



# Munsey Park SCA Meeting Minutes

**Date: September 19, 2012, 9:30 am**

**Subject of Meeting: Back to School Information**

**Location: Auditorium, Munsey Park School**

**Presenters: Liz Tomaselli, Dr. Kendall, Mr. Charles Cardillo**

## Liz Tomaselli

- Mrs. Tomaselli opened the meeting with welcome statements, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Mrs. Tomaselli turned the meeting over to Dr. Kendall.

## Dr. Kendall

- Dr. Kendall introduced new faculty members. Ms. Mangino will be a leave replacement teacher this year. Dr. Maria Reina is joining Munsey Park School as a School Psychologist for grades 2-6. Mrs. Murray will no longer be teaching fifth grade and has now joined the administration as the Vice Principal of Munsey Park School.
- Enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year at Munsey Park is down slightly over last year. This small drop in enrollment has freed one classroom that will now be used by special education teachers. Thirty nine new students have transferred into the school for this academic year.
- Dr. Kendall spent time explaining the new teacher evaluation system that is being put in place this year. Teachers will be observed much more frequently, but for shorter periods of time. Feedback will be available to teachers very shortly after the observation. Dr. Kendall reports that thus far the system has been well received by both teachers and administration.
- A new wellness policy has been adopted by the Board of Education. Classroom teachers must be given a minimum of seven days notice of treats coming into the classroom. Without this notice, teachers have been instructed not to allow the treat in the classroom. Dr. Kendall reminded everyone about the SCA "Non-Food" Celebration option.
- The New York State Dignity Act is now in place. Mrs. Murray is the coordinator for implementation of this act in Munsey Park School. The children have been informed about how this act affects their school environment. Parents with questions are encouraged to contact Mrs. Murray.
- A new Math Curriculum is being implemented throughout the school. Students in grades 3-6 will be using the "Go Math" program. Students in grades K-2 will be using the "Math in Focus" program. Over the next years "Math in Focus" will be phased in throughout the entire school. The new math programs use a more in-depth approach to topics, as opposed to the "spiraling" style of the Everyday Math program that was used previously. A meeting will be



held on October 3, at 9:30 am (Shelter Rock school auditorium) or 7:00 (Munsey Park school auditorium) to present details of the new math program to parents.

## Mr. Charles Cardillo

- Mr. Cardillo welcomed everyone back to a new school year.
- More details on the new teacher evaluation system were provided. Specifically, this program allows for greater administration presence in the classroom, and greater communication between administration and teachers. Both tenured and untenured teachers will be observed at least monthly under the new system.
- Significant enrollment increases at Shelter Rock School, along with a commitment to meeting class size guidelines, have led to the addition of four teaching sections at that school. This was an unbudgeted event. This, along with other pressures on the budget, will likely lead to the recommendation for a “supermajority” budget vote this May. A “supermajority” budget of more than a 2% budget increase requires a 60% majority to pass the budget. More information will be forthcoming as the budget process is handled by the Manhasset Board of Education and the Administration.
- Manhasset Middle School has been designated a “Focus District” based on the performance of a specified subgroup of students on the standardized state tests in 2011. Mr. Cardillo stated that the district has been appealing this designation based on significant increases in performance of these students in 2012, but thus far the appeal has been denied.
- In a Q&A session, the possibility of full day Kindergarten was brought up. Mr. Cardillo indicated that the school is investigating the possibility of implementing a full day kindergarten program.

## Ms. Regina Rule

- Ms. Regina Rule welcomed everyone back for another school year. She provided an overview of the Board of Education, and encouraged community members to attend meetings and contact the Board with any issues they may have.

## Committee Chairs

- Mrs. Tomaselli opened the meeting up to SCA Committee Chairs who needed to make announcements.
- The Book Fair will be held in March. Chairs are needed for the Art & Decoration Committee and Volunteer Coordination. Contact Kim Haggerty if you want to help.



Manhasset  
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- Ms. Christy Wepler provided an overview of the Extended Extras program; a flier should be available soon for registration. Ms. Wepler also informed the group that Saturday Series is now being run by paid staff (two teachers) as no parents were willing to chair the committee.
- SCA Fair Chairs are desperately needed. This cannot happen without parent volunteers. Anyone interested in helping is urged to contact Christy Wepler immediately.
- Ms. Christy Whitaker informed the group that National Library Week is now being replaced by National Book Week, a change heartily endorsed by Ms. Olwy, our school librarian. The new program is more favorable to the state testing schedules, and allows for a variety of new activities. The committee needs volunteers.
- The fall luncheon is fast approaching and needs volunteers to make the event a success. Please contact Liz Tomaselli if you are able to help.
- Volunteer signup sheets will be available at all open houses for those who would like to help with the various committees.