



## **SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 9, 2012

**Call to Order:** 9:40 a.m.

**Meeting adjourned:** 11:25 a.m.

**Officers Present:** Christy Wepler, Elaine Phillips, Lisa Belinsky, Laura Tranchina, Nancy Schlaefer, Tricia Cash, Deirdre Curtis

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **SCA Executive President's Welcome – Christy Wepler**

### **Approval of Minutes – Deirdre Curtis**

The January 13, 2012 minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report – Christy Wepler**

- Peggy Gajdjis was not present at the meeting; she will provide a report next week.

### **Superintendent's Report – Charlie Cardillo**

- Budget working session to be held this Saturday, March 10.
- Three issues: (a) tax cap, (b) collective bargaining, (c) APPR (teacher evaluations).

How we navigate these issues will define us as a community.

#### Teachers Agreement:

- We reached a 2-year agreement with the teachers. For 2013 we have closed the gap between the budget and the tax cap.

- We learned from the last negotiations. Set goals to reach agreement by the February break and to be below the cap. We chose a 2-year agreement as making more sense than a multi-year pact. We studied other districts' agreements, and our concern was that a third or fourth year of an agreement negotiated now might put the district at risk. Our last agreement was a 4-year agreement.

- Great Neck did a 4-year, very rich agreement in December. This hurt other districts' negotiation efforts, and talks stalled in some districts. Due to the excellent relationship between teachers and the administration, we were able to complete the negotiations.

- Cindy Cardinal noted that this agreement is the result of Charlie Cardillo's role and the good relationship he has built between the administration and

the teachers. She noted that the teachers all respected Charlie and that the strong relationship wasn't the case in past administrations.

- The Triborough agreement mandates that districts repeat the terms of the current agreement if a new agreement is not reached. We are \$650,000 net savings over the two-year term by reaching agreement now and not just maintaining the current terms.

- Cindy Cardinal noted that there are some variables – for example, we can't predict the stock market's performance, which will impact returns on pension funds; also, the APPR is an unfunded mandate, and we don't know the cost of implementing that.

- There are three major contractual areas for savings, and these represent real savings: (1) Savings in the benefit trust, which we fund; (2) Teacher coursework: beginning in '13-'14, teachers will not receive a comp increase even if courses are taken to advance comp during the year; beginning in -14-'15, teachers will receive only one comp increase per year. The current agreement has no limit on opportunities to increase comp; (3) Declination of health benefits – applicable where a teacher has coverage through a spouse.

- The teacher contract addresses (1) secondary growth in core curriculum areas, by permitting the district to continue to offer staffing and courses, (2) adding an additional counselor, which is necessary due to increasing enrollment, and (3) continuing performance in the elementary schools, which are showing a modest decrease in enrollment.

Tax Cap:

- We are now under the tax cap and can go out to the community and let them know.
- Budget-to-budget increase of 1.73%. We are not exceeding the tax cap and we are not seeking a supermajority approval of the school budget.

Administrative Changes:

- District Coordinators have solidified their roles and have made an impact on curriculum.
  - Beginning '12-'13, coordinators for Social Studies, Math, English and Science will not teach any classes.
    - Math curriculum shifting from "Everyday Math" to "Common Core"
    - English curriculum shifting from ELA to Common Core
    - Mara Steindam has had a blended role between HR and Social Studies; starting in '12-'13 she will return to Social Studies only.

