

Minisink Valley Central School

We teach someone you love.

SAFETY INITIATIVES

Minisink Valley remains committed to the safety of all of our children. Safety teams, consisting of parents, administrators, faculty and staff, meet regularly at both the building level and district-wide. Suggestions for improvement are proposed, discussed, evaluated and implemented as appropriate. This past school year, several improvements were suggested at the K-5 level, particularly in the area of student safety at arrival and dismissal times.

It is important that every child is accounted for as they leave our charge at the end of the day and that they can board their buses safely. Therefore, new dismissal procedures have been put into place for K-5 students on our Route 6 campus. Parents have received detailed information from building principals about these new procedures, which will go into effect on September 6, 2005, the first day of school.

In order to have a safe and orderly dismissal, the roadway in back of the intermediate school will become a **ONE-WAY** road from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM any day school is in session. Please help us adhere to this new one-way designation if you are on campus during dismissal time.

If you have questions regarding the new dismissal procedures, please call Mrs. Lewis in the elementary school office (355-5270) or Mrs. Memmelaar in the intermediate school office (355-5250).

BUILDING PROJECTS UPDATE

The middle school addition and expansion project is proceeding on schedule. The cafeteria will be ready for student occupancy in September as promised. Classrooms and the music rooms above the cafeteria will also be ready for occupancy later in the fall. The main classroom addition, located in back of the existing middle school structure, will be ready for our students in September 2006.

We are in the design phase of the new elementary school in Otisville. When plans are complete, they will be sent to Albany for approval. We anticipate being able to occupy this new building in September 2008.

COME, JOIN US!

Board of education meetings are held on Thursday evenings at 8:00 PM in the board room located on the lower level of the intermediate school on the Route 6 campus. The meeting dates for the 2005-2006 school year are September 8 and 22, October 6 and 20, November 3 and 17, December 8 and 22, January 12 and 26, February 9 and 23, March 9 and 23, April 6 and 27, May 4 and 18, and June 1 and 15.

Beginning this year, official minutes of the meetings can be found on our web page (www.minisink.com) under the board of education drop-down menu. They will be posted after they have been approved by the board of education.



As part of our Golden Jubilee celebration, we will be holding our October 6, 2005 board meeting at the Old Slate Hill Schoolhouse on Mount Orange Road in Slate Hill. This will allow us to return to our roots and give the community a chance to visit this venerable building. Come, join us at 8:00 PM for this special meeting.

Minisink Turns...50

We'd like to thank everyone who helped make the Jubilee Weekend a success. The support from the community is greatly appreciated. If you haven't yet purchased the history book containing over 900 pictures and 400 pages, it is not too late!

Order your copy of Minisink's history by sending \$35 to MVSCD, Attn: Debbie Roda, PO Box 217, Slate Hill, NY 10973.

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Many are soon to feel opening day jitters as we head back to school on Tuesday, September 6, 2005. It will take a few weeks before familiarity sets in, but back-to-school anxieties will soon fade as our students settle into a routine. All of us in the Minisink Valley Central School District are looking forward to a great 2005-2006 school year. The board of education, administration, faculty, and staff all share in the excitement and hope that come with the start of a new year. Our job is to ensure that all of the students in this community are “maxing” their potential in a safe, nourishing environment that allows them to flourish.

As educators we are compelled to ask, “How good is good enough?” The answer is obvious. We will not be satisfied until 100% of the children and young people in our care meet or exceed New York State Learning Standards. Classroom instruction must be rigorous and relevant. Appropriate academic and support intervention services must be provided wherever necessary to ensure the success of all students. We will continue to offer our students a wide variety of athletic and extracurricular activities to help them lead healthy and engaging lives.

The strong alliances that Minisink Valley has formed with parents and the community at large sends a strong message to our children. Our commitment to their academic learning and character development will not waver. Our children will always know the value that we as adults place on their education. This partnership has provided a proud legacy here at Minisink Valley, one with vision and purpose that honors diversity, embraces creativity, celebrates accomplishment and values each and every child. Together, we share uncompromising expectations for excellence. Together, we positively affect the lives of our children and make our community a better place for all.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Martha Murray
Superintendent of Schools*

SCHOOL OPENS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

VISITORS

Visitors to each of our schools are asked to sign in at the greeter’s desk located in the lobby of each building. Beginning in September, you may be asked to show identification before you can proceed to conduct your business. Please understand that this extra security measure is being added for the safety of all of our children.

PARKING

When visiting our campus, please park in one of our lots and not along a road or driveway. For everyone’s safety, it’s important for emergency vehicles to be able to move freely around the campus.

