

# VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

175 N. Central Avenue

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Valley Stream, NY 11580-3032

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January 7, 2010

Dear Valley Stream 30 Community,

## **New York State Assessments**

Welcome back to all from the holiday vacation. School is already back in full swing and now that New York State has changed its testing program to late spring (ELA in late April, Math to take place in May), targeted learning activities supporting student performance on these assessments are beginning to get underway in your children's grade 3-6 classrooms. In addition, this month, the second District K-6 AIMSweb assessment will take place, and information provided from this formative assessment will also guide the movement of some children into additional support groups, with other students beginning to phase out of direct reading specialist support, based on their progress. If your children fall into either of these two categories, you will receive notification and information from your child's school by early February.

As you know, the District budget supports academic ELA and Math clubs that take place in each building, either before or after school. If your child is invited to participate in one of these clubs, which provide targeted support toward success on the New York State Assessments, please try to make every effort to have your child participate. They are a wonderful, additional learning opportunity.

## **Safe Communities Program**

The Nassau County Police Department 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct's Problem Oriented Policing (POP) unit has created a community blog. Representatives recently presented information at a meeting of the District PTA/President's-Co-Presidents' Meeting. The PTAs will be arranging for these representatives to come and speak at an upcoming PTA meeting so that parents have the opportunity to hear safety information, and ask questions, etc. Any member of the Valley Stream community can currently access this 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Blog which is located at <http://ncpd5thpopsd30.blogspot.com>. The site is designed to be a resource center for the community. The links section will provide easy access to many local community web sites including the police and fire department, local schools and libraries, historical societies, parks, recreational facilities, athletic leagues, community organizations, clubs and local councilmen and legislators.

In addition, safety advisory information is posted and updated frequently, such as police advisories regarding minimizing potential criminal activity (burglaries and larcenies from vehicles and information regarding cyber bullying, as well as the Silver Alert Program which has been established in order to disseminate immediate information to local media, hospitals and other organizations when someone suffering from Alzheimer's disease, dementia or other cognitive disorders is missing. Community members may also post questions. Recent examples on the blog include questions regarding home alarm systems and underage drinking. The 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct POP Unit encourages community members to visit the site often. If you wish to be notified of newly-published posts, you can send your email address to the email address for the blog which is [NCPD5thPOPSD17@gmail.com](mailto:NCPD5thPOPSD17@gmail.com). Please specify District #30 to receive alerts for our particular community vicinity.

## **Save the date – Science Presentation**

On March 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Shaw Avenue School, there will be a District wide presentation for all school building-level teams. The meeting will also be open to all Valley Stream parents, guardians, staff and community members. The topic is an update regarding the work on the new Science Curriculum Plan. Participants will have the opportunity to view and comment on several resources being considered to strengthen science instruction in the District. More information will follow.

## **Nassau County Department of Health - Influenza Vaccinations**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has announced the week of January 10 – 16, 2010 as National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW). This is a national observance that was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as foster greater use of flu vaccine after the holiday season into January and beyond.

As of December 10, 2009, everyone over the age of 6 months is now eligible to receive the vaccine. The vaccine will be available at the following locations to all residents over the age of 6 months. **Appointments are not needed.**

**Tuesday – January 12, 2010 – 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm**, Temple Beth El, 46 Locust Ave., Cedarhurst

**Thursday – January 14, 21, and 28, 2010 – 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm**, Nassau University Medical Center's Auditorium,  
2201 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow

**Wednesday – January 20, 2010 – 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm**, Freeport Recreation Center, 130 East Merrick Rd., Freeport

**Friday – January 29, 2010 - 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm**, Rockville Centre Recreation Center, 111 N. Oceanside Ave., Rockville Centre

Residents who would like additional information on H1N1 vaccination locations may call the Nassau County Department of Health **H1N1 Call Center, Monday through Friday, 9 am – 4 pm at 1.888.684.4271** or visit the **Health Department website at <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Health/index.htm>**.

## **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.