



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, March 4, 2022

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 Executive Board meeting! So nice to see everyone's smiling faces! A few updates from our very busy Executive Committees:

- ● **Saturday Series** - sessions continue all month and end now on April 2nd due to Jan. snow day. The Saturday Series musical theater production of A Little Mermaid will now be performed 4/2 at 2pm in the SR auditorium. All are welcome!
 - ● **SCA Fair**- Save the Date- May 7th. Sponsorship and Journal Ad information mailing out and should arrive shortly. New this year are SCA Fair T-shirts! Pre-Sale tickets are only online and link will be sent out soon along with link to purchase t shirts. Due to many circumstances the SCA will not be offering the attic treasures, books, and sport & garden sales. Our very successful plant sale is back, along with a 50/50 raffle, vendors, International Food Tent and of course all the rides and games! We are excited to announce that the SCA BBQ Tent will be back as well. Contact Chairs Christine Luchesse or Tricia Dessi at SCAfair2022@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.
 - ● **Family Theater**- We are so excited for our SCA Family Theater Production, Rainbow Fish, Saturday, March 12th, 2pm at Munsey Park. Tickets are on sale now for \$15 and \$18 at the door. This is a professional theater production presented by Plaza Theatrical Productions. Contact Chairs Valerie Papain or Lena Tanzi at scafamilytheatre2022@gmail.com to volunteer or for more information.
 - ● **SCA Website**- We are looking to upgrade and change our current Website which also supports our weekly Highlights. If anyone has IT experience and interested in helping, please reach out to our Webmaster, Kristin Stevens
 - ● **Summer Studies**- Applications for the 2022 Award were due this past Monday. The Committee will now review all the applications and begin interviews to select the recipients. The SCA will award a total of \$15,000 to the selected applicants.
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- ● **Health & Safety Committee Report**- (provided by Marietta Frangiskatos)
 - ○ According to State Education Law all schools are mandated to have 12 drills annually - 4 lock down and 8 evacuation, with 8 drills being conducted prior to December 31st. All of our schools are in compliance
 - ○ Currently ALL LOCKDOWN DRILLS ARE IN MODIFIED FORM based on the State Education Department guidelines for 2021/22 and are simulated.
 - ○ The District Security Camera System was changed from ILS, which had performance issues, to VIRSIG. The principals and executive staff of each building have been trained in the new system.
 - ○ Currently the District is interviewing firms for a 24/7 monitoring cyber system that is more advanced than our current one



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

- ○ The team discussed the potential release of an Emergency Planning Guide for Parents which would basically outline the District Wide School Safety Plan and School Security Response Procedures in case of different types of emergencies and what a parent should do in those instances. That is currently being drafted and will be circulated to the team with the goal of distributing to parents to show that our school district truly is prepared for the worst.
- ○ Our next School Safety Team Meeting will be held in March.
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- ● We are happy to have our Committee Chairs, Aimee Rudic-Planet **Manhasset** & Margaret Palamadessa- **CEC** here today and they will report on their Committees later in the agenda.

Executive Treasurer's Report – Tania Kapoor

PROGRAMS

- Munsey Park and Shelter Rock Schools completed their Extended Extras programs. As of today, the net revenue from the programs is approximately \$20,500.
- The Saturday Series Fall session has begun. Payments to teachers have been made. Proceeds are still not in.
- Casa and Manhasset High School Parent University held the Ryan's Story Presentation. The Manhasset SCA will be sponsoring a second presentation for the Manhasset Middle School.
- Shelter Rock held the Eastern Woodlands Enrichment Program (Journeys Into The American Indian Territory) for 4th Grade classes on February 2nd and 3rd. The total cost for this program is \$2,950. This Enrichment Program represents a gift to the school from the Manhasset SCA.

ADMIN

- The Manhasset SCA Membership drive has raised \$34,000 in membership dues, which exceeds slightly our budget projection for this year.
- SCA received a Photo Day commission from Irvin Simon in the amount of \$21,980.18.
- Fiscal Year 2019-2020 audit has been completed. Due to scheduling conflict, the Audit Committee was unable to meet with the SCA auditor. The Audit Committee Meeting will be scheduled over the next couple of weeks. The Audit for FY 2019-2020 will be presented during the next open Executive Board Meeting.

