

METHUEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE, 2015

UPCOMING DISTRICT-WIDE DATES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
June 10	Early Release Day	K-11 Professional Development Day
June 23	Full Day of Classes	Kindergarten's Last Day of School
June 26	Early Release Day	Grades 1-11 Last Day of School

METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL, CLUB AND ACTIVITY UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. James Giuca, Principal

Best Buddies has much to be excited about this month! The Chapter President, Lauren Arsenault, has been recognized as Chapter President of the Year throughout the state of Massachusetts. Lauren has been the Methuen High School Chapter President for the past two years and has done an outstanding job in establishing lasting friendships, planning fun activities and events, and collaborating with club officers. The organization hosted a Tom Brady Kickoff at Harvard Stadium on May 29th. All members were invited to attend the kickoff event and tailgate party the organization hosts to rally before the weekend long annual marathon fundraiser held in Hyannis, MA. The chapter is looking ahead and welcomes our new Chapter President, Danielle Fortier and Vice President, Taylor Trussell.

The **National Honor Society** Students we had two service opportunities set up for students for students to get involved. One was the flag replacement at the cemetery for Memorial Day and the second was Relay for Life.

The **DECA** club is gearing up for next year. We will have an informational meeting next week to try and stir up some interest. The goal of the program is to get students to qualify for the International Conference. We had one student go to the ICDC this past year and as an incoming senior she is going to help lead the DECA program next year.

After a great Senior Prom at Atkinson Country Club, the **senior class** is about to begin its end of the year activities before the 2015 graduation. Last week we had the senior breakfast and senior class day. Senior week begins with Honors and Awards night and then the rest of the week consists of the senior class trips and the class BBQ. The seniors are excited for their graduation from the Tsongas Arena on Saturday.

Adopt-A-Grandparent is winding down this year. With only two meetings left, they are saying goodbye to the seniors and looking forward to next year. One of our highlights every May and

June is seeing all of the Methuen High School graduates coming back to spend time with their senior citizen friends. Seeing former students coming back on their own accord is one of the ways we know our program is successful in building lifelong friendships.

Video Club members are in the process of editing the second episode of "Music Now." They're also producing station identification videos for the upcoming launch of our school channel, to be aired over summer break; building a "behind the scenes at the club" slideshow; and creating Adobe After Effects logos.

MHS SENIOR WEEK EVENTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
June 1, 2015	6:00 p.m.	Senior Awards Assembly	MHS Auditorium
June 2, 2015	8:00 a.m.	Senior Field Trip to Six Flags	Agawam, MA
June 3, 2015	8:00 a.m.	Senior Field Trip to Loon Mtn.	Lincoln, NH
June 4, 2015	11:00 a.m.	Senior BBQ	MHS Tennis Courts
June 5, 2015	9:00 a.m.	Graduation Practice	Tsongas Arena, Lowell, MA
June 6, 2015	10:00 a.m.	Graduation	Tsongas Arena, Lowell, MA

COMPREHENSIVE GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Christopher Reeve, Principal

LOWER

- The 3rd and 4th grade students were excited to perform their chorus and recorder concerts last week. The students can still be overheard practicing their contemporary tunes in the halls. They were great!
- The first ever CGS "Special Someone" dance was a successful and enjoyable fundraiser. This fundraiser provided an opportunity for CGS K-4 students to attend a dance with an adult who was meaningful to them. Because of all the positive feedback, we plan to make this event an annual fundraiser. Proceeds from the event added to the CGS donation to the Relay for Life. We are so proud to have been a top donor at the relay this year!
- June is a very busy month! Here are a few happenings:
- Upper and Lower school students will perform in the CGS' rendition of the play, *Into the Woods*. This has been quite an undertaking. We are looking forward to seeing all of the hard work come together on opening night!
- The Nevins library staff will deliver grade level workshops to inspire our students to continue reading during the summer. We are thankful to have this community partner.
- 4th grade students will complete their discoveries of prey/predator relationships by attending an in-school presentation on *Birds of Prey*.
- The Lower School end of the year picnic and talent show are scheduled for the last week of June. This is a great opportunity for our 4th grade students to make games for their younger peers.
- One of the 4th grade teachers (Ms. Licciardi), who happens to be a beekeeper, will demonstrate the delicate process of caring for these important insects to the grade level. Live bees will not be used in the demonstration.