SCHOOLS SCHEDULE OPEN HOUSES

Our schools will sponsor open houses early in the school year. These are interesting and informative evenings that give parents an opportunity to meet teachers and find out about school procedures and practices. Open houses are scheduled as follows:

Otisville Elementary	September 21
Minisink Elementary	September 21
Intermediate School	September 19
Middle School	September 28 & 29
High School	October 11

Scholarships and Awards June 2005

2004 American Legion Boys State Floyd Carter Post # 1079
Robert Yonskie
2004 American Legion Boys State George Smith Post #1607
Christopher Krogslund
2005 American Legion Boys State Floyd Carter Post #1079
AJ Nappo
2005 American Legion Girls State Floyd Carter Post #1079
Auxiliary Jena Zoll
2005 American Legion Boys State George Smith Post # 1607
Ryan McGrath
2005 American Legion Girls State George Smith Post #1607
Auxiliary Susan Corletta
Anita and Arthur Zimmerman Scholarship *Amanda McDowell*
Anthony Quinn Memorial Scholarship *Lisa Bogdanski*
Art Purchase Award *Matthew VanVorst*
Bausch and Lomb Award *Jon Tveit*
Bon Secour Hospital Scholarship *Kiersten Flynn*
Best Buy Scholarship *Christopher Krogslund*
Carrie Skinner Bogart Memorial Scholarship
Kimberly Radspinner
Charles Quick Scholarship *Adam Olinski, Briana Moore*
Community Blood Services Scholarship *Jonah Brock*
Daniel Schultz Memorial Scholarship *Thomas Frost*
DAR Good Citizen of the Year *Christopher Krogslund*
Dodd D. Wester Memorial Scholarship *Amanda McDowell*
Elliot Spitzer Triple C Award *Christopher Krogslund*
Eric Houghtaling Memorial Scholarship *Adam Olinski*
Excellence Awards-Grade 9 *Thomas Meagher, Juliette Lia*
Excellence Awards-Grade 10 *Nick Nappo, Matthew Graham, Andrea Faldermeyer, Lydia Mortenson*
Excellence Awards-Grade 11 *Laura Thelander, Nicole Hannon, AJ Nappo, Ben Myhren*
Fellenzer Engineering *Brendon Connor, Timothy Zoll*
George Smith Post #1607 Ray Giza Scholarship *Michael Weidel*
Greenville Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary *Brian Einsfeld, Matthew VanVorst, Thomas Frost*
Greenville VFW *Dustin Lynch, Jen Finnin, Kristina Tice, Briana Moore, Daniel Biondi, Thomas Frost, Tyler Caldwell, Michael Weidel*
Greenville Wawayanda Lions *Dawn Handler*
Girl Scouts of America *Yvette Furnia, Samantha Smith*
Half-Moon Post Card Club Scholarship *Steven Sudarto*
Homer S. Pace Business Award *Jena Zoll*
Howard Timko Memorial Scholarship *Michael Blake*
Howells Fire Company *Samantha Chadwick, Briana Moore, Christopher Krogslund*
Jacob E. Gunther III Environmental Scholarship *Brendon Connor*
James Adams Scholarship *Alicia Haelen*
John Phillip Sousa Award *Andrew Mattfeld*
Joseph Lynch Scholarship *Dustin Lynch, Christopher Krebs*
Kiwanis Hugh O'Brien Leadership Award *Andrea Faldermeyer*
Kiwanis HOBY Scott Retersdorf Memorial Essay Award
Andrea Faldermeyer
Kiwanis Key Club Scholarship *Danielle Trachtenberg*
Kiwanis Matt Kennedy Memorial Scholarship *Daniel Butterfield*
Kiwanis Scholarships *Kristine Fisher, Sarah Brigham, Christopher Krogslund, Vincent Useo, Terez Iacovino*
Kodak Young Leaders Award *Matthew Graham*
Kolmar Service to Society *Briana Moore*
Land of the Lenape Scholarship *Ashley Haelen*
Lawrence and Janet Richards Scholarship *Michelle Cauchard*
Louis Armstrong Award *Christopher Krogslund*
Louis Persico Memorial Scholarship *April Coppola*
Lt. Peter Freund Scholarship *Jeff Jackson*
UTI Scholarship *Edward Kohler*
Marion Nebus Memorial Scholarship for Journalism
William Sankey
Michael D. Flynn Memorial Scholarship for Creative Writing
Charlotte Gabrielson
Middletown BPW Scholarship *Terez Iacovino*
Minisink Hose Auxiliary *Yvette Furnia*

