

## **SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** September 14, 2012 **Call to Order**: 9:40 a.m.

Meeting adjourned: 11:35 a.m.

Officers Present: Christy Weppler, Lori Downey, Lisa Belinsky, Michaela Sheridan, Nancy

Schlaefer, Liz Tomaselli, Elizabeth Johnson, Deirdre Curtis

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **SCA Executive President's Welcome - Christy Weppler**

Christy Weppler welcomed the attendees and introduced the members of the Executive Board and the School Presidents. She noted that it had been a very busy summer for the SCA, and that almost all the committee positions have been filled. The SCA Fair Co-Chair positions are still open.

# **Principals' Reports**

#### **Robert Geczik - Shelter Rock**

• Shelter Rock enrolled a record number of new students for this school year: 63 new students. Typically there are about 20-25 new students each year, so this is a big increase. Because of the large number of new students, Shelter Rock had to add four new sections – one in each of kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. As usual, there were a few students who transferred in from Munsey Park, Buckley and Our Lady of Grace, but the largest group of new students transferred from St. Mary's: 25 new students in grades 1-5 transferred in from St. Mary's. We hired four great new teachers to accommodate the increase in enrollment. Shelter Rock's current enrollment is 778 students. Two grades have six sections, and the others all have five sections.

## Jean Kendall - Munsey Park

- Over the past several years, Munsey Park has seen an increase in enrollment, with 963 students at its height. This year there are 29 new students, which actually brings the total enrollment down a bit. Total enrollment is now 893 students, with 6 sections of every grade. The slight decrease in enrollment provides a bit of relief, as the school doesn't feel quite so crowded.
- We have a new Assistant Principal, Kathy Murray. She was formerly a fifth grade teacher. (Charlie Leoni has a new role as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum.)
- Munsey Park's Behavior Code this year includes the Dignity for All Students Act.
- There is a new evaluation rubric that includes a minimum number of observations and "drop ins".

• The new math program for K-2 is "Math in Focus." Teachers have been trained, and there will be a parent meeting in October. The new math program for 3-6 is "Go Math."

## **Dean Schlanger – Secondary School**

- There are now approximately 1600 students in the secondary school now; approximately 600 in the Middle School and about 1,000 in the High School. Enrollment breakdown is: 7<sup>th</sup> grade 299 students; 9<sup>th</sup> grade 292 students; 9<sup>th</sup> grade 271 students; 10<sup>th</sup> grade 240 students; 11<sup>th</sup> grade 226 students; and 12<sup>th</sup> grade 257 students. Dr. Schlanger sees enrollment increasing over the next three years, as enrollment in grades 5 through 8 is up, but enrollment in grades K through 3 is back to more normal levels.
- Facilities Update: The double exit from the secondary school building is working well. The Library looks great, and thank you to the Tower Foundation. The Art Gallery is almost done, with new floors and walls in place.
- There are 15 new teachers at the secondary school; many with experience in other districts. All are very happy to be at Manhasset.
- The Middle School Open House was held yesterday evening. We returned to the old format of having parents go to classrooms following their child's class schedule.
- The High School Open House will be held next week.
- Grade level Assemblies have been held already. At each assembly we discussed the Code of Conduct, the Dignity Act, attendance policies and hygiene.
  - This year was slightly different; we did a double period, with an "x" period and a
    breakout period instead of just an "x" period. We focused the breakout session
    based on the grade (for example, the 12<sup>th</sup> grade discussion included college
    applications).
- We have made some changes to the Spirit Week format, which Mark Sippin will describe.

## Mark Sippin - Secondary School

- Homecoming Week is September 24028. Because schools will be closed on the Wednesday of that week due to the Jewish holiday, the activities will take place on Monday (Pajama Day), Tuesday (Clash Day), Thursday (Seniors' Choice Copycat Day) and Friday (Orange and Blue Day). Friday is an "x" day with sport periods.
- This year the format of Spirit Day (Friday) has changed as the school tries to maintain the fun but ensure the safety of the students and reduce the mayhem of past years. Spirit Morning will be held in the gym, rather than in four hallways of the school. Each grade has a quadrant of the gym that it will decorate from 7:15 to 8:08 a.m. There will be a senior student DJ and a bagel breakfast for seniors on the porch outside the gym (or in the Middle School gym if the weather is

inclement). The Pep Rallies will take place on Friday from 1:45 – 3:08 p.m. in the high school and middle school gyms.

