

# METHUEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

### JANUARY 2018

#### UPCOMING DISTRICT-WIDE DATES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
<b><i>PLEASE SEE SCHOOL UPDATES BELOW FOR HAPPENINGS IN THEIR SCHOOLS</i></b>			
1/15	Schools closed	Martin Luther King Day	D-Wide
1/22	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Workshop	MHS-Media
2/12	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Business Meeting	MHS-Media

#### METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL, CLUB AND ACTIVITY UPDATES

*Submitted by Mr. Richard Barden, Principal*

Happy New Year and welcome back from winter break! I look forward to a year of health, happiness, and student success! In January we transition to second semester with the start of term three. It's an exciting time of year as MHS will be abuzz with the Science Fair and our school-wide Poetry Out Loud competition. Please take a moment to view our upcoming events. Your support of MHS students is greatly appreciated.

#### JROTC

##### *Drill Competition*

On Saturday the 2nd, around 40 cadets participated in the final Drill and Ceremony competition of the year in East Boston. Armed New Cadet earned 2nd place for this competition and 2nd place overall for the season. The annual Governor's Cup was awarded to Revere.

##### *Marksmanship and Physical Training Teams*

Marksmanship tryouts took place from Monday the 4th through Thursday the 14th. 42 cadets participated in tryouts. Results will be completed on Monday the 18th. The Physical Training (PT) Team has been practicing heavily throughout the final weeks of December, preparing for their competitions starting in January.

##### *Academic Team*

On Tuesday the 12th, the academic team, led by Cadet 1st Lt. Ursula Maina, received the results for JLAB phase one testing. The team will advance further into the competition. The Level II testing will take place in February of 2018 at MIT, with the hopes of advancing to the third and final level in Washington DC.

##### *Adopt a Vet*

On December 7th and 21st, cadets attended The Methuen Village and met with veterans to talk about their experiences in the JROTC program. Cadets spoke about their uniforms, various

teams, and mentorship. Cadet Sean Henrick has begun to organize January's dates. The program will continue in 2018.

### Mentorship

Cadets have attended the Tenney, Timony, and CGS grammar schools in Methuen to mentor students. Mentors share valuable experience with the students per weekly visit and assist the student with school work. Below, Cadet Frechette is shown with her mentee.



Left: Cadet Haley Frechette with her mentee at a chorus concert

Right: Unarmed Regulation Drill Team being commanded by Cadet Nicky Obando at East Boston High School.

### ADOPT-A-GRANDPARENT

Adopt-A-Grandparent continues to meet at the Methuen Senior Center each Wednesday afternoon. We always play lots of 45s, but also have been doing origami, playing ping pong and pool, as well as discussing old quotes and their relevance to people's lives today.

### MOCK TRIAL

The Mock Trial team will be scrimmaging Groton Dunstable on January 4th and then Lynn on the 16th. The first competition trial will be against Central Catholic on January 19th.

### BOOKS AND BAGELS

This month, Books and Bagels will meet to discuss Everything, Everything, by Nicola Yoon. We will also be distributing our next book, The Color Purple, by Alice Walker. We continue to welcome new members, and we have been very impressed by the fruitful discussions students are having about the books.

## **SCIENCE FAIR**

The Methuen High School Science Department would like to cordially invite you to the thirty-second annual Methuen High School Science Fair. The fair will be held Tuesday, January 30th from 8:00am to 10:30am and from 6:00pm to 7:00pm, with awards immediately following, in the Methuen High School cafeteria. Our students and faculty at Methuen High School thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you there.

## **SADD**

The SADD program will be working with students (15 of which were SADD members) who attended the Game Change violence prevention training. SADD is also holding 2 meetings this month and planning the activity of the month. The District-wide trip to Skateland has already been set for Friday, February 2nd.

