

SCA HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting

Friday, May 7, 2021 Via Zoom

Markella Maliagros, Middle School SCA President, Janet Diaso, High School SCA President

Our staff appreciation luncheon will be in June to allow for an outdoor BBQ, most likely during Regents' week; the end of the year BBQ for Middle School students will be on Friday, June 11, there will be a DJ and games on the field.

The SCA general membership meeting will be on May 11 via zoom. We will vote in the new officers.

The budget vote will be Tuesday, May 18. There are two seats on the BOE that are up for election. Voting will take place 8am-8pm at the Secondary School.

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Vincent Butera

The budget reflects a 1.65% tax levy at the allowable cap. This will include all of the other items including additional sections, reading and math support, and support for technology. The budget is therefore consistent with Manhasset schools' priorities. The school wants to move forward with the Asphalt design project which will include a new water main pipe, more parking spots and changes to the traffic patterns that will be safer for pedestrians. The entire parking lot will be repaved. The money raised in the 2014 bond will be used for this project. The last bid for this project was pre-pandemic and was 2.8 million. The current price of asphalt has gone up. These funds are already available and therefore there will be no impact on the taxpayer.

Principal's Report: D. Schlanger

AP exams are taking place at Leonard's of Great Neck and we are pleased that we can provide the students with more flexibility with parking and drop offs. The 7th and 8th grade math assessments were completed today and there was a delayed opening for this.

There will be a mandatory frolic meeting and there will be a link in the zoom meeting where parents can go and complete the necessary forms to purchase online tickets. AJ Diaz will be speaking at the meeting.

The Senior Awards will occur on Wednesday, June 9 via zoom.

June 18 is the last day of class for the seniors and we may be doing a CASA College 101 talk, or at least an abridged version of it.

June 21 will be the senior send off. The seniors will be gathering on the lawn as opposed to having a parade. They can bring blankets and watch the video on the football field.

More information coming on the senior prom.

Graduation rehearsal will be on Friday, June 25 on the football field. The kids will sit on the bleachers and each graduate will have two guests. There will be an outdoor frolic after graduation.

Guidance Update: Dr. Joy D’Anca

Next week the senior autobiography packets will be going out as well as the parent brag sheets. Teacher recommendation forms for the counselors should be given to 10th and 11th grade teachers who will then give them directly to your child’s counselor.

11th graders can ask two teachers to write recommendations for their college applications. A recommendation letter is considered an honor and a privilege. The student must sign a contract which states that the student agrees to uphold their character. This contract will go out next week in the mail. All of the 11th grade documents are due at the end of June. It is strongly encouraged to get recommendations in the core classes and from 11th grade teachers. Your child should choose a teacher that can speak to your child’s efforts in the class, because it is not just about the grade.

We are working on the transition between 8th and 9th grades. It is particularly important that the students feel comfortable when they start high school. Parents can contact Mrs. Meyerson in the guidance office if your student needs to speak to their someone.

CASA Update: Jen DeSena and Connie Bruno

CASA has been busy since the last parent council meeting. We had three presentations for 12th grade students which were eligible for community service hours. We had the presentation “Beyond the Huddle” attended by 38 students. We also had a program led by a Long Island girl who was a straight A student and given a Division 1 scholarship. After one social media post during a protest last summer, she lost her scholarship and ability to play sports, and her family had death threats. We want the students to understand the importance of being socially responsible and to understand how our actions in person and social media can affect us. We also showed a documentary called “If They Had Known” attended by 22 students. This documentary was about a boy who one night mixed alcohol with Xanax and passed away. The documentary explains the five things that kids can do if they are ever in a situation like that.

We also had a presentation on marijuana with the Executive Director of LICADD. Marijuana is now legal, and it is more potent; kids are vaping marijuana. The addiction rate for kids, i.e., the rate they go from experimenting to addiction is very quick. Marijuana also has devastating effects on the developing brain. This presentation and the documentary discussed above are still available to watch.

We are working on College 101. Members of our SALT team are pushing into the 6th grade class at Munsey Park. Next Friday they will push into the Shelter Rock school. Salt applications for next year will go out in September.

In May we will have the program “Bringing Up Boys” geared toward parents of boys and “Raising Confident Girls” in June. We want to add another date to show the “If They Had Known” documentary.

Dr. D’Anca had been promoting our Set Connect clubs and they are doing lots of good work.

Board of Education Update: Pat Aitken

We are going to request bids for the asphalt project as soon as it is approved by the voters. The work can begin as soon as school ends, the water main will be the last thing to transition.

Proposition 4 on the ballot seeks to collect a million dollars that is owed to the school district because the school district advanced a million dollars to the library last year and we need a mechanism to get the money back to the school district.