small discussion sections
 - Readings done outside of class; students need independence and socioemotional skills to seek office hours; TA support; etc
 - Students are in class alongside undergraduates
 - Summer College Edge is only for returning students
- CU College Immersion (do not receive a transcript)
 - Non credit-bearing
 - Great entry point; great for summer
 - Lower time commitment (can be paired with other activities)
 - Highly engaging
 - Tailored towards high school students
 - High school students only
 - Summer Immersion is during the week; school year Immersion courses are on Saturday and Sundays
 - Geared to younger high school students
 - All classmates will be other high school students
- Application Process
 - Step 1: Students who meet GPA requirements are invited to apply to appropriate program (Edge, Immersion, both); application requires essay response; may reach out to Prof. Flaherty if questions about eligibility
 - Step 2: Teacher committee evaluates students using CSS-CU rubric (attached in slide show below)
 - CSS-CU committee reviews & scores student application responses
 - Committee approves, approves conditionally, or disapproves student entrance to CU
 - CU waives fees for College Immersion program; however waivers are limited and student may be waitlisted
 - CU-College Edge does not have a specific cap
 - Approved students are onboarded to CU (given CUID, connected to advisor etc)
 - CSS has students apply well in advance due to multiple requirements from CU



for registration; because of this, the course catalog may not be available at the time of application; CSS advisor will help students register for appropriate courses when course numbers and times become available

- Success in the courses depends on a student's independence and initiative; the CSS-CU committee assesses these qualities in student applicants according to the score reference rubric sheet (attached in slides below); CSS encourages students to go through the application process themselves to demonstrate the qualities necessary for success
- Timely application is important because the courses fill up

● CSS-CU and IMMERSION COMMITTEE - rubric sheet

CSS-CU COLLEGE READINESS RUBRIC

Self-Awareness	Independence	Resiliency	Social Skills	Academic Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Is knowledgeable of their weaknesses and effectively utilizes supports needed to address them · Is aware of available supports and utilizes if needed without compromising independence · Interacts with authority professionally and respectfully · Understands how their actions in class affect others and strives to make that impact positive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Works independently & challenges themselves to push beyond their comfort level · Consistent in punctuality, time-management and organization · Problem solves independently, but is willing to seek help after a sustained attempt · Has the ability to function independently from parents · Complies with and meets deadlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Accepts positive guidance from others · Reaches out proactively when experiencing particular difficulty · Responds productively to failure by adjusting the course of action · Is proactive about making up missing work and catching up when absent · Shows interest in improving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Is professional and respectful to both adults and peers · Works well with a variety of peers and adapts seamlessly to group settings · Resolves conflicts peacefully · Is consistently well-behaved and a positive influence in the classroom · Feels comfortable sharing perspective and knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fully engages in class activities · Brings a positive outlook to class · Maintains professionalism · Completes assignments for depth and understanding · Follows conventions of English language in written work · Attends class on time · Exercises total academic integrity

- 4 Student's independent abilities in this area set them apart as a role model
- 3 Student may require occasional direction to perform these indicators OR a singular indicator requires additional support while the others are consistently performed independently
- 2 Student requires direction and guidance to perform these indicators OR a singular indicator is not fulfilled to the point of concern for the student to work independently at the college level
- 1 Student requires consistent external support to perform these indicators OR multiple indicators are not fulfilled to the point of prohibiting the student's ability to work independently at the college level

- Students need to have a certain amount of skills in order to be eligible
- Students should fill out their own application, look at the course catalog and choose the courses for themselves
- This is open to 8th graders
- Biggest parental help is to give them the confidence to talk to the CSS support team
- Application process is due on Monday 3/20/23
- Is this worth it? It definitely adds to the homework load
- As of 5/11, the proof of vaccine at CU will be lifted.

8. **Facilities Report - VP of Facilities, David Thom (email at PTAfacilities@columbiasecondary.org)**

- Schoolyard is on track for completion sometime in Fall 2023 (which could mean December)
- School Construction Authority (SCA) has finally started scoping meetings on \$2.4M pool and \$500k basement cafeteria renovations. Has not shared a timeline.
- SCA is unclear on when roof repairs will start. Facade repairs are almost done. Scaffolding has been up more or less continuously for over five years but is hoping to remove it from W123rd in a couple months. (no additional information on timeline has been provided)
- Library and Tech Room construction are not complete; final "punch list" may require 1-2 more months. CSS's use of and access to the Library and Tech Room remains unclear (will there be a librarian? how will the books be acquired?); seeking clarification from the SCA.

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- CSS comprises 56% of the building population but has been receiving only ~25% of shared space time periods. Process of working with other schools to better follow the DOE formula needs to be rebuilt from scratch.
- No news on converting W123rd into a Play Street. Application submitted last fall, DOT was supportive, but seems stalled. Lack of support from the three school admins may have been an issue (parking).