• Saturday the parade will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Colonial Parkway, proceeding down Plandome Road and up Manhasset Avenue. The football game begins at 1:30. The Homecoming Dance will take place from 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. in the High School gym. The form for bringing guests to the Homecoming Dance was not mailed out this year – it can be found online. Guests must be Manhasset residents who attend schools other than Manhasset High School.

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

Mr. Cardillo spoke on three topics.

- I. <u>Teacher Evaluations</u>: All districts are required to have new teacher and principal evaluations in place per recent legislation. Manhasset is one of the seven districts on Long Island whose plan has received state approval.
- Manhasset worked with Kim Marshall and adopted his rubric for teacher and principal evaluations. We reviewed three major models, with the goal for providing ongoing support for teachers and principals.
- In the real world and not just in Manhasset -- once a teacher is tenured, there is very little contact between principal and teacher; there is more intense supervision for non-tenured or very junior teachers, or for tenured teachers about whom there are concerns.
- In our model, the burden falls on coordinators and directors at the secondary level, and to the principals at the elementary levels.
- There will be a minimum of 10 contacts during the course of the year. These will be frequent, unannounced observations, most likely for at least 15 minutes. Ten contacts is a lot, and much goes on within a 15-minute period. With frequent visits, observers will get a large cumulative amount of observation time.
- The expectation is that at the end of the day on which the observation took place, the observer will have a meaningful conversation with the teacher regarding what was observed, and the observations will be memorialized in writing.
- This is an ambitious plan, and we are essentially immersing the administrators in teacher evaluations. Our teachers have agreed to this rubric.
- A few districts have adopted this rubric, but most have adopted a plan that provides for contact just two times per year.
- Yesterday Kim Marshall was in Manhasset and accompanied the district coordinators on two mini observations per subject. He then met with coordinators, teachers, Charlie Cardillo and Charlie Leoni to discuss, and later debriefed the elementary principals. Mr.

Marshall noted that Manhasset has a great administrative team and great teachers, and he was very impressed by the students and how they presented themselves.

- If there is a problematic teacher, there is a mechanism in place to address the issues. The ultimate aim is that by being in the classroom more often, we will get a good sense of the teacher. The primary goal is to provide ongoing, significant support for teachers.
  - One attendee suggested that teacher evaluators can look at the comments made by teachers on student report cards to see how meaningful or thoughtful they are. It was noted that Manhasset does not limit teacher to the "canned" comments and permits teachers to make "free form" comments.
- II. <u>Increased Student Enrollment / Tax Cap Mandate</u>: As Robert Geczik noted, enrollment in Shelter Rock is up significantly. The district has a process in place to monitor enrollment. For example, for this year: in mid-June, we learned that the fifth grade at Shelter Rock was going to be over the class size guidelines. By mid-July, it was clear that the kindergarten, first and third grade classes would also be over the class size guidelines.
- The reality is that because of the tax cap imposed by New York state, there was much deliberation over how to address this. In order to add four new sections, we had to hire four new teachers. This was not in the original budget, so a budget revision was made in late August.
- The ultimate decision was that we value the quality of the education too much not to follow our own class size guidelines especially at the elementary school level.
- Charlie's next column in The Manhasset Press will run next week, and will discuss how economic constraints are pulling Manhasset out of "the bubble." It is virtually certain that Manhasset will be forced to seek a 60% supermajority vote in order to pass a budget that (a) permits us to continue our class size guidelines, and (b) maintains our programs.
- o Throughout the winter months, Charlie will be detailing the negative impact on schools and students of not passing a 60% supermajority. Bottom line is that under the 2% tax cap (without the supermajority), Manhasset can only increase its budget by \$77,000. That simply isn't enough.
- Mr. Cardillo pointed out that in his tenure, we have always been able to work through the challenges that we have faced. He is confident that we will be able to do so now.
- Mr. Cardillo also related an anecdote about the Elmont School District's 2012 budget vote. That district tried for a 60% supermajority and was voted down the first time, but succeeded on the revote. The Elmont community basically told the superintendent that they had to make the vote there was too great a risk of harm to the students not to do so.

