



**SCA HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 10, 2014
Manhasset Secondary School Board Room**

Welcome

- **Margie Suga, HS SCA Vice President**
- **Kim Haggerty MS SCA President**

High School Update- Margie Suga, HS SCA President

- **Photo Day** – great success thanks to HS Photo Chair Karen Barnes. New Photographer was used - Irvin Simon. Senior Portrait Make-up Day is 10/22. HS/MS Make-up day is 10/23. Any questions should be directed to Maria Malache.
- **Directory** – close to print and should be mailed home shortly.
- **Guidance meetings** for 9th and 12th grade have taken place. 11th Gr meetings will take place beginning November 5th.
- **College Mini Fair** Oct 14th from 1:00 – 2:30
- **Homecoming** this weekend. Spirit Week concludes with today's Orange & Blue Day / Pep Rally and today's SCA sponsored breakfast for Seniors. Saturday, Oct. 12 - Parade at 2:30, Varsity Football Game at 3:00pm. Dance from 7:30-10:30pm in HS Gym
- **Pumpkin Sale** tomorrow Oct. 11th at 11:00.
- **Charity Art Auction** - Tues 10/21 at 7:00 (preview at 6:30) in HS Cafeteria –old and new pieces of original artwork will be accepted
- **Dates to remember**
 - **PSAT** - Saturday 10/18 at 7:45
 - **CASA Parent Night** – Thursday, October 30 at 7:30 It's a Fact – Parents Do Matter

Middle School Update- Kim Haggerty, MS SCA President

- **Middle School Welcome Back Dance** – Friday Sept 12. Low attendance of about 302, hoping closer to 400 (maybe due to lacrosse tryouts). Looking at ways to increase attendance at December Dance. Money collected goes towards purchase of shirts for today's Spirit Day.
- **Photo Day**- makeup day for MS is October 23rd. Thank you to Nancy Schlaefer and her volunteers.
- **Halloween Party** – plans underway for MS Party on Friday October 31st from 7:00 – 9:00. Chairs are Lori Kearns and Erin Kurkjian. Still need volunteers – please use the Sign-Up Genius. Gift cards needed for prizes.
- **Middle School Email** – first email sent out by MS GLC's. If you did not receive an email, please contact Kim Haggerty (kdhigg@aol.com) to be added to the distribution list.
- **MS Directory** – in final stages of production. Thank you to Amy Keogh.

Guidance Update-

Caitlin Regolini, MS Guidance Counselor

- 316 Students in 7th Grade and 279 in 8th; 22 new students to the district (7 in 8th gr and 15 in 7th)
- September 29th – hosted lunch for students that are new to district

- 7th graders off to a good start. Mrs. Chen and Ms. Regolini meeting individually with 7th graders from now until early January
- Started Push-in Orientation Program – two classes on Study Skills. Topics later in October/ early November will include ways to handle stress and developing good habits.
- 8th graders adjusting nicely. Will form lunch groups to meet with students to go over any needs that arise

Jennifer Landman, HS Guidance Counselor

- 25 new HS students ; new student lunch scheduled for 10/20
- High School – all about college
- Met with a majority of seniors to review applications and the schools they are applying to; meetings should be completed in a few weeks
- Last of 4 mini fairs is next Tuesday, October 14th; 120 schools coming to mini-fairs as well as 40+ individual visits from colleges
- Great turnouts, smooth process, no issues
- Mix of colleges coming is changing in a positive way; students looking outside the box
- Letters inviting class of 2014 Graduates to be part of a returning Graduate Panel to speak to this year's graduates will be sent soon
- 9th Grade and 12th Grade parent meetings were both successful; 11th grade meeting in November and 10th in February; Testing 101 meeting in December; Financial Aid meeting in December
- Activities will be winding down with Seniors and picking up with Freshman. Individual introductory meetings with Freshman will be held over the next few months.
- November 7th and 10th - Career Workshop for 10th graders
- December 2nd and 3rd - small group meetings during PE for 9th graders
- Two career nights will be held in the Spring.

Special Presentation - Sean Adcroft, Coordinator of Technology

- Presentation of District's new website
- Major changes in both looks and functionality; feedback welcome and encouraged
- Rollout likely in late October / early November
- Why? Company that developed the District's website has been taken over (more than once) and has not made substantial changes to our site in close to 5 years
- New site will
 - Include Responsive Design (ie; will know what device you are accessing the site from (smart phone, iPad, etc..))
 - Incorporate feedback from many meetings with user groups about what is important to the end-user;
 - Easier to access information; allow users to subscribe to certain pages
 - Easier password and pass key information; one login for parent portal, My School Bucks, etc.
 - And much more!

Principal Report – Margie Suga for Dean Schlanger, Principal Manhasset Secondary School

- Great Spirit Week – no issues
- Pep Rally today
- Tomorrow - Parade at 2:30pm, game at 3pm dance at 7:30pm
- Pumpkins at 11:00am tomorrow; will be moved inside if it's raining

- Q1 Progress Reports available today on the Parent Portal for grades 7-12
- Parents should have received Senior portraits – feedback welcome on new company (no ‘green screen’ ; really impressed, lots of opportunity for kids to shine)

CASA Update – Caryn Sawyer, Executive Director

- Active Parenting presentation ‘How Not to Drink..’ by Dr. Robert Turrisi on Thursday, October 30th
- Active Parenting Now - parent education series designed to improve communication in families, teach responsibility and encourage children to be their best. Kicks off October 29. Target parents of children in grades 4 -8.
- Parents are invited to join CASA

Charles Cardillo, Superintendent, Manhasset School District

- Board Approved Bond Referendum \$22.6 million in Capital Projects; Bond Issuance of \$19.9 million (difference being the use of reserves and SCA gift)
- Communication will be coming out shortly to parents, staff and community
- Four major categories of all very student centric projects – Fine Arts. Sciences, Food Services and Athletics
- Hearsay / rumors – please ask questions and get the facts

Community Education Committee (CEC) is now chaired by Evan Mandery and Seana Devardo. They will be working to get the word out for the Dec 3rd vote.

Upcoming Board Meetings

- Next Wednesday, October 15, Board Recognition Ceremony at 7:30pm
- October 23- meeting held at EOC; Laurie Lauria, District Coordinator for World Languages, will address the needs of English language learners (which is a growing population) in our district
- November 6th – course Gap analysis – asses what courses the district offers now and what courses the district should consider

Next HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting, November 7th 10:00am in HS Board Room