

# VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

*Administrative Offices*

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Dr. Elaine Kanas  
Superintendent of Schools

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September 24, 2009

Dear Valley Stream 30 Community,

## **Please share your ideas!**

The Strategic Planning/Future Forward Valley Stream 30 Committee hopes you will come to our Roundtable discussions to give your opinion on what is most important to you and your child, as we plan for Valley Stream 30 in the future. This is an excellent chance to have your voice heard. Come and tell us your priorities.

The meetings will be no longer than 1½ hours. You don't need to go to the meeting in your school building. Each meeting is meant to be districtwide, with people from all three elementary schools attending.

- 10/6 – 9:00 a.m. at Forest Road School
- 10/6 – 3:15 p.m. at Shaw Avenue School
- 10/6 – 7:30 p.m. at Shaw Avenue School (Childcare provided – adult supervision and a movie will be shown)
- 10/17 (Saturday) – 9:00 a.m. at Clear Stream Avenue School (Childcare provided – adult supervision and a movie will be shown).

RSVP to [jcarson@vs30.org](mailto:jcarson@vs30.org) or call her at 285-9881, x222 or just show up!

## **Curriculum News**

At the 9/21/09 Board meeting, the 2009-10 Curriculum and Instruction Goals, and the Professional Development Plan to support them, were presented to the Board. Thank you to Jerry Poole (Director of Curriculum and Instruction) and teacher members of the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Council (CIAC) -- Tina Farrell, Joanne Lufano and Debra Maerhofer -- for your highly informative presentation.

Next week's Superintendent Newsletter will feature these goals so that the whole Valley Stream 30 Community is informed regarding our instructional plans for the year.

## **H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu)**

The Centers for Disease Control have provided some information for families regarding the role they can play in helping to prevent H1N1 virus spread. They also provide some helpful links including a fun rap song about good hygiene for children.

Tip 1: Make sure your children get a seasonal flu vaccine and the 2009 H1N1 vaccine. This week, Secretary Sebelius announced the H1N1 vaccine will be ready in early October. But the seasonal flu vaccine is available right now! The best way to protect against the flu – seasonal or 2009 H1N1 – is to get vaccinated. Children older than 6 months are a priority group for the H1N1 vaccine, which means they will be among the first to get the vaccine when it's available. For more information about the H1N1 vaccine, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination>.

Tip 2: Encourage healthy hygiene in your home. Remind your kids to wash their hands and to cover their mouths with a tissue or shirt sleeve when they cough. Also, encourage them not to share drinks or eating utensils with their friends. For more guidance on hygiene tips for flu prevention, visit [www.cdc.gov/cleanhands](http://www.cdc.gov/cleanhands) and <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/covercough.htm>.

Tip 3: Make an effort to keep your kids' play areas and toys clean. Use sanitizing wipes to wipe down toys, video games, and the computer. Visit <http://nrckids.org> for more information on cleaning in early childhood settings.

Tip 4: We've said it before, and we'll say it again - if your child has a fever or displays symptoms of the flu, including body aches, sore throat, headache or a cough, **keep your child home from school**.

Tip 5: Regularly visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) this flu season for the latest news about the flu and the vaccine, and for more tips to keep your family healthy this flu season.

To read the CDC's Child Care and Early Childhood Guidance, visit <http://www.flu.gov/professional/school/childguidance.html>.

## **Have a good weekend**

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