



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, October 22, 2021

Call to order: 9:00 am

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 am

Executive President's Welcome – Kim Haggerty

Pledge of Allegiance

Executive President's Report:

- Welcome to our first in person Executive Board meeting! We are very excited to be back in person and to see everyone again. Thank you for following the Covid safety protocols and wearing a mask while at the meeting.
- Presentation and vote of SCA Covid-19 Safety Protocols

Motion made to approve the SCA covid-19 safety protocols. Motion approved by the SCA executive board.
- Membership Drive- still underway; \$40 Information to pay dues is on our website
- Planet Manhasset update
 - Classes at both Munsey and Shelter Rock have been out working, planting & observing in the gardens. They planted vegetables that will be harvested later this fall to be donated to local food pantries.
 - We had our 1st HS planting this past Sunday in conjunction with the HS Garden Club. ReWild Long Island donated plants for the garden. They are a local organization that promotes sustainable landscaping and the benefits of planting native, organic species.
- SCA Fair
 - If interested in chairing a Fair Committee please reach out to SCA Fair Co-Chairs, Tricia Dessi or Christine Lucchese.
 - Kick-off Meeting is Tuesday 10/26 7pm
- Saturday Series
 - One Session this year starting January 8th, for 8 weeks. Look for registration end of December
 - If interested in volunteering contact chairs
- Winter Greenery Fundraiser
 - Online sales open until 11/6
 - Delivery in Manhasset the week after Thanksgiving
 - Link available on our website



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- SCA Summer Studies Award
 - The 2020-2021 year was highlighted by the exceptional group of recipients of the SCA summer studies scholarships awarded in the past school year.
We granted 7 scholarships to programs such as Rhode Island School of Design, Northwestern University, University of Cali research mentorship and many more.
We are proud of all the students who applied. Full announcement of award recipients will be posted to our Social Media and in the Manhasset Press soon.
 - We look forward to be up and running for HS Junior Parent night on November 9th. Program details and applications for 2022 awards will be available 1st week of November. Submission deadlines will be at the end of February 2022.
Please feel free to reach out to Chavi or Priyanka at summerstudies2022@gmail.com with any questions.

Executive Treasurer's Report – Tania Kapoor

- The Manhasset SCA Membership drive is still under way. Over a three-month period, the SCA has raised over \$25,000 in membership dues.
- Both Munsey Park and Shelter Rock schools had a very successful spirit wear sales during in-person open house, net revenue of \$14,750.60.
- Project Share and Student Assistance have been helping students prepare for the new school year with purchases of school supplies. Total of 63 school supplies packages were sponsored by Project Share.
- Shelter Rock School kicked off the new school year with their first Enrichment Program – 5th Grade Project Adventure.
- Planet Manhasset also raised funds during the open houses and through the school supply list. The in-person open house sales had a net revenue of \$945.73.
- The 2019-2020 audit will be completed by the end of the month and presented by our accountant, Tim O'Keefe during next Board Meeting.
- The finance forms are all updated and available on the SCA website. If you need a Tax-Exempt Purchase form, please have your committee chairperson contact me. As a reminder, since we are a tax-exempt organization, sales tax does not get reimbursed.

Executive Secretary's Report – Kristi Wede



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Approval of Minutes:

Motion made to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2021 SCA Open Executive Board Meeting. Motion approved by the SCA Board.

Report of Interim Votes:

- The request for payment to L2 Brands for Shelter Rock spirit wear items in the amount of \$2047.50 was approved by the SCA board via electronic communication on Thursday, September 23, 2021.
- The proposal to change the frequency of meetings that the Enrichment committee is required to hold as stated in Policy 12 of the SCA bylaws from monthly to twice a year was approved by the SCA board via electronic communication on Tuesday, September 28, 2021.
- The request for payment to Nassau Boces for a Shelter Rock school enrichment program for 5th grade in the amount of \$2370.00 was approved by the SCA board via electronic communication on Friday, October 8, 2021.
- The request for payment to Great Neck Games Entertainment for the Middle School Halloween Party on 10/29/21 in the amount of \$2,750.00 was approved by the SCA board via electronic communications on Tuesday, October 19, 2021.

High School President's Report – Rachel Harley

Things have been busy up at the Secondary School!

We had a wonderful Homecoming with a spirited parade! Many thanks to Laurie Lauria and all the class advisors and our Grade Level chairs for making it a terrific day for our students!