**President's Reports**

**Nancy Schlaefer – Shelter Rock**

- **Guess Who's Coming to Read** took place on January 24<sup>th</sup> here. Grades K-3 were read books from a wonderful cast of speakers including Charlie Cardillo, Sean Adcroft, Dr. Ambrogio and our own Elaine Phillips, martial arts extraordinaire who came in full martial arts gear. Thank you to our chairs Gena Scotto and Andrea Girard for making it a very special day for them.
- On February 13<sup>th</sup> Our Kindergartners celebrated their **100<sup>th</sup> day** at school. Posters of 100 cheerios, 100 legos and 100 Swedish fishes, etc.... decorated our Kindergarten wing.
- Registration took place in January for our incoming Kindergartners. Screening will take place in mid-April and visits in the first week of May. Anticipated kindergarten enrollment for September 2012 is 73-76 children.
- Our **Book Fair Luau** ends today. It was a weeklong celebration that started with Monday's Family night with a photo op with Mrs. Williams dressed up in Hawaiian gear and "catching a wave". Victoria Wei, a Manhasset High school student, was our guest author. She wrote and illustrated a book called "The Boy Who Colored His Own World" and maintains a website as well. It is a story about an autistic boy that includes facts but also describes what he feels and thinks in simple terms. Thank you to Annie Vetrone and Annette Morrissey and their talented committee for all their hard work in making the Book Fair a success. Shelter Rock SCA Online Book Fair will start now till March 23. All orders ship free to the school.
- **Extended Extras** Spring session registration forms will be sent home next week via backpack. This will be a 6week session with many of the requested classes back such as, Art, Chess, Creative Writing, and Healthy Hearts/Fitness and lastly we will be bringing in a Study Skills class for grades 3-5.
- **Upcoming Events:**
- **SCA Joint Parent Council meeting** with MP will be held at 9:30 a.m. on March 15<sup>th</sup> to promote our upcoming Fitness Week. Thank you to Caryn Sawyer and Zari Ginsburg and CASA for all their efforts.
- **Go-Green Week/Earth Day** celebrations will take place the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>. the theme for this year is "A Billion Acts of Green". Plans are still being worked on by Planet Manhasset but their goals once again are to make each student aware of how, in small ways, they can decrease their carbon footprint and how each action they take impacts the environment. They will start by

sending a survey of questions to each student, such as "do you keep the water on when you brush your teeth?" The kids will then follow with a pledge to check off one thing from their list and follow through.

- **National Library Week**, which is usually in April, will be held the week of May 7-13 and will be renamed Children's Book Week because of the date change.
- Robert Geczik continues to recuperate; he is feeling much better.

### **Tricia Cash – Munsey Park**

- The **Safety Committee** at Munsey Park has been meeting regularly. We have been focusing on the drop off and pick up procedures in an effort to make it safe for all children. Student Council has made signs in order to better inform parents of the procedure.
- **Guess Who's Coming to Read** was a big success. I would like to thank Amy Nass and Kathy Sullivan for organizing another fun learning experience for the children of Munsey Park.
- **The Book Fair Luau...** was launched on Monday, March 5, 2012 with much excitement. The FAMILY NIGHT LUAU where the whole family could join in the fun. Author SUZY KLINE was signing her books. I thank the chairs, Kim Haggerty and Dana Malvey. Pre-school visit was Thursday and the nursery school children visited the fair to get a sneak peak of Munsey Park School. A special guest during the visit was Munsey Park parent/author Donna Terjesen. The decorating committee did a fabulous job of setting the scene to make the children feel like they were in Hawaii. The many volunteers that showed up not only dressed the part but they worked tirelessly to make the book fair a memorable experience for the children and I am certain a successful fundraiser for Munsey Park. The Book Fair is always a great way to get everyone excited about reading.
- Munsey Park SCA Online Book Fair: You can continue to shop at our Online Book Fair through Wednesday, March 14th. All orders will ship directly to school for free when the Online Fair has ended. Find the Online Shopping link on the Munsey Park Book Fair Home Page at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/munseypark>
- March 15<sup>th</sup> is the next **Joint Parent Council Meeting** @ Munsey Park auditorium. Join us as the physical education teachers of the Manhasset Public Schools present the new SQAIR fitness program and the FITNESSGRAM physical fitness assessment for grades K-6. In addition, Ray Scacalossi, the district Math Coordinator, will speak about the new math program.
- Fitness Week is March 19- March 23, thank you to Caryn Sawyer and Zari Ginsburg, CASA and the staff for a collaborative effort in making this week the best possible.

