

Village Elementary School Parent Student Association
October 10, 2017
Meeting Minutes

The Village Elementary School Parent Student Association's ("PSA") President, Danielle Impreveduto, called to order at 9:30 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Brian Schillaci opened up requesting a moment of silence for the DelPresto family, a Holmdel family who just lost their oldest daughter. He also mentioned that it is especially upsetting following another Holmdel loss for the Dowd family. Mr. Schillaci mentioned that during these horrible times, it's nice to have such a strong community like Holmdel. He is impressed with how everyone came together during this time of need and thanked everyone for their support.

Teachers have been attending enrichment trainings, focused on the area of literacy and science. Professional development gives teachers the knowledge necessary to maximize educational experience and ensures the school is in line with industry standards.

Mr. Schillaci is pleased with the status of technology initiatives. One specific recent accomplishment is that all first, second and third graders have Chromebooks. Further, there is a lot of good progress with other technology initiatives in the pipeline.

Village school has a set of goal, which is in-line with the overarching district goals. These include, but are not limited to, Student Achievement, Education and Future Technology.

The Week of Respect will be kicking of in a few weeks. This week focuses on making good decisions and respecting others. Students will be asked to wear certain clothing each day to help tie into the Week of Respect theme.

VICE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Vierschilling mentioned that the first round of MAP testing is complete. The results will be distributed to families on Friday via mail. Mrs. Vierschilling reiterated that this testing provides a view of benchmarking for each student and will be repeated in the winter for comparative purposes.

The Bus Brigade Safety Patrol ("BBS") has been doing a great job and is very enthusiastic. This group consists of 3rd graders who requested to volunteer and are deemed to be good role models by the school and their parents.

The Chinese Acrobat Troupe First cultural arts assembly will be on November 1st. This assembly in prior years was very well received in the past and the school made the decision to

bring them back. Chinese acrobats will perform on stage and this event will help support the Chinese New Year.

Per Mr. Schillaci's email, the Halloween parade will be at 10 AM on October 31st, followed by afternoon classroom parties. This schedule is designed to avoid dismissal chaos associated with early pickups. Danielle Impreveduto echoed Mrs. Vierschilling's words about avoiding chaos and urged parents to leave kids in school until regular dismissal time.

Additionally, the smaller Village Halloween parade will be at 2 PM for afternoon Kindergarten and preschoolers.

TEACHER'S REPORT

The teachers thanked the PSA for the breakfast that they sponsored. The teachers were happy to announce that 100% of staff are PSA members and they also were able to collect enough money to donate a basket for Ladies Night Out.

Mrs. Barbara (Village School Counselor) stated that she is available for support if any child requires it in light of the recent deaths of two district students.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

Danielle Impreveduto, President:

Danielle added to Mrs. Vierschilling words about Halloween and urged parents to be mindful of the five parent limit for the classroom parties.

Danielle thanked Jean Berardi and Danielle Longyear for doing an outstanding job with Fall Fest. The event was a huge success and generated a profit for the school, which wasn't even the intent of the event. The attendance was very high and all of the food and crafts were gone by the end.

The Chinese Acrobat Troupe First cultural arts assembly will be on November 1st.

Spirit wear goods will be arriving soon and will go on sale shortly thereafter.

Vice Presidents of Fundraising, Suzanne Serini and Julianne DeMatteo:

Julianne DeMatteo clarified any confusion around the Bar Method fundraiser, which is on Thursday October 12th at 11 AM. This event is open to anyone and will be fun and supports the school. You can click on the link to sign up.

Regarding Ladies Night Out on November 2nd at the Shadowbrook in Shrewsbury. Ticket prepacks are \$60 and the event is open to anyone, doesn't need to be a Village mom. The committee is in need of volunteers to wrap baskets and assist with other areas to prepare for the event. There is also a need for donations, basket fillers and baskets. Donations, although will be accepted up until the last minute, can only be included in the program if received by October 15th.

Laura Shay inquired if the PSA was planning to hold a class-specific gathering (e.g. 1st grade playdate). Danielle's response was that the PSA is not planning this type of event, although she urged parents to take the lead and organize. The PSA hosts a formal Kindergarten meet and greet each August and hosts many other events throughout the year, which bring the students together in a social environment.

Laura Shay inquired if there is a formal yearbook committee. Suzanne Serini responded that there is not a formal committee but that all parents are welcome (and urged) to take pictures at events and post to TreeRing. Further, she has direct communication with the class moms in order to ensure a broad audience is captured in the yearbook, not just the children of a few select volunteer parents.

Laura Shay inquired about why the PSA officers are also Class Moms, and stated that she and other parents challenged a potential conflict of interest with the dual roles. She stated that other parents should be given an opportunity to volunteer. Danielle Impreveduto's response was that the teacher decides who is Class Mom, not the PSA. She then explained that often times, the same group of volunteers are present at many events. This is due to the fact that these moms are typically "stay-at-home" moms or have a flexible work schedule, therefore, have the ability to spend more time at the Village School. Christine Bavaro stated that she is a Class Mom, but only because no one else volunteered. Another individual in the audience agreed with Christine that often times, the role of Class Mom is not highly sought out and teachers are grasping for volunteers to fill it.

Mrs. Renfroe echoed Danielle's words in that the role of Class Mom is chosen by the teacher and this decision is random, not at all biased based on their role within the PSA.

Danielle Impreveduto said that we need volunteers for Trunk or Treat, which is October 28th 12-2. Specifically, we need people to set up the day of the event.

Co-Vice Presidents of Membership, Christine Bowden and Jamie Buitrago:

Christine urged parents to become PSA members and said the forms are at the front table and are \$10 per annum. An individual in the audience asked what percentage of families are current members. Danielle Impreveduto responded that she is not positive about the current percentage but historically it's around 70%.

Co-Treasurers, Christine Bavaro and Erin Ballanco:

Nothing to note

Recording Secretary, Mandy Carri:

Mandy made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2017 meeting. The motion was approved by Jean Berardi and was seconded by Danielle Longyear. Cherie Bavosa asked if the PSA posts all past minutes. Danielle Impreveduto and Mandy Carri responded that we always distribute the prior month's minutes at the current month's meeting and that we post all meeting going forward and retroactively.

Yearbook, Suzanne Serini:

Suzanne urged parents to submit pictures to TreeRing. If someone attends a school event, they should take pictures and if they are interested in attending an event for the purpose of taking pictures, they should reach out to Suzanne.

Board of Education (the “Board”) Liaison, Vicky Flynn:

Vicky thanked everyone for their support of the 2020 Initiative, and emphasized the necessary and exciting changes that will be occurring in our district as a result. The next Board of Education meeting will be on October 18th.

Terrance Wall asked if a full day Kindergarten will be included in the 2020 Initiative. Vicky’s response was that the referendum includes building upgrades that will support a full day Kindergarten program.

HFEE Representative, Michelle Santilli:

Michelle Santilli was not able to attend the meeting in person, but sent along the following message, which Danielle Impreveduto read: “Thank you to those who have already contributed to our Annual Giving Campaign. We are off to a good start. Our trustees handle most of our events, but since the HFEE Gala is a large event, we are looking for help. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact us at HFEE.org. Also, please follow us on Facebook for all the latest news. Thanks and I’ll see you next month”.

Vicky Flynn (#17) is the winner of this month’s raffle. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded (by Robin Coughlan and Danielle Basso, respectively). The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.