



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

September 7, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Back to School, a phrase that evokes both excitement and anxiety all at once. I know in our household, it simply comes too soon. Books and backpacks seem to fly down the stairs as our children race out the door for the first day of school. As we wait in anticipation for that backward glance and a wave goodbye, we smile and wish them luck as they begin anew. One day they will graduate, yet we will still reflect on this ritual of a new beginning. Back to school is a new start. Back to school is an opportunity to set new priorities and goals. Back to school is an exciting time for our students, the Manhasset School staff and parents alike. Many opportunities lie ahead and we are eager to get started.

The SCA is also excited to begin the new school year. We hope to provide a link between parents and the school and create a genuine partnership. Our partnership will enrich communication at all levels and ultimately improve the educational experience our students receive. Become involved by attending Parent Council, Executive Board and Board of Education meetings – we welcome your voice and participation.

The SCA will give parents an opportunity to be engaged in their children's school life. Research shows that in schools where parents are involved, students have increased test scores, increased grades and higher graduation rates, better school attendance, lower suspension rates, decreased use of drugs and alcohol, and fewer incidents of violent behaviour.

Parental involvement can take on many forms and the SCA will be working hard this year to provide many opportunities for parents to be part of our schools. Book Fairs, Halloween Parties, Red Ribbon Week, Opening Day Picnic, the Homecoming Dance, Educational Grants, Saturday Series, Family Theatre...the opportunities are many and we hope you join our efforts.

On behalf of the SCA Executive Board and all the volunteers who work so tirelessly and enthusiastically for our children, I thank you for your support.

A strong system of education that allows all students to reach their potential is possible when parents and schools work together.

Welcome back and have a wonderful year,

Karen Blando
SCA Executive President