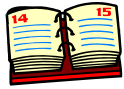


The Village School Voice!

September / October 2009 ∴ Village School Parent - School Association News



Important Dates!

October 5	HCAA Mtg., 9 a.m., HHS Library
October 12	Columbus Day, ALL SCHOOLS IN SESSION
October 13	PSA Mtg., 9:30 a.m., VS Cafeteria
October 13	HFEE Mtg, 7:30 p.m., WRS Library
October 14	Bus Safety Drill, 1 of 3
October 14	Holmdel BOE Mtg., 8 p.m., WRS
October 14 - 15	Picture Days, VS
October 15	School Store, 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m., VS
October 19 – 24	Red Ribbon Week
October 20	Alliance Mtg., 1 p.m., HHS Library
October 23	Bus Safety Drill, ALL SCHOOLS
October 28	Holmdel BOE Mtg., 8 p.m., WRS
October 29	Village School “Ladies Night Out” 7 p.m., Addison Park
October 31	Halloween
November 2	HCAA Mtg., 7 p.m., HHS Library
November 5 – 6	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED, NJEA Convention
November 10	PSA Mtg., 9:30 a.m., VS Cafeteria
November 10	HFEE Mtg, 7:30 p.m., WRS Library
November 17	Alliance Mtg., 1 p.m., HHS Library
November 17	ARISE Mtg., 7:15 p.m., IH Music B
November 18	Holmdel BOE Mtg., 8 p.m., WRS
November 19	School Store, 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m., VS
November 19&23	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences 6:30 p.m., VS/IH
November 20,23, 24	HALF DAY SESSIONS Afternoon Parent/Teacher Conferences, VS/IH
November 23	Report Cards Issued
November 24	Powder Puff/Bonfire, 6 p.m., Bob Roggy Stadium
November 25	HALF DAY SESSIONS, All Schools
November 26, 27	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED Thanksgiving Recess
November 28	Alumni Flag Football Game, 11 a.m., Bob Roggy Stadium

News from the Principal

Elizabeth C. Giacobbe



Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year at the Village Elementary School. I hope you all had a restful, relaxing, and enjoyable summer. We were busy here at Village preparing for the upcoming school year. Our custodians worked tirelessly to prepare the building for the opening of school. The front office staff worked long, hard hours preparing schedules, mailers, and registering lots of new students! In addition to the usual summer activity around the building, we also hosted the Summer Enrichment classes and the Extended School Year program.

We had a very smooth opening here at Village. A very special thanks to the PSA volunteers who assisted with getting all our little ones safely to their classes on the first few days of school! Even in the torrential downpours! Thank you!

The opening of school seems like an appropriate time to remind all parents about a few of the important procedures at Village School.

1. Students are not to be dropped off at the school by themselves before 8:55 a.m. Students who are dropped off before this time will be taken to Prime Time, our before and after care program, at a charge to you.
2. In an effort to preserve the integrity of our instructional program we ask that you do not pick-up your child/children between 2:30 and 3:10 p.m. This allows for less disruption at that very busy part of the day and allows for the continuity of the education process.
3. *If you are picking your child up at dismissal we have new procedures in place to ensure the safety of our students.* Parents are asked to enter by the main office and report to the gym. Parents should be seated in the bleachers and as students enter from the cafeteria they are to descend from the bleachers, receive their child(ren) and report to the sign out table where they are to exit. We thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.
4. The school day ends at 3:15 p.m., which is when we begin dismissal not when the buses depart. Please keep in mind that we are dismissing close to 1,000 students and this takes some time as we need to ensure that every student is where they are suppose to be prior to letting the buses leave Village School. Your continued patience is appreciated.

I look forward to working with you and your child during another exciting year at Village School!

A Message from the Assistant Principal

Dr. Dionne Ledford



Welcome back to a brand new school year at Village School! It seems like only yesterday that we were waving “good-bye” to our students and wishing them a safe and fun-filled summer! It is my hope that this message finds you in good spirits, good health, and that you along with your family enjoyed the summer months!