## **OTHER NEWS**

MHS Grade 12 Scholarship Presentation

January 24, 2018

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM in the MHS Auditorium

MHS College Planning Presentation for Juniors

January 24, 2018

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM in the MHS Auditorium

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### ***JANUARY EVENTS***

- School Resumes - Tuesday, January 2, 2018
- Faculty Meeting - Monday, January 8, 2018
- Connections - Friday, January 12, 2018
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Schools Closed - Monday, January 15, 2018
- Second Term Ends - Friday, January 19, 2018
- Department Meetings - Monday, January 22, 2018
- Poetry Out Loud - Tuesday, January 23, 2018, and Wednesday, January 24, 2018
- Senior Scholarship Presentation - Wednesday, January 24, 2018
- Junior College Planning Presentation - Wednesday, January 24, 2018
- Connections - Thursday, January 25, 2018
- MHS Scholarship Information Breakfast - Thursday, January 25, 2018
- Science Fair - Tuesday, January 30, 2018

### ***FEBRUARY PLANNED EVENTS***

- Class Trip to Boston - Love Never Dies - Friday, February 2, 2018
- Faculty Meeting - Monday, February 5, 2018
- MCAS Biology Retest, Session 1 - Monday, February 5, 2018
- MCAS Biology Retest, Session 2 - Tuesday, February 6, 2018
- Poetry Out Loud Finals - Wednesday, February 7, 2018
- Quinceañera Ball - Friday, February 9, 2018
- Connections - Wednesday, February 14, 2018
- Early Release - Friday, February 16, 2018

- Winter Recess - Schools Closed - Monday, February 19, 2018, through Friday, February 23, 2018
- School Resumes - Monday, February 26, 2018
- Department Meetings - Monday, February 26, 2018
- MCAS ELA Retest, Composition Sessions A and B - Wednesday, February 28, 2018

### ***MARCH PLANNED EVENTS***

- MCAS ELA Retest, Reading Comprehension Sessions 1 and 2 - Thursday, March 1, 2018
- MCAS ELA Retest, Reading Comprehension Session 3 - Friday, March 2, 2018
- JROTC Military Ball - Friday, March 2, 2018
- Faculty Meeting - Monday, March 5, 2018
- MCAS Mathematics Retest, Session 1 - Monday, March 5, 2018
- MCAS Mathematics Retest, Session 2 - Tuesday, March 6, 2018
- Connections - Thursday, March 8, 2018
- DECA State Career Development Conference - Thursday, March 8, 2018, through Saturday, March 10, 2018
- Coffee House Performance - Saturday, March 10, 2018
- Best Buddies Fashion & Talent Show - Wednesday, March 14, 2018
- Connections - Monday, March 19, 2018
- Department Meetings - Monday, March 19, 2018
- Methuen Scholarship Foundation Telethon - Tuesday, March 20, 2018, through Thursday, March 22, 2018
- Early Release - Faculty Professional Development - Friday, March 23, 2018
- MCAS ELA Grade 10 Test, Composition Sessions A and B - Tuesday, March 27, 2018
- MCAS ELA Grade 10 Test, Reading Comprehension Sessions 1 and 2 - Wednesday, March 28, 2018
- MCAS ELA Grade 10 Test, Reading Comprehension Session 3 - Thursday, March 29, 2018
- Third Term Ends - Friday, March 30, 2018
- Good Friday - Schools Closed - Friday, March 30, 2018

Also, a complete list of MHS athletic events can be viewed by selecting the link [Athletics Calendar](#) on the MHS webpage.

### **COMPREHENSIVE GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES**

*Submitted by Mr. Christopher Reeve, Principal*

Happy New Year, CGS Families! It's Hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the school year. Things keep clipping along here at the CGS. Check out all that is happening in the month of January.....

#### **LOWER**

- Grade 2 Academic Night will take place on January 11th from 6:00- 7:30. During this time, teachers will share classroom science experiments, student work and other resources. Staff and students love the new science curriculum and all of the nifty explorations within it!
- Grades 3 and 4 will participate in the Jump Rope for Heart Kickoff which begins January 8th. This informative fundraiser (in conjunction with the American Heart Association) is a CGS favorite. Each year, a guest speaker educates the students on ways to be heart healthy. Our students really get moving during this fast-paced fundraiser!

- Throughout the month of January, CGS teachers will be reviewing school-wide PBIS expectations, reteaching where necessary. Students in grades PreK- 8 will be encouraged to continue to show their “B.E.S.T.” to make 2017- 2018 a great school year!!

### **UPPER**

- NJHS will have its induction ceremony on January 24th at 5:00 pm. There will be two rehearsals for the induction. One on January 18th from 2:30-3:30, and the other on January 23rd from 2:30-3:30.
- We will have a Continental Math League meet on the 17th for grades 5-8.
- Our first Academic Bowl Meet will be held on January 25th from 3:00-5:00.
- Grades 5-8 will have the “Hands Across America” presentation on January 19th.

