



THE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL
of Mathematics, Science, Technology & Careers
Community Parent Advisory Council (CPAC)
1928 Point Breeze Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19145
(215) 334-6144 – Ext. 11

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is Carmela Shipley, and I am the President of the Community Parent Advisory Council (CPAC) and also the parent of two students at Prep Charter High School. I am writing not only to introduce myself, but to also discuss some changes in the direction that our Home & School Association will take in the 2009/10 school year.

I want to begin by including the very important mission statement of CPAC, which is as follows: ***“...to promote and support the safety and well being of our children by utilizing a team approach. This includes parents, students, teachers and staff to provide services needed to create a family atmosphere, to enable the students of Prep Charter to develop and grow within the school community.”*** I strongly believe in this mission, and feel that with support from all of these sources, we can improve upon an already successful and thriving school.

As you may already know, during the course of each school year, CPAC provides their services to the school and its students by assisting and/or sponsoring various events and fundraisers. However, in order to do this, CPAC needs your help! In previous years, there has always been a small core group of parents that have worked very hard on the CPAC Board and on various projects. This year, however, we need much more help if we are to accomplish all of the goals which we have set for ourselves and the larger school community. We need participation from everyone!

Some of the events that we sponsor are:

- Back to School Breakfasts
- PSSA Breakfasts
- Senior Brunch
- Various Fund-raisers
- Dress Down Days
- Hot Chocolate and Doughnut Day
- Water Ice and Pretzel Day
- And much, much more!

The following parental minimum requirement for volunteer hours was created by the school’s Board of Trustees and has been added to the CPAC Bylaws. The Bylaws are posted on our website at www.prepcharterparents.com:

“A parent/guardian of each household must participate in ten (10) hours annually in school related activities. These are counted as follows: two

(over)

(2) hours for each report card conference (there are two conferences for a total of four (4) hours); one (1) hour for back to school night: and five (5) scheduled volunteer hours. Throughout the school year, parents will have the option of selecting projects and activities from a list. In lieu of the five (5) volunteer hours, parents may provide a donation of \$20.00 per year / per household to the school's parent organization, CPAC."

Although the \$20.00 payment is certainly an alternative, CPAC and the students of Prep Charter would certainly benefit more from your volunteer assistance. Please remember to fill out Volunteer Form given to you tonight.

Membership dues and donations are accepted anytime throughout the year by cash, check or money order (made payable to CPAC) and PayPal. A link to PayPal is located on our website.

A new benefit that was introduced to CPAC members last year is the Yahoo! Listserv. The listserv is a private message board that will allow us to send out information regarding events happening at the school to everyone at the same time. This benefit will also allow the parents to communicate with each other and get their questions answered in a timely basis. Invitations will be automatically sent out to those who become members of CPAC.

groups.yahoo.com/group/prepchartercpac/

In addition to the listserv, we became members of the Facebook[®] and Twitter[®] social networking sites this year. If you belong to either of these and would like to follow us, we can be found at:

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=57966573463

www.twitter.com/prepchartercpac

CPAC Parent Meetings are usually held at the school on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 6:00 PM. This information is also listed on our website as well. We will be discussing several events to be held in the upcoming year, and you are certainly welcome to join us.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us either through the CPAC website or by calling the school. Our phone extension is #11.

I hope to see everyone in the 2009/10 school year!

Sincerely,

Carmela Shipley
CPAC President