

VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

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Dear Valley Stream 30 Community,

District Level Team Update

Last week, the District Level Team had their first meeting. The District Level Team (DLT) meets three or four times yearly and its members represent the various building-level teams. A parent and a teacher from each building-level team sits on the DLT, as well as one building administrator and one support staff member.

The following topics were discussed at the DLT Meeting. All of them involve parent and community participation and input, so please read here how you can participate. The DLT members will be sharing the below at their next Building-Level Team (BLT) meetings for the information of each team.

- **Update on Science Revision Process**

On March 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Shaw Avenue Library, all three building-level teams will see presentations from science kit developers regarding new science kits and units that the District is considering for use in updating our District 30 Science program. Strengthening and updating the District Science program was identified as a priority through the District 30 strategic planning process.

Members of the public, to include teachers, parents and community members, are all invited to this presentation, as well. All members attending will have the opportunity to provide written feedback to be shared with the individual building-level teams regarding the various programs previewed. Individual building-level teams will compile feedback and data to share at a DLT meeting in April, and we will keep you updated regarding plans for Science 2010-11.

- **Strategic Planning Update**

Information was shared regarding progress of this initiative. The Strategic Planning Committee and the Board of Education recently met together for two joint meetings to review the latest drafts of the suggested 2010-2015 strategic plan for Valley Stream 30. The Board of Education will consider the Strategic Plan again at the February 8th Work Session. It is anticipated that the plan will be adopted at the March Board meeting. The plan, based on the feedback provided by parents, teachers and community members, will outline priorities and actions for the next five years, as much as it is possible, in uncertain budgetary times. It is intended to serve as a helpful planning guide to continue to move Valley Stream 30 forward as a 21st century school district.

- **Progress Reports**

Currently, the District sends out progress reports in between the three report card periods on all students. There was discussion regarding whether it would be beneficial to only send out progress reports to parents whose children are not progressing sufficiently, rather than send them out on all students, even those who were not experiencing difficulty. If so, discussion then centered around providing more in-depth information regarding student needs if progress reports were sent only for students in danger of not meeting the next report card standard.

BLT members will be seeking input from parents and teachers regarding the two questions above. Please share your thoughts with them.

- **Clubs**

Again, as part of the strategic planning process and, in being responsive to Focus Group and Survey feedback, the District would like to strengthen the before- and after-school club program. BLTs will be soliciting your input regarding what clubs you believe each school in the District should have (we are attempting to create a standard list of activities at each building), and, also, what time is best for clubs -- before-school, after-school and perhaps lunch-time and weekend clubs are all under consideration. Which time would work best for your family? Please share your input with BLT members.

Contact Information

Below is a list of building level team representatives and their email addresses/telephone number where you can share input.

	<u>Forest Road</u>	<u>Clear Stream Avenue</u>	<u>Shaw Avenue</u>		
Erin Malone	emalone@vs30.org	Helene Levine	hlevine@vs30.org	Angela Hudson	ahudson@vs30.org
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I wish everyone a good weekend! Please email (ekanas@vs30.org) or call me (285-9881, ext. 222) with any suggestions, comments, questions, etc.

Sincerely,
Elaine Kanas
Elaine Kanas, Ed.D.