UPPER

1. "Did you Know...?" – Science facts during morning announcements
2. Student of the Month and Character Award Assembly – May 1st
3. Eighth Grade End of the Year Celebration Package out – May 1st
4. National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony – May 7th

5. GLEC Academic Bowl – Leadership Summit – Joshua Kumm & Danielle Nadira – May 18th
6. Band Concert – May 27th
7. Drama Club Performance – June 5th
8. Family Fitness Night – June 4
9. School Picnic & Talent Show – June 24th
10. Grade 8 Final Assembly – June 25th

MARSH GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Stephen Sierpina, Principal

LOWER

- June 2—PTO Final Meeting of the School Year—Elections
June 3, 4-6 PM—Reception for Marsh Grammar School Retirees @ Jules by the Water
June 12, 9:30 AM—Grade 4 Annual Concert (part of music curriculum)
Week of June 15-19—Grade 3 Recorder Concerts (during music period at the end of the day)
June 16—Upper School Associate meets with Grade 4 in Auditorium
June 17—Kindergarten Field Trip
June 18—Grade 1 “Fancy Nancy” Day
June 18—Grade 4 to Methuen Music Hall
June 19—Grade 1 Field Trip
June 19—Grade 4 “Someone Special” Dance
June 22—Grade 4 Field Trip to State House in Boston
June 23—Grade 3 Field Trip to Odiorne State Park, NH
June 25—Lower School Fun Day
June 26—Move-Up Day (1/2 day)

UPPER

- May 28--7th/8th grade Band/Chorus Concert
June 4—5th/6th grade Band/Chorus Concert
June 11—LipSync Contest
June 16—20+ Book Club Trip
June 19—8th grade trip, Spirit of Boston Cruise
June 22—8th grade trip, Altitude Trampoline Park
June 23—8th grade trip, Canobie Lake Park
June 24—Upper School Fun Day
June 25—Final Assembly and Class Party

TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Ms. Mary Beth Donovan, Interim Principal

- We **had 100 percent participation** on all parts of the MCAS test. That means every child identified as being able to take the test sat for all parts. All members of the Tenney family played a big role in this effort, starting with our youngest students who sent good luck notes and lucky pennies to the older kids, the cafe staff who cheered the students as they picked up the breakfast bags, our PTO for providing a supplemental breakfast for all students, our parents who *really* went out of their way to get kids to school, and our students, who worked hard.

- Our Show What You Know MCAS initiative, which recognizes students who showed academic responsibility and commitment wrapped up with recognition of the students who received tickets for their efforts and a giant raffle drawing.
- Twenty-five students were inducted into the Junior National Honor Society this month. Methuen High top scholar and Tenney graduate Shane Godek was the guest speaker.
- Tenney students in Grades 4-7 created a Relay for Life with a brief march on school grounds and an outdoor assembly. Students carried decorated purple ribbons and from them created a giant ribbon on the Tenney front lawn. Teacher Bill Borelli spoke of family's journey with cancer and students pledged to be part of the cure.
- Emily McCormack, the Tenney 8th grader who represents all of Methuen in Project 351, a state-wide initiative that teaches 8th graders about the power and responsibility of leadership, participated in a weekend training with the group. Project 351 has done volunteer work with the Martin Richards Foundation which honors the youngest Boston Marathon bombing victim. Emily presented \$500 to the Foundation, all donated by Tenney students.
- On Sunday June 7, 50 Tenney girls are set to participate in their first 5k race, the Krit Classic in Andover. They are members of Girls on the Run, a program designed to teach girls self-worth and promote physical wellness. Tenney staff plan to line the route to cheer them on.
- Fifth and sixth grade students are participating in an after school Play and Read program. Local author Jay Atkinson has volunteered his time for sessions twice a week.
- Our musical *Guys and Dolls* and the Spring Band Concert were both heavily attended.
- The Grade 6th teachers and their students invited their families to a Hobby Fair after hours on June 4. Students created visual presentations on their after-school interests.

Coming up:

June 9: Grade 5 Invention Convention, 4 to 6 pm

June 18: Grade 4 Signing a Commitment for Success ceremony, 1 pm

TIMONY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Timothy Miller, Principal

The Timony Grammar School has been a very busy place. We have hosted two nights for parents that focused on math and MCAS. We had parents in for Family Literacy Night in conjunction with Breadloaf with parents and students responding to writing prompts and then sharing via open mic. The Spring Social featured Orange Leaf frozen yogurt, raffles, and our annual Book Fair. The drama club put on the phenomenal play *Legally Blond Junior*, what a hoot!