9. Fundraising - Lilian Chow and Danille Hartley

- Spirit Wear Sales - Will consistently be on the first Monday of the month (take cash or card). We NEED VOLUNTEERS! (students can also get community service hours). Please remind your kids as we have purchased stock ready to be picked up!
- Green Clover Bake Sale - Friday, March 17th! We need 4 volunteers for each shift. VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED! Links & QR codes to follow.
 - Future Bake Sales:
 - April 28th - Spring Bake Sale
 - May 12th - Teacher Appreciation Bake Sale
 - June 2nd - Last Bake Sale of the Year!
 - Students can earn up to 3 community service hours for baking for the Bake Sale!
- Annual Appeal
 - Goal for this year is \$23,000.
 - We have fallen short of our goal this year; 8% of the families have donated to the Annual Appeal for a total of about \$15k
 - Our goal is to have 90% participation in the annual appeal by May's Spring Fling.
 - Any amount that you give is greatly appreciated (AND TAX DEDUCTIBLE!)
 - See "Get Involved/Donate" on the CSS website
 - Examples of use of past funds: robotics, journalism club, uniforms for athletics, events and food for events, teacher small grants
- Online Fundraisers
 - Farm to People is an online farmers market that sells locally grown and prepared foods; use code **FARMCSS** so that portion of sales go to CSS PTA. See CSS family email for details. <https://farmtopeople.com/>. As little as one item is a subscription. You can order a la carte, as little or as much as you like. You can cancel at any time.
 - Also participate in BOX TOPS!
- Year Long Fundraisers
 - Dues Drive / Annual Appeal (see above)
 - Amazon Smile! - watch for the link in PTA Communications emails
- Spring Fling is coming BACK! In-person social and online auction!
 - Friday May 19th from 6 - 10 p.m. at CSS parent owned Cafe Buunii in Inwood 4961 Broadway
 - Ticket price is \$65 per person/\$100 per couple in advance; \$75 at the door; includes food and two drinks and entertainment, and three in-person live auction items
 - Please volunteer! There are several ways you can help out: donate food, help create the video compilation, decorate, set-up, collect money at the door, strike at the end of the night. Please email PTAspringfling@columbiasecondary.org
 - Donate auction items or procure them from local businesses. Examples from the past

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- are: camping site donated by Prof Hubbard, Broadway tickets, art pieces and classes, yoga training and sessions, sports event tickets, NYC City Hall tour by Mark Levine, Texas Beach Front Condo for up to 8 people, college admissions and career counseling
- If you have a great idea for an auction item, please send it to PTAfundraising@columbiasecondary.org.

9. CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

- The PTA STILL NEEDS a VP of Fundraising - the work can be mostly remote! Please email CSSPTApresident@columbiasecondary.org if interested.
- In addition to the Bake Sale, Spirit Wear Sale and Spring Fling, we need volunteers for:
 - Need volunteers from current high school families for 9th grade high school orientation; please contact roxanabosch@columbiasecondary.org
 - Need volunteers for for next Spirit Wear sale on **Apr 3, 2023**
 - Need volunteers for for Community Education Council 5 (CEC5) representation; includes monthly meetings with representatives from all elementary and middle schools
- **WHY VOLUNTEER?**
 - Raises for the money for the school
 - Allows us to continue CSS traditions; without volunteers, these events are at risk.
 - Builds community
 - Meet other parents
 - Your children appreciate it!
 - Low level commitment (an hour really makes a difference!)
 - IT's FUN!

10. VIRTUAL PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

- Thursday 3/23 and Friday 3/24; see email from AP Gordon for signup information

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. (90 in attendance)

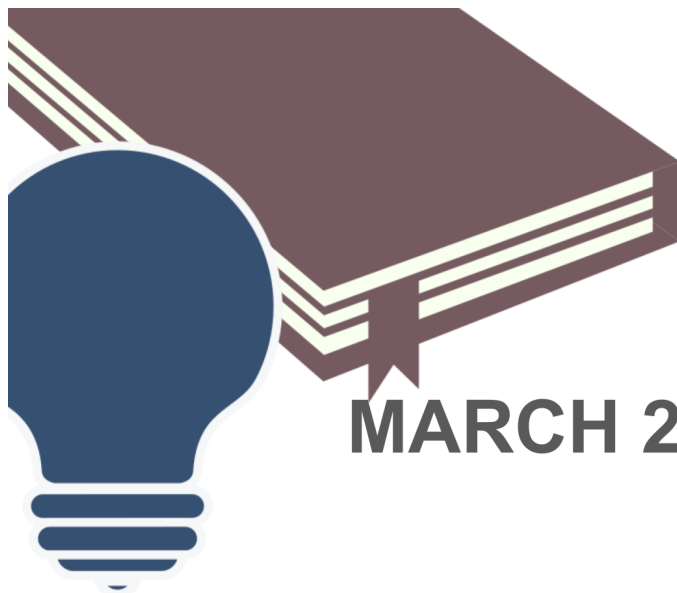
NEXT PTA MEETINGS

April 18, 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M.

