

Village School PSA
February 8, 2011

Meeting Notes

Suzanne Niro called the meeting to order at 9:40am. Suzanne led the Pledge of Allegiance and alerted everyone to the fire exits. There were no objections to the minutes from the PSA meeting held on January 11, 2011. She also stated that the minutes were posted online. They were approved by Maria Curreri and Alyssa Coffaro (notes were taken in January by Michelle Prager in Alyssa's absence).

Principal

- Mr. Schillaci stated that an information session on the Pre-K program will take place on Thursday, February 10th at Village School in the evening.
- Winter fire drills were discussed. Unfortunately due to the nature of the drills, some classes do not get the opportunity to get their coats. This was the case when the alarm went off recently (due to the construction in the school). For planned drills, Mr. Schillaci is working with the Staff to plan a way for the children to grab their jackets in colder weather, but children in specials still may not have them. As with the recent occurrence, Mr. Schillaci will send out an email to notify that the drill has taken place.
- Faculty news: Miss Shapter is currently working on furthering her education and is doing an internship with Mr. Schillaci, Ms. Damji is expected back on February 24th, Senora Babik is back from maternity leave and there is a new substitute guidance counselor covering for Mrs. Barbara who is out on maternity leave.

Vice Principal

- Dr. Ledford stated that the 2nd grade NJ PASS Testing is coming up and will take place from March 14-16th. Information will be coming home.
- Jump Rope for the Heart is this Friday, February 11th.
- Read Across America will kick off on Monday, February 28th and will continue through the week. Volunteers are needed.
- Staff Development Day took place on February 3rd. Several of our own teachers lead groups and it was a very productive day.
- Mrs. Kurey was awarded a visit from the Cat in the Hat. Due to time constraints (15 minutes), the Cat will only be visiting the Kindergarten classes. This will take place on February 17th.

Teacher Representative

- Ms. Devaney advised that Art Appreciation started in Kindergarten this week, and is going very well.
- Thank you for the recess toys.
- Volunteers are needed for Read Across America. Please see Suzanne to sign the volunteer sheet.

Guidance

- The covering guidance counselor advised she is working on a program where each month will focus on a different theme (similar to the sneaker program). A memo will be sent home with the children to update parents so that they can work on the themes at home as well.
- This month's theme is Respect.
- Planning on working with the Character Education Committee, and will also meet with specific classes who are having bully-related issues.

Treasurer

- Maria Curreri reviewed the Treasurer's Report. There may be a discrepancy with the Holiday Shop numbers and we are not sure if the 10% discount we receive was applied.
- Maria suggested following up with the Spirit Sale vendor as there were several refunds on items this year due to the parents not receiving items. Other vendors should be explored for future sales.
- Maria is meeting with the accountant, Gerri DeCicco, on Friday to begin work on taxes. Mrs. DeCicco is a Village parent who has offered a generous discount for her services.
- A motion was made to accept the reports by Ana Vander Woude and seconded by Ruth Davis.

President

- Suzanne stated that the other school's parent groups have expressed interest in a joint website. The Superintendent is also interested, and a meeting is going to take place to get this site up and running. If all goes as planned, the large packet that is usually sent home in the folders in September will be posted on the site.
- Anyone interested in helping out and/or maintaining the site, please see Suzanne.
- Suzanne met with Chartwells. They discussed portion size and lunch times. It was also mentioned that some children are not tall enough to see the choices due to the height of the food counter. Changes will be made to help with this.
- A representative from the food service will be at the next PSA meeting on March 8th to discuss "What's for Lunch?" Please bring ideas and questions.
- Help is needed for Kindergarten Registration, which will take place February 22nd - 24th.
- Any groups (HFEE, Carnival, etc.) who would like to "advertise" themselves at Kindergarten Orientation can have tables set-up.
- A question was raised as to whether or not the paperwork for Kindergarten Registration was available on-line. Mr. Schillaci will check, but most in attendance did not believe that this paperwork is available. If it is not, it will be looked into. Please note that children already in the Pre-K program do not need to re-register, but will have to come to Registration if interested in Y program.
- The movie, "Race to Nowhere" is being scheduled for viewing. Check the trailer on-line at racetonowhere.com.

