

Community Relations Committee Minutes
Wednesday, September 19, 2007, 6 PM

Attending: Board Members – Barbara Garrity, Phyllis Pascucci and Ana Vander Woude;
Administrators – Barbara Duncan and Mary Beth Currie. Absent: Ray Tai

Goal Setting: The committee discussed the services provided by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) and the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA). The NJSBA provides relevant services as part of our general membership. Committee agreed to invite our field service rep, Gwen Thornton, to our November committee meeting to guide us in setting goals, self-assessing and creating a work plan for building strong, year-round community relations. The committee was generally positive about joining the NSPRA. We need to review/develop policies regarding community relations.

Holmdel Community Day: Mrs. Vander Woude conferred with Maureen Doloughy of the Township, about the Township Committee's adoption of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion Special Troops Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division. The unit is supporting a local Iraqi school which is planning to re-open. We will look into supporting this effort, e.g., collect school supplies, etc. The troops will be sending the Township Committee a New Jersey flag which was flown in Iraq. If possible, we would like to display this at our schools for a time. Mrs. Vander Woude will confer with Maureen Doloughy regarding the Township Committee's Community Day activities, and Mrs. Duncan will check with the Presidents Council regarding their plans, to see how we may work in concert with them.

Gold Card: All Holmdel residents eligible for the Half Century Club membership (age 50+) will be eligible for the school district's Gold Card. Mrs. Duncan will meet with the Club in late September to begin kicking off the program, and we will distribute the cards at Community Day. NB: we will have copies of the school district calendar and calendar of upcoming athletic events to distribute along with the cards.

Other Matters:

Website: Investigate a "send updates" button so those who wish to know about website changes can sign up to be notified. It was suggested that other districts already have this.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, 2007 at 5:45 PM

November meeting: Wednesday, November 11 at 1 PM with NJSBA Rep Gwen Thornton. Send topics you wish addressed to Barbara Duncan.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Garrity