May 16, 2023 8:30-9:30 A.M.

June 13, 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M.

Attachments: Slide Show



COLUMBIA SECONDARY SCHOOL

MARCH 2023 GENERAL PTA MEETING

March 14, 2023

6:15 - 7:30 PM

Location: ZOOM

AGENDA

1. **Call to order & Welcome** - Nydia Prishker and Leanne Gonzalez-Singer, Co-Presidents
2. **Approval of Minutes** - Laurie Brown Kindred, Recording Secretary
3. **Co-Presidents' Report** - Nydia Prishker and Leanne Gonzalez-Singer, Co-Presidents
4. **Treasurer's Report** - Starr Peoples, Treasurer
5. **Principal's Report** - Welcome, Principal Vikram Arora!
6. **SLT Report**
7. **Faculty Report:** CSS Diploma/Community Svc Requirements - Counselor Elsa Cordoba /
CU Immersion & CU Edge @ CSS - AP Erin Flaherty
8. **Facilities Report** - Dave Thom, VP of Facilities
9. **Fundraising & Volunteering Updates**
10. **Announcements/New Business**
11. **Adjournment**





Approval of February 2023 Minutes

PTA RECORDING SECRETARY



Link to the complete minutes (Also see QR code for the link):

February 2023 Minutes

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15KmeCxxuy6wWOIED7X760f9fj6RBIv-EANm1ELd30AI/edit?usp=share_link



CSS PTA | 2022-2023

February General Meeting Summary of Minutes (2022-2023)

Tuesday, February 7, 2022

Location: ZOOM at 6:15PM to 7:30PM

1. **Call to Order & Welcome**
 - Co-presidents Nydia Prishker and Leanne Gonzalez-Singer call meeting to order at 6:21 p.m with 59 participants (increased to 77 by the end of the meeting).
 - Nydia asked if any required Spanish translations: Muna Heaven translated. Translation was requested. Muna acted as Interpreter for the meeting.
 - We hoped to have a representative from the NYPD to talk regarding the random metal detector checking upon arrival on Tues 2/1, but the supervisor wasn't able to attend. If parents have questions to send, please email the CSSptapresident@columbiasecondary.org.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - The link to minutes from last month's meeting were in the Zoom chat for all those present to review.
 - Co-Recording Secretary, Laurie Brown Kindred, summarized the meeting minutes.
 - Motion to approve minutes from January meeting and minutes were approved. 46 members participated, majority approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report**
 - As of close of business January 31st there is \$72,710.63 in the PTA bank account. There are \$1,056.22 worth of pending charges.
 - Receipts for January
 - Uniform/Spirit Wear Sales = \$1976.08
 - Bake Sale = \$1025.00
 - Membership Donations = \$295.00
 - Expenses in January
 - School Wide Support = \$301.23 (holiday gift bags)
 - Curriculum Support \$336 (online periodical subscriptions)
 - Executive Function = \$63.13 (refreshments)
 - Square & Paypal Fees = \$107.92
 - As noted, in January we only raised \$295, but we are still **IN NEED OF \$7,329** to hit our important membership donation goal of \$23k.
 - Reminder, we have IRS 501(c3) status as a public charity, so donors can deduct contributions.
 - A running budget was presented, and will be included within the February minute drafts for review.
 - The Interim Financial Report was presented, which is required to submit to the Chancellor's office (included within minute drafts for review)
 - Please feel free to email with any questions.
4. **Facilities Report - VP of Facilities, David Thom**
 - **Construction Projects Update:**
 - Scaffolding will stay up for facade repairs, as they have moved on to periodic repairs to prevent masonry issues.
 - Library will be ready to use after the Feb break
 - SCA is working on roof leaks, altho hard to get more information.
 - Schoolyard completion is now expected in the fall, which could be October or November, etc.
 - Boiler upgrade project was ready to bid but has now been reset for electrification, multi-year project
 - Pool declared usable but in reality seems to not be. It will remain closed for some years to come
 - Next update from SCA in March
 - Open items:
 - What does restart of boiler project mean? We expect a temporary boiler to show up when they start the work.
 - Is pool to be closed until renovation (years away)? It was fully funded as a \$2.2 million renovation, however SCA hasn't acknowledged as it hasn't hit the project manager
 - Why is basement cafeteria renovation still not on SCA docket? (similar to pool)
5. **Shared Spaces:**
 - Since September, we've tried to figure out how Shared Spaces are determined.
 - Other schools not sufficiently providing schedules for common areas.
 - Conclusion of internal review of space usage is that CSS is only using about 25% of the gym/cafeteria/auditorium when it should be over 50%
 - Office of Campus Governance seems to have confirmed to Principal Nelson that space-sharing should in fact be based on % campus population
 - Need to reset for next year so that CSS gets the space it needs to function. Will be even more pressing with library and schoolyard return!
 - If left too late, OCG tends not to intervene as it becomes disruptive.
 - Open items:
 - Can CSS draw up schedules in advance to claim its allotted share?
 - How will Library even be staffed? Supplied with books? And how does this work between the three school?
 - Yard is NYC Park space after hours: how will Parks maintain it? Book it? When it becomes the only turfed field in west Harlem, it will be in high demand, so we need to figure out how to carve space for CSS.
 - Other schools have increasing enrollment. Does CSS then lose more space?
- Any questions, please either put in chat or email.
5. **Principal's Report - Interim Principal Nelson**
 - Next **shared space** meeting will be in March.
 - Has met with Office of School Governance to raise our concerns; our space plan is old and needs to be updated.
 - PN expects the other schools to come to meeting this March with a draft of space use.
 - **Regarding call phones:** the SLT has investigated Yondr (a possible management program), however they don't do portion service (i.e just middle school), so we would need to incorporate the entire school)
 - **Black History month** in school celebration will be on 2/17.
 - **Career Day** is coming up in March. We are seeking parents who may wish to participate. Please contact Ariane or Karime in the college office
 - Today is **Safety internet day**
 - **Not receiving CSS emails?** Reach out to Mr. Aziz Woodson(?) if you are not receiving emails from P. Nelson or the school. P Nelson will ask that school do an email test this week to help