High School Open House went off without a hitch. Many thanks to our hard-working teachers, and their very quiet and patient families, for their successful home zooms.

Grade 7-11 photo days took place on September 23rd and 24th and we had retakes on October 14th. Thanks again to Nancy Schlaefer and her team of volunteers for running this event once again. We also had Senior Portrait retakes on October 15th.

Speaking of Seniors, Senior parents have been busy adhering to all their many deadlines for the Senior Yearbook and the Senior Banquet. Valerie Bebbler, our Banquet chair, is working very hard to make this a memorable evening. We have over 450 attendees so far, and the deadline to RSVP is this Sunday. Our auction chairs, Joy Sargent, Jeanne Sylvia and Sabrina Roszko are still accepting donations so please contact them if you wish to contribute.

Since we last met, we also had our 12th grade Parent Night, our guidance financial aid night, and our 9th grade parent night. We also held our first Frolic meeting of the year, in person, which was very well attended. Thank you to Linda Gurino for taking on this beast!

And finally, Manhasset hosted the PSAT up at the Secondary School on October 16th.

Looking Ahead....



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Senior Banquet! Monday, November 1st at 6:30 PM at Leonards Palazzo.

Our 11th grade Parent Night will be on November 9th.

First marking period ends November 12th.

Teacher Reacher opens on Tuesday, November 16th at 7 PM to schedule parent conferences.

Middle School President's Report – Markella Maliagros

Middle School Welcome Back Outdoor Dance Party

The Middle School SCA hosted a Welcome Back Outdoor Dance Party on Friday, September 17th, 2021 from 7:30-9:30 outside on the Girl's Turf. The party was a big success with over 300 Middle School Students attending. Thank you to our Chair Liz Collard, to Principal Schlanger, Vice Principal Oppenheimer, Peter Vercessi and all the teachers who attended and supported the event. Thank you also to all the 50 or so parent volunteers who made monetary donations or volunteered that evening. The students enjoyed a DJ with giveaways, in addition to, an inflatable obstacle course, and carnival and lawn games. We will also provide Pizza, refreshments, and candy station.

Photo Day

Photo Day for the MS was Thursday and Friday, September 23rd & 24th. Thank you to Blanca McKenna for chairing this Day and for organizing the over 20 volunteers who signed to help (into slots) to check-in the students for their photos. The 8th Grade Class was also able to take their photo on the bleachers this year on 10/23, which we were not able to do last year due to covid restrictions.

Middle School Open House (Reschedule from September 14)

MS Open House was on Zoom again this year on Tuesday, September 28, 7pm. Teachers zoomed from their homes due to the network disruption. Everything seemed to go smoothly. Thank you to Dr. Schlanger for offering to open the school to new parents to do a self-guided building tour prior to the open house. Many parents were very grateful to have the opportunity to see the inside of the building.

Directory

Michele Longobardi has begun collecting parent information for the Directory. An email went out to all incoming 7th Graders to fill out the form. Deadline is in November. We will also be sending out the 8th grade families as well for those who have new address.

Halloween Celebration

Is scheduled for Friday, October 29th 7:30-9:30 at the Girls' Outdoor Turf. We will have it outdoors as long as temperature stay above 50 degrees. We will move it indoors if rain or cold. It will be moved to 8-10pm if indoors due to sports conflict. We were able to have pizza, waters, chips and candy donated. We have volunteers to help with DJ, inflatables, Arcade games, Ping Pong, and more. We are hoping for a fun night for the 7th and 8th graders. Costumes are optional for the students.

Munsey Park President's Report – Cathy Croce



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Overview:

We have had our first full month of instruction. Families have been happy to get back to school full time. With that being said, the “network disruption” has certainly thrown teachers for a loop and faculty and staff have been forced to reinvent themselves. Families recognize that teaching has been extremely challenging this past month with so many tools made unavailable...even something as simple as making a photo copy...but our Munsey team has proven resilient and dedicated once again. If we want to find an upside in all of this, it is at the elementary level because everything had to get back to “basics” - this has given the youngest of students a pause from the technology centric world of Covid. Some kids were even amazed to see a chalkboard used for the first time.

A sincere thank you to everyone at Munsey Park for stepping up again.

