

## METHUEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



### SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

#### MARCH 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>			
3/14	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Budget Workshop	MHS-Media
3/20	5:30-7:30 p.m.	SNOW date for the 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> gr Academic Bowl Meet	Timony

***Tuesday, March 20, 2018, and Wednesday, March 21, 2018  
Methuen Scholarship Foundation Telethon  
6-9 p.m. MHS Auditorium***

3/21	6:00 p.m.	Parent Informational Budget Presentation	Timony Aud.
3/26	6:30 p.m.	Public Participation/Budget Adoption/Workshop	MHS-Media
3/23	Early Release Day – K-12 (K-8 Parent Conf and 9-12 P.D. Day)		D-Wide
3/28	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Education Law Workshop	MHS-Media
3/29	Early Release Day – K-8 P.D. Day (9-12 FULL Day)		D-Wide
3/30	All Buildings Closed – Good Friday		D-Wide
4/9	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Business Meeting	MHS-Media

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

*Submitted by Mr. Richard Barden, Principal*

March comes in like a lion with our jam-packed schedule of events and activities starting with students representing MHS at the DECA State Career Development Conference Thursday, March 8 to Saturday, March 10 at the Boston Marriott Copley. The talents of MHS students will also be displayed at the Methuen Scholarship Foundation Telethon on the evenings of Tuesday, March 20 and Wednesday, March 21, airing on Verizon channel 31 and Comcast channel 99. I encourage you to tune in and support our graduating seniors by pledging a donation toward the Scholarship Foundation. Throughout the month our Grade 10 students and teachers will focus on preparing for the MCAS ELA test which will be administered on Tuesday, March 27 through Thursday, March 29. In addition to in-class review activities, testing students will also be provided the opportunity attend after-school review sessions orchestrated by the English Department from Monday, March 19 through Thursday, March 22 from 2-3 p.m. I look forward to seeing our students shine as we close out the third term at the end of the month.

#### **Adopt-A-Grandparent**

Adopt-A-Grandparent continues to meet at the senior center each Wednesday to play 45's, other card games, ping pong, and pool. Our "Senior" Prom has been scheduled for early May at the senior center. We also taped a segment on Methuen Public Television in which we describe the program and encourage senior citizens to sign up.

### **The History Honor Society**

The History Honor Society is selecting officers for the 2018-2019 school year. After elections, the newly formed organization will be focusing its efforts on voter registration for high school students.

### **MHS mock**

MHS mock Trial finished out the season in spectacular fashion. The team competed in the preliminary playoff round of 32 for the second time in three years at Clark University. MHS beat Durfee to move on to the sweet sixteen round. Unfortunately, the Mock trial team lost to Malden Catholic in the afternoon competition and was bounced from playoff. But as a whole the MHS Mock trial team had another successful year.

### **Photo Club**

During the month of February, students in the Photo Club explored street photography, and taking pictures in low-light (night photography). We looked at the work of the Hungarian photographer Brassai; American photographer Arthur Fellig (aka Weegee); and German photographer Rut Blees Luxemburg. Students then used their personal cameras to take pictures at home and around their neighborhoods at night.

### **Sophomore Class**

The Sophomore Class will be having a fundraiser at Fuddrucker's in Methuen for some great food and raffle prizes on Tuesday, March 13th. The fundraiser will be from 5-8 and 20% of your meal purchase will be donated to the class of 2020.

### **Books and Bagels**

On March 22nd, we will meet to discuss our current book, *The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas. We will also be distributing our next book, *Me & Earl & the Dying Girl*, by Jesse Andrews. On April 2nd, we will be taking a field trip to hear Angie Thomas speak about her book at Framingham State University.

### **Stage Door 22 DRAMA CLUB**

DRAMAFEST - Stage Door 22 had an outstanding showing at the state wide DramaFest on Saturday March 3rd. The statewide competition has over 2000 students/125 schools involved. MHS was one of 8 performances on Saturday at Chelmsford High School (our host school.)

The competition benefited students in a number of ways including watching 7 other schools perform. Students were able to evaluate and analyze other performances as well as receive constructive feedback on their own performance from judges and other schools. Students were especially excited to meet other high school drama kids and discuss "all things theatre!" The day ended with a pizza party, dance party and karaoke. A very long day.. but a lot of fun!

We are hoping to perform *TRACKS* next Thursday March 15 at the High School (Students are just checking schedules to see if this is possible). We have been having trouble finding an open date to perform but the LipSync battle was just cancelled for this day.

"HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS Without Really Trying" - We are currently in rehearsals and getting ready for our performances of "How To Succeed" which will be Thurs April 5, Sat

April 7 @ 7pm and Sun April 8 @ 3pm as well as Thursday, April 12 and Fri April 13 @ 7pm. Student leaders have also been coordinating publicity, costumes and set design. We have approximately 55 kids in the cast and an additional 15 on crew.