FROLIC

- The Frolic 2020 Committee presented the Manhasset School District with \$15,000 to establish the Kevin Driscoll Scholarship.
- Frolic 2021 still has outstanding custodial gratuities to be submitted.



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

- The balances in the 2018 and 2019 Frolic accounts are still due to be cleared in accordance with the Bylaws.

Executive Secretary's Report – Kristi Wede

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2021 SCA Open Executive Board Meeting. Motion approved by the SCA Board.

Report of Interim Votes:

The request for payment to Michelle Gentile for 3 Fall 2021 Extended Extras classes in the amount of \$2880.00 was approved by the SCA board via electronic communications on Friday, January 21, 2022.

The request for payment to Victoria Maione for 3 Fall 2021 Extended Extras classes in the amount of \$2880.00 was approved by the SCA board via electronic communications on Saturday, January 22, 2022.

The request for payment to Adventureland for the Frosh/Soph Event on March 25th in the amount of \$11,100.00 was approved by the SCA board via electronic communications on Friday, January 28, 2022.

The request for payment to Journeys into Native American territory for Munsey Park 4th grade enrichment in the amount of \$2950.00 was approved by the SCA executive board via electronic communications on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

High School President's Report – Rachel Harley

As we approach these last few months at the Secondary School, there is much to be excited about it!

Since we last convened in January, the SCA's Parent University initiative in partnership with CASA held a special presentation on the evening of February 8th featuring John Halligan's "Ryan's Story", a father's hard-earned lessons about cyberbullying and its effects. This event was extremely well attended by students and parents alike, and the feedback was amazing. Thank you to Dr. D'Anca for all of her assistance and of course to Connie Bruno and her unending dedication and hard work to make this night a success.

Our inaugural Freshman/Sophomore event "Spring Scream" is scheduled to take place at Adventureland on Friday, March 25th at 6:30 PM. The Park will be closed to guests and our students will have the park to themselves for three fun-filled hours! Students will also receive a \$5 voucher to use for food or games. We have sold over 250 tickets and the event promises to be tons of fun! A big thank you to our 9th and 10th grade level chairs: Eric Colello, Lisa Ledbetter, Veera Purani and Elena Vases!

The junior prom is TONIGHT! The dance will take place from 8-11:30 PM at the North Ritz Club in Syosset. Prior to the students boarding the bus, the SCA will provide waters and treats in the gym. Thank you so much Allison Kolin for your help! A big thank you to our Junior Grade Level Chairs Missy Leder and Tonia Zacharia for organizing the Frolic Fundraiser for this evening, and for the Lindner Family for opening their home to host!



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Our Summer Essay Workshop is almost full! We will offer 7 sessions this summer, and the majority of those are either fully booked or almost at capacity. As you know, Nancy Schlaefer in coordination with Dr. Chowske developed this program a few years ago, where we can offer our Juniors access to our gifted English teachers for assistance in developing their college application essay. This is offered at a nominal fee.

Our Senior Frolic committee has been meeting and planning for our culminating Senior event. The mask mandate decisions have given cause for some delays, so we are hoping to move full steam ahead after this week. The planning committee had been working on an outdoor event, but with the new mandate lifted, the Frolic will return to its usual indoor location.

Additionally, a revised timeline went out to our Seniors and their parents for end of the year Class of 2022 events.

Lastly, our MS/HS Joint parent Council meeting which will follow this meeting will feature Dr. Coleman who will be giving a presentation on his Broadcast Journalism Club, as well as the new Broadcast Journalism studio.

Looking Ahead....

10th grade parent night has been rescheduled for March 10th at 7PM in the HS Auditorium.

High Spring Sports begin 3/14 and 3/21.

Third marking period ends April 13th.

High School production of *42nd Street* – April 1-3.