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- families determine if they are not receiving communications from school.
- **Jupiter grades** updated, anticipate report cards out in next week on [myschools](#) account
 - **Unannounced Police Scanner** this past week; the school notified night prior, a directive from the Chancellor, and Pe not allowed to opt out from an Unannounced Scanning. In moving forward, the letter regarding the DOE School Safety Unannounced Scanning policy will be included at the beginning of the year and/or on the CSS Website.
 - **Questions:**
 - If no weapons are found, can the next Scanner be delayed? A: confirmed that there were no weapons found between CSS or KIPP, and scanning is all based on how Safety operates, so we can't determine the next schedule one.
 - More clarification on scanning procedure? A: A, one scan station and one machine (bags similar to airport) for each CSS and KIPP; 3 officers at the scan machines and 2 in the hallway. PH was at the scan machines to ensure that kids were comfortable.
6. **Special Education Services in the Classroom: What does ICT at CSS look like? (By Prof Crawford and Prof Flaherty)**
- Prof Flaherty introduced herself and asked parents to participate in the interactive [Peardeck](#) presentation via link in the chat
 - Prof Crawford introduced herself.
 - Last month, AP Gordon introduced the services and settings that we provide at CSS for different learners (legal framework that we provide from DOE for CSS). Prof. Crawford & Prof. Flaherty will model both what co-teaching can look like (albeit virtually), and also help put some of that theory to practice!
 - **Questions:**
 - Who benefits from an ICT class? Is it students with IEPs? Disabilities? Gifted? Or do all students benefit from the ICT class?
 - Results shared: most answered All Students and some answered Students with IEP/Disabilities
 - Answer is ALL STUDENTS!
 - Who receives individualized instruction? Students with IEPs? Students who receive special accommodations? All students?
 - Results shared: Students with IEP/Disabilities was majority and then changed to All students
 - Answer is ALL STUDENTS!
 - Notes: students with good work habits, take advantage of having two teachers in the classroom.
 - In what ways can a second teacher be beneficial to all students? Example: Universal design (ramps for disabilities into buildings proved that not only people in wheelchairs used it, but also people with strollers, carts, etc)
 - For example, in ELA Class a second teacher may provide individualized feedback for writing; all students may benefit from this second teacher
 - Responses:
 - Both teachers can tell jokes!
 - It not only supports the students, but also the other teacher. Per Prof Flaherty, allows for uninterrupted classes if one teacher gets sick.
 - More adults to interact with kids.
 - The class sizes are still to big!
 - More group work, individualized instruction, one-on-one.
 - What does IEP implementation look like in the classroom?
 - Why is Contrarwise an anagram of "writer casino", as well as "carrion is well" and "erratic is now"?
 - Can one be innocent without also being ignorant?
 - **Volume 9 - Now accepting submissions!**
 - **Prompts:**
 - Design your ideal school. What does this school or school system look like?
 - You've been commissioned to write an advice manual on how to nurture and raise offspring. In your selected medium, create a set of instructions to indicate how to raise offspring.
 - How to support *Contrarwise*?
 - **Encourage your student to submit** to our upcoming issue - *deadline March 5th* (see posters; MS are eligible to participate, only HS can edit)
 - **Encourage your student to join** *Contrarwise*
 - We especially need *business-minded students who want experience producing/advertising a product*
 - **Sales** - Keep an eye out for sales at in-person CSS events this Semester - books, stickers, bookmarks
 - **Attend** *Contrarwise* events (Roundtables!)
 - **Stay tuned** - Pending collaboration with PTA to sell *Contrarwise* editions online
 - Please feel free to ask us any questions.
 - Can MS kids get involved? A: yes when it comes to submissions, however, only HS are allowed to edit.
 - PTA will continue to brainstorm ideas of collaborating!
8. **Fundraising**
- **Valentine's Day Bake Sale** - Tuesday, February 14th! VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED!
Links & QR codes to follow
 - Next Bake Sales:
 - March 17th - Lucky Lion Bake Sale
 - April 28th - Spring Bake Sale
 - May 12th - Teacher Appreciation Bake Sale
 - June 2nd - Last Bake Sale of the Year!
 - Students can earn up to 3 community service hours for baking for the Bake Sale!
 - **Spirit Wear Sales** - was yesterday and was VERY SUCCESSFUL & another coming up in March!
 - The way we have it structured now is that you can buy online and pick up at the sale (2:30-4:30p). We are super appreciative of parents who have showed up to distribute the clothing. If you volunteer, you get a PROUD CSS PARENT [tshirt!](#)
 - We can't guarantee that we can distribute on other dates/times than this, so please keep an eye out for those emails.
 - Next dates:
 - March 6th
 - April 3rd
 - May 8th
 - June 5th
 - **ONLINE FUNDRAISERS**
 - **Farm to People** is an online farmers market that sells locally grown and prepared foods; use code **FARMCSS** so that portion of sales go to CSS PTA. See CSS family email for details: <https://farmtopeople.com/>
 - As little as one item is a subscription. You can order a la carte. Order as much or as little as you like. You can cancel at any time.
9. **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!**
- **STILL NEED VP of Fundraising** - the work can be mostly remote! Please email CSSPTAPresident@columbiasecondary.org if interested.
 - **We need volunteers for**
 - Bake Sale & Spirit Wear Sale - Tuesday, February 14th, the link & QR codes for Sign-Up Genius were shared.
 - SPRING FLING -
 - If you have ideas for donation items email Nancy Fiaschetti at fiaschetti2023_columbiasecondary.org. **WE NEED DONATIONS!**
 - If you have a great venue, please email Laurie Brown Kindred @ brownkindred@gmail.com
 - **WHY VOLUNTEER?**
 - Raises for the money for the school
 - Allows us to continue CSS traditions; without volunteers, these events are at risk.
 - Builds community
 - Meet other parents
 - Your children appreciate it!
 - Low level commitment (an hour really makes a difference!)
 - IT'S FUN!
10. **Adjournment**
Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. (77 in attendance)
- NEXT PTA MEETINGS**
March 14, 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M. April 18, 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M.
May 16, 2023 8:30-9:30 A.M. June 13, 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M. **Attachments:** Slide Show



