



## **SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Friday, March 9, 2018**

**Call to Order: 9:00 am**

**Meeting Adjourned: 10:05am**

**Officers Present: Tonia Zacharia, Kathleen Broderick, Lucy Puma, Beth Miller, Whitney Godfrey, Noreen LaBenne, and Victoria Grassano,**

**Executive President's Welcome - Beth Miller in for Marybeth Accurso and Nancy Schlaefer**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Executive President's Report**

- SCA Fair Update- Journal sponsorship letters at Minuteman Press will be mailed soon. Bracelets will be sold at a slight premium day of fair.
- Planet Manhasset luncheon fundraiser April 18<sup>th</sup>
- Jane Viola will be running a Summer Internship for High School Students (volunteer opportunities and community service hours).

### **Executive Secretary's Report - Lucy Puma**

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2018 SCA Open Executive Board Meeting.

**Report of Interim Votes:**

- The proposal to pay \$660 for Munsey Park and Shelter Rock students to participate in Saturday Series was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Monday, January 22, 2018.
- The proposal to pay CASA \$10,000 to fulfill the SCA's multiyear commitment was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Monday,

January 22, 2018.

- The proposal to pay \$250 for MP extended extras student participation was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Friday, January 26, 2018.
- The proposal to pay \$1,550 for 6 Shelter Rock students to participate in Saturday Series was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Wednesday, January 21, 2018.
- The proposal to pay \$4,995 to Mad Science for 3 separate classes during Saturday Series was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Monday, February 12, 2018.
- The proposal to pay \$3,283.01 for custodial services during Saturday Series was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Sunday, February 18, 2018.
- The proposal to pay \$1,000 for a master art class to be taught at the high school was approved by the SCA Executive Board via electronic communication on Monday, February 26, 2018.

## **Treasurer's Report – Kathleen Broderick**

- Financial results as of February 28, 2018 are available for your review. There are copies in the back for anyone that needs.
- On the whole, everything is in great shape and I expect we will come either on plan or ahead.
- Champions for Charity was another great success, with SCA members spending over \$30,000 from Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> through December 3<sup>rd</sup>, resulting in a check of almost \$7,500 to the SCA.
- Fall Saturday Series was a great success, running almost \$7,000 ahead of plan; more than enough to offset the \$4,500 lag in membership revenue. While revenue has not yet been deposited for Winter Saturday Series, I fully expect similar results
- It is also important to point out that our budget relies on \$30,000 in positive cash flow from the combined activities at Shelter Rock and Munsey Park. These funds are used to pay for the Elementary field trips.
- Munsey Park is currently running \$13k ahead without factoring in Book Fair, Photo day and Extended Extras.
- Shelter Rock is currently running significantly ahead of plan too, without factoring in Book Fair, Photo Day and Extended Extras Expenses.
- A large portion of this is a result of the expanded offerings for extended extras. Both schools have done an amazing job. We should be in a very comfortable position at year end.
- Most importantly, the SCA has been working with the administration, in putting some funds to work in the schools. Since August, the SCA has made **OVER** \$45,000 in gifts to the Manhasset Public Schools.
  - \$20,000 for a survey by Insight
  - \$14,200 to update the Senior Spa
  - \$10,000 for a new piano at Shelter Rock

○ \$1,200 for Munsey Park Art Department

- I would love to remind everyone when considering what paperwork needs to be filled out or what signatures are required, it is extremely helpful to consult the bylaws. They are located on the SCA website and it can help save time and end unnecessary work, when submitting requests.

## **President's Reports**

### **High School – Beth Miller**

- The 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Guidance Meeting was held on February 8 and as usual, the Guidance team led by Jane Grappone did a great job helping parents and students navigate to course ahead.
- The Junior Prom was on March 3 at the North Ritz Club. Thanks to the parents that helped sell tickets and thanks to Mary Bellucci and Kim Keuster and other parents who helped decorate the gym for the pre-prom party and clean up after. Thanks also to Michelle Guido, Liz Tsalikis, and Nancy Schlaefter for planning a wonderful Frolic Fundraiser the night of the Junior prom. A special thanks is also in order to Celeste and John Sullivan for hosting at their beautiful home.
- The Junior Class applications for Summer Studies awards are available on the SCA website and are due March 28.
- Spring sports started on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> for most sports. Tennis, Golf and Badminton begin on March 12. The Athletic Office is accepting health history forms. Remember that you need new signed forms every season.
- The Board Budget Works session will be on Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 9am to 3pm in the Community room and the Budget Review will be on Tuesday March 20 at 7:30pm in the Community Room. School Safety is the topic of the Board of Ed meeting on April 12.
- The High School Spring play is set for Friday and Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.
- MS/HS Health and Wellness Week begins March 19.
- High School Spring Concerts will be on Wednesday March 21 and Tuesday March 27.
- Spring Break will start on Thursday March 29 and the students will return to school on Monday April 9.
- Senior Prom tickets will be sold in the cafeteria on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday April 11, 12, and 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Next SCA Open Exec Meeting April 20<sup>th</sup> at 9am.
- Next SCA HS/MS SCA Meeting April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