Happenings:

Munsey Park had its final **Open Houses** for grades 5 and 6 on Monday, September 20th. One parent / guardian attended per student to maintain social distancing and masks were worn at all times. Parents were very appreciative that these parent / teacher meetings were held in person and the SCA is thankful to our Principal, Mr. Altman, District Head Office and the Board of Education for making this evening possible such as it was.

Spiritwear was sold at all the Open Houses. To meet further demand, we launched an online store on September 21st. We are extremely grateful to Spiritwear Chairs Candi Miletic and Benita Liao for all their hard work over the summer and these last two months.

We hosted this year's first **Parent Council Meeting** on Wednesday, September 22nd. It was in-person with just over 60 people attending. I greeted parents and in my welcome speech I wanted to remind everyone about the SCA's role in the community and school. I don't think people realize how much the SCA actually does in our district so I highlighted many of our extraordinary programs...in short I wanted to get across that: “We are no ordinary PTA. We are more than class parties and bake sales!” Grade Level Chairs, as well as our Parent Council Chairs were introduced. Principal, Mr. Altman also welcomed families and asked specialists to give an overview of their programs. The SCA thanks Ms. Bruno from CASA, Dr. Passi and Board of Education President Ms. Aiken for attending and taking the time to address our families.

Photo Day took place between Tuesday, October 5th and Thursday, October 7th. Individual photos were taken inside while group photos were taken outside. Fortunately, the weather cooperated and Photo Day was a success. Thank you to first time chairs Nancy Chu and Monica Laud who ran everything flawlessly.

Extended Extras began this week after a year's hiatus due to Covid-19. Morning and after school classes are being offered. We have enough registrants to run 11 classes for 118 students. Thank you to Claudine Fini and Melissa Napolitano for all their hard work to make this happen. It was particularly challenging with the “network disruption” as teachers were, understandably harder to recruit than in previous years and classes such a computer literacy and coding could not be offered.

Look Ahead:

Red Ribbon Week in collaboration with CASA commences October 25th.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest Thursday, October 28th and Friday, October 29th.

5th & 6th Grade Halloween Party is planned for Friday, October 29th from 7:00 - 9:00 pm.



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Book Week is planned for the week of November, 15th.

Project Adventure, our **Enrichment program for 5th grade** is scheduled for November 15 & 16th.

Shelter Rock President's Report – Susan Siris

Happenings:

On September 28th Shelter Rock had its final 5th/6th grade in-person **Open House** with one parent or guardian allowed per child who sat in his child's desk.

Spirit wear was sold in the cafeteria alongside a Planet Manhasset and SCA Membership table.

Everyone was very happy to be back in the building. Thank you again to our SCA Membership Chair Liu Yuan and our Spirit wear volunteers. Thank you to Mr. Roder, Ms. Williams, our teachers and support staff for making this evening happen.

In addition to spirit wear being sold at our open houses Shelter Rock followed Munsey Park's lead with an online spirit wear store through Arena Sports in Port Washington. Thank you to Munsey Park's spiritwear chairs Candi Miletic and Benita Liao for letting us piggyback off of their work with Arena.

On September 22nd Shelter Rock held its first in person **Parent Council Meeting**. Connie Bruno spoke to the audience about Red Ribbon Week, the SCA President explained what the SCA dues support and introduced the Grade Level Chairs, Mr. Roder spoke about the new Shelter Rock teachers and staff and improvements to the school. Mr. Roder emphasized the administration's goals for the year to align education across classrooms in the same grade and to cultivate and hear the opinions and voices of every student in the room.

On October 12th and 13th Shelter Rock had its **School Photo Days**. Individual photos were taken in the small gym and group photos were allowed this year outside on the Kindergarten playground.

Thank you to our Photo Chairs Rita Gigante and Roula Tsoumas for organizing and running this event.

On October 14th the 5th graders took an **Enrichment** field trip to the Project Adventure Outdoor Environmental Education Center for team building activities.

On October 20th the 1st graders had an **Enrichment** presentation from the Science Museum about Amphibians and Reptiles.

Thank you to our Enrichment Chair Elena Vases for organizing these fun events.

Extended Extra classes started on Monday October 18th at Shelter Rock. We've had a great response with approximately 170 children enrolled in 13 classes before and after school. An extra big thank you to our Extended Extras Chair Priyanka Puri who organized this program in a short amount of time with great success.