CO-PRESIDENTS' REPORT

- Farewell and Congratulations Principal I.A. Lenice Nelson! Thank you for your service!

Promoted to Student Services Manager, CSD 5

- Welcome our new Principal: Vikram Arora!
Former Assistant Principal of Mathematics at Bronx Science

Communications Updates:

- PTA Executive Board to Superintendent Sean Davenport re: 425 West 123rd space issues, potential opportunity
- PTA Co-Presidents to NYPD requesting additional security
Temp guard placed at security desk on Friday, March 10



Treasurer's Report to General Meeting

March 14, 2023

Dear Members,

As of Feb 1, 2023, our total cash balance was **\$72,710.63**. There was one outstanding check in the amount of \$250.00, leaving a current register balance of **\$72,460.63**.

Receipts for February

- Bake Sale was \$957.00
- Uniform and Spiritwear Sales were \$1232.00
- Membership Donations were \$855.00

Expenses paid in February

- Dept./Grade Level Grant -\$136.88 Community Builder, 8th Grade
- Dept./Grade Level Grant - \$918.62 Replacement Robotics Kits and Tools, 10th Grade
- School Wide Support - \$266.26 Tissues,
- PayPal/Square/Ludus Expenses - \$53.50
- Cultural Heritage - \$28.11 Black History Month Flags (3)
- Cultural Heritage - \$250 Piano Accompaniment for Black History Month Showcase
- Cultural Heritage - \$200 Performer for Black History Month Showcase
- Food for Events/Conferences - \$59.96 Open House Refreshments, \$480 PTA Parent Mixer

We are in great shape to fund items that CSS needs and we want to continue to support our students and teachers. Please donate what you can through the spiritwear store portal or paypal!

Also, the PTA Assistant Treasurer position is currently vacant. If you are interested in volunteering for this position please contact me.

