

Valley Stream District Thirteen Interschool Council of PTA's

JAMES A. DEVER SCHOOL
585 North Corona Avenue
Valley Stream, NY 11580

WHEELER AVENUE SCHOOL
1 West Wheeler Avenue
Valley Stream, NY 11580

HOWELL ROAD SCHOOL
1475 Howell Road
Valley Stream, NY 11580

WILLOW ROAD SCHOOL
880 Catalpa Drive
Franklin Square, NY 1101

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Call to Order:

Sangeeta Pandit, President, Interschool PTA called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Attendance:

Lisa Sells-Asch, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services
Judith LaRocca, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment & Technology
Gerard Antoine, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Human Resources
Rosalie Ambrosio, Principal, Willow Road School
Darren Gruen, Principal, James A. Dever School
Frank Huplosky, Principal, Howell Avenue School
Dr. Gayle Steele, Principal, Wheeler Avenue School
Sangeeta Pandit, President, Interschool PTA
Pedro Davila, Vice President, Interschool PTA
Donna Lang, Treasurer, Interschool PTA
Jackie Baiardi, Secretary, Interschool PTA
Deborah Kalb, Dever PTA
Catherine Dusel, Dever PTA
Christine Balsan, Willow PTA
Adam Erdos, VSCHSD

Welcome:

Sangeeta Pandit welcomed members. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes presented for the February 2017 meeting were approved.

Correspondence:

None

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance: \$4,483.39

Ending Balance: \$4,458.39

Subtractions: \$25 for Nassau County PTA Workshops

District Administrators' Reports

Superintendent – Constance Evelyn

- Hiring, Director of Technology & Director of Facilities
- Joint Board Meeting, GA Pilot, how to support residents, keep tax base at reasonable level, the IDA held Accountable, letters sent to residents, VS 13 does not collect Pilot \$\$, over-collection of money \$3.2 million, that is false, irresponsible to put that info out when it's time to vote for budget
- She attended all GA Pilot meetings to hear from residents and not just VS 13 to hear all perceptions of the issue. Working with local legislatures to help the community. Senator Kaminsky, Solages said she would post on her website that she won't support that legislation, it's already in existence.
- Will attend PTA meetings to outline plan so everyone is clear. Budget presentations to PTA in the coming weeks

Lisa Sells-Asch – Assistant Superintendent for Special Services

- Busy professional development for inclusion/special ed teachers, math in focus specifically
- Parent workshops for Special Education parents. clarify math/language, expectations of learning
- RULER parent workshop, last workshop was not well attended so not sure if it will happen
- Empire Games, June 2nd, annual tie dye night May 9th, recognize all participants end of June
- Pre school screening was big topic of discussion at Pre School meeting, maybe change to evening process but this year will stay daytime. Evening registration May 15th at 6:30pm
- Pretty low number of Kindergarten registrants as of now, most do it over the summer
- Kindergarten readiness program all set for this summer
- Wellness Committee – 2nd Monday in May – parent info for grades 4-6 concussion management, female menstruation, HIV/AIDS and human development, district wide but held at Dever.

Judy LaRocca, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment & Technology

- Breakout boxes purchased, education games have to work together to solve problems to break out
- 2 teachers per grade, piloting new ELA programs, to give feedback to make a decision by end of may, training in June
- 2 parent workshops, math (20 parents), superkids (12 parents), need feedback on getting more parents to attend.

Tech Report

- Purchasing chrome books for grade 3 next year, 2nd grade parents will get note home
- Now 3-6 will have chrome books
- Mount projectors in last rooms so all rooms are AV compliant with smart boards

Gerard Antoine – Assistant Superintendent for Business & Human Resources:

- Budget meeting tomorrow 5:45pm 4/20
- -2017/18 - \$1.6 million increase (3.3% increase from last budget)
- Tax cap 1.67%, tax levy equal to tax cap
- Chrome books/prof development all included in budget
- Budget needs to be passed, they will go over line by line at meeting
- Bid on exterior doors not in, did abatement over break to begin that work
- 7 month review now, projects in jeopardy of not completing
- State takes long to review so harder to stay on time with projects
- Food service up, consultant we work with to put together bid, price will have to increase school lunch
- \$2.00 to \$2.25 in lunch price, schedule May 11th bid template, district placed ad in newspaper
- May 23, vendor conferences, June 7th decision, may or may not have new vendor

Principal's Reports

Darren Gruen – James A. Dever School

- Earth Week, highlight assembly Bash the Trash instruments made from recycled products,
- Mrs Wallace and many other teachers, Dr Seuss week, celebrated literacy
- 4th grade Cross Roads Farm, brought plants to farm to be planted and June will pick what they've grown
- 2nd gr Multicultural Celebration, celebrate cultures, what makes us different yet same
- 3rd grade, Living Museum, all dressed as character from history and current events. Stayed in character, pressed button and character came to life.
- Lights On for Education, Thursday 7:15
- LI Music Festival, Dever will be competing

Dr. Gayle Steel – Wheeler Ave School

- Collected \$ for Leukeumia/Lymphoma
- Art show, displayed all grades art work
- Spring concerts were amazin
- Students from Junior High, came back to read to younger kids
- Grades 1-3 visited Molloy College, stem activities, grew from one grade to 3 grades, talking about other schools attending
- Maple Lanes Bowling, set up bowling alleys in gym, did math and bowled, measuring/weighing
- Garden update, 14 trees delivered, planting sat/sun, continuing to grow. More students and faculty participated
- Young author from Northeastern. This Test Does Not Define You (3rd grade students assembly) Prepared them for challenges in life.
- Book Fairs
- Student Council – Souper Bowl collection
- Founder's Day/Reflections Ceremony – teachers honored for 20+ years in district
- -Winter Concert, music program very impressive

Rosalie Ambrosio – Willow Road School

- Cotillion, 4th graders, well attended, joy to see 9 yr olds dance (fox trot, meringue, swing)
- Rainbow match, April 30th at Port Washington HS 3pm

- Career Day for 5th & 6th, able to get 8 professionals, rotated through classes, students dressed in business attire
- Spring concerts, amazing talent, played current and classic songs
- Authors and Illustrators, June 1st, 15 authors, local LI talent will share their work in the gym

Frank Huplosky - Howell Road School

- -Spring concerts and NYS assessments
- -teachers mother became master gardner and came to work with 2nd graders, will do some gardening in spring
- -May 5th Arbor Day – unveiling Little Free Library – 6th graders helped with design
- -Talent Show will be held at Dever, all are welcome to attend (about 38 acts) – PTA and 7 staff members assisted with talent show

Guest Speaker – Astoria Bank

- Involved in communities, 120 years of banking experience
- Can go to PTA meetings, youth programs
- Pat, branch manager on Dutch Broadway and Franklin Ave
- Astoria offers financial literacy for all
- Community Bank, offers programs for free, will come and speak to all groups
- Howell, participated in garden project, wherever there is need they go
- Community Reinvestment, have to put 10% of profit back into community
- Provide grants to lower income families,
- Can only present to kids 18+, student savers book for kids to teach children about finances
- With teachers, facilitate seminars on money management, taking control finances, identity theft
- Email flyers for school events to Pat, she will post to community board tv's at local branches

New Business

- Wellness Night coming up
- Fantastic Four coming up
- Blood Drive, 28 registered donors, total units 26 donated

Nomination of Officers for 2017-2018

- -Espie Nadal, President
- -Sangeeta Pandit, VP
- Jackie Baiardi - Treasurer
- Pedro Davila, Secretary

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Sangeeta Pandit at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Baiardi

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Secretary

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