



INTERSCHOOL
COUNCIL OF PTA'S

PTA Valley Stream District Thirteen Interschool Council

JAMES A. DEVER SCHOOL WHEELER AVENUE SCHOOL HOWELL ROAD SCHOOL WILLOW ROAD SCHOOL
585 North Corona Avenue 1 Wheeler Avenue 1475 Howell Road 880 Catalpa Drive
Valley Stream, NY 11580 Valley Stream, NY 11580 Valley Stream, NY 11580 Franklin Square, NY 11010

Meet The Candidates Night

When: May 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Where: James A. Dever Auditorium

On Tuesday, May 16th, in conjunction to the budget vote, residents of District 13 will be voting for three School Board Trustee positions:

Dr. Chiachiere is running to retain the seat he currently holds.

Ms. Patricia Farrell is running for the seat she currently holds

Ms Deborah Kalb is running for the seat currently held by Mr. Chiachiere

Mr. Atif Sajjad is running for the seat currently held by Ms Patty Farrell.

Dr. Sean T. Douglas is running unopposed for the seat he currently holds.

Each of the candidates has provided a biography which has been reprinted exactly as submitted. Please see attached pages.

On Wednesday, May 10th at 7:00 PM, at James A. Dever School, the candidates will be available to answer any questions and tell why they want to be on our District 13 School Board. The purpose of this forum is to assist the voters in making an informed vote.

Please plan to attend this very important meeting!

Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

School Board Candidate Information

Name: Frank Chiachiere, PH.D
Address: 82 Linden Street, Malverne
Telephone: 516-887-9805
Occupation: Retired Educator/Administrator
Education: PH.D., New York University
Marital: Married
Children: Frank, Ryan attended James A. Dever and North HS

Community: Valley Stream UFSD 13 Trustee, Valley Stream CHSD Trustee
Docent Crossroads Farm where I introduced the Farm to Table program which has been so successful in bringing our children to the Crossroads Farm to plant and harvest vegetables;
Intergenerational Reader

Goals: To continue to ensure that our school district provides a high quality education to every child every day. At a time when public schools are under fire like never before leadership requires a steady and experienced hand. I will continue to work with state and local officials to ensure that what happened in Green Acres leaves our district harmless and never happens again.

Important issues facing our district:

It is and always has been my mission to drive teaching and learning in District 13 so that children can lead happy and productive lives. My commitment to that end has been recognized by the Nassau Suffolk School Boards Association when I was named Distinguished School Board Member of the Year for the work I do on behalf of Valley Stream Thirteen children. Children are more than a number. The work I have done at the state level will continue to affect what children are taught and how they will be assessed on what they are taught. My guiding force has and will always be: Every Child Every Day.

Name: Dr. Sean T. Douglas

Address: 635 Lenore Lane, Elmont NY, 11003

Home telephone number: 516 887-4914

Occupation: School Social Worker, Adjunct Professor

Education/Degree: B.S in Human Services, M.S in Social Work, Ph.D. In Social Work

Marital Status: Married

Children: Sean Douglas Jr. attended Howell Road and North High School; Alexander Douglas attended Howell Road and currently attends Memorial Junior High School.

Community Affiliations: School Board Trustee of Valley Stream 13 for the past 7 years.

Educational Goals: To assist our next generation to compete academically in a global society.

What is the most important issue facing our district? Give concrete examples of what you would do if elected to bring about necessary changes.

The most important issue I believe facing our district is the current movement to privatize public education. The new Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos and some politicians believe that privatization would be advantageous to the current educational system. However, I beg to differ. I believe that this movement will siphon educational funds away from our school district under the guise of school choice and competition and will starve our students of the resources they need to compete in a global society. As a current school board member and a product of public education, I will continue to fight to ensure that we continue to support our students, while maintaining equity and access for all our students in the district and helping to set local school policy that will support our schools and community. In addition, I will continue to use my vote to ensure that we continue to focus on the academic, social and emotional needs of our students and supporting our educators that work with our students daily. Public education is a right for all our children and shouldn't be used as a tool for corporations to increase their bottom lines or further starve our school district from the resources they so terribly need to educate our children.

Patricia Farrell
46 E. Argyle Street
Valley Stream, NY 11580
(516) 680-8790
EMAIL: pfarrell62@optonline.net

OCCUPATION: Assistant Branch Banking Manager

EDUCATION: St. John's University BA 1983

MARITAL STATUS: Married

CHILDREN: Daniel and Christopher both attended Wheeler Avenue and Valley Stream Memorial JHS and Central High School. Daniel is currently at SUNY Binghamton pursuing an MBA. Christopher is currently a senior and will be attending SUNY Binghamton in the fall of 2017.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, CLUBS, ETC.:

Trustee – Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen since 2014.