I am happy to report that our first day of school was a huge success, thanks to the commitment of both our parent volunteers and our staff members who are always willing to help out in order to ensure the safety and well-being of our children. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **all** who assisted us on the first day of school. Thanks to your efforts, we had a wonderful school opening, and the children are off to a great start!

I look forward to working with all of our Village School families this year, with the goal being to create a school environment which will lead to a genuine love of learning within your children. We are confident that when families and schools work together we increase the probability that children will enjoy a productive and fun-filled school year!

PSA President’s Report

Andria Wojtunik



We’re off to a great start at Village School! Thank you to Suzanne Niro, Linda Fernand, and all who helped with the Teachers’ Back to School Luncheon on September 9th. We received many appreciative notes and comments. Thank you to all who attended the first PSA meeting of the school year on September 15th. We also had a wonderful showing at the Kindergarten Meet and Greet on September 23rd. Thank you to Ruth Davis and her committees for coordinating both the Kindergarten Meet and Greet and Spirit Sale.

Ladies’ Night Out is just around the corner--mark your calendars for Thursday, October 29th! Other events planned for this year include Family Bingo Night, Village School Skate Night and the Spring Carnival.

I’d like to introduce the 2009-2010 PSA Executive Board:

President	Andria Wojtunik
Vice-President/Membership	Linda Lautenberg
Vice-Presidents/Fundraising	Laurie Tascione & Cathy D’Orazio
Corresponding Secretary	Pam Hroblak

Recording Secretary
Treasurer

Theresa Clark
Claudine Sportelli

Come out and get involved at Village School! Volunteering sets a great example for your children and the PSA can always use your help. Our next meeting is October 13th at 9:30a.m.in the all-purpose room.

**Please note that all future Village School Voice newsletters will be sent out by e-mail—make sure that you have provided the school and PSA with your current e-mail address. You can also find copies of prior newsletters on the district website holmdelschools.org.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at Wojtunik@comcast.net or (732) 203-2065.

Bus Safety

Each year the PSA will host three bus safety drills to ensure all students know the bus safety rules. The first drill will be at 3:00 p.m., Wed., Oct 14th. We are looking for volunteers to get on the buses and read out the bus safety rules. For kindergarten AM students, we need volunteers to go into each classroom around 11:15 a.m. It's a very rewarding experience and your children will be so proud of you. If you are interested, please contact Chimin Hu-Hampel at chiminhu@gmail.com or (732) 739-1568.



Also many volunteers helped out as bus greeters on the first and second days of the school. Children were very relieved to see those enthusiastic parents greeting them at the bus, taking them to the school entrance and even to the classroom. Thanks to all the parents involved in this event.

Volunteers Needed for Red Ribbon Week October 19 - October 23



Red Ribbon Week is a week devoted to helping our children make healthy choices. Our slogan this year is "Soaring To A Healthy Future". Many fun activities are being planned and we ask you to read our handout that will be distributed the week of October 12th outlining these events. We need many volunteers to help with the week's activities. This includes helping with set-up on Friday, October 16th in the early afternoon and after school and during lunchtime on Wednesday the 21st and Thursday the 22nd. If you have a child who is in need of community service hours, this is a great opportunity. Please e-mail Marianne Murray at mrm0821@aol.com with your availability.

Specialized Fundraising



Throughout the year we will be collecting Boxtops For Education, Labels For Education, empty printer cartridges and old cell phones. The PSA earns cash for the Boxtops and for recycling the printer cartridges and cell phones. We earn points with Labels For Education which we redeem for free school supplies.

We're trying a new way to earn cash - Boxtops Marketplace. The PSA will automatically receive a percentage of every online purchase from participating vendors. Look for full details in the "Turn Trash into Cash" information packet that will be coming home via backpack mail. Contact Jane Zysk with any questions at [mamamazysk@gmail.com](mailto:mamazysk@gmail.com)

Student Directory

If you would like your child's information to appear in the 2009/2010 Holmdel Student Directory, please do so by September 30th, 2009. The website is www.holmdelstudentdirectory.org. Please email all questions to support@holmdelstudentdirectory.org.