III. Newsday Article on August 30, 2012 regarding Manhasset as a "focus" district": In an article in Newsday on August 30, Manhasset was listed as being a "focus" district. This designation was based on the 2011 ELA Math test given to students in grades 3 through 8. Although the students' overall performance was outstanding, there was a subgroup of students identified as economically disadvantaged that did not do well – 21 out of 32 of these students performed abysmally. Manhasset appealed the designation, and provided statistics and detailed information about the support that was / is given to these students and demonstrated the improvements in performance one year later. However, the state did not return any communications from Mr. Cardillo and refused to consider the appeal, stating that the 2012 data could not be reviewed because it is outside their appeal process.

- The bottom line is that the district is working with the Middle School and providing internal and outside support to these students, more than ever before which is the most important thing.
- Mr. Cardillo also expressed the opinion that the designation is essentially meaningless. For example, three years ago the district was cited for designating too many students in that economically disadvantaged subgroup as "special needs" students. So the district "undesignated" these students -- and then was cited for bad performance (performance that is compared relative to students without special needs).
- At the same time, New York State awarded Manhasset with the designation as an Award District.
- Mr. Cardillo also commented on widely varying standards used in developing the national rankings given to school districts by Newsweek, The Washington Post and U.S. News & World Report. For example, U.S. News & World Report's first criterion looks at the performance of the economically disadvantaged subgroup. If a school district doesn't do well with that subgroup, the publication doesn't even get to the next step. Charlie also pointed out that in 2012 Manhasset had an AP Exam pass rate of 81.5% -- versus 40% ten years ago. In addition, the number of AP Exams taken by Manhasset students in 2012 was three times the number taken ten years ago.
  - o Christy Weppler noted that it is critical that the community be kept informed, both of the background of situations like this and of the facts.

# Approval of Minutes - Deirdre Curtis

The May 9, 2012 and June 8, 2012 meeting minutes were approved.

## SCA Executive President's Update - Christy Weppler

- Christy Weppler gave an update on the presentations to be given by Rosalind Wiseman, the author of Queen Bees and Wannabees."
- o Ms. Wiseman focuses very strongly on middle school students. The presentations will consist of a workshop talk with teachers of 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades during their faculty meetings.
- o Student presentations will take place for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders during the first period on October 30. Fifth and sixth graders from Munsey Park and Shelter Rock will attend a presentation later that morning (Munsey Park students will be bused to Shelter Rock).
- o Ms. Wiseman's presentations represent a large portion of the SCA's 2012-2013 budget. CASA is helping with the funding, and the SCA has also asked the school district to contribute. The total cost is approximately \$17,000 and includes airfare, hotel and meals, which is standard for outside speakers. The expense is not included in the most recent version of the SCA budget.

# Treasurer's Report - Elizabeth Johnson

- Elizabeth noted that she can be reached via a new email address: <u>SCAExecutiveTreasurer@Outlook.com</u>. (Emails sent to her personal email address are forwarded to the new address.)
- A certificate of deposit owned by the SCA turned over in August; the rate was very low, so we will likely break the CD and move the funds into our savings account.
- The budgets for Munsey Park and Shelter Rock are available online. We will be voting on the SCA General Budget today.
- Christy Weppler noted that the SCA Executive Board has reallocated funds within the SCA budget as needs change. For example, more funds were allocated to Friday Night Live and dances at the Middle School, in an effort to increase attendance.
- The SCA Budget was approved.
- Instructions for reimbursements have been posted online in pdf format.
- A reminder if anyone hires out a third party contractor to provide goods or services to the SCA, once that party has been paid \$600 the SCA must issue a 1099. Please be sure to get the party's tax identification number when retaining them it can be extremely difficult and time consuming to go back to the party for that information.

# **Executive Vice President – Lori Downey**

• Lord & Taylor "shop smart" cards are available for purchase. They are \$5 each. The shopping event is October 2 and is a great fundraiser for the SCA.

• Champions for Charity shopping event at the Americana will be held over the year-end holidays.

• Christy Weppler noted that the SCA received \$1900 from the Lord & Taylor fundraiser last year.