**SCA Enrichment Presents**

- Suzy Kline to 2nd Graders, Monday, March 5
- Retumba to 3rd Graders, Wednesday, March 14
- Color of Justice to Munsey Park 6th Graders, Tuesday, March 20
- Nate the Great to 2nd Graders, Friday, March 30
- **Munsey Park's 5th Annual "Jump To Cure Diabetes"**: Wednesday, March 14, School Gym. Munsey Park students and staff will show their support and raise awareness to find a cure for Juvenile Diabetes by jumping rope non-stop throughout the school day. All students should wear their sneakers. Donations are due no later than March 14. Annette Spina and Lisa Sciarrino are running this. Water is being donated by Woodson's.
- **National Library Week** will take place the week of April 30-May 4. This week is being run enthusiastically by Christina Whitaker and Navine Shahine.

**Laura Tranchina – Middle School**

- The **HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting** was on January 8. Superintendent Charles Cardillo, along with other administrators, gave a discussion on the Annual Professional Performance Review and what this means to Manhasset parents and students. It was a very informative evening.
- The CASA sponsored MS **"Live Above the Influence Dance"** was held on January 20. The children had a great time taking their photos in the "Incredibooth Photo Booth". The suggested admission was \$5. It was a tremendous success with approximately 280 students attending. Thank you to CASA for partnering with the MS. The students were treated to a fun evening that also had a powerful message.
- The **MS Valentine's Dance** was held on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. It was also very successful; approximately 250. Suggested admission to the dance was \$5 and all proceeds are going to Autism Speaks.
- The **MS Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) SUPERDANCE** was held on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. The dance was a huge success. Students asked for sponsor donations and raised \$6,000 which will all be donated to the MDA. The dance was attended by 210 students.
  - Laura noted that the dances and Friday Night Live events keep kids off Plandome Road. This is a challenge for 9<sup>th</sup> graders, as these events aren't as appealing.
  - Lis Shibley noted that CASA had applied for grants for "pro social" activities. Also, the High School staff has been incredibly agreeable with respect to hosting events.

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For example, Lauren McGrory is hosting Movie Night on some Saturday nights. This was originally scheduled during the week, but Lauren is giving up her Saturday night to host this.

- The Middle School hosted a **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night** on March 9. Parents were taken on a guided tour of the school starting at 7:30 pm. The tour was followed by a presentation in the Auditorium. Parents had the opportunity to hear from each of the building administrators, district coordinators, and directors. The Power Point presentation will be available on the school website later today. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students will have orientation and Lunch on the Lawn on Friday, May 25.
- On March 15, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in a **Revolutionary War Living Histories** program. This program was provided by the SCA Speaker's Bureau. The presentation will be made to the entire grade in one assembly which will be held in the Auditorium.
- **Auditions** for the **MS Musical Production of "Once on an Island"** will be held next week. On Monday, March 12 there will be an audition workshop from 3:30 – 5:00. Students interested in auditioning are encouraged to attend. Auditions for the musical will be held on Tuesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 14. Students can sign up for an audition time on the bulletin board outside of the Black Box Theater.
- The next **Joint MS/HS Parent Council Meeting** will be held next Friday, March 16 at 9:30 am in the Board Room. This meeting will be a kick off for Health and Fitness Week. The Health & Wellness Committee will present an overview of the Health & Fitness Week activities. In addition, the Manhasset High School Nutrition Club students will be on hand to discuss their participation in the Nassau County School Wellness Coalition Conference.
- The week of March 19 is **Health and Fitness Week**. During the week, MS students will participate in Physical Education programming that incorporates Target Heart Rate training to improve cardiovascular fitness and overall aerobic power. Wednesday, March 21 is "Kick Butts Day" where the MS SADD Club will provide educational outreach regarding the dangers of tobacco and the effect of tobacco marketing has on teens. On Friday, March 23 there will be a Health Fair by the Molloy College Nursing Program and LI Tobacco Action Coalition in which all students can participate in an interactive health fair that provides hands on information regarding health and fitness.
- **Middle School Sports** start on Monday, March 26. All Health History forms are due prior to that date for students interested in participating.

