

# VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

*Administrative Offices*

175 North Central Avenue

Valley Stream, NY 11580

[www.valleystream30.com](http://www.valleystream30.com)

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Dr. Elaine Kanas  
*Superintendent of Schools*

*Tel:* (516) 285-9881  
*Fax:* (516) 285-9839  
*e-mail:* [ekanas@vs30.org](mailto:ekanas@vs30.org)

November 5, 2009

Dear Valley Stream 30 Community,

## **November 3<sup>rd</sup> Professional Development**

Tuesday's staff development was a busy, successful day of learning for administrators and teachers together. Just some of the learning activities included principals, kindergarten, first-grade and reading teachers working with our early literacy consultant on additional strategies to support phonics instruction and early reading skills. Data-driven instruction was a major theme of the day, with grades 2 - 6 staff receiving additional training and support in administering our new ELA benchmarking formative assessments, Fountas and Pinnell. Special educators and special area teachers attended regional conferences with colleagues from other school districts on subjects pertaining to their special teaching area, and teachers also received technology training in using interactive white boards in the classroom and technology integration to support higher-level critical thinking.

## **Report Cards**

Reminder that the PTAs will be sponsoring informational workshops on the Valley Stream 30 revised report card at their November PTA meetings as scheduled below. There will also be a presentation at the 11/23 Board of Education meeting. The sessions are designed to help parents have a clear understanding of the revised student performance grading scales. The sessions should be informative and helpful regarding making your child's report card a useful and informative tool regarding his/her learning progress. Dates of the PTA meetings where this topic will be discussed are:

- November 16<sup>th</sup> Shaw Avenue, 7:30 p.m.
- November 18<sup>th</sup> Forest Road, 7:00 p.m.
- November 19<sup>th</sup> Clear Stream/WAKC, 7:30 p.m.

## **Influenza/H1N1**

We are continuing with our cleaning and health protocols as per Nassau County and New York State Health Departments and the federal Centers for Disease Control guidelines. In order to keep families informed, in the event that there is a confirmed case of influenza A (the County does not specifically test for H1N1 at this point) in your child's class, the school nurse will send home a letter. For more information on Influenza, H1N1, and suggestions for preventing the spread of flu, please visit our District website at [www.valleystream30.com](http://www.valleystream30.com). If you have any questions on this topic, please contact your school nurse who will be able to provide you with the most updated information.

I wish everyone a good weekend. Please email ([ekanas@vs30.org](mailto:ekanas@vs30.org)) or call me (285-9881, ext. 222) with any suggestions, comments, questions, etc.

Sincerely,

*Elaine Kanas*

Elaine Kanas, Ed.D