

Munsey Park/Shelter Rock Joint Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday October 24, 2007
Minutes

1. Welcome and opening of meeting by Ellen Duran, Munsey Park SCA President

Ellen welcomed those in attendance including the Shelter Rock SCA Council and Parents, Presented minutes from Sept. 19th Parent Council Meeting, Minutes were approved. Ellen then introduced Dr. Kendall.

2. Dr. Kendall, Munsey Park Principal, welcomed all in attendance on behalf of herself and Robert Geczik, Shelter Rock Principal

Dr. Kendall thanked Mr. Charlie Cardillo, Superintendent of the Manhasset School District along with Cindy Cardinale, President of the Board of Education, for attending today's event.

Dr. Kendall acknowledged Mr. Leone, Vice Principal of Munsey Park successfully defended his dissertation on "Learning Styles" at St. John's University and officially can be called Dr. Leone.

3. Ellen Duran discussed various matters:

Ellen reminded all in attendance to attend the upcoming SCA Luncheon on 11/14. In addition, she encouraged all to take the time to fill out the Shared Decision Making Survey and leave all completed surveys in the Main Office.

Ellen introduced Christine Koskopolis, to discuss an upcoming fundraising event.

4. Christine Koskopolis, SCA Committee for "Champion for Charities" Event:

Christine encouraged all those in attendance to support the Manhasset SCA by participating in the upcoming "Champion for Charities" shopping event at the Americana Mall. This is the second year that the SCA would be one of the beneficiaries of the event and all were encouraged to show their support by shopping during the weekend of 11/29-12/1.

Ellen took back the floor and introduced Mr. Charlie Cardillo.

4. Mr. Charlie Cardillo, Superintendent of Manhasset School District

Charlie shared a story with the audience related to his son who had graduated from Notre Dame and is now in the Navy and staying in California with a friend and was being impacted by the raging fires in the area. His son was warned that he may have only 15 minutes notice to gather his belongings to evacuate the home where he was staying. This incident made Charlie reflect on the vulnerability of any community. He suggested that it would be wonderful if down the road the Manhasset community could come together to provide some assistance the people on the West Coast, similar to the way we supported victims of Katrina in New Orleans.

Mr. Cardillo discussed Facilities, Infrastructure and Space Needs. He and the Board have looked at population patterns for the next few years relative to facilities. People have been very complementary of the work that has been completed on the facilities in the District.

He indicated that with budget issues resolved, there is a greater focus on curriculum and emphasis on K-12 and particularly K-6 levels. He mentioned that Dr. Kendall, Mr. Geczik and Mr. William Shine, will be re-examining the K-3 Reading Program to see how to improve it and provide a better foundation.

In addition, Mr. Cardillo said the transition from sixth grade to seventh grade would be a point of emphasis. He indicated there will be active participation in this process to make it a smoother experience.

Another point of focus will be the "Gifted and Talented" Program. Mr. Cardillo highlighted a meeting that was held approximately two weeks ago on the subject. Ellen Richer, head of the program is getting additional support.

Mr. Cardillo acknowledged that the high turnover of administrators in recent years had been a problem but looked forward to a long period of high quality and stable leadership and continuity as a goal.

Mr. Cardillo recognized Dr. Leone for his achievement and extended his congratulations.

He thanked CASA and the individual School Chair people for their efforts during "Red Ribbon Week" and said the schools looked terrific.

Ellen took back the floor and thanked Mr. Cardillo and introduced the Guest Speaker for today's event.

4. Guest Speaker: Roberta Richin, Author of *Connecting Character To Conduct: Helping Students Do The Right Things*.

Next Meeting: Munsey Park/Shelter Rock Joint Parent Council Meeting, Thurs., January 10, 2008, 9:15 am, Shelter Rock Elementary School Auditorium

Important Reminders:

SCA Saturday Series Final Registration
Friday, January 11, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Shelter Rock Cafeteria

SCA Saturday Series Begins
Saturday, January 12, Shelter Rock School