The SCA partnered with the Shelter Rock Student Council to hold a **Halloween Costume Drive** this week at Shelter Rock for local families in need. Many costumes were collected and Adventures in Learning, the program for SCA sponsored students, is very appreciative of everyone's efforts. Thank you to Coach Palma and Mr. Sirof for getting the Shelter Rock Student Council back up and running and for helping us with this charitable drive.

Looking Ahead:



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Red Ribbon Week in collaboration with CASA begins October 25th.

The SCA is hosting a **Pumpkin Decorating Contest** next week with winners announced Friday the 29th.

The **5th/6th Grade Evening Halloween Party** is Friday October 29th. In order to keep social distancing inside the grades will be divided up into 2 groups- 5th grade will be from 5:30-7 and 6th grade will be 7:15-8:45.

Book Week is back and being planned for November 15th – 19th.

Photo retakes and the **6th grade group photo** with their customized sweatshirts for the yearbook will take place on November 17th.

Champions for Charity – Amy Keogh

Designate the SCA before shopping at the Americana

Blue Mercury event on 12/2 from 6-8 pm – make overs, drinks, snacks (early shopping begins on 11/21)

CASA Update – Connie Bruno, Project Director

We presented to the parents at both elementary schools – overall parenting programs – attendance has been phenomenal.

Want to continue these programs – but now that we are back in person, some speakers aren't available in person – or cost is prohibitive – but we want to continue with the parenting programs along with Dr D'Anca– called Parent University.

Red Ribbon Week – We have changed the focus of Red Ribbon week over time – it started back in the '80s – a DEA agent on an undercover operation was kidnapped and murdered by a Mexican drug cartel. His community started wearing red ribbons to honor him.

Now focused on character building. This year, it will be more of a community event. Parents can scan QR code on posters to get a history of Red Ribbon Week.

The health teachers in the Middle School will give out red ribbons to the 8th graders.

Tuesday, Oct 26 - 9:30am in Munsey Park Auditorium– Marijuana presentation – what has changed, what do I tell my kids?

Thursday, Oct 28 - director from LICAD speaking to 5th and 6th graders on healthy choices – and how healthy choices make healthy communities

Thursday, Oct 28 - 7pm HS auditorium– the Sullivans – Chris Sullivan was a NE Patriot – became addicted to opioids due to sports injury and lost everything.

Kathy Sullivan's daughter – underage binge drinking, her daughter left the group – her daughter died.

Last year did survey on what the community would like to see: Parenting programs

11/2 (via zoom)– study skills presentation – targeted toward 6-9th graders – how to study less, learn more, especially around test taking. Tips and tricks to make learning work for you.

Parent session that evening – identify learning style for your child

New advisors for SALT – Hunter Brocale, Carolyn Murphy – 1st meeting was today

SET connect club – self-care Sundays – kids post how they take care of themselves for the purpose of reducing stress and anxiety.

Superintendent's Report – Dr Gurav Passi, Superintendent of Schools

Tenure ceremony at most recent board meeting– 18 faculty, staff, administrators – great celebration



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Board meeting prior – recognized national merit semi finalists
At the next board meeting, we will be recognizing 2 All-state musicians.

We want to be purposeful about recognizing staff. The network disruption has been especially challenging to our faculty and staff. Everyone has really stepped up. More or less fully operational Some things continue to be offline until we make the necessary security upgrades– and we are rethinking how we do things. All documents are now on class link – so teachers can access things from anywhere once they log in. Printers are back on line and connected to the network. What we are working through now is the data dump that was put on the dark web. That happened earlier this week. A number of sensitive files were put on the dark web – student and employee data found there. We have been working with law enforcement, Homeland security, and the FBI. We now need to review the files so that we can understand what is there and whose information is in them. As stated earlier, we don't maintain a database of social security numbers, but it's possible that information was provided for some reason other than registration. We didn't know what was stolen from us until information appeared on the dark web. Some students obtained some confidential info that was found on the dark web and they circulated it. There will be a letter sent out to parents to discuss this with children. This information was embarrassing and perpetuates the crime.

BOE update – Pat Aiken, BOE President

Difficult beginnings – with the network disruption – there has been a tremendous amount of work going on in the background to get things back to normal. Network administrators, legal and cyber professionals have all been working hard. Thanks to everyone for their resilience and cooperation. We need to be mindful of the stresses on the kids and keep lines of communication open.

Executive President's closing remarks – Kim Haggerty

Motion to adjourn the 9am executive board meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Wede
SCA Executive Board Secretary



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