

## SAGAPONACK COMMON SCHOOL SHARED DECISION MAKING COMMITTEE (SDMC)

MINUTES of the SDMC Meeting March 20, 2014, at 7 PM, at the Schoolhouse.

The following were present at the meeting:

Alan Van Cott (Superintendent and Facilitator)  
Jeanette Krempler (District Clerk)  
Deborah Quimby (Parent Rep)  
Matthew Wilson (Alt Parent Rep and Notetaker)

Diana McGinniss (Head Teacher)  
Terry Scammel (Teacher)  
Denise Walsh (Parent)

1. A quorum being present the minutes of the Sag SDMC of December 12, 2013 were approved by consensus. [The January and February SDMC meetings had been cancelled because of winter storms.]
2. Matthew Wilson gave notice that he would be unable to continue as secretary to the SDMC for the coming April and May meetings as he would not be able to attend. Volunteers would be sought at those meetings to act as secretary.
3. Jeanette Krempler made a presentation about the exciting end of year school trip she has planned on June 17, (rain date June 19.) Fourth Graders had selected a trip by Sea-Jet to Mystic Sea Port, The Museum of America and the Sea, and the Mystic Aquarium. Parents would receive further details in due course by back pack notice. Thanks to Jeanette for arranging this trip! Jeanette has also arranged May and June Field trips for the school to Clinton Academy, where children will paint on easels in the gardens and to the Vanderbilt Planetarium in Centreport.
4. Diana McGinniss and Terry Scammel made presentations updating the SDMC on progress implementing Common Core at the school. Detailed notes were provided by the teachers which will be sent to parents in back pack notices. Examples of literature in use for the CCC were on display for parents to look at. There was some discussion about how the academic content of the ELA modules has a new focus on non-fiction and the importance of parents promoting a love of reading with more imaginative texts.
5. The Mystery Reader series continues to be a success – volunteers are needed: please contact Darienne!
6. There was some discussion about promoting Sagaponack School and a number of different suggestions were explored. A targeted approach to district children under five would be made. A suggestion was made that since NY State does not publish academic test results for grade's with four children or less, that the school might create a more anonymous "whole school" grade based on the state percentiles for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and on the Terra Nova results in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teachers and the Superintendent would consider this.
7. Diana McGinniss' retirement after 21 years at the school was discussed. The SDMC expressed this would be a great loss for the school. Alan Van Cott described the selection process to find by June a Head Teacher for next year. He confirmed that parents and the SDMC would be asked for input in the process.
8. It was agreed that the next SDMC will take place on Thursday April 24 at 2.45pm at the Schoolhouse.
9. The Meeting was adjourned.