



# THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

## Parent Association Meeting Minutes April 4th 2023

### Welcome

- Valeria - Welcome to all parents. Thanks for coming everyone! There are only 2 more meetings this school year!

### Event Updates

- Gala Update - Thank you to all who supported and attended the Gala - we had a great time! Becky - we raised \$85,000. Last year we raised \$30,000. In 2019 we raised ~\$100,000. The cost of the event this year was a little high - we did not make the ticket price higher than what the venue charged us. We had fewer items in the live and silent auctions than in previous years, and though the ad journal was not as big as in the past, we raised more money from it than in past years. Students seem to enjoy looking through the ad journal, as many parents used it to "shout out" their kids.
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon - Kim - thanks so much for all who supported!
- Humdingers event - there was a good turnout from UE. Marla - let's try to do this as a pre-paid option next year.
- School Closed Friday 7th and for Spring Recess 17th to 21st
- International Day April 28th - Amy - still looking for a few volunteers, especially for South American games, though Valeria and Gabriel L. will probably be able to do it.
  - Will be using the Project Room for the "museum;" we will start collecting items for this on Monday 4/24 - please contact Amy and/or Roheen. Items could be coffee pots, dolls, art work, traditional clothing/costumes, etc. Please do not bring in anything fragile and/or valuable. We will keep them in Becky's office.
  - Kim is doing Australian dance with Anne Marie Goulding.
  - Sarah A and Crissy D are doing African folktales.
- Special Persons Day May 5th & 8th (only T2 on 5th) - Laura - returning to the way we used to do it! This year it will be for the first hour of the day. Your child can invite 1 person (must be 14 or older) to the classroom. If your child's special guest arrives with the child at regular drop off time, they may go to the Project Room until the teachers are ready

for them in the classroom (approximately 8:50). We will need room parent help that morning. Adults will be sent to classrooms from 8:50-9:35 for elementary students.

- The primary guests can come at 9 and stay until 10.
- T2 special guests are invited to come with students at regular drop off time on May 8th

### **Other News**

- We are getting ready to form teams for next year's PA. We will post all open positions this month so people can start signing up at the PA meeting in May. Hand over documents are being prepared and any new chairs/volunteers are encouraged to reach out to previous chairs for help/encouragement.
  - Crissy D - Cindy and I will be Room Parent coordinators next year, but people are already approaching us about it. Laura - there will be staff involvement in choosing room parents for next year. Please compile a list of interested parents, the staff will choose from the list so chairs don't have to be "room parent czar."
    - Room parents will not be selected until over the summer, once new families have had a chance to put their names down
  - Valeria - there are so many opportunities for people to volunteer outside of room parent positions. Please encourage anyone applying for the position to look into those opportunities as well.
  - Sarah - let's make next month's PA meeting a big event so lots of people come and sign up for things.
  - May meeting will be a planning meeting - all chairs should be in attendance to describe what they do. We will try to have refreshments and make a big push for attendance outside of the usual suspects.
  - June PA meeting breakfast will be provided by the school - June meeting will be on 6/9, not 6/6
- New Parent Portal - next phases of Veracross are in the works on the back end, but won't be rolled out to parents until the summer.
- Laura - lots of new primary families, not as many in other levels.
- Marla - our playground meetups for the new families were successful last summer, let's continue those
- Crissy is happy to host an UE and/or MS meet up over the summer, Samantha is potentially willing to host for toddler and primary.
- Becky - community service, we've done snack packs, we've done a coat drive, we've done a toy drive, we've done the kindness thing, collection for hurricane Ian, etc. Are we overwhelming parents? What are our priorities? Our goal is to have things the students relate to and feel invested in. Seeking feedback.

- Kim - MS played basketball with Forum; this was wonderful, it makes us more a part of the community, this will encourage Waldwick to support us. Our students will go see a presentation at the Forum School.
- Laura - teachers are pushing for more experiences especially for the older students as opposed to collections.
- Becky - the kids enjoyed packing items for the toy drive - Crissy - Henry thought it was great and was very proud to be a part of it. Maybe it should be every other year?

#### **Following the Village School Online**

- Facebook & Instagram
- Web Page and Calendar

#### **Other Updates**

- Wednesday Walk - will not be hosted by Adrian on 5/5 and 5/12
- Next PA Meeting is Tuesday May 9th