Vice President - Valley Stream Central Memorial PTSA, Treasurer - Valley Stream District 13 Educational Foundation, Inc. Bakers Bunch – Holy Name of Mary Church Valley Stream NY

EDUCATIONAL GOALS:

The most important issue facing the district is providing a top quality education while staying financially responsible within the limitations of the tax cap. I will continue to speak to our legislators about increasing state aid to our district.

NEWSDAY – SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORM

SCHOOL DISTRICT: Valley Stream District 13

DISTRICT PHONE: 516 568-6100

CANDIDATE NAME: Deborah Kalb

AGE: 52

YEARS LIVED IN DISTRICT: 13

EMAIL: disp25@optonline.net

DAYTIME #: 516 599-3460

CELL: 516 644-1557

OCCUPATION: Fire Alarm Dispatcher

ARE YOU OR ANY IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER EMPLOYED BY YOUR, OR ANOTHER, L.I. DISTRICT(S): No

EDUCATION, COLLEGES, DEGREES RECEIVED AND DATES: 1980 - GED, 1982 – Graduated Trade School

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, CLUBS, ETC.:

James A. Dever PTA – 12 years on the Executive Board, Past President (twice), 1st VP, 2nd VP, SEPTA Liaison, High School Liaison, Chairperson for many committees (Author's Day, Intergenerational Reading Program, Read to Succeed, PARP, Faculty Appreciation lunch, Halloween, Family Entertainment, Hospitality, Pre-High Committee, Scooter Hockey, Fundraising)

Interschool Council of PTA's – Past President

SEPTA – Membership Chairperson for 3 years

Valley Stream North HS PTSA – Grade Liaison for 5 years, Committee member on various committees (Faculty Appreciation lunch, PreProm, Bingo)

Budget Ambassador for Valley Stream District 13

James A. Dever School - Shared Decision Making Committee

Received PTA Honorary Life Member

CHILDREN: Mary graduated from James A. Dever School and now in 11th Grade VS North HS, Jack graduated from James A. Dever Elementary School and now in 8th Grade at VS North HS, Kate is in 6th Grade at James A. Dever Elementary School.

ARE YOU RUNNING AS A TEAM WITH OTHER CANDIDATES? IF SO, WHOM?: No

HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SERVED ON THE BOARD? IF SO, WHAT YEARS? No

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING YOUR DISTRICT?

The most important issue facing our district is the lack of communication between the district and community.

The Superintendent and school district have a fiduciary duty to the taxpaying community. It is especially relevant at this time, when the PILOT issue, among other financial concerns are a priority for our families.

As a parent of a special education and general education students, PTA executive board member, SEPTA Liaison and Budget Ambassador I know I am uniquely qualified to address this most serious issue.

There needs to be more transparency regarding all district issues. I believe that the School Board must be responsive and receptive to parents, staff and students as well as the community at large.

Communication is a two way street. Board meetings, PTA meetings will somewhat satisfy the districts ability to provide information. A more effective procedure needs to be developed to ensure that needs, concerns and questions are adequately heard as well.

I have spent many years on the outside of the fence looking in. I am eager to use my experiences and insight to address this very important issue.

I would initiate more opportunities for discussion. I would work toward bridging the gap between community and board members.

Many existing issues and concerns like common core, bond spending, special education modifications and building conditions will have a better chance to be resolved if the communication issues are appropriately addressed.

Bio.

Atif Sajjad

62 Carl St Valley Stream NY

516-695-8942

Atifsajjad13@gmail.com

Atif Sajjad moved to the United States in 1991 and is a proud citizen and New Yorker. He has been a resident of Valley Stream for more than 20 years and has been active in many community events.

He and his wife, Fareen are the proud parents of three children. His son attends the James A Dever Elementary School while his daughter attends Wheeler Avenue Elementary School. His youngest daughter will be starting kindergarten next year.

Atif graduated with honors from the College Of Aeronautics in New York (now called Vaughn College) with a Bachelors in Avionics and Aeronautical Technology. He has spent 15 years working in the aviation and defense industries, first as an avionics engineer for United Airlines and Delta, then later as a senior technical writer for Sikorsky Helicopters and the US Coast Guard. Currently, Atif owns a successful business in Valley Stream.

Atif understands the concerns of the diverse community members and aims to leverage his technical and financial expertise to propose fresh solutions for the challenging issues our community and schools are currently facing. He is eager to work with parents and community members to help shape the future of our schools in a time of changing norms.

He is personally vested in our future and aims to create long lasting improvements for our schools in coming years.