



Minisink Valley CSD

We teach someone you love.

Orange County Heart Walk 2007

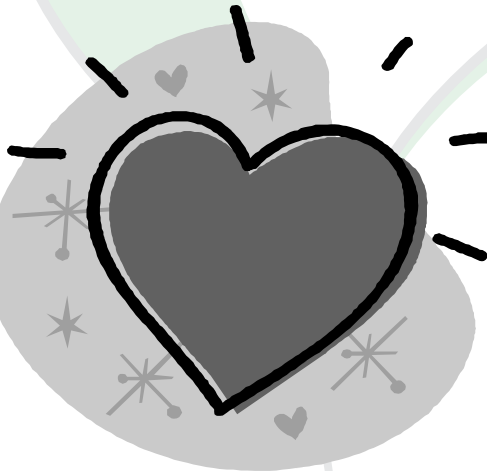
Minisink Valley Central School District is proud to host the **Orange County Heart Walk** on **Saturday, April 21, 2007**. The entire **three-mile walk** will take place on our Route 6 campus. **Registration** will start at **9:00 AM** in the high school gym with breakfast provided by Hannaford Supermarkets and coffee provided by Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. **Warm up and stretching** will take place at **9:45 AM** with **step off** at **10:00 AM**.

Each year, the Heart Walk is held in honor of a heart disease survivor who serves as an inspiration to those who participate. This year's **honoree** is **Jackie Lakeman**, a Minisink Valley Middle School teacher who has successfully battled heart disease for more than ten years. We are proud that Jackie is this year's honoree.

The 2007 Orange County Heart Walk will also **remember Jonathan George** who died in 2006 at the age of 23 from a massive heart attack triggered by an undiagnosed enlarged heart. Jonathan's story reminds all of us of the importance of research and education, a primary focus of the funds raised by the **American Heart Association**.



Please join us on **April 21, 2007** as we walk to raise money to **combat heart disease**. You can register that morning or online at orangeheartwalk.org. If you would like to form a team of walkers, please contact **Kitty Uhrig** at 355- 5248.



Saturday, April 21, 2007
Minisink Valley High School
9:45 AM warm-ups
10:00 AM step off
orangeheartwalk.org

Blather, Blarney, & Balderdash

Intermediate Drama Production

March 20 @ 7:00 PM

(snowdate 3/21)

Intermediate School
Auditorium



Cinderella

Middle School
Drama Production

March 29 & 30

@ 7:00 PM

Middle School
Auditorium



Into The Woods

High School

Drama Production

March 22, 23 & 24

@ 7:30 PM

March 24 @ 2:00 PM
High School Auditorium

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We are in the middle of our “budget season” – the time of year in which we put together a spending plan for the coming school year designed to meet the needs of our nearly 4700 students. In a series of budget development work sessions, the finance committee of the board of education met with principals and program directors to review their individual budgets. Board members must weigh each request against the responsibility they have as guardians of the public monies entrusted to their care. In some cases they have asked us to redirect our resources and/or redeploy our staff. We were pleased to see community members and faculty and staff members in attendance as board members went over the line items.

The draft budget which will result from this review process will be presented at a public meeting on Thursday, March 29, 2007 at 7:30 PM in the intermediate school auditorium. The community is encouraged to attend. The draft budget will be approved by the board of education in April and then put before the voters on May 15, 2007.

Less predictable is state aid, the primary revenue source to fund the provisions of this spending plan. While the governor’s proposed budget has funneled more money to education, Minisink Valley is one of 300 school districts in the state that will not see much of this increase. Governor Spitzer refers to us as one of the “hold harmless” school districts, meaning we won’t receive less aid than we did this year. We are considered an “average need” district. Our legislators have promised to work toward a more equitable distribution of the increased funds for education. We hope to have a clearer picture by April 1.

We face a dilemma of providing the quality education we know our community wants for its children with rising property taxes. This dilemma is being faced by over 700 school districts in New York State as we all develop budgets that our communities can support. We want to assure the Minisink Valley community that we embrace this challenge and will continue to work diligently to safeguard our educational system in the most cost effective way possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Martha Murray
Superintendent of Schools

NEW OTISVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



If you drive along Mount Hope Road, you’ll notice that work has begun on the new Otisville Elementary School. Even though winter has finally come to the valley, the general contractor continues to make progress. They are completing the curtain drain and have started the footings for the foundation. There are now carpenters, iron workers and masons on site.



Both the boys’ and girls’ basketball teams were awarded the Sportsmanship Award by the Orange County League basketball officials.

SAVE THE DATE
June 9, 2007



**2nd Annual
Senior Citizen's Prom
Saturday, June 9
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
high school cafeteria**

DJ, door prizes, hors
d'oeuvres, buffet dinner,
and lots of fun!