Minisink Hose Co #1 *Edward Kohler*
Minisink Soccer *Jacquelyn Howell*
Minisink Social Club *Amanda Fisher*
Minisink Valley School Store Scholarships *Alicia Haelen, Jason Fairweather*
Minisink Valley Student Council Scholarships *Brendon Connor, Michelle Cauchard, Tiffany Boyajian*
Minisink Valley Teachers Association Scholarships *Samantha Chadwick, Michael Blake, Jesse Fair, Ashley Culver, Patrick Lempka, Josephine LaBella, Christopher Krogslund, Michael Panko, Kiersten Flynn, Jenna Gillen, Briana Moore, Angela Coppola*
Miriam Kayton Memorial Scholarship *Brendon Connor, Andrew Mattfeld*
Middletown Rotary Golden Gear Scholarships *Elizabeth Karpinski, Anthony Falanga, Heather King, Christopher Howerter*
Middletown Teachers Association *Brian Farley*
NYS Correctional Officers and Benevolent Association
Robert Yonskie
NYS Lottery Scholarship *Terez Iacovino*
Otisville Alumni Honors Scholarships *Christopher Krogslund, Michael Panko, Michael Blake, Sarah Brigham, Charlotte Gabrielson, Michael Weidel, Jessie Fair, Kristin Frangione, Matthew VanVorst, Danielle Trachtenberg*
Orange Regional Medical Center Scholarship *Michael Weidel*
Otisville Alumni Association Anita and Arthur Zimmerman Scholarship *Amanda McDowell*
Orange County American Legion Scholarship *Robert Yonskie*
Otisville Lions Club *Josh Merlob, Brian Farley, Michelle Cauchard*
Otisville Mount Hope Democrats *Josephine LaBella*
Peter Farlekas Scholarship *Robert Yonskie, Matthew VanVorst*
Piermont Memorial Post #7462 VFW *Brendon Connor*
PTO Scholarships *Christopher Krogslund, Michael Panko, Kim Radspinner, Michael Blake, Bethany Cooper, Mickey Booth, Michelle Terbush*
Raffaello Lodge #2661 Order Sons of Italy in America *Terez Iacovino*
Rambarose LACA *Jenna Gillen*
Regents Scholarships *Christopher Krogslund, Michael Panko, Sarah Brigham, Michael Weidel, Danielle Trachtenberg, Charlotte Gabrielson, Stephen Cardinale, Daniel Butterfield, Michael Blake, Mickey Booth, Kristen Frangione, Stephanie Connolly, Ben Roshko, Ashley Culver*
Rensselaer Medal *Susan Barnes*
Rose Calak Memorial Music Scholarship *Andrew Mattfeld*
Rotary Golden Gear Scholarship *Heather King, Elizabeth Karpinski, Anthony Falanga, Christopher Howerter*
Rotary Leadership Award *Nick Nappo, Matt Graham, Mary Cauchard*
Rutgers Engine Company #1 Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship
Caitlin Hammeran
Rutgers Engine Company Dennis Murtaugh Scholarship
Shana Madura
Scholar Athlete Award *Amanda McDowell, Michael Blake*
Scott Aldrich Memorial Scholarship *Adam Olinski*
Tri-County Transportation Scholarship *Jill Goedegeburre*
University of Rochester Humanities Award *Susan Barnes*

A special thank you to all of the community organizations, private donors and school district personnel who contribute their time, effort and monetary donations so that our students can continue their education. We believe that those who benefit from the generosity of others learn the value of giving and will respond in kind.



**Minisink Valley High School
 Class of 2006**

MINISINK VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 217, Route 6, Slate Hill, NY 10973

August 2005

Dear Parents and Guardians of Minisink Valley Students:

New York State Education Law, Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification yearly to faculty, staff, and all persons in parental relation regarding the potential use of pesticides throughout the school year. Please be assured that we are committed to keeping the use of pesticides to a minimum.

The Minisink Valley Schools is required to maintain a list of all faculty, staff, and persons in parental relation who wish to receive 48-hour notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications and specified conditions are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- ◆ The school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- ◆ Anti-microbial products;
- ◆ Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper-resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children; silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- ◆ Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- ◆ The application of EPA designate biopesticides;
- ◆ The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- ◆ The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to provide written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your (child's) school, please complete the form below and return it to the pesticide representative for our schools, **Mr. William Blosser, Director of Buildings and Grounds, P.O. Box 217, Slate Hill, NY 10973.**

Minisink Valley Central School District
REQUEST FOR PESTICIDE APPLICATION NOTIFICATION
School Year 2005-06

Check where applicable:

