

IMPORTANT MESSAGE (update) FROM CSP GOVERNING BOARD

December 26, 2009

Dear CSP Parents and Guardians,

CSP Governing Board was recently informed on December 23, 2009 that Dr. Maxwell is going to make his recommendation about CSP High School Expansion to the board of education on January 6th, 2010, immediately after the holiday season return. The meeting will be held at 10:00a.m.

It is very disappointing to see that **AACPS Board of Education Members will not be given the opportunity to listen public comments** during the public hearing session scheduled to be on January 12th, and January 14th 2010. However, as CSP community we need take every possible action to help the BOE members, elected officials, state officials to hear us and our request. What CSP has accomplished in the past 4 years is a true indicator of what it can for its high school students. **CSP needs your support.**

Please review the enclosed information packet and utilize them while communicating with the local, state and federal decision makers regarding CSP High School Expansion.

Please attend the **January 4th, 2010 6:00 p.m.** meeting to discuss our further options to retrieve the CSP High School including 9th and 10th grades for 2010-2011 school year. The meeting will be held at the CSP Cafeteria.

Dear CSP Parents and Guardians,

It is time to work together for a very critical problem CSP Community is facing. Last Wednesday, Dr. Maxwell after presenting his FY11 recommended budget, answered questions from the board members. Mr. Vic Bernson asked whether CSP High School Expansion was included in the presented FY11 budget or not. Dr. Maxwell publicly announced that he did not have any funds for CSP's high school expansion. Dr. Maxwell also mentioned that if the AACPS BOE were to approve the CSP High School Expansion for 9th and 10th grades, the funds had to come from elsewhere within the budget. Then, Mr. Kevin Jackson asked whether it was true that not allowing the 9th and 10th grade would bankrupt the entire CSP Program. Instead of answering this "yes" or "no" answer question, Dr. Maxwell stated that it was CSP's responsibility to develop its business plan, and did not answer Mr. Jackson's question.

As you all remember, CSP leadership had to submit a 5 year budget plan(business plan) as a requirement before the 10 year lease would be presented to the BOE. CSP leadership developed a very precise 5 year business plan and submitted that to AACPS administration for their review along with the 10 year lease agreement for our new facility. The CSP 5 year plan included CSP's high school expansion to 9th and 10th grade based on the charter agreement signed by both boards in 2005 that CSP was allowed to offer a 6-12 program in AA County. Bottom line, based on the review of both documents AACPS BOE agreed to forward the 10 year lease to Dr. Grasmick, the state superintendent of schools. Dr, Grasmick approved the lease based on the information she received from AACPS officials.

In conclusion if the AACPS Board of Education does not support CSP High School Expansion for 9 and 10th grade, the entire CSP program would be jeopardized since our funding is solely rely on the number of students we are allowed to have. Therefore, it is time to put all our efforts together to make sure CSP continues to educate our students as the Best Middle School of AA County and the State of Maryland.

CSP Governing Board will be holding a meeting on JANUARY 4th, 2010 at 6:00p.m.

Initially this meeting was scheduled to take place on the 6th. However, On December 23rd. we were informed by AACPS administration that Dr. Maxwell was going to make his recommendation on January 6th, 2009 at 10:00a.m. BOE meeting. We are unsure about the reason for this rush. However, avoiding the public hearing session on January 12' is not a good indicator of a healthy decision making process.

Our January 4th meeting will be held at CSP Cafeteria. All parents, grandparents, students, supporters are invited to this very critical meeting where we will discuss the very up to date status for CSP Middle School and High School.

Besides, please make sure to write your elected officials, BOE members, and also visit www.aacps.oru and submit your comments about the recommended budget. The AACPS BOE did not make a decision yet and they would like to hear public comments during two sessions on JANUARY 12 and JANUARY 14. Let's focus on 12th and make sure that your voices are heard loud and clear.

WE WORKED SO HARD FOR WHAT WE HAVE AT CSP. WE JUST HAVE TO WORK HARDER!

Spear Lancaster

CSP Governing Board VP