SD22 is also considering two Spring Projects which include:

Visits to the Middle School and/or Elementary Schools - In an effort to inspire some of our younger actors SD22 is brainstorming after school visits/workshops to the middle and elementary school drama clubs. High School students (under the direction of Mrs. Walsh) would lead an acting workshop/class including theatre games and acting activities to introduce kids to SD22 and the world of drama and musical theatre.

Possible Spring Project - The students are currently "brainstorming" a possible Spring project that would include an evening of scenes and monologues. Scenes would be chosen from many different genres and highlight the many talents of all our students.

Please review the events listed below which are subject to change:

Events planned for March:

- Grade 8 Parent Night - Program of Studies - Tuesday, March 13, 2018
- Best Buddies Fashion & Talent Show - Wednesday, March 14, 2018
- Lip Sync Battle - Thursday, March 15, 2018
- Connections - Monday, March 19, 2018
- Department Meetings - Monday, March 19, 2018
- Young Women Career Day - 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
- Winter Athletic Awards Night - Tuesday, March 27, 2018
- MCAS ELA Grade 10 Test, Reading Comprehension Sessions 1 and 2 - Wednesday, March 28, 2018
- District Band Jamboree - 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

Events planned for April:

- Northeast Regional GSA Meeting - Tuesday, April 3, 2018
- MHS Theater Presents *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* - Thursday, April 5, Saturday, April 7, Sunday, April 8, Thursday, April 12, & Friday, April 13, 2018
- Student Government Day in Boston - Friday, April 6, 2018
- Junior Prom at DiBurro's in Haverhill - Friday, April 6, 2018
- Faculty Meeting - Monday, April 9, 2018
- Connections - Thursday, April 12, 2018
- Boston National College Fair - Thursday, April 12, 2018
- Credit for Life Fair - Friday, April 13, 2018
- Early Release - Friday, April 13, 2018

- Spring Recess - Schools Closed - Monday, April 16, 2018, through Friday, April 20, 2018
- School Resumes - Monday, April 23, 2018
- Department Meetings - Monday, April 23, 2018

Events planned for May:

- MHS Spring Choral Concert - Thursday, May 3, 2018
- Connections - Friday, May 4, 2018
- SAT Administration - Saturday, May 5, 2018
- AP Exams - Monday, May 7, 2018, through Friday, May 18, 2018
- Faculty Meeting - Monday, May 7, 2018
- District-wide Art Show at Nevins Memorial Library - Wednesday, May 9, 2018
- MHS Spring Band Concert Featuring Dirty Hands Ink - Saturday, May 12, 2018
- Connections - Friday, May 18, 2018
- JROTC Pass in Review & Awards Ceremony - Friday, May 18, 2018
- Senior Class Trip to Six Flags - Friday, May 18, 2018
- Methuen High School - Searles - Tenney Hall of Fame Dinner & Induction Ceremony at DiBurro's in Haverhill - Friday, May 18, 2018
- Relay for Life of Methuen - Saturday, May 19, 2018
- Senior Class Pre-Prom Assembly - Monday, May 21, 2018
- Department Meetings - Monday, May 21, 2018
- Senior Class Breakfast - Tuesday, May 22, 2018
- MHS Honors & Awards Night - Wednesday, May 22, 2018
- MCAS Mathematics Grade 10 Test, Session 1 - Wednesday, May 23, 2018
- District Jazz Concert - Wednesday, May 23, 2018
- MCAS Mathematics Grade 10 Test, Session 2 - Thursday, May 24, 2018
- Senior Prom at Atkinson Country Club in Atkinson, NH - Thursday, May 24, 2018
- Early Release - Faculty Professional Development - Friday, May 25, 2018
- Memorial Day - School Closed - Monday, May 28, 2018
- Senior Class Trip to Loon Mountain - Tuesday, May 29, 2018
- Commencement Practice & Senior Class Cookout - Thursday, May 31, 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*

### **LOWER**

- There are many PTO sponsored events this month. These important events will provide our families, staff and students an opportunity to interact and help to raise funds for student activities.

#### **Events include:**

- March 9th: Dining Out Night at Fuddruckers from 5-8
- March 16th: Family Bingo Night 5:30- 8:30
- March 23rd: Upper School Movie Night

- The 1st grade team will facilitate a family writing opportunity on March 15th from 3:30-4:15. It will be a great time to for students to share authentic writing pieces! Families can engage in writing activities and observe the growth our writers have made!
- Report cards will be issued on March 21st. Parent conferences are scheduled to occur on March 23rd.