## **President's Reports**

#### Lisa Belinsky - High School

- HS SCA Vice President is Beth Miller, Finance Chair is Kathryn Clejan, and Recording Secretary is Kim Haggerty.
- SCA Email/Directory Form and Volunteer Form were sent out in late June. We are currently in final stages of compiling the Secondary School Directory. Any last minute additions can go to HS Directory Chair Laura Tranchina. All volunteer names have been forwarded to appropriate Committee Chairs. We have forms here if you've had any changes or you have a 7<sup>th</sup> grader.
- Grade Level Chairs-based on volunteer responses the open GLC positions were filled and we met yesterday for the first time. Names and contact info will be posted on the SCA Website.
- Photo Days are September 20 and 21 and HS Chair Ellen Coughlin is scheduling volunteers. Students will have photos taken for ID cards as well. Senior Portraits began on Wednesday and continue through today. SCA has necklaces for any girls that forgot one, or it just wasn't in the budget.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent meeting was September 12<sup>th</sup>. Guidance ran the meeting and reviewed the college application process. Parents were also greeted by Frolic Co Chairs Joanne Goldberg, Caroline Kenlon and Judy Pegno, and received Senior Banquet info from Co Chairs Mary Felman, Rose Lavelle and Seval LaRocca.
- Parent Council Meetings: our first MS/HS Joint Parent Council meeting is Friday, September 23<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 in the Black Box. We will have a presentation by our Summer Studies Chair, Isabel DeSousa and several award recipients.
- There is a Public Library fundraiser being held at North Hempstead Country Club on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. JR Moehringer, former Manhasset resident and author of *The Tender Bar* will speak. Admission is \$50 (\$25 for MHS students) and includes a copy of Moehringer's new book, *Sutton. The Tender Bar* was a summer reading selection for the high school this year.
- Upcoming dates to remember:
  - o 9/24 and 10/01 Mini College Fair
  - o 9/19 Open House

# o 9/29 Homecoming!

#### Michaela Sheridan - Middle School

- Middle School Vice President is Jill Ridini, MS Finance Chair is Victoria Parisi, and MS Recording Secretary is Kim Haggerty.
- Student Directory and Volunteer Forms went out in June. The directory forms are still being accepted. For 7th Grade parents, if you want your child to be included in the directory, please return your signed permission to me as soon as possible. For 8th Grade parents, if any information has changed since last year, please let me know. We have had over 100 parents volunteer to participate in various MS committees. The deadline to submit the forms is September 21<sup>st</sup>. All 7<sup>th</sup> graders must submit a form inclusion in the directory is not automatic, even if there is an older sibling at the Middle School or High School.
- The four open 7th Grade Level Chair positions were filled. On September 7th we had our first Grade Level Chair meeting with all 7th and 8th Grade Level Chairs in attendance. The names and contact information of the MS Grade Level Chairs will be posted on the SCA website.

### Recent Events:

- Opening Day Picnic for 7th Graders We welcomed our new 7th grade students with an Opening Day picnic on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 4th. Although the rainy weather moved the picnic indoors, the students still enjoyed the pizza and Italian Ices that were provided by the SCA. Thank you to Nancy Albanese and Alison DeBiasi for helping to make this event a success.
- Middle School Open House was held on Thursday, September 13 and was a success with parent feedback being very positive. Parents followed a new format this year and actually walked thru their child's schedule. Thank you to Rita Rienzi for purchasing the refreshments and to Ida Wong for helping to set up and clean up.

### <u>Upcoming Events</u>:

- MS/HS Photo Days are on September 20th and 21st. Photos are taken during the students' gym period. Students will have photos taken for ID cards as well. A big thank you to Maria Varrichio for organizing the volunteers for these days.
- Our first MS/HS Joint SCA Meeting will take place on Thursday, September 21 from 9:30 –
   11:00 am.

• The MS Welcome Back dance will be held on Friday, September 21 from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. Admission is \$10. The money raised will be used to purchase Spirit Day T-shirts for the MS students. Donations of small bottles of water would be appreciated and can be dropped off at the home of Jill Ridini on September 21. Jill's address is 77 Brookside Drive in Plandome.