MV Elementary Otisville Elementary Intermediate Middle School High School

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Work Phone Number: _____

e-mail address: _____

2005-2006 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September	1	Conference Day
	2	School Closed
	5	Labor Day
	6	First Day of School
October	4	Rosh Hashanah
	10	Columbus Day
	13	Yom Kippur
	21	1/2 Conference Day
November	8	Conference Day
	11	Veteran's Day
	18	1/2 Conference Day
	23	Conference Day
	24-25	Thanksgiving
December	2	1/2 Conference Day
	26-30	Winter Recess
	25	Christmas
January	2	Winter Recess (cont.)
	16	Dr. Martin Luther King Day
	24-27	Regents Exams (Tentative)
February	17-20	Presidents' Weekend
March	24	Conference Day
April	13-21	Spring Recess
	13	Passover
	16	Easter
May	29	Memorial Day
June	15 - 23	Regents Exams
	23	Last Day/HS Graduation

Visit us at
www.minisink.com

Early Dismissal Drill

The early dismissal drill is part of the county-wide Emergency Management Plan. It has been scheduled for Monday, October 3. Each of our school buildings will dismiss 15 minutes earlier on that day, and there will be no PM YMCA Club Kid Program. Our athletes must also leave campus, but can return later for practice. Coaches will provide team members with information on the afternoon schedule. We appreciate your help and cooperation, and ask that you make appropriate arrangements for the early arrival of your children.

Parent Teacher Organization

The Minisink Valley Parent Teacher Organization is a welcome partner in all of our schools. The PTO provides many opportunities for involvement in our schools and makes a positive difference for our students. The PTO welcomes your membership and participation. Look for information in the PTO and building newsletters as well as at the open houses in the fall. Sue Pavlick is the PTO President for the 2005 - 2006 school year.

YMCA Club Kid Program

The morning and afternoon childcare program is under the direction of the Middletown YMCA, a licensed daycare agency. The YMCA also provides this service in many neighboring districts.

Programs are offered, both before and after school, in our K-5 buildings and in the afternoon at the MS. Please stop by the YMCA at 81 Highland Avenue, Middletown, or call 343-1158 for more information. They will be happy to answer your questions.

School Tax Levy Information

The school tax levy is the share that the community contributes to support the school budget once state aid and other local revenues are deducted. The budget approved by voters last June represents an eight percent increase in spending over the prior school year. A significant portion of this increase, approximately one million dollars, is the permanent financing for the Middle/High School Addition and Improvements approved by the community in December 2003. This expense will be offset by additional state aid equal to nearly 95% of these costs. The balance of the budget increase reflects additional staffing, supplies and services for a growing student population and rises in pension, insurance and utility costs. The estimated average tax rate increase presented at the time of the budget vote was 7.5%. Based on assessment data provided to date, we project that the average tax rate increase will be slightly lower than estimated.

Once the school district establishes the final tax levy amount needed to meet our budget, state-established equalization rates must be applied to determine how the amount is dispersed among our six component townships. If the true market value of properties across the district changes *proportionally* from the prior year, then tax rate increases will affect each of our townships fairly equally. If, however, changes in market value *vary significantly* between townships, then some towns will carry a greater share of the increase, while other towns will receive tax rate changes that are less than the projected average.

School tax bills will be mailed at the beginning of September. The collection schedule is as follows:

Sept. 1-30	Can be paid in person or by mail
Oct. 1-Oct. 31	Can be paid in person or by mail (2% penalty added to bill)
Nov. 1-15	By mail only to: <i>Commissioner of Finance 124 Main Street Goshen, NY 10924</i>

Minisink Valley CSD

P.O. Box 217, Rte. 6
Slate Hill, NY 10973

Board of Education

John M. Lenane, *President*
Wayne Hawkins, *Vice President*
Tom Kiselak
Michelle McDonald
Shawn O'Connor
Gina Richichi
Michael Sauchuk
Tracy Sutura
Victor Vignola

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Martha Murray

How can we help?

Good communication between home, school and community is important, and we welcome and encourage your telephone calls. Our automated system means that you will be able to leave voice mail messages after hours. These will be retrieved and answered promptly.

For your convenience, hours and telephone numbers for our schools and offices are listed below:

Otisville Elem. School 355-5850	8am - 4pm
MV Elementary School 355-5270	8am - 4pm
MV Intermediate School 355-5250	8am - 4pm
MV Middle School 355-5200	7am - 3:30pm
MV High School 355-5150	7am - 4pm
Transportation 355-5140	7am - 4:30pm
Pupil Personnel 355-5105	8am - 4pm
Business Office 355-5120	8am - 4pm
Personnel Office 355-5810	8am - 4pm
Central Admin. 355-5110	8am - 4pm

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Middletown, NY
Permit No. 731

TO: Local Resident or Boxholder

Newsletter

Debbie Roda