

Parent Communications

April 3, 2014

CMCSS At-Risk Coordinator Julie Combs presented information about the Khan Academy to the group. She explained that the Khan Academy is free to use and can be helpful in all subject areas and all grade levels, including adults. The Academy's mission statement is to "provide a free world-class education for anyone anywhere." The web address to access the academy is: www.khanacademy.org.

Parent Engagement Specialist Esperanza Soriano-McCrary provided some follow-up information to her presentation made during the March meeting. She commented that CMCSS Technology staff members are working on parts of the volunteer portal to allow better access to the Volunteer Coordinators and not just the Information Coordinators. She also told the group that dates for the summer when someone would be in the schools to register new students had been set as follows: Monday, June 30; Monday, July 7; and Monday, July 14. Time will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Technology personnel are working on the on-line forms with a target date of April 7 for completion.

Mrs. Soriano-McCrary asked the group to provide input into the area of what workshops would be beneficial to all CMCSS families. She also asked for their input on what problems they have had in finding the right person within the school or school system to help with specific problems or answer specific questions. Where did they find help in the past? What could be provided to make this easier? Parents commented that some challenging areas might include finding assistance in the area of parent/child separation when younger children start school and school/family relationship – how parents can stay active and involved in their child's school. Specific areas where it might be hard to identify the appropriate person or place to contact would include special dietary needs of students – who or how to let someone know; more thorough field trip information; communication about homework assignments; help for students on how to take tests without being over stressed; where to find more information about academies; and a schedule or calendar of district extra-curricular activities.

Dr. Worthington commented that he would look for a location where the group could meet in May and let them know as soon as that has been arranged.