Finally, please feel free to contact me or any PTA Executive Board Member with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

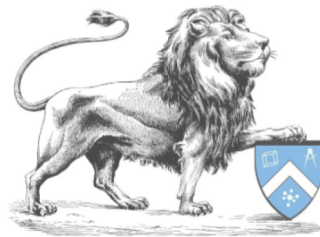
Starr Peoples, CSS PTA Treasurer
PTATreasurer@columbiasecondary.org



Principal's Report

Welcome

Mr. Vikram Arora



CSS Diploma / Community Service

Bilingual High School Counselor Elsa Córdoba

1. Credit Requirements

NYS Regents Diploma

44 minimum **required** credits

NYS Advanced Regents Diploma

44 minimum required credits

CSS Diploma

55 minimum required credits

*NYS Local Diploma**

44 minimum required credits

2. Assessment Requirements

NYS Regents Diploma

5 required Regents exams (65+ passing score)

NYS Advanced Regents Diploma

9 required Regents exams

CSS Diploma

9 required exams + College Course + 150 hrs of Service

*NYS Local Diploma**

5 required Regents exams (55+ passing score)



CSS Graduation Requirements 2022

COLUMBIA SECONDARY SCHOOL for Math, Science & Engineering
 A Public School, Community and University Partnership


 Strength in Diversity
 Challenging Academics
 A Passion for Science and Reason

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. CREDIT REQUIREMENTS				
REQUIRED SUBJECTS	LOCAL DIPLOMA*	REGENTS DIPLOMA	ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA	CSS DIPLOMA
ENGLISH	8	8	8	8
SOCIAL STUDIES	8	8	8	8
<i>Global History</i>	4	4	4	4
<i>US History</i>	2	2	2	2
<i>Economics</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>Part. in Government</i>	1	1	1	1
SCIENCE (INCLUDING LAB)	6	6	6	8
<i>Life Science</i>	2	2	2	2
<i>Physical Science</i>	2	2	2	2
<i>Further Science Courses</i>	2	2	2	4
MATHEMATICS	6	6	6	8
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2	2	6	6
THE ARTS	2	2	2	2
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	4	4	4	4
HEALTH	1	1	1	1
ELECTIVES	7	7	3	-
ENGINEERING (OR AP SPANISH)	-	-	-	5
PHILOSOPHY (OR AP SPANISH)	-	-	-	5
TOTAL CREDITS	44	44	44	55

* Note: The Local diploma option is available to students with IEPs, students with 504 plans specifying Safety Net eligibility, and students with disabilities who were declassified while in grades 8-12 whose last IEPs specify Safety Net eligibility.

CSS Graduation Requirements 2022 (con't)

2. REGENTS REQUIREMENTS			
LOCAL DIPLOMA*	REGENTS DIPLOMA	ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA	CSS DIPLOMA
English	1. English	1. English	1. English Regents
Social Studies	2. Social Studies	2. Social Studies	2. Social Studies Regents
Math	3. Math	3. Integrated Algebra	3. Integrated Algebra Regents
Science	4. Science	4. Geometry	4. Geometry Regents
+ 1 Regents	5. + 1 Regents	5. Algebra 2/Trigonometry	5. Algebra 2/Trigonometry Regents
		6. Living Environment	6. Living Environment Regents or AP
		7. Physical Science	7. Physical Science Regents or AP
		8. Foreign Language - LOTE	8. Foreign Language - LOTE
		9. + 1 Regents	9. + 1 Regents or AP/SAT2
			ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
			10. College-Level Course (College Environmental, AP, CU, College Now)
			11. 150 Community Service Hours
<i>Passing grade: 55+</i>	<i>Passing grade: 65+ or COVID waiver (WA)</i>	<i>Passing grade: 65+ or COVID waiver (WA)</i>	

DIPLOMA ENDORSEMENTS

<i>Honors Designation</i>	<i>Service Endorsement</i>	<i>Mastery in Math</i>	<i>Mastery in Science</i>	<i>Seal of Biliteracy</i>
Students must earn an average of 90 + on the required Regents Exams for the diploma they are earning.	Students must complete 100 hours of community service in high school.	Students must earn 85+ on all three math Regents exams and complete the requirements for the Advanced Regents diploma.	Students must earn 85+ on three science Regents exams and complete the requirements for the Advanced Regents diploma.	Earn three points for demonstrating proficiency in English and earn three points for demonstrating proficiency in Spanish.
Promotion Requirements:				
10th grade: 8 Credits	11th grade: 20 Credits (Including 4 in English and/or ESL and 4 in Social Studies)			12th grade: 30 Credits



Columbia Coursework - 8th - 11th graders open now!