### **Nancy Schlaefer – Shelter Rock**

- For the second year in a row, we have had 60+ students enroll into Shelter Rock over the summer. Also, thanks to the district and BOE, we have added 4 new sections one each in K, 1, 3, and 5<sup>th</sup>.
- <u>Ambassador Program</u> parent volunteers reached out to new families to personally welcome them to Shelter Rock and answer any questions that they might have. Tours were also given on the last week of August. There were 63 new students to Shelter Rock over the summer many coming in late August. Thanks to Ruth Geismar for coordinating and guiding the tours and to all the "ambassadors" who made the calls.
- <u>School Supply sales</u> 54 families participated over the summer; thanks to Tara LaSalle for coordinating.
- SCA provided a welcome back breakfast to all Shelter Rock staff on Thursday, August 30.
- New Parents were welcomed to Shelter Rock on Monday night, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Ten 6<sup>th</sup> graders wrote essays on life at Shelter Rock. Our specialists also were introduced and available for questions. Carlo Prinzo and Charlie Cardillo were introduced and spoke as well. Some questions by new parents were pertaining to school safety, anti-bullying measures and after school activities.
- <u>A room rep meeting</u> for K-1 was held on Monday, September 10th and one for Grades 2-6 on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Directory chair is currently collecting all forms from new students, Kindergartners and only from those who had changes to email, address, or phone -- similar to the MS/HS format. The form will be available at the Open House and on the SCA highlights.
- Open House for K-1 went smoothly. Spirit wear, Septa, Pase, Lord & Taylor, SCA membership, family theatre, and Planet Manhasset were all present. Grades 2-3 Open House will be on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> and Grades 4-6 will be on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.
- <u>Shelter Rock Parent Council Meeting</u> was held yesterday Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Many of the new families attended and asked questions. Acknowledgements were also given to the

committee chairs, room reps and grade level chairs. The meeting was very upbeat. Robert Geczik introduced our new additions to the faculty including 4 new classroom teachers, 3 special-ed and 1 new leave-replacement. Charlie Cardillo, Carlo Prinzo and Regina Rule were also in attendance and answered questions. Thank you for coming.

- <u>Spirit wear</u> sales have been very successful so far. We have sold over \$6,500 worth of merchandise from the K-1 Open House, New Parent Welcome and our first Parent Council meeting. Thank you to Janice Rohlfing
- <u>Extended Extras Fall session</u> will offer Chess, Art, Creative Writing, Study Skills, Mandarin, Spanish and Italian. It starts the first week of October and will go for 9 weeks.
- Lunchroom sign up will be on Friday, September 21
- Thank you to Project Share for outfitting 49 Shelter Rock students with backpacks.

#### Liz Tomaselli – Munsey Park

- Ice Cream Social: In August we held our annual Ice Cream Social. We welcomed 39 new students, their families, and their buddies. Parent volunteers provided guided tours around the school. Many questions were answered and everyone was introduced to some members of the faculty. Some children came in nervous and left skipping! It was a success.
- The SCA provided a "Welcome Back" breakfast at Munsey Park on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The teaching staff seemed excited to be back.
- New Parents were welcomed on Monday September10th. Speakers included Dr. Kendall, Regina Rule from the BOE, Mrs. Scongiamiglio, who provided a detailed overview of the new Math programs, Mr. Cardillo and me. Several 6<sup>th</sup> graders wrote about their favorite part of the day and shared their views with the audience. Parents had the opportunity to have their questions answered as well.
- We held our first Room Rep Meeting on Monday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. Protocol was discussed and questions were answered. Areas of discussion also included the Safety Backpacks.
- Our directory Chair, Amy Keogh continues to do a fabulous job. Permission forms were sent out in the Summertime and Amy is currently putting finishing touches on this year's directory. The deadline was September  $2^{nd}$ .

• Open Houses- Our K + 1 Open House was Wednesday September 12<sup>th</sup>. SCA Membership, Spiritwear, Septa, PASE, Planet Manhasset, and family theatre were all present. They will also be present for our upcoming Open Houses. Grades 2 +3 Open House will be held on Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> and on September 27<sup>th</sup> for grades 4, 5, and 6.

- Our first Parent Council meeting of the year will be this coming Wednesday September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Spiritwear- sales from our first Open House were in the neighborhood of \$2,500.00. Special thanks to Debbie Colallilo and Virginia Madsen.
- Extended Extras programming begins on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Some of the wonderful programs being offered include a wide range of languages: Spanish, Greek, Italian, Latin, Chinese, French, Logic games, Study Skills, Art Club, and possibly Computer Club and Science Club. Thank you Christy!!
- Our Lunch/Recess sign up meeting will be on October 1<sup>st</sup>. We are rolling out a new system for signing up, Sign Up Genius.
- I myself have hit the ground running and am very excited to be working with so many talented and professional people.