NYSSMA – end of March

Senior Prom – April 12th at the Heritage Club.

Our next Parent Council meeting will be on **Friday, April 8th at 10AM** and we hope to see everyone there!

Middle School President's Report – Markella Maliagros

Directory

Michele Longobardi and Tanya Karcic sent the directories for printing on Wednesday 1/12. They should be mailing out from Minuteman Press Tuesday 3/1 or Wednesday 3/2. Thank you to Michele and Tanya for taking this on.

6th Grade Parent Night

On Thursday March 3rd we will have the 6th Grade Parent Night in the High School Auditorium at 7pm. Dr. Dean Schlanger will present an orientation to the Secondary School building and campus. The meeting will be both in person and on zoom. It was well attended with about 100 people in person and 10 on zoom.

SCA Transitional Parent Panel

Scheduled for Wednesday 5/4/22 in the auditorium at 7pm. I am in the process of confirming with my GLCs who will be available to present. I am in the process of tweaking the presentation.



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SCA Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th. Paula Chiarucci and Kristin Connolly have volunteered to Chair this event for our teachers and staff. Plans are underway.

Middle School End of the Year BBQ

The date of the MS BBQ was changed from Friday 6/17 to Monday 6/13 to promote greater attendance. Annie Young & Claudine Fini have agreed to Chair this event again. More details to follow.

End of Year 8th Grade Gift

Nancy Lefkowitz has volunteered to help with organizing the gift to the 8th students. We decided on T-Shirts with the class of 2026 logo on the front. Paula Chiarucci will help with framing the picture of the 8th grade class. Looking back in notes from Michele Longobardi the idea was to hang it in the middle school Wellness Wing (social emotional lounge..SEL). I will also reach out to Manhasset Press to put the 8th grade class picture for the graduation edition.

Shelter Rock President's Report – Susan Siris

HAPPENINGS:

Enrichment

On January 18th the 5th graders participated in their “Birds of Prey” enrichment program.

On February 2-3 the 4th graders participated in their “Journeys into American Indian Territories” enrichment program.

A continued thank you to our Enrichment Chair Elena Vases.

Health and Wellness Week

Health and Wellness Week ran from January 24-28 under the “Olympic Challenge” theme. Activities focused on fitness, nutrition, mental wellness and kindness with the goal of helping children to thrive academically, physically, socially and emotionally.

The schedule included: “Move it Monday: Exercise Is Wise”

“Taste it Tuesday: Eat a Rainbow”

“Wellness Wednesday: Be Positive. Stress is temporary.”

“Thoughtful Thursday: Be mindful and helpful.”

“Feel Good Friday: We are Shelter Rock Strong!”

Students were encouraged to color Olympic rings around the challenges they completed and the class with the most participation earned an extra recess.

Thank you to our Health and Wellness chairs Caroline Via and Leonora Mui for organizing this week.

Guess Who's Coming to Read?

“Guess Who's Coming to Read?” took place on February 9th. Different mystery readers visited classrooms K-3, read a story, shared their professions and talked about how reading has been important in their lives. Readers included a fireman, police officers, professional athletes, a veterinarian, actress, author and more. Many thanks to our GWCTR chair Sondra Goettleman for putting this event together.

Valentine's Day

For Valentine's Day room reps helped organize classroom parties and the SCA provided chocolate bars in the teacher and staff mailboxes.

Joint MP/SR Parent Council Meeting



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

A joint MP/SR Parent Council meeting was held at Shelter Rock on February 16th with Dr. Rebecca Chowske. Dr. Chowske spoke about the current ELA curriculum, areas of growth, and tools to connect home and school.

Book Fair

Book Fair starts on March 14th but spirit is already up and running! The theme this year is “Wild Wild West.” Children were invited to create a bookmark design and the winner of each grade will have their bookmark printed and distributed to the grade. Thank you to our Book Fair chairs Dana Dignam and Jessica Adamo for the many hours they have already put into this wonderful event.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Book Fairies Used Book Drive runs from March 7-17th.