## Middle School – Whitney Godfrey

- Wednesday, February 7- Evening Parent Council Meeting. We welcomed Dr. Rebecca Chowsky, who is our new District Coordinator for English Language Arts. She spoke about her background and what brought her to Manhasset, and how happy she is to be here. She enthusiastically addressed the room about the curriculum and her plans to unify the curriculum within the elementary schools. After listening to Dr. Chowsky, the attendees were invited to preview some of the new spaces within the Secondary School that will be on display at the Community Open House.
- Thursday, March 1 - 6th Grade Parent Night - HS Auditorium This informational evening for parents of incoming 7th graders kicked off with group tours of the building, further confusing the parents about the maze-like layout of the school. Just kidding. We reassured them that their children will know the ins and outs of each hall and stairwell by day 2. After the tours, parents were ushered to the Auditorium, where Peter Vercessi and Dean Schlanger hosted an introductory meeting about the “People to Know” at the Middle School. Department Heads were each given an opportunity to speak to the parents and give a brief overview as to what to expect in 7th and 8th grade. SCA (Whitney Godfrey) and CASA (spoke, as well, to let the parents know about their roles with regard to the Middle School.
- Friday, March 9 (today) - Progress Reports for Quarter 3 will be posted to the Parent Portal
- Wednesday 3/14 - School-Wide student walk out - Dr. Schlanger is in full support of a meaningful, unifying event. Has been working with the class officers from each grade to gather ideas. 9:50 (3rd period).
- Friday, 3/16 - Middle School Bubble Soccer for a Cure! - Please encourage your children to attend. All funds raised will go directly to MWCABC. A minimum donation of \$5 is requested of the students for admission, so that they can try to reach their goal of a \$1,000 donation! This will take place in the Middle School Gym from 7:30-9:30. Snacks and water will be provided by the SCA.
- Monday, 4/9 - Middle School Sports Begin  
Boys: Baseball, Lacrosse, Tennis, Track, 8th Grade Crew  
Girls: Lacrosse, Softball, Track, 8th Grade Crew
- Thursday, March 29 - Sunday April 8 - Spring Recess. School Closed.
- Wednesday, April 11 - Friday, April 13 - ELA Exams
- Tuesday, 4/24 - SCA 6th Grade Parent Transition Panel - Munsey Park Auditorium. This SCA Parent-run panel is an extremely informative and “real” look at what it will be like for your 6th grader to enter the Middle School. A presentation will be given by panel members, who are parents that have had one or more children go through the transition process into Middle School. It will open up into a Q&A session after the presentations.

## Munsey Park – Noreen LaBenne

- **Extended Extras**  
Our Extended Extras Classes began the week of February 26. Classes will run 8 weeks. Thank you to Nevine Sahine and Christine Vitols for co-chairing this program. Examples of our classes this Spring include: Art, Insects, Chess, Yoga, Kindness Club, Legos, Sports and Games, Magic.
- **Health and Wellness Week**  
Health and Wellness Week was from January 16-19. The focus of the week was nutrition. Every morning a tip was read at morning announcements. There was also a poster contest for all grades. A winner was selected from every grade and given a prize, a Munsey Park water bottle. On Friday, January 19 Mary Ann Jones from “Thrive Naturally” lead a presentation to the 4-6 graders on healthy eating and nutrition. Thank you Virginia Madden and Debbie Colallilo for coordinating this event.
- **Saturday Series**  
Saturday Series begins on January 20.
- **Guess Who’s Coming to Read**  
On Thursday, January 25 children in grades K-3 were treated to a guest reader in the their classroom. Our guest readers included an airline pilot, local politicians, pizza owner and a crossing guard. Thank you to Saskia Valentine and Joanna Austin for co-chairing this wonderful event. Also, thank you to Mrs. Olwy our Munsey Park librarian.
- **SCA Joint Parent Council Meeting**  
On Wednesday, February 7 the SCA hosted a joint parent council meeting. The topic for the meeting was English Language Arts. Dr. Leone, Dr. Chowski, Mr. Geczik, Dr. Kendall and reading specialists from Munsey Park will discussed the Reading and Writing program for grades K-6.
- **CogAT Testing**  
Thursday, February 15 Grades 4-6. There was trouble administering the tests so the test scores are not considered to be valid. The test scores will not be considered for placement decisions in 5th and 6th grade enrichment programs or accelerated math.
- **6th Grade Parent Night**  
Thursday, March 1, 6th Grade Parent Night held at the Secondary School.
- **Bookfair**  
March 5-9 the SCA hosted the “Wild West” book fair at the Munsey Park library. On Monday, March 5 students in grades 3-5 listened to author Laurie Calkhoven explain the research and writing process she uses to write her children books. At family night that evening, Laurie Calkhoven was also available to sign her book. The book fair is always a wonderful event enjoyed by our students and families. Thank you to Anna Vomvolakis and Caroline Smith for co-chairing the bookfair. Thank you to

Georgia Katsoulis and Mary Busljeta for transforming the library into a wild west backdrop.