Tickets available through
the local senior citizen
groups or at the high
school. Ticket price is
\$10 per person.

Any questions, call Mrs.
Casmus at 355-5149.



HALL OF FAME NOMINEES

As an offshoot of the Golden Jubilee celebration, Minisink Valley created the High School Alumni Hall of Fame. Exemplary alumni may qualify for the Hall of Fame based on their accomplishments in the areas of academic/professional achievement, athletics and/or citizenship. The Hall of Fame committee would like to congratulate the following nominees:

Dr. Sam Bowser, Class of 1975

Maureen Halahan, Class of 1976

Father Tom Looney, Class of 1978

Mila Pavek, Class of 1988

Kenneth O'Connor, Class of 1994

The finalists will be honored at an induction brunch to be held on Sunday, April 29, at Catlin Creek in Slate Hill. Watch the website for more information.

HELP WANTED

Each year the parents of our juniors and seniors give our graduates an all night alcohol-free and drug-free party here on campus the night of graduation. We are looking for parents of juniors and sophomores who would be willing to step into a leadership role. We have many parent volunteers, but we're looking for parents who are willing to chair a committee. Procedures and checklists are in place and this year's parents are willing to serve as mentors. Please help us keep this tradition alive. Call this year's leaders Sue McIlroy at 355-2913, or Carol Murray at 355-1976.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

The board of education will present the draft budget for the 2007-2008 school year on Thursday, March 29, 2007 at 7:30 PM in the intermediate school auditorium. Community attendance is encouraged.

PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION

For more information on pesticide application to our fields, please visit our website at ww.minisink.com and click on the buildings and grounds section. Questions? Contact Mr. Bill Blosser at 355-5130.

TEENAGE SAFE DRIVER FORUM

Kiwanis' Safe Driving committee invites all parents, students, and community members to a program they have designed to help raise awareness of safe driving. There will be guest speakers, videos, and refreshments. Join Kiwanis on Wednesday, April 11, at 7:00 PM in the middle school auditorium. For more information or to ask questions, please contact Barbara Ewanciw at 856-7526.

MARCH CONFERENCE

-----DATE CHANGE-----

Due to changes in the scoring of the state math exams, the conference day originally scheduled for Monday, March 26, has been moved to Tuesday, March 27. There will be no classes for students on that day. Teachers will be scoring the exams for students in grades 3-8 who will be taking the state math exams in March.

Annual Budget Vote Information

Board of Education Information

Who may vote?

To vote, you must be a district resident for 30 days and U.S. Citizen - 18 years of age or older and must be registered for either a general election or a school board election.

How do I register?

At the district clerk's office, Minisink Valley Central School District, Route 6, Slate Hill, New York, until May 10, 2007, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on days when school is in session. Please provide proof of residency. Any questions, call 355-5115.

When is the vote?

Tuesday, May 15, Noon to 9:00 PM

Where do I vote?

Residents of District #1 (Towns of Greenville, Minisink and Wawayanda) Vote in the Intermediate School Gym A, Route 6 campus.

Residents of District #2 (Towns of Mount Hope, Mamakating and Wallkill) Vote in the Otisville Elementary School Gym.

Absentee ballots?

Applications may be obtained at the office of the school district clerk. Absentee ballots must be received by the district clerk no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on May 15, 2007.

Board of Education Elections

There will be three openings for the board of education, two seats for the expiring five-year terms of Wayne Hawkins and Tracy Sutera, and one unexpired seat caused by the resignation of Michael Sauchuk with the term to expire June 30, 2009. The election will be held on May 15, 2007. The hours are from Noon to 9:00 PM.

Petitions for nominating candidates for the office of member of the board of education must be filed with the clerk of the district by no later than 5:00 PM on April 16, 2007. Vacancies on the board of education are not considered separate, specific offices. Candidates run at large. Nominating petitions must be signed by qualified voters of the district, shall state the name and residence address of each signer and the name and residence address of the candidate. The petitions with information about disclosure of expenditures by board candidates are now available from the district clerk.

Board of Education Eligibility Requirements

- Must be able to read and write.
- Must be a qualified voter of the district. A member does not necessarily have to be a taxpayer, but must be a district resident for a period of at least one year prior to the election.
- No more than one family member of an immediate family may serve as a member of the board of education at one time.
- May not be a current employee of the district.
- May not simultaneously hold another incompatible public office.
- May not have been removed from any school district office within the preceding year.

Minisink Valley CSD

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

Board of Education

John M. Lenane, *President*, Wayne Hawkins, *Vice President*
David Dirks, Michelle McDonald, Shawn O'Connor, Gina Richichi, Joan Romanyschyn, Tracy Sutera, Victor Vignola

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Martha Murray

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Newsletter
Debbie Roda