Membership

- In Linda Lautenberg's absence, Suzanne reported that there has been no change in Membership.

Fundraising

- Michelle Prager reported that a contract has been signed with School Kids for the supplies (we will get an 8% discount). This company works directly with Staples. A letter will go out to parents with information soon – note that participation is NOT mandatory.
- It was noted that this program was done at Indian Hill previously and it was unsuccessful. Michelle will follow-up with the person who handled this.

Correspondence

- Pam Hroblak noted that a thank you was received from Ms. Rosen (in response to a sympathy card sent from the PSA on the loss of her mother).
- Reminder to sign the attendance sheet.

School Store

- Alyssa Coffaro reported that the income raised in the January School Store was \$921.00. Robin Andersen will be sending the check to Maria Curreri.
- The next School Store will take place on February 17th. Volunteers are still needed.

ARISE

- No report.

Board of Education

- Ana Vander Woude reported that the Board met on February 2nd. At that meeting, there was an approval of the Bargaining Agreement between the Staff and the BOE. It will be retroactive for the period from July 2009 through June 2013.
- The school calendar has been approved but is subject to revisions. As of right now, the first day for 2011-2012 will be on Tuesday, September 6th, and the first week will be all full days. The last day of school will be Wednesday, June 20, 2012, and Spring Break begins on April 6, 2012. The calendar is posted on the District website.
- There will be a meeting to discuss the Board's Energy Policy on March 16th.
- There have been some concerns over the effects that weather-related school closings have had on weekend events at the schools. Currently if the schools close due to weather on a Friday, they do not open on the weekends. This will be rectified, and there is a report on this on the District site.
- Board Elections will take place on April 27th (the deadline for all candidates to submit an application is March 8th at 4pm).
- The next meeting will take place on February 9th at 8pm in the Satz Library.

Art Appreciation

- No report.

Carnival

- Carolyn Zofchak stated that a deposit had been given to Party Perfect Rentals, and we have been given the same pricing as last year. The prizes have increased as we ran out last year.
- Ruth Davis will handle pre-sales, Chris Reddington will handle the raffle, Melissa Ng will handle the signage, Ms. Shapter will organize volunteers and Michelle Sotile will coordinate the baskets.
- More volunteers are needed. Ms. Devaney will work on coordinating teacher volunteers.

Specialized Fundraising

- Jane Zysk reported she has received a check for \$44.00 from the cell phones program.
- The "Scoop up Box Tops" contest runs until February 23, 2011. Currently, there are 11,373 labels that have been collected.
- The current leaders in the Box Top contest are: K AM – Shelton (467), K PM – Shelton (119), 1st – Baldino (566), 2nd – Moor (783) and 3rd – Brennan (723).
- E-Label will allow us to enter Shoprite cards online. We can go to Shoprite.com for more information.
- Register Stop & Shop cards online. To date we have 15 cards registered and have earned \$44.42.
- Log on to Shoprite.com/ELFE to register your bonus card for Labels for Education. Points are earned automatically, but you can also cut the labels and send them in. We can get double rewards this way!
- Post, Bic and Pop Secret now have Labels4Education on their products.
- Please keep sending in labels and Box Tops.

Cultural Assemblies

- Danielle Curcio stated that last month's Honey Bee assembly was a great success.
- There is nothing currently on the schedule for the remainder of the year.

Go Green

- No formal report, but Suzanne mentioned that the Township is running a program where you can bring in 20 plastic bags and receive 2 reusable totes.

Games

- No report.

Historian

- Please continue to send in pictures.

Hospitality

- No report.

HCAA

- Sweet Charity will be performed March 10th – 12th.

Sunshine

- Mrs. Barbara had her baby – a little girl named Avery Rose.

HFEE

- Casino Night will take place on April 1, 2011 at Sterling Gardens, Route 79 in Matawan. An Evite will be sent soon.
- Gift auction baskets are needed for Casino Night. Please contact Dina D'Ambrosi if you can donate.
- Suzanne mentioned that many of the dedication plates for the Rain Garden have sold out, but there are other opportunities to donate still available.

Newsletter

- No report.

Sweatshirts

- No report.

There being no further official business, a motion was made by Michelle Prager and seconded by Ruth Davis to end the meeting at 10:40am.