

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, October 19, 2016

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
Dan Farsaci, Director of Technology
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
Espie Nadal, Dever PTA
Deborah Kalb, Dever PTA
Jeanette Wilson, Howell PTA
Vita Fratercangeli, Past President, Interschool PTA
Christine Balsan, Willow Road School PTA
Linetta Plevritis, Dever PTA

Welcome:

Sangeeta Pandit welcomed members. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes presented for the June 2016 meeting were approved.

Approval of Audit

Audit presented and approved.

Approval of Budget

Budget presented and approved.

Correspondence:

No correspondence.

Treasurer's Report:

For the period May 31, 2016 to September 30, 2016

Beginning Balance as of 05/31/2016:	\$3,006.01
Revenues:	\$0
Expenses:	<u>\$118.62</u>
Ending Balance:	\$2,887.39

Special Guest Speaker

Ron Edelson, Overview of New District Website

- over summer updated website, not finalized yet
- -PTA will have its' own section/Library/Ed Foundation/Interschool(by end of month will be functioning)
- Immediate Action box on home screen will notify any pertinent information (i.e. school closings, registration dates, etc.)
- Twitter account, managed by Superintendent
- Synchron school calendar to smart phone (customize/export)
- There will be a how-to page/cheat sheet for how to use website in virtual backpack and on website
- More school district information will go to local newspapers
- Info for website will go through Superintendent's office
- Possibility for website informational mtg at school PTA meetings
- Videos/photos – want to make the website more appealing to parent/faculty, bridge the gap
- Give them reasons to come back, more traffic

Principals' Reports

Rosalie Ambrosio: Willow Road School

- The school year is off to a great start. She has been warmly welcomed as the new principal.
- BEAR (Be Excited About Reading) – Each child chooses a new book to take home. Kids were very happy.
- In School Assembly: Books Alive! Kids participated, sang and danced, read aloud.
- Fall Festival was larger than expected, great turnout. Thanks to all who put it together.

- Looking forward to Pumpkin Patch tomorrow. Kids pick a pumpkin to take home.

Dr. Gayle Steele: Wheeler Avenue School

- School year off to a great start.
- Welcomed back a student who is fighting leukemia. Girl Scout troop organized a walk for her in September during the school day.
- Welcomed back the Librarian who is also fighting leukemia.
- Grades 4-5 participating in a mosaic (using crushed tiles) project. Visiting artist creating a mosaic of the school which will be given to the school as a gift.
- Fall Festival & Halloween parade are coming up.

Frank Huplosky: Howell Road School

- Raised money for a friendship bench (in memory of a student) to create a space where kids could feel safe and where they could go if they need a friend. They actually raised enough money for 2 benches. School had an assembly and the girl who created the bench (Little Girl, Big Dream) came to the assembly to speak. Everyone can make a difference, no matter age/ability.
- Garden committee, volunteer to care for garden at school.
- Family Fun Nights – team building/fitness events, great if you're new to school to meet other families
- Thanks to PTA, organized red ribbon week assemblies.

Darren Gruen: James A. Dever School

- School year is in full swing.
- Intergenerational Reading has begun (weekly event). Founder, Mimi Friedman, passed away. Looking into ways to honor her memory. Family is making a sizeable donation to the school.
- Third grade making pumpkin groves, ties into social studies.
- PTA has planned Red Ribbon Week (drug prevention program).
Fire Department will visit during Fire Safety Week.