

MEETING MINUTES
SCA HS/MS JOINT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2022 - 10AM DISTRICT COMMUNITY ROOM

1. Welcome

Jenna Post, MS SCA President

Rachel Harley, HS SCA President

- We are collecting SCA membership in person at events and online.
- Senior Banquet will be on 11/7. The preparations are underway. All are encouraged to volunteer.
- Middle School Halloween dance is on 10/28.
- SCA Fall luncheon is at Harbor Links on 11/9.

2. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Passi, Superintendent Manhasset School District

- The school year is going well. We are informing the community on the budget. The two focuses are on safety and security and academics. The safety and security issues are asbestos removal, bathroom upgrades and addressing the parking and traffic patterns at the schools. The academic focus is on renovating the life skills room, the auditorium seats and stage and the Black Box Theater.
- Dr. Passi will be having a meet and greet (Coffee and Conversation) on October 26, 2022 to review the budget projects.
- On November 8, 2022, there will be tours of the buildings and the projects.

3. Joy Anne D'Anca, Director of Guidance/Counseling Grades 7-12

- The college fair was well attended. Students had the opportunity to meet with different college representatives in person all in one night.
- Colleges will be continuing to send individual representatives Manhasset to have in person meetings with students. Please see the guidance webpage for dates and times.
- The 12th grade parent/guardian night and 9th grade parent guardian night are all available on YouTube. The links may be found on the guidance department webpage.
- Wednesday, October 19, 2022 is Unity Day. Students, teachers, administration and the community are encouraged to wear orange in support of kindness, acceptance and inclusivity.
- Joy D'Anca, Dr. Schlanger, Dr. Passi and Dr. Gately met with 8th graders to discuss the transition from elementary school to middle school. The students felt that well prepared by their 6th grade teachers and that middle school was not as intimidating as anticipated. The teachers are more understanding and flexible than they thought.
- The students spoke highly of the teachers and orientation. The feedback was positive.
- Parents and students feel that Canvass is hard to navigate and that 6th graders could use preparation before entering middle school. Parents

noted that Canvass is currently being used in college. Recent Manhasset graduates are happy to have had experience with Canvass.

- Dr. Adcroft and Mr. Mashburn will work on ideas on how to acquaint 6th graders with Canvass.

4. Principal's Report - Dr. Dean Schlanger, Principal of the secondary school

- School year is progressing nicely. On Monday, October 17, 2022, the 3pm first quarter progress reports will be released. There was a delay due to the phone service disruption.
- Please welcome Adam Kuranashi, the new assistant principal of the secondary school.

5. Secondary School Assistant Principal Presentation - Mr. Adam Kuranashi

- Born and raised in Chicago, Mr. Kuranishi comes from a long line of educators. His Grandmother and Mother were teachers in the Chicago public school system.
- His undergraduate degree is from University of Illinois. He has a masters degree from Teachers College and is currently working on his PHD.
- Mr. Kuranishi is in charge of attendance and security. The focus is on consistency, commitment and care not just rules and compliance.
- Consistency means following up to show that we care about our students and are committed to the their education.
- We are meeting with students to find out why they are late. Is the lateness due to academic or social reasons?
- Attendance issues are no longer addressed by teachers. Detention referrals are now generated by the attendance office.

6. CASA update, Connie Bruno, Executive Director

- There are a number of important events coming up, The Wizards game, Shed the Meds and Speaker Richard E. Specht Jr. Students will receive community service hours for attending the presentation by Mr. Specht, Jr. on "Don't Wish for a Better World. Go Out and Make it Happen - One Kind Act at at Time..."
- Red Ribbon week is coming up. The theme this year is Celebrate Life Live Drug Free. We are supporting good choices, the power of kindness, perspective and choosing to live healthy.
- Currently, Fentanyl is the cause of 75% of overdoses. The Nassau County Police department will be holding a town hall meeting regarding Fentanyl and Marijuana.
- Gambling on devices has made it normalized. Students discuss gambling openly in front of teachers and coaches.
- There is a connection with gaming and gambling. Parents are calling gambling hotlines about their children.

7. Board of Education Update - Pat Aiken, President

- On December 8, 2022, the \$44M Bond will be presented at the BOE meeting. There will be tours on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022 and Dr. Passi will host Coffee and Conversation on October 26, 2022.
- Please reach out to Dr. Passi and the BOE with any questions about the budget. All meeting will be live streamed.

8. Close of the Meeting - Rachel Harley

- Thank you to everyone for coming. The next Joint Parent Council meeting will be on Friday, November 18, 2022 at 10AM.