

District Highlights June –September '09

May 2007 Bond and Capital Improvement Updates

Final items on the May 2007 bond project list were completed over the summer. Bond work is finished except for the bus loop at Munsey Park which awaits NYS Department of Transportation approvals, and doors at the secondary school which require specific craftsmanship. Additionally but separately, improvements were made across the District to the electrical, heating and mechanical infrastructures as part of the energy performance contract with Johnson Controls. This contract enables the District to save money by funding the upgrading of these systems from the actual energy savings that the District realizes. While many of the upgrades are not readily apparent and include replacement of a boiler and improvements to the building envelope, the most noticeable of these improvements is the brighter, energy efficient lighting throughout the buildings. Capital improvement projects tackled over the summer include lavatory renovations, classroom painting, science research facility renovations, floor tile and gym floor maintenance and exterior grounds curbing and paving. Lastly, Memorial Field and its adjacent playground were refurbished. The small white storage cottage was removed; a sprinkler system that can grow as the future demands was installed, and the greens encroaching on playground were cleared and shaped. More details can be found at:

http://www.manhasset.k12.ny.us/calendar_news.cfm?subpage=7195&adminActivate=1

Last May, voters approved utilizing funds from the District's Capital Reserve account to renovate the secondary school locker rooms and to replace the bleachers in the secondary school's gymnasiums. The bleachers have been ordered and will be installed before year end, and the locker room renovations are scheduled to take place in summer 2010.

Manhasset School Community Association Gifts to the District

The SCA generously donated a number of items to the District; most of which were installed over the summer. The flagpole plaza at the secondary school was enlarged and paved to make it more welcoming to both students and visitors. Picnic tables were added to the area to accommodate more students and benches were installed so many more students can safely await pickup. At Munsey Park, plans are in place for an active training trail to circle the field that would encourage athletes of all ages to stretch their abilities at stations along the trail. Shelter Rock received a new circulation desk which was installed in the Library as part of a planned renovation and reconfiguration to upgrade the library for future generations.

Transportation Outsourcing Lawsuit

The Board of Education (BOE) has scheduled an additional meeting on Thursday, October 22 at 8PM in the secondary school Board room where it is anticipated that the BOE will authorize a vote in December pursuant to an order of the New York State Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). Information gathered from the District website quickly summarizes the issue. The union representing the bus drivers challenged the District's 2005 outsourcing of transportation to the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). PERB ruled the District did not have the right to unilaterally outsource public school student transportation. PERB's resulting order to restore the public school portion of the District's student

transportation operation forthwith was modified in its July 23, 2009 decision to permit compliance with existing contracts and is contingent upon taxpayer approval of the purchase of buses and other equipment. For more information: http://www.manhasset.k12.ny.us/popup_info.cfm?story=844

H1N1 Flu Update

The District has been in close contact with County and State health officials in order to be prepared in case of any outbreak of the H1N1 flu virus. Steps include keeping schools open unless conditions drastically change, establishing a disinfection cleaning protocol, providing easily accessed liquid soap or hand sanitizers in every classroom and lavatory, encouraging students to properly wash their hands and requiring students and staff with flu-like symptoms to go home and remain home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100 degrees F) without the use of fever-reducing medications. Further information can be found at http://www.manhasset.k12.ny.us/popup_info.cfm?story=842