

# VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

Administrative Offices

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Dear Valley Stream 30 School Community,

## **District 30 Community Budget Forum**



Andrew Vardakis/Herald  
**Shaw Avenue School will be the site of District 30's community budget forum on January 12th.**

Each year, the Valley Stream District 30 Board of Education and administrative team work to ensure that students are provided with a strong educational program, while being mindful of the cost impact on residents. As the District prepares to embark on the 2011-12 budget planning process, we would like to invite members of the community to become active participants in this important process.

The District invites all members of the community to attend a special Community Budget Forum on Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Shaw Avenue School to provide input and ideas on how to maintain the integrity of the district's programs during these difficult financial times. In order to ensure that all community members have the opportunity to voice their ideas in a discussion format, the forum will be comprised of a number of roundtable discussions, facilitated by a member of the school's administration. Childcare services will be available for school-aged children. If you are interested in participating in this forum, are unable to attend but have suggestions to share, or if you have any questions about this event, please email

[budgetforum@vs30.org](mailto:budgetforum@vs30.org) or contact the office of the Superintendent at (516) 285-9881 ext 222.

## **Update on Strategic Plan/Technology Initiatives**

Valley Stream 30's success grows out of the collaboration and input of all our constituent community members. Last year, people came together to offer input and ideas for consideration by the Board of Education to create a 5-year long-range strategic plan, now in its first year of implementation. At Board meetings, and through this newsletter, we report regularly to the public on the progress of the plan's defined goals. One of the strategic plan goal areas is *Technology and Computer Skills*.

**Goal Statement:** Students in Valley Stream District #30 will acquire the knowledge and skills needed for the successful use of computers and other electronic technology.

### **Interactive Whiteboard Project:**

As of January 21<sup>st</sup>, approximately 27 interactive whiteboards\**1* will have been installed out of the total of 44 boards scheduled to be installed this year. In addition, by January 21<sup>st</sup>, approximately 27 teachers will have already had their interactive whiteboard training or will just begin their training. By the end of the 2010-2011 academic year, virtually all K-6 classrooms will be outfitted with an interactive whiteboard, and mounted projector, document camera, teacher netbook and stereo boom box.

The goal is to install an interactive whiteboard along with a document camera, teacher netbook, and stereo boom box in every appropriate instructional space by the end of the 2011- 2012 school year.

### **Network Refresh:**

In January, Valley Stream 30 will be making improvements to the district network infrastructure to support the growth in utilization across the district. In the last 3 years, Valley Stream 30 has made tremendous strides in integrating technology into the classroom instruction every day. Due to this increase in usage of these 21<sup>st</sup> century tools, the district has taken action to provide a more robust infrastructure that will support the demands of student work and teacher instruction.

Have a good weekend! As always, please contact me at 516-285-9881 Ext 222 or email [ekanas@vs30.org](mailto:ekanas@vs30.org) with comments and suggestions on the topic of this newsletter or with suggestions or questions on other topics.

Sincerely,

*Elaine Kanas*

Elaine Kanas, Ed.D.

\**1* Interactive whiteboards provide integration of audio, video, graphics, text and animation (from wide variety of media like CD-ROM, Internet, intra net, multimedia projector, DVD, student response system, etc) with the lessons. Thus, it provides not only enjoyment and interactivity, but also makes the learning process much more interesting and fun. It enables teachers to adopt different learning styles to meet the learners' need. Thus it can also help in creating a personalized learning environment. A whiteboard is a very powerful teaching tool as: it enhances modeling and presentation, allows teachers to make effective use of classroom resources, motivates learners, improves communication and can bring in-depth clarity on a topic/subject matter. (Education/Technology, Sharma, 2008)

*The mission of Valley Stream District Thirty, through collaboration with parents and community partners, is to educate all students to their highest levels of performance in nurturing learning environments that are safe, inclusive and student centered.*