College Edge

- Credit-bearing
- Significant time commitment
- Consider a general college class - readings done outside of class; students need independence and socioemotional skills to seek office hours; TA support; etc
- Students are in class alongside undergraduates

College Immersion

- Non credit-bearing
- Great entry point
- Lower time commitment (can be paired with other activities)
- Highly engaging
- Tailored towards high school students
- High school students only

Application Process

1. Students who meet GPA requirements are invited to apply to appropriate program (Edge, Immersion, both)
2. Teacher committee evaluates students using CSS-CU rubric
3. CSS-CU committee reviews & scores student application responses
4. Committee approves, approves conditionally, or disapproves student entrance to CU
5. Student may be waitlisted for Immersion (limited waivers) - but Edge does not have a specific cap
6. Approved students are onboarded to CU (given CUID, connected to advisor etc)
7. Registration - this is why the course call #s are not binding - the advisor will help students register for appropriate courses, in line with several restrictions, time of day, etc





CSS-CU and IMMERSION COMMITTEE - SCORE REFERENCE SHEET 2022-2023

CSS-CU COLLEGE READINESS RUBRIC

Self-Awareness	Independence	Resiliency	Social Skills	Academic Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is knowledgeable of their weaknesses and effectively utilizes supports needed to address them Is aware of available supports and utilizes if needed without compromising independence Interacts with authority professionally and respectfully Understands how their actions in class affect others and strives to make that impact positive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works independently & challenges themselves to push beyond their comfort level Consistent in punctuality, time-management and organization Problem solves independently, but is willing to seek help after a sustained attempt Has the ability to function independently from parents Complies with and meets deadlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepts positive guidance from others Reaches out proactively when experiencing particular difficulty Responds productively to failure by adjusting the course of action Is proactive about making up missing work and catching up when absent Shows interest in improving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is professional and respectful to both adults and peers Works well with a variety of peers and adapts seamlessly to group settings Resolves conflicts peacefully Is consistently well-behaved and a positive influence in the classroom Feels comfortable sharing perspective and knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully engages in class activities Brings a positive outlook to class Maintains professionalism Completes assignments for depth and understanding Follows conventions of English language in written work Attends class on time Exercises total academic integrity

- 4 Student's independent abilities in this area set them apart as a role model
- 3 Student may require occasional direction to perform these indicators OR a singular indicator requires additional support while the others are consistently performed independently
- 2 Student requires direction and guidance to perform these indicators OR a singular indicator is not fulfilled to the point of concern for the student to work independently at the college level
- 1 Student requires consistent external support to perform these indicators OR multiple indicators are not fulfilled to the point of prohibiting the student's ability to work independently at the college level

Popular (and approved) CU Courses for CSS Students...totally examples only!

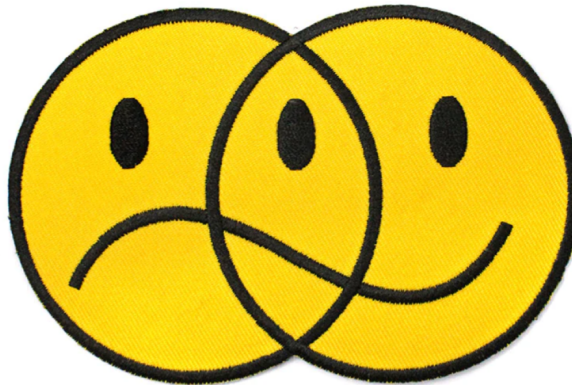
- ★ Elementary or First-Year Language (or level student places into)
- ★ ASTRX1753 Life in the Universe or ASTRX1754 Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology
- ★ ECONX1003 Introduction to Economic Reasoning
- ★ ANTHV1007 The Origins of Human Society or ANTH1003 The Interpretation of Culture





FACILITIES REPORT

Dave Thom, VP of Facilities



Visual representation of this month's report

CSS PTA | 2022-2023



Facilities Report

Dave Thom, VP of Facilities

- Schoolyard is on track for completion sometime in Fall 2023
- SCA has finally started scoping meetings on \$2.4M pool and \$500k basement cafeteria renovations. Has not shared timeline.
- SCA is unclear on when roof repairs will start. Facade repairs almost done. Scaffolding has been up more or less continuously for over five years but hoping to remove from W123rd in a couple months.
- Library and Tech Room construction not complete yet. Still "punchlist" of 1-2 more months. Not clear on use the Library and Tech Room (will there be a librarian? how will the books be acquired?)
- CSS is 56% of building population but was receiving ~25% of shared space time periods. Process of working with other schools to better follow DOE formula needs to be rebuilt from scratch.
- No news on converting W123rd into a Play Street. Application submitted last fall, DOT was supportive, but seems stalled. Lack of support from the three school admins may have been an issue (parking).