### **Lisa Belinsky – High School**

- Fri. Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> the SCA HS Speakers Bureau sponsored the UMass Band. Several performing groups from the HS were able to interact with the band.

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- We took a photo with the representative from the Office Furniture of LI, who donated all the furniture for the Senior Spa, Dean, Regina Rule representing the Board and some students. Brochures are here and if you mention the Manhasset SCA, 10% of your purchase price will be donated to SCA Project Share—the committee formed to help students in our community whose family are in need. A simultaneous fundraiser for Project Share is the discount Modell's coupons where you get 15% off and 5% will be given back to Project Share. Some are here, but you can tell anyone to download them from our website.
- Soph took place Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, the theme was carnival, and like the Frosh there was an upgrade in decorated, where an outside company was used—it truly transformed the cafeteria. 10<sup>th</sup> Grade chairs Mia Hitchcock and Johnna Lombard worked with class advisor Kristen Tadlock and 9<sup>th</sup> grade chairs Sue Dunn and Christine chaperoned the evening so thank you to all of them
- Feb. 29 the HS had a mock interview night from 6:30-9:30 pm. Jen Landman coordinated this through the guidance department, which was an outgrowth of a Shared Decision committee from a few years ago. Several parents responded to our SCA website to help interview and about 40 students got to have 2 different sets of interviews-it was a big success.
- HS play will be Yentl next weekend, Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> and Sat. March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The following weekend, Sat. March 24<sup>th</sup> will be the Jr. Prom at the Village Club of Lake Success. Ticket sales were staffed and handled this past week by GLCs Laurie Spampinato and Lisa Middleton -- thank you to them, they did a great job. Almost 290 tickets were sold. Dan Reardon is the Class Advisor and Laurie and Lisa have been working nicely with him. The promenade will start the evening off at 6:15 in the gym. The SCA just purchased a lot of Pipe and Drape for the Senior Frolic to cover the now permanent display cases in the gym lobby. We'll be able to use that for photo backdrops for the promenade, which will be a nice change.
- Regarding the Senior Frolic, Chairs Karen Blando, Donna Wang and Jeannette Riley have things moving ahead of schedule. The entertainment and games have been secured and many of the committees are in the planning stages. The design phase is in full swing and many props are purchased and waiting placement. Since the SCA no longer has space at a local Church, storage is a bit of an issue and a place to "build" prior to the floor being laid in the gym will become a discussion point this year and moving forward. So if anyone has extra warehouse space to spare, please let us know. The Frolic Committee is keeping a keen eye on costs and is planning to keep the ticket price at \$125 which will include a DVD.
  - Elaine Phillips suggested looking into the vacant barns at the Sands Point Preserve; Pat Aitken suggested looking into warehouse space on Channel

Drive in Port Washington; Christy Weppler suggested looking into using space at the vacant store Les Corbeilles on Plandome Road.

- If there are any Jr. parents here, we will looking to find chairs for next year's Senior Banquet and the Frolic. It's usually a team effort with different people focusing on finances, creativity, and coordinating volunteers. Please consider this and mention to people in that grade.
- A reminder that seniors have to complete 15 hours of community service before graduation.
- The second annual SCA Scholarship will be awarded this year to one boy and one girl in the graduating class. The amount is \$1,000 each and the award is based only on the essay submitted. Limit is one page and the deadline is April 15.
- The Science Expo will be held on March 22.
- High School Sports beginning the next three weeks
  - Pat Aitken noted that the seniors' behavior in the SPA is excellent
  - Dr. Schlanger noted that the Third Quarter Progress Reports are available on the parent portal at 4:00 p.m. today.