Though it is only January, we are beginning preparations for MCAS testing already. Please be reminded that all students’ grades 3-8 will take the MCAS online this year. A schedule for testing will be sent home soon, but the ELA test session window begins on April 2nd!

### **MARSH GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES**

*Submitted by Ms. Mary Jean Fawcett, Acting Principal*

Happy New Year from the Marsh Grammar School!

The Marsh Lower School held a very successful food drive to benefit Neighbors in Need on December 21st. Over 1,000 food items were collected/donated by students and picked up by volunteers the Friday before winter break. The students were delighted to help out families in need during the holiday season! Ms. Witkum’s class had the most contributions with over 200 items.

The Media Center held its annual book fair from December 7-15. Many thanks to all the volunteers.

The Upper School Chorus concert was held on December 12th and the Band Concert was held on December 18th. Both events were very well attended. Many thanks to both Mr. Ohannessian and Ms. Veilleux and their students for providing two wonderful evenings of entertainment.

Coming up in January, the Ski Club and Bowling Club will be starting up. The Academic Bowl Team will have its first meet at the CGS on January 25th from 3:00pm-5:00pm.

The PTO will be holding its Annual Italian Dinner Night on January 19th from 5:30-7:30. Upper school students will be serving at this event.

Finally, Marsh Grammar School student, Kaitlyn Tierney has been invited to attend the Project 351 Launch Day celebration as this year’s 8th grade ambassador from Methuen. We look forward to hearing from Kaitlyn when she returns from the event.

## TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

*Submitted by Ms. Mary Beth Donovan, Principal*

We closed 2017 with opportunity to learn, grow and support one another. We celebrated together, too. Here is a quick look at some of the Tenney happenings that closed out 2017:

- **Our Giving Tree** project which has been organized for several years by teacher Dawn Patterson supported 100 Tenney families. Staff and students “adopted” families who needed some extra help during the holiday season.
- The **Fourth Annual Light the Night** brought about 400 folks to our campus. We illuminated the giant tree at our Upper School entrance and then invited everyone inside to tour their students’ classrooms and pick out a book to take home, courtesy of our Tenney staff. Our fabulous PTO sponsors this event every year.
- We hosted assemblies to recognize our students in December and celebrate the holidays. Upper School students and staff faced off in an epic trivia contest. Each grade of our lower school staff took a turn with a performance. We were happy to see so many parents in attendance.
- Our Lower School students kindergarten team joined forces with staff at the **Nevins Memorial Library** to introduce some of our younger students to library services and get their library cards. Some of our seventh grade students are participating in a book club hosted by Young Adult Librarian Amy Fowler who also coordinates our Tenney Rocks the Nevins Summer Program. We love our partnership with the library.
- Our second grade team welcomed parents to a **Eureka Math Open House**.
- **Our Girls on the Run**, led by teacher Sarah Hudon completing a 5k race.
- Teacher parents conferences were well- attended.
- Our staff hosted a variety of events for the adults in our Tenney family, including a kissing ball -making craft night, ugly sweater day and a special treats luncheon.

The New Year is shaping up to be a busy one. Upcoming events include:

**January 9:** Upper School Geography Bee

**January 17:** PTO meeting, 7 pm, staff room

**January 19:** Corey The Dribbler meets with 5th & 6th graders The former Harlem Globetrotter and Guinness Book record holder will talk about respect, the value of education and anti-bullying.

## TIMONY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

*Submitted by Mr. Timothy Miller, Principal*

The Timony School is back in full swing as we quickly move toward the end of the second trimester and MCAS. The Timony team continues to work collaboratively to improve our performance as well as give our students an education that provides them a great opportunity for future success.

During December we had a number of exciting events including an outstanding band concert, a successful book fair that raised money for both the media center and the PTO, and the annual Evening with Santa that brought out many of the Timony School Community. Please check our website to see pictures from these events and to see what’s coming soon.

In the first week of January we will be holding honor roll assemblies for the first semester to celebrate those students who worked hard and did well on their report cards. It is important to recognize this success in front of their peers. Our chorus will be performing on the evening of January 11 and our students will be treated to 'Corey the Dribbler' on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Although New England seems to be stuck in the deep freeze things are heating up at the Timony. We are all excited about the hard work and success stories to come in the next six months. Happy New Year!

**Methuen High School students who worked on improving mental health services won the award for Collaboration and Diversity at Massachusetts Civics Day!**