Of course we have worked diligently on MCAS assessments and we look forward to the end of the year benchmark assessments in order to measure our success this last trimester. Students have responded very seriously to the assessments and have put in their best effort.

Looking towards June and the end of the school year, we have several SOAR rewards being earned as part of PBIS and developed through the hard work of the PBIS team. The 8th grade will be participating in field trips that include Canobie Lake Park, Spirit of Boston, Mel's Funway, and Chunkie's. There have been several fundraising opportunities for the students to offset the costs of these trips. Final Assembly for 8th grade will take place on June 15th at 5:00 in the gymnasium.

The Junior National Honor Society had a food drive to support our food bank for Timony families through the backpack distributions on Fridays. The food bank will be available in the summer for families who are willing to come to school to pick it up. The Student Council is sponsoring a Pasta Supper on June 11th to bring families in for some food and sharing, this is a Timony tradition.

As the year winds to a close, we want to thank all of the educators, families and community members who have participated in all of the after school events. We appreciate the opportunity to showcase our students and their work.

SADD UPDATE

METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL and CGS

End of Year meeting scheduled:

June 16th High School

June 11th CGS

Initial membership was approximately 75 students. By the end of the school year we had 30 students. Throughout the school year, we lose students to band, sports and various other activities. I think that we need to do a better job communicating that coaches and staff support this group. Otherwise, we had a lot of fun this year taking trips and attending activities. It would be helpful to have more money to rent buses and take the students to conferences, etc. Perhaps more fundraising next year would help with that issue. I would also like to see more meeting time and activities among the groups, especially the middle school advisors.

2014/2015 for both schools:

- ❖ Red Ribbon Week Activities
- ❖ Festival of Trees/Decoration making
- ❖ Santa Parade
- ❖ Black out Bullying/Dress bright for what's right
- ❖ Bowling
- ❖ Skate Land field trip
- ❖ Relay for Life Participation
- ❖ After school parties(CGS only)

2015/2016:

- ❖ Red Ribbon Week
- ❖ Festival of trees
- ❖ Santa Parade
- ❖ Black out Bullying
- ❖ Kick Butts Day (CGS)
- ❖ Field trip to Skateland
- ❖ Relay for Life Team

MARSH

- Monthly meetings (discussed various teen issues)
- Haunted Hayride
- Santa Parade
- Bowling Field Trip
- Marsh Grade 8 Play (attended as a group)
- Skateland Field Trip
- *Dress Bright for What Is Right!* (Made motivational post-its for every upper school locker and made a poster for every classroom door.)
- Fundraiser for MHS Relay for Life

TENNEY

The end of the year had the Tenney SADD students helping Girls on the Run and our Project 351 rep creating our awareness ribbon in honor of Relay for Life. Students decorated ribbons in memory of loved ones lost to cancer and walked a silent lap around the Tenney campus. Their ribbons were added together in the shape of a ribbon on the front lawn where over 800 students listened to the story from a guest speaker, shared a moment of silence and marched back in to music reminding them to be heroes in the fight against cancer.

I am trying to organize "drug free fun" along with Girls on Track for grades 5-7 fun day which would include lawn games and teambuilding games run by SADD students.

TIMONY

End of Year Meeting: June 11, 2015.

Initial membership was approximately 40 students. I did lose several students to drama toward the end of the year but I anticipate those students will return for the last meeting. The number of 7th graders greatly exceeded the number of 8th graders during this past year. I anticipate that many will return in the fall. I hope that SADD advisors can do more networking and combined activities next year.

2014-15 events:

- Red Ribbon Week
- Ornament making for Festival of Trees
- Santa Parade
- Black out Bullying
- Kick Butts
- Field trip to Skateland

Plans for next year include

- Red Ribbon Week
- Ornament making for Festival of Trees
- Santa Parade
- Black out Bullying
- Kick Butts
- Field trip to Skateland
- Additional field trips (possibly bowling)
- Stride into the Light 5K walk/run to benefit people suffering from depression (if students walk, we will have to do some fundraising for this since the registration fee is \$35 per person)