Book Fair runs March 14th-18th includes Family Night on March 14th and Preschool hour on March 17th. Virtual Guest Author Max Brallier will visit grades 3-6 on March 14th.

Shelter Rock won 1st place in the Scholastic Book Fair contest last year and as part of this prize author Peter Reynolds will be visiting grade K-2 in person on March 28th.

Spring Extended Extras begins on March 21st.

Kindergarten New Parent Orientation Meeting will be held March 22nd.

Go Green week runs April 4th-8th.

3rd grade Waterfront Center-Horseshoe Crab enrichment program April 7-8th.

Munsey Park President’s Report – Cathy Croce

Happenings:

Munsey Park Enrichment was busy in January and February. Chair Lucia Del Monaco continues to deliver wonderful programs. The ever popular “Birds of Prey” was presented to the 5th grade on January 18th. 1st graders enjoyed an animal visit from the Science Museum. And our 4th grade students said their best day of school to-date was their Native American Territories interactive presentation. Thank you, Lucia for all your hard work.

Health and Wellness Week occurred January 24-28. Munsey Park Chairs Kate Mesquita and Luciana Pereira created a program based on three pillars: Nutrition, Mindful-ness and Physical Fitness. Activities supporting these pillars included: “eating the rainbow” where students snack time included fruits and vegetables of a specific color each day; daily yoga classes in the morning and breathing exercises in the afternoon; “chalk walks” where students created positive messaging on the sidewalks and physical endurance competitions. It was a wonderfully well-rounded experience for the school, only made possible by the enthusiastic support of the teachers and PE department.



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Guess Who is Coming to Read? was back in full force this year on February 10. The theme this year was: “The Day the Crayons Came to Read!” We had community members come to the school and read to our Kindergarten through 3rd grade classes. Readers spanned a wide variety of professions from politicians, a police officer, firemen, to football players and even a dog trainer with dog in tow. Guests were welcomed in the Munsey Park Library with beverages and a light breakfast. Many thanks to chairs Maria Herrington and Christine Schwartz for bringing this ever-memorable event back into the school.

Valentine’s Day – Cupcakes and decorations made for a sweet Valentine’s Day at Munsey Park for the entire staff.

SCA Joint MP/SR Parent Council Meeting took place at Shelter Rock School on February 16. Dr. Chowske, Manhasset’s Director of English and Reading shared details about the current elementary curriculum, discussed areas for growth and offered helpful tools for families to connect between home and school.

Look Ahead:

SCA Scholastic Book Fair March 14 – 18

SCA Scholastic Book Fair Family Night March 14

SCA Scholastic Book Pre-School Visit March 17

Go Green Week April 4 - 8

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

Dr. Passi shared that he was pleased with the great energy level at the school, the kids are happy after the mask mandate was removed.

The BOE approved a capital proposition of \$3.185 million to put on the voting ballot for this year to:

- Re-do Shelter Rock School playground, which is original to the building.
- To address the water main of the Secondary School and install valves.
- Complete the infrastructure project that was started last year and lay the rest of the asphalt and sidewalks.
- Update the athletic NW field since it’s past its useful life.
- Do ceiling replacement project at the Secondary School.

If the above projects are approved, work will start over the summer of 2022.

BOE update – Christine Monterosso, BOE

Reminded everyone that there will be a budget vote.

Announced a \$500k community gift for new lighting for one of the updated and renovated sports fields.

Shout out to the Enrichment Program which is recognized as one of the best experiences the children have at school.

CASA - Connie Bruno



MANHASSET SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Upcoming events

- Presentation on preventing marijuana use by youth
- Working on bringing back The Wizards on Nov 4th for 2 games.

Planet Manhasset - Aimee Rudic

Planet Manhasset will run projects in both elementary school planting seedlings. This year Planet Manhasset distributed egg cartons and seeds and started the seedlings in the classrooms. Munsey Park School has great participation as Mrs. Viscovitch is greatly involved in the project.

Executive President's closing remarks – Kim Haggerty

Our next Executive meeting is April 8th

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Wede

SCA Executive Board Secretary