### **SCA Committee Chairs**

#### **CASA – Lisbeth Shibley**

- CASA is trying to move up the Town Hall Meeting from April 19 at 7:30 p.m. to March 28. Topics will be underage drinking and substance abuse and delaying first use.
- CASA is working with the Health & Fitness Chairs at the elementary schools.

#### **SCA Fair – Dianne Tolentino and Santina Petrusso**

- Currently working on the Journal and contributions. Would like the school presidents to ask the Grade Level Chairs to remind about the journal deadline. The deadline is March 19 but there is some flexibility about that.
- For the raffle, two prizes are not being provided this year – H on the Harbor and the Mets tickets. The chairs are looking for additional prizes.
- Advance tickets will be sold on April 25 and April 28 in town and will be available by mail. The SCA gets 35% of the proceeds of the advance ticket sales so it's important to sell as many advance tickets as possible.
- Volunteers are being organized this year via Signup Genius. Alice Meyer Woo is setting it up. This will make managing volunteers much easier.
  - There will also be a Signup Genius for high school students who want to fulfill some community service hours. These hours can carry over into 2012 – 2013 school year.



- There is a conflict with the Woodstick Challenge in Garden City, but the chairs are hopeful that parent volunteers will be able to schedule some time at the fair as well as at the games.
- The chairs are waiting on insurance information.
- All the forms are on the SCA Highlights and on the SCA website.

**Project Share – Christy Wepler**

- Amazing work this year. The Bridge Program is giving out Michael's Crafts gift cards, Gino's gift cards, bags and towels for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Splish Splash trip, gift cards for seniors to buy prom dresses. At the beginning of the school year, Project Share also gave out backpacks with school supplies and also new sneakers.
- The holiday gift giving program went well, and Project Share donated an additional \$4,000 to supplement the gifts given by the community.

**Health & Wellness – Christy Wepler**

- The committee is coordinating with CASA this year to combine for one week of Health & Wellness activities. Health & Wellness Week was switched from May, which was a very busy time. There is a handout for Health & Wellness week.
- SQAir program: three sets of equipment are being provided for Shelter Rock, Munsey Park and the Middle School.
- Ken Ginsburg's recent presentation at the JCC will be on the SCA Highlights.

**SEPTA – Christy Wepler (from Helen Whiteman)**

- SEPTA donated money to the district for Special Education activities. Other activities include a Gifted & Talented program, circus tickets and music therapy sessions.
- SEPTA Committee Chairs have noted that the midterm schedule received some negative feedback – if anyone has comments they should be submitted to the principals.
- SEPTA ran 20 community programs this year, with another 5 this spring.
- SEPTA is considering having a community-wide Special Needs dance / fundraiser – a "spring fling."

**School Board Reports:**

**No additional reports from School Board members**

**Approval of Pipe and Drape Purchase:**

In emails dated February 16, 2012, SCA Executive Board approved the 2012 Frolic Committee's request to purchase pipe and drape for the hallway entrance to the high school gym.

Typically the Frolic Committee rents pipe and drape to cover the hallway and protect the non-movable trophy cases installed there in 2009. Since the entire hallway is approximately 1,600 square feet, the expense incurred each year to rent the Pipe & Drape is considerable – over the past four years, the rental cost has been at least \$2,500. The Frolic Committee obtained an estimate from the vendor Party Up the pegged the rental cost for the main and side hallways at \$3,276.

The Frolic Committee proposed purchasing pipe and drape at a cost of \$10,921 for materials and a one-time shipping cost of \$355.50. The payback period for the hallway materials is approximately 4.36 years. The materials can be used for the Frolic and for the MHS proms for 15 years or longer if the material is properly cared for (folded and stored after use). The material is flame retardant (delivered with proper certification) and will maintain its fireproof quality for the life of the fabric, even with laundering.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Deirdre F. Curtis

**SCA Executive Board Secretary**