

SCA HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting

Friday, November 1, 2019, Secondary School Community Room

Michele Longobardi, Middle School SCA President and Janet Diaso, High School SCA President

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Butera

- Bids for the facilities for the parking lot went out; optimistic that the project will commence next summer. Shelter Rock's permanent vestibule has started after hours; the vestibule will be moved to the new location by January. The other capital projects are all on schedule. Meeting with architect and submitting to the state, plans for the new SEL wing in the middle school by the end of November, expected to be built by end Summer 2020. It will be used in a few different ways for the students throughout the day and it's for the middle school students.
- They will be meeting with the Student Senate on November 5th to discuss what can be done for the High School for social/emotional well-being. The students are planning a town hall in January about their concerns.
- Calendar of presentations for the community for all the schools has been finalized e.g. on November 26 there will be a presentation on the accelerated model at the elementary school. Last year there was a full examination of the elementary accelerated program and this information will be conveyed to the parents. The Board is interested in a program started by Eric Kussin (We all are a little crazy)- they have met with him and want him to come speak with our students .
- The Butera Bash will be once again be auctioned at the SCA Luncheon; students shadow the superintendent for half a day.

Principal's Report: Dr. Schlanger

- Senior banquet is Monday, November 3rd
- End of Quarter 1 is Friday, November 8th—report cards November 15th.

Guidance Update: Joy-Anne D'Anca

- 86% of our senior class has applied Early Decision/Early Action, the deadline is November 1st. Next deadline is November 15th
- Thursday, November 7th is the Junior parent night
- Tenth grade will be going over career choices and Naviance in school on November 8th and 12th.
- Middle school transitions class topic is positive decision making; teaching kids about healthy screen time and healthy choices before they post.

Community Service & Social Studies Presentation: Mara Steindam

- There are 3 community service programs for high school students: The Senior graduation requirement, Presidential volunteer service award and the Guidance Department's Service and Citizenship award. The Senior graduation requirement is 15 hours and can be completed the summer before senior year to April of the senior year. Presidential award is for a certain number of hours from Jan. to Dec; 9th graders can reach back to 8th grade. For the Guidance Department Service award, you need 85 hours nonprofit volunteer work, the award is presented at graduation.
- Volunteer hours can be uploaded electronically through Passport for Good; the Social Studies department webpage has directions

how to set up an account, students must use their mufsd email address. Students can maintain this account after they graduate.

- Current volunteer opportunities are on the Social Studies webpage. A video of everything discussed above is on the website too.
- Opportunities in the Social Studies Department: Students are required to take 7th and 8th grade U.S. History; 9th and 10th grade Regents World History or AP World History or Honors level 10th grade, 11th grade AP and regular US History; 12th grade Economics and Government. Also offered are 9th or 10th Intro to Social Science and the AP Capstone program- 2-year program which includes AP Seminar and AP Research courses. Capstone teaches students how to do independent research. Requires certain minimum grades to be accepted into this program.
- There is also the Social Studies honor society; juniors and seniors' Model UN and mock trial; Economics and Finance club and the 1680 club which is about history.
- Changes have been implemented as to how Social Studies is taught, the focus is on applying concepts as opposed to recalling facts; having student make their own inquiries; covering less memorization and more skills, applying what they learned and thinking like an historian. There are now changes to the Regents exam, emphasis is on document analysis more reading less multiple choice. Also focusing on the historical or geographical context of the document and looking at the source of the document.

English Department: Rebecca Chowske

- New journalism options paired with broadcast journalism; looking to start a tv studio as well as a new non-traditional communications course taught by a special education English teacher which focuses on pod casts and ted talks.
- Lots of support classes offered including reading and writing and preparing students for the regents. Writing center and peer responders program (Manhasset just won an award for the peer responder program at the state level).
- Activities including the PoCoHo (poetry house reading) and Mr. Novak and Greenberg from the library are working on the Phoenix (literary publication); Indian Ink (school newspaper) is online and there are students who are writing for the Manhasset press this year.
- College essay workshop, 75 seats available. In January there will be invitation to sign up and the program will run the first 2 or 3 weeks in July.
- Rising 7th grade summer reading support at the library to assist with the transition to middle school.

CASA update: Jen DeSena

- Red ribbon week just finished and there was presentation re social media at the elementary school.
- Presentation by Madison Holleran's sister at the High School, well attended. Follow up discussion at Manhasset Public Library on November 18th with a family counselor; sign up genius link provided on Library website.
- Wizards game sold out!

Board of Ed Update: Christine Monterosso

Tenure awards ceremony was Monday: 9 teachers were awarded tenure; families attended; Board meeting Thursday, November 7th, honoring Shelter Rock students from the CAP program.

Next meeting is January 10, 2020; SCA luncheon November 13, 2019.