

# VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT THIRTY

April 14, 2011

Dear Valley Stream 30 Community,

## Save the Date

As part of our District Strategic Planning Goal -- Students in Valley Stream District 30 will meet or exceed the New York State and local standards in Physical Education, Fitness and Nutrition -- there will be a workshop for parents on student physical fitness on **June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** at the Shaw Avenue School. It is a districtwide event for all parents of Clear Stream, Forest and Shaw Avenue children. Information will follow. Sneak preview....You will be able to find out how 10 minutes a day of family fitness can go a long way toward keeping you and your child fit and healthy and provide a lot of fun family time, as well.

## Levels of Thinking

As you may recall, earlier this year I wrote about the new, higher expectations of the New York State ELA and Math Assessments. Throughout the year, the District has been working to be sure to incorporate all levels of thinking into the curriculum. In doing so, educators often use a taxonomy of learning levels called Bloom's Taxonomy. Here is the updated version of the various levels of thinking that are incorporated in your child's classroom and homework activities throughout the year. Try to think about how you might incorporate these varieties of thinking levels into your child's daily interactions at home, stretching them to think at the higher levels, as we are doing in the classroom.

Bloom's Taxonomy	Meaning	Examples
<b>Creating</b>	Can the student create new product or point of view?	How would your life be different if you could breathe under water? Construct a tower one foot tall using only four blocks.
<b>Evaluating</b>	Can the student justify a stand or decision?	Do you think that the pioneers did the right thing? Why do you think Benjamin Franklin is so famous?
<b>Analyzing</b>	Can the student distinguish between the different parts?	What are some of the factors that cause rust? Why did the United States go to war with England?
<b>Applying</b>	Can the student use the information in a new way?	How would you use your knowledge of latitude and longitude to locate Greenland? If you had eight inches of water in your basement and a hose, how would you use the hose to get the water out?
<b>Understanding</b>	Can the student explain ideas or concepts?	How would you illustrate the water cycle? What is the main idea of this story?
<b>Remembering</b>	Can the student recall or remember the information?	How many ounces in a pound? What is the biggest city in Japan?

## Budget

*Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 p.m. – Board of Education Business meeting*

*Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. - Presentation on the Budget at Clear Stream Avenue PTA Meeting*

*Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. - Budget Hearing at Shaw Avenue*

**Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. - Budget Vote** – *This year's budget maintains all programs in a modified form at a minimal cost of approximately \$3.00 per week; programs such as band, orchestra, full-day kindergarten, after-school enrichment, Quest program and AIS Academy are all maintained in this budget.*

As always, please contact me at 516-285-9881, x222 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.  
Superintendent of Schools