## **UPPER**

The following events are happening at the CGS Upper School during the month of March:

- March 2-Google Virtual Reality Expedition for Grades 7 and 8
- March 7-Upper School Bowling League begins
- March 7-Upper School Academic Bowl hosted at the Timony School
- March 9-PTO Fuddruckers Dine Out Night
- March 14-Quarrybrok Grade 7
- March 16-CGS Family Bingo Night
- March 19-March 23-Upper School Spirit Week
- March 23-Upper School Movie Night

## **MARSH GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES**

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

At the end of February Kathy Moran-Wallace from Nevins Library came into the school for several days to present a story walk of the book, *Snowy Day*, by Ezra Jack Keats to our kindergarten students. Follow-up activities were also designed and completed with the students at the end of the story walk. The teachers and student really enjoyed the interactive nature of the project and are looking forward to additional story walks coordinated by the Nevins Library.

March is shaping up to be a busy month at the Marsh Grammar School. Read Across America was held on Thursday morning, March 1st, for students in pre-kindergarten through grade 5. Angela Kalivas, a PTO member, did a great job of coordinating the opportunity for community members to come in and read to students.

The Marsh PBIS team has organized “Marsh Madness.” Students and staff are very excited about the event with the focus on “Safety, Respect and Responsibility”.

Class pictures are scheduled to be taken on Friday, March 9th for all students.

The PTO Student Appreciation Bingo will be held on March 9th at the school. The PTO has also planned an Adult Music Bingo fundraiser for March 31st at the Sons of Italy from 7:00-11:00 p.m.

Finally, trimester 2 ends on March 9th. Report cards will be sent home on March 21st. Teachers are in the process of scheduling parent conferences on March 23rd.

## **TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES**

*Submitted by Ms. Mary Beth Donovan, Principal*

February was a short month filled with learning at the Tenney! We:

- Celebrated our second annual Kindness Week. Each day featured something different and gave students and opportunity to contribute a bit of goodness to our school and community. Students said thank you to our community heroes, dressing up as first responders. We wrote

Valentines to our school, donated to the food pantry, passed out carnations and our students kept track of the good they did.

- The 30th annual Mama Tenney Dinner drew 200 guests for a night of pasta, community and fun. Our Peer Leaders and Student Council members served up the food, about 20 staff members plated the food and our friends at Stachey's donated all the food. Families of active and past military members were honored and after enjoying the meal, guests visited the Wall of Honor. The wall features pictures of our Tenney family who serve in the military.
- Marked 100 days of school. Kindergarten students created special shirts and posters decorated with 100 items, continued to 100 and walked a red carpet. Some of our older students and their teachers dressed as their future 100-year old selves.
- Enjoyed our new lower school gym floor. The floor features lines for track and of course, our Tenney tiger logo. We are so lucky to have the support of Ranger Club.

Coming up:

March 6: Meteorologist Pam Gardner meets with Grade 3.

March 7: Academic Bowl, Timony Grammar School, 5:30 pm

March 8: Mr. Bolduc, Mrs. Barnhart, Mrs. Peluso hosts an evening of Eureka Math and Newela for their Grade 5 parents, 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

March 8: PTO Meeting, 7 pm.

March 28 : Class photos,

### ***MCAS Dates English/Language Arts***

April 3, 4: Grades 3 and

April 5, 6: Grades 7 and 8

April 10, 11: Grades 5 and 6

*April 16-21 April vacation*

### ***Math***

May 1, 2: Grades 5 and 6

May 3, 4: Grades 7 and 8

May 8, 9: Grades 3 and 4

### ***Science***

May 16-17: Grades 5 and 8

## **TIMONY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES**

*Submitted by Mr. Timothy Miller, Principal*

The Timony has had a very eventful February and anticipate an exciting March. The Grade 2 Team and Miss Max, the art teacher, organized an art project on the walls of the Grade 2 hallways. Students and teachers create colorful tress using their handprints. Grade two also invited families into classrooms take a tour of the various habitats/ecosystems through the animal research projects of their children. Grade 3 will be hosting Barry Burbank in March. Our own Gian Gomez proudly represented the Timony Grade 4 students by leading the School Committee Meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Lower School will be celebrating “Sunshine Day” through wearing yellow on March 20<sup>th</sup> and is making plans for Autism Awareness Month and Poetry Month in April.

The Upper School students are preparing for the upcoming school play. It will be exciting to see the play in our newly remodeled auditorium. The Student Council hosted a school dance for grades 5 &6 and 7 & 8. In addition,

As a community, the Timony staff and students continue to embrace PBIS. Students are excited to earn SOAR Bucks to purchase a variety of items from the Prize carts. We also celebrate our staff with Pop-Up events such as Super Bowl Friday, Fat Tuesday and an upcoming Pi Day event.