

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, February 7, 2018

Call to Order:

Espie Nadal, President, Interschool PTA called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Attendance:

Constance Evelyn, Superintendent
Lisa Sells-Asch, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services
Judith LaRocca, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment & Technology
Andrea DiMango, Director of Technology
Rosalie Ambrosio, Principal, Willow Road School
Darren Gruen, Principal, James A. Dever School
Dr. Gayle Steele, Principal, Wheeler Avenue School
Frank Huplosky, Principal, Howell Avenue School
Espie Nadal, President, Interschool PTA
Sangeeta Pandit, Vice President, Interschool PTA
Pedro Davila, Secretary, Interschool PTA
Jeanette Wilson, President, PTA Howell Road School

Welcome:

Espie Nadal welcomed members. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes presented for the December 2017 meeting were approved.

Correspondence:

None

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance 11/30/17	= \$3454.83
Total additions	= \$0.00
Total subtractions	= \$305.00
Ending balance 8/31/17	= \$3,154.83

Principals' Reports

Rosalie Ambrosio: Willow Road School

- PTA presented the students with a Mad Scientist Assembly
 - surrounding energy
 - lots of excitement
 - very informative
- Last week Friday was PTA Bingo night
 - grades 1-6
- Next week's PTA meeting we will recognize Founders Day
 - Mrs. Pallazolo and Mrs. Balson
- 10th year of Ballroom dancing
- Show the Public Event on 4/27 @ 4pm
- Reflections assembly will be next Tuesday @8:30am

Darren Gruen: James A. Dever School

- Steam Club, Grant Recipient
 - first steam night last week, nicely attended
 - divided into stations with different activities
 - marble run, tin foil boats, and tower build
 - lots of excitement around all activities
 - next night will be for grades for 3 & 4 as well as another for 5&6
- Health fair sponsored by North well at Franklin Hospital
 - most grades had opportunity to visit
- Wellness night and Health Fair at Dever will be Monday 5/7
 - Please join us
- Founders Day has been moved to 2/28
- Heart healthy month
 - Jump rope for heart and Hoops for heart
 - Dever is one of the top money raisers on Long Island
 - very proud of the community generosity

Dr. Gayle Steele: Wheeler Avenue School

- Nice Assemblies held (sponsored by the PTA)
 - Don't Press Send
 - proper use of social media
 - grades 4-6
 - dedicated meeting for parents
 - positive but scary message
 - Brain Wash Game
 - students and teachers participated
 - all grades
- Wheeler Avenue Art Week is currently going on
 - Artwork is posted in the VS library
 - worked on pieces for Black History Month
- Tonight is Founders Night
 - Two teachers are being honored
 - Mrs. Stirrat(retiring) and Mr. Perciballi
 - Senator Kaminski and Assembly Woman Solanges will be in attendance
 - Reflections winners will be honored
- Friday will be the first Sweethearts Dance
 - Grades 1-3

Frank Huplosky: Howell Road School

- Next week we will celebrate Healthy Heart Week
 - North Shore LIJ continues to work with Howell
 - Thank you to Mrs. Pandit for the hospital connection
 - Running for approximately 12-13 years
 - Hospital provides cardiac care nurses
 - Students build a giant artery
 - nutritionists come to speak about healthy food choices
 - tobacco prevention
- Founders Day next week
 - It is our tradition to keep recipients secret
 - two students are moving on in the reflections contest
 - Jared Marshall and Samia Yomaz
 - Makers Phase Club
 - includes building/ programming computers
 - excited to expand in the future and make available to more grades

District Administrators' Reports

Constance Evelyn, Superintendent of Schools

- Standing in for Gerard Antoine with the Business Report
 - Budget development
 - Working with the administration for all district level needs
 - We are living within a tax cap environment
 - 2% tax cap
 - most people don't understand the mathematical side of this
 - There will be a YouTube video to better explain the tax cap
 - This year the tax cap is 2.54%
 - Do we present the 2.54% to the community which seems that it is higher than cap
 - If we miss out on the .54% that would be equivalent to \$190,000
 - District administration has to grapple what must be addressed along with the board
 - Facilities Utilization study will be reported in February
 - Gerard will give a bond update
 - Doors and windows are being worked on
 - The GC is a bit behind schedule, approx. 3 weeks. No additional cost
 - All summer programs will be held at Wheeler
 - other schools will have site work being completed which will prevent running any programs there
 - Small fire at Willow in the boiler room
- Board of Education ceremony recently held
- Traffic letter has been distributed, all positive feedback received
 - Local officer will use the letter during traffic enforcement
- Video for ED Trust NY
 - teacher diversity to ensure the community is represented in the professional staff
 - Women's initiative piece, currently 27% of Superintendents are women. Number has been flat over the last five years while 85% of all staff are women
- Pre-K initiative
 - Nassau County having the least access to universal Pre-K
 - Former Superintendent is involved

Lisa Sells-Asch – Assistant Superintendent for Special Services

- Central Office participated in a refresher training for DASA
 - reminders in best practices around safety
 - school attorneys presented a workshop on investigating allegations
- Inclusive Ed committee will continue to meet, next meeting 2/26
 - continue to offer appropriate services to each child
- ENL department meeting on 2/14
 - new version of the test to enter the program rolling out this year
 - elevate training for the ENL teachers
 - new evaluations for special education
 - training will be completed in March
 - team of teachers, social workers will be trained in house
- Evening Kindergarten registration in January
- Parent Workshops
 - CPSE – preschool special education transition to kindergarten
 - Sixth grade special education students transitioning to Central High district
- SEPTA meeting next week
 - Post HS for students with special needs

Judy LaRocca, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment & Technology

- Continued to build capacity with our teachers in terms of the core programs for Math and ELA
- Just completed a round of coaching for all teachers of all grades
- End of month we will have 2nd Wonders training for teachers grades 3-6
 - focus on technology
- New Art standards go into effect in Fall 2018
 - teachers are being trained currently (Art and Music)
- Curriculum and Instruction committee continues to work on new science program that will align with the new standard
 - End of Feb through April there will be a pilot
- Shout out to the two instructional coaches
 - John Frias and Laurie Salvatore
 - District Family Math night, 100 attendees
 - Working on Young Authors contest
 - 3 minute video on home to school connection resources
- Shout out to the VS13 Twitter account
 - See all of the amazing things the students and teachers are doing

Gerard Antoine, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Human Resources

- Not in attendance

Andrea DiMango, Director of Technology

- Video resources added to the District website
 - Currently working with the instructional coaches
 - Basic videos about how to access resources, 2 minutes in length
 - Can be found on the Resources Tab
- District APP is still being developed
- Vendor has been chosen for the Security Project Phase 1 (By end of this school year)
 - Swipe Cards

- Visitor Management System
 - system will be linked to a database to search scanned ID
- Indoor/ Outdoor Security cameras
- Phase 2 will begin shortly
 - upgrading of infrastructure
- All systems being installed will be expandable for future needs
- Partnership with Models Schools and Boces
 - Howell and Willow teachers have been meeting with a trainer one on one discussing technological needs
 - Starting in March Dever and Wheeler will begin partnership

Committee Reports

- 2018 Yearbook pictures have been uploaded
 - confirmations have to be submitted by March

New Business

- How would someone find out about bringing Toastmaster's to the District

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 10:00AM

Respectfully submitted,

Pedro Davila

Pedro Davila
Secretary
Valley Stream District Thirteen Interschool Council of PTA's