HFEE



The Holmdel Foundation for Educational Excellence is a non-profit organization with an all-volunteer Board that was founded in 1996. Although our name may be long (you can refer to us as the HFEE or Foundation for short) our mission is quite succinct—*Our goal is to enhance the overall educational experience of all students in all four of the Holmdel district schools.* We accomplish this goal by raising funds through private donations from community members who share our vision of wanting to ensure that our children receive a high quality public education. To date, we have raised over one million dollars and this money has been allocated throughout the years on a relatively equal par to all of the schools.

In October, the HFEE will be unveiling its new and improved website which will let you view all that is happening with the Foundation. It will allow you to view announcements and participate in various fund raisers on-line. Please return the forms you received in your back-to-school packages so we can add your email address to our list and enter you into a contest to win two complimentary tickets to our April Dinner Dance.

Also in October, our Annual Giving Campaign will get underway. Please consider making a donation. All donations are fully tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in becoming an HFEE Board Member or helping out on a Committee, please contact Doreen DeMarco at (732) 335-5753.

We Need Your Photos!



The school historians need your help. We want to showcase your photos of school events (e.g., back-to-school, classroom parties, cute kids doing crafts, etc.) in the annual Village School Memory Book. Digital photos (preferred) can be sent via e-mail to clschachel@yahoo.com. Hard copies of photos can be sent to school with your child, in an envelope marked "Historian". Clear shots and close-ups are preferred. Please include the child or children's names, grade and a brief description of the event photographed. We'll get as many of these photos in the Memory Book as possible. Duplicates only - they cannot be returned. If you have any questions, contact Cheryllee Schachel at (732) 671-3917 or clschachel@yahoo.com.

Ladies Night Out



Join your friends, old and new, in supporting the Village School PSA at Ladies Night Out on Thursday, October 29th from 7-11 p.m. Get your reservations in early. We are looking forward to an exciting evening! Contact Cathy D'Orazio at mailto:kidcathy@yahoo.com or Laurie Tascione at laurietascione@comcast.net if you have any questions or if you would like to help.

HCAA



The Holmdel Creative Arts Association (HCAA) is a parent support group for the arts in all of our schools. We are actively fundraising now through our membership drive, Ad Journal and Dedication Plates. These funds are used to provide materials and equipment to enhance the arts in the schools.

If you have a child who is interested in art, graphic art, drama or television production, we highly recommend that you become an active member of our group. Our meetings are generally held the first Monday of each month at 9 a.m. in the High School library conference room.

If you are unable to attend meetings but would like to support the arts, we implore you to join as a Broadway Sponsor for \$100, Off-Broadway Sponsor for \$50, Patron Member for \$25 or Supporting Member for \$10.

If you would like to place an advertisement in the HCAA Ad Journal, please contact Marylou Moramarco at marylou22@comcast.net. The Journal is distributed at all Indian Hill, Satz and High School productions and will reach the homes of many prospective clients, customers and friends. In appreciation for your support, you will receive two complimentary tickets for each of the High School shows.

The 15 Minute Child Break

The Holmdel Alliance is sponsoring a FREE parenting program on Oct 19th at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The *15 Minute Child Break* is a one-hour, interactive, multimedia presentation that informs, encourages and empowers parents, caregivers, grandparents, and educators to effectively communicate with their children.

Parents with children of all ages can benefit. Please attend this informative, engaging and educational presentation. We as parents are the strongest influence in our children's lives. Email bhilliard51@comcast.net for any additional information.

We want to hear from you! Send your news items to the Village School Voice!
Attn: Adrienne Burmeister at e-mail: kaburmeister@verizon.net
DEADLINES: 11/19/09, 1/21/10, 3/18/10, 5/20/10