CSS PTA | 2022-2023

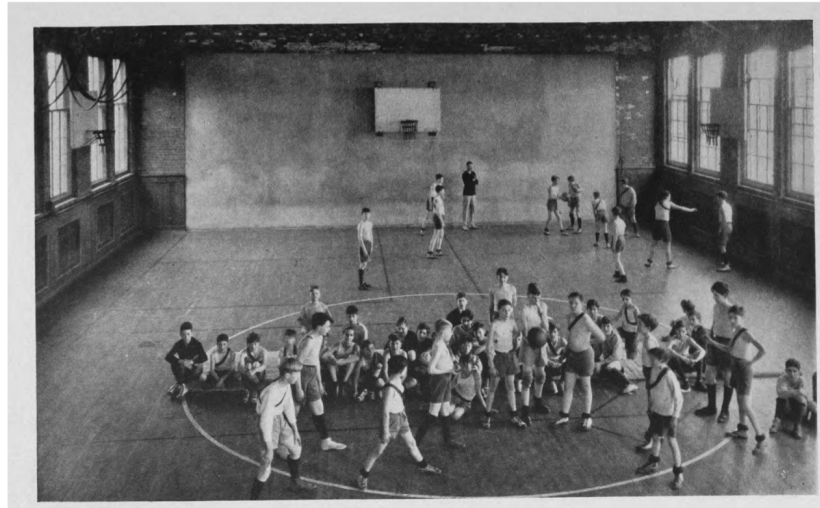


Facilities Report

Dave Thom, VP of Facilities

Photo of the Month

The Boys Gymnasium
(West Gym) in 1925



CSS PTA | 2022-2023

FUNDRAISING UPDATE



PTA Fundraising Events

BAKE SALES

Green Clover Bake Sale- March 17
(Friday) – Donations needed

SPIRIT WEAR SALES

Spirit Wear Sale was last week (March 6)
Next date: April 3

CSS PTA | 2022-2023

ONLINE FUNDRAISING

FARM TO PEOPLE:

<https://farmtopeople.com/>



Fundraising Code: FARMTOCSS

Or email questions@farmtopeople.com:

"I'd like to join the CSS PTA Fundraiser"



ANNUAL APPEAL

- 8% of families have donated to the Annual Appeal for a total of approx. \$15K
- The annual appeal goal for this school year was set to \$23K
- ***Our goal is to have 90% participation in the annual appeal by May's Spring Fling.***

To reach our goal, we ask that every family give any amount by scanning this QR code.



GREEN CLOVER BAKE SALE

FRIDAY, 3/17/23

- CSS PTA Bake Sales are a cherished tradition
- We need more bakers/donors - store bought treats are fine
- We need VOLUNTEERS to work the sale
- ***Students line up for treats! but If we do not get enough volunteers by Thursday, we must cancel***

Please scan to sign up!





SPRING FLING IS BACK!

How can you help?

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

When: **May 19, 2023 from 6-10PM**

Where: **Buunni Inwood**

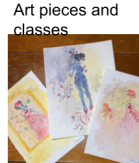
4961 Broadway, NYC 10034

★ *Donate Auction items or procure them with local businesses*

★ *Volunteer for:*

- ★ Video Compilation
- ★ Catering Donations
- ★ Decorate
- ★ Event Set-Up
- ★ Event Operations
- ★ Event Strike and Clean-Up

Get your tickets NOW!
 Scan the QR code



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS:



Green Clover BAKE SALE! 🍀

- Friday, March 17th
- Use the QR code to sign-up



9th Grade Orientation

- Current HS families to welcome new 9th grade cohort of families
- Please contact Roxana Bosch: roxanabosch@columbiasecondary.org

Spirit Wear

- Need help with the sale on April 3
- Contact Lillian: PTAfundraising@columbiasecondary.org

SPRING FLING

- Contact: ptaspringfling@columbiasecondary.org

CSS PTA | 2022-2023

CEC5
 Get involved!
 Next General meeting:
 March 22, 2023
 6:30pm @ PS36

CEC5 Candidates Forum:
 April 18, 6:00pm (Zoom)

Registration info in the
 March CSS PTA Newsletter



VOLUNTEERING: WE NEED YOU!



Why Volunteer?

- Raises money for the school
- Allows us to continue CSS traditions; without volunteers these events are at risk
- Builds community
- Meet other parents
- Your children appreciate it
- Low level commitment (an hour really makes a difference)
- IT'S FUN!

Fill out the Volunteer interest form at:

<https://forms.gle/EoCNq8xcwyLaSZDJ6>



and watch for signups from the PTA

CSS PTA | 2022-2023

Announcements

<u>Bake Sale</u>	<u>Spirit Wear Sale</u>
March 17 - Green Colver Bake Sale 🍀	March 6
April 28 - Spring Bake Sale 🌸	April 3
May 12- Teacher Appreciation Bake Sale 🍏	May 8
June 2 - Last Bake Sale of the year! 🎉	June 5

Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences:

- Thursday, March 23, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
- Friday, March 24 12:30 – 2:30 pm
- Look for an email from AP Gordon for more info.



CSS PTA | 2022-2023



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

UPCOMING MEETINGS FOR SY 2022-2023

.....

April 18, 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M.

May 16, 2023 8:30-9:30 A.M.

June 13 , 2023 6:15-7:30 P.M.



"EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD."

NELSON MANDELA

CSS PTA | 2022-2023