- **March 15**  
Munsey Park Parent Teacher Conferences, Evening
- **Placement Meeting**  
On Wednesday, March 21 Dr. Kendall will hold a meeting to discuss the process and considerations for placing students in their classes for the 2018-19 school year.
- **Spring Break**  
March 29-April 9
- **Munsey Park/Shelter Rock New Kindergarten Parent Orientation**  
April 19 @7 pm
- **Kindergarten Screening**  
April 23-30

## **Shelter Rock – Victoria Grassano**

- **Winter Extended Extras Update**

Our winter session for extended extras started on January 8 and will continue to run for 10 sessions. We are offering many fabulous classes this session including: Junior Journalists, Kitchen Science, Cartooning and Animation, Music Composition, French, Coding, Fun With Physics, Bringing Literature Alive Through Drama, Sports and Games and much more! We have 19 classes running with many classes having more interest than spots! Classes end the end of this month and they are going great! Thank you to our chair Kathleen Martelli!

- **Health and Wellness Week**

Health and wellness week was January 16-19. The theme this year was “Be An Olympian.” The focus of the week was on experiencing the joy of effort, learning to play fair, practicing respect for oneself and others, the pursuit of excellence and living a balanced life of body, will and mind. Students were encouraged to explore five areas of Health & Wellness that are key to being an Olympian in life: (1) Physical Activity, (2) Good Sportsmanship, (3) Healthy Eating Habits, (4) Mindfulness/Stress Management and (5) Limiting Screen Time. A worksheet and handouts were delivered via backpack express and Mr. Geczik sent a parent resource packet with health and wellness information via Blackboard Connect. We had a great response with all classes handing in daily worksheets where the students each colored in the Olympic rings that supported their completed goals. There was a winning class in each great. The gym teachers also incorporated Olympic themed activity stations into all gym classes. Thank you to Anne Chun and Laurie Zephyrin for chairing this event.

- **Guess Who's Coming to Read**

Guess Who's Coming to Read took place on January 24 for grades K-3. We had an all new line up of exciting surprise readers for the kids this year! From a former rockette to a professional violinist to Dr. Butera the kids truly enjoyed the excitement of this day. Music and acting and dancing could be heard from many classrooms with children singing and acting along with their surprise readers. Thank you to Anna Oncel and Kathleen Martelli for chairing this event.

- **Joint SR/MP Parent Council Meeting**

Our joint parent council meeting was on February 7 at Shelter Rock. Dr. Rebecca Chowske and Dr. Leone provided an overview of our K-6 English Language Arts programs. They discussed the current reading and writing programs in use in each grade level as well as the changes to the curriculum that are ahead. Reading specialists from both Shelter Rock and Munsey Park were in attendance to answer any questions parents may have. The meeting was very well attended despite the snowy weather and widespread flu. Dr. Chowske and Leone stayed for quite some time to answer all parent questions. Parent feedback was that they would like to see meetings on the ELA programs more frequently.

- **CogAT Meeting and Test**

This year our district moved from the In View test to a new cognitive abilities assessment, the CogAT. Informational meetings were held on January 11<sup>th</sup> at both schools, one in the morning and one at night. The CogAT was administered online on February 15<sup>th</sup> to students in both schools. There were several issues with the administration of the test and most children were unable to complete the test which led to a decision by administrators that the test results would not be used as criteria for the determination of placement.

- **Shelter Rock Meeting on Student Placement Process**

On Thursday, March 1st at 9:30am in the Shelter Rock Auditorium, Mr. Geczik gave a presentation explaining the process that will be followed in placing the students in classes for the 2018-2019 school year. The meeting was very well attended. The meeting was repeated in the evening on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

- **"Paws for Books" Book Fair**

Our Shelter Rock Book Fair was this week, March 5-9. We kicked off the week with Family Night on Monday, March 5 from 5:30-8:30. It was a huge success! We had two visiting authors. Sayantani DasGupta who wrote "The Serpent's Secret: Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond." Dr. DasGupta did a presentation for grades 4 and 5 during the school day on Monday that was engaging and inspiring and thoroughly enjoyed by the children. She signed books at the book fair later that night. We also had with us on Family Night children's book author Jason Carter Eaton. He did a reading for the children in the library atrium and signed books for the children. The night was packed with families that enjoyed fun games and raffles, the fantastic authors as well as a special visit and photo ops with Mr. Geczik and Mrs. Williams in costume. A big thanks

to Jenny Bordieri and Renee DiGiorolomo for all of the time, work and energy they put into making this event truly amazing.

**CASA Update – Jen DeDena**

Recent events – Dan Hithcock to speak about drugs in the community.  
Please encourage parents and children to attend our **events**.

**Guidance update - Jane Grappone** – Students grades 7-12 and their counselors are working on course schedules for 2018/19 academic year.

**Superintendent – Dr. Vincent Butera** –Budget with in the levy cap.

**Board of Education update** – Christine Monterosso and Regina Rule – Budget workshop March 10, 2018 @ 9:00am in the community room.

The next SCA Open Executive Meeting will be held on Friday, April 20, 2018 at 9AM.  
The next SCA MS/HS joint Parent Council Meeting will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10AM

**Respectfully submitted,**

Lucy Puma  
SCA Executive Board Secretary