#### **SCA Committee Chairs**

### **Membership – Christy Weppler**

- Membership drive is going well.
- Mike @ Minuteman Press is doing a good job so far this year.
- Post Office issues: Mail is being sent through the Whitestone, Queens Post Office. There is a possibility that the Whitestone PO may close, in which case SCA mail will go through Brooklyn.
- There have been some glitches with the mail -- for example, Pat Aitken is not receiving any SCA mail.
- o Pat asked whether there is a "membership renewal" list. Christy will look at the school district mailing list to see if the SCA should use that mailing list to ensure that all residents receive SCA mailings.

## SCA Luncheon - Faye Panteloigianis

• The SCA Luncheon will be held on November 14 at North Hempstead Country Club. We have several new volunteers for the luncheon.

#### **SCA Highlights**

• Reminder that the deadline is Monday afternoon to have something posted on the SCA Highlights for the following week.

# Planet Manhasset – Angela Classi

- Angela will be making a formal proposal at the SCA Executive Committee meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup> to install three edible gardens at the three school buildings.
- The High School has a refurbished greenhouse and an ideal location for an herb garden.
- The idea has been well received to date. Mrs. McGrory (teacher advisor to the Manhasset Green Club) has said that her students could do composting and that she would like her students to have more hands-on experience.
- Angela pointed out that the gardens could be used for instruction.
  - o The Waldorf School in Garden City uses its garden as part of its curriculum.
  - o Crops could be donated to the school and/or the Manhasset community.
- We could coordinate with the Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts for projects.
- Angela doesn't know the costs yet; she is getting information about costs of raised beds, etc. She pointed out that we could ask for donations and volunteers.
- Christy Weppler noted that the Matteo family owns a landscaping business. They did the Munsey Park dig out.
- Charlie Cardillo noted that the Sachem school district did this.

## **CASA - Lisbeth Shibley and Cathy Samuels**

- CASA is working on a variety of projects, including Red Ribbon Week and the Stephen Dewey presentation.
- Thanks to the School Presidents CASA has gotten several new volunteers.
- CASA has been recognized by the American Red Cross for its High School CPR program.
- CASA has also been recognized by Chase's Chase Community Giving Campaign. You can vote twice and can do so on Facebook.
- Cathy Samuels presented at the High School Guidance Nights.

• Stephen Dewey presentation will be held on October 18. There will be presentations to students and parents grades 5 through 12, and a presentation to the High School Student Senate. Parents who have attended Dewey's presentations have recommended that the kids hear the presentation.

- CASA coffee will be held in November.
- In October, Cathy will give a PowerPoint presentation on the "Power of Parenting" handbook that was sent home in June.
- CASA plans to reapply for its federal grant. There is no guarantee that it will be renewed, and we will hear in late August 2013. If the grant is not awarded, then CASA will be coming to the SCA and the school district for assistance and collaboration.
  - o Alternatively, CASA will fold and the SCA and the school district will have to assume the activities.
- Red Ribbon Week is a targeted outreach. Different packets will be sent to parents of K and 1; 2 through 6; and 7 through 12.
  - One question that has come up is why Red Ribbon Week is not being sustained at the High School and Middle School. CASA is trying to add activities that would be meaningful.

#### **Project Share**

• Project Share distributed 150 backpacks with supplies and 150 brand new sneakers to children in the community for back to school.

#### **School Board Report - Carlo Prinzo**

- The Board held six board meetings over the summer, as well as a full-day Board / Administration workshop that was open to the public.
- The workshop was a great day and very productive, but the realization is that the 2013 budget will not happen with the 2% tax cap.
  - State-driven retirement contributions and health care contributions bring up to the
     2%.
  - Now the district has 60-plus additional students, had to add 4 teachers at a cost of about \$416,000.
  - o We have to evolve our thinking as the May budget vote approaches.
- Board Member Regina Rule added that residents who don't understand something about the budget or want clarification can call any Board member of Charlie Cardillo.
- Board Member Pat Aitken emphasized that it is important to stay informed. Pat encourages residents to attend Board Meetings, subscribe to the Board's eNews email, and watch the Board

# **SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 14, 2012

website. The agendas are very detailed and even provide an estimated time that items will be discussed.

# Respectfully Submitted,

Deirdre F. Curtis

**SCA Executive Board Secretary**