

## METHUEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



### SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

#### MAY, 2017

#### 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>			
May 10	7 p.m.	DistrictWide Jazz Band Concert	MHS-Café
May 11	7 p.m.	Methuen SEPAC Presents Plus Co. Vocational Services & Work Internship	Tenney Timony-Media
May 18	6- 7:30 p.m.	AppleSauce Primary Launch Night	CGS
<b>May 20-21</b>	<b>12 p.m. -6 a.m.</b>	<b>RELAY FOR LIFE</b>	<b>MHS TRACK</b>
May 22	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Workshop	MHS – Media
May 26	Early Release	K-12 Professional Development	
May 29	CLOSED	Memorial Day Weekend	
June 2	6-8 p.m.	MHS Graduation	MHS Stadium
June 8	9-11am/12-2pm/6-8pm	KINDERGARTEN Make Up Registration for all schools	Family Resource Ctr Central School

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

*Submitted by Mr. Richard Barden, Principal*

As we welcome the nice weather in May, we also plan for and participate in our next round of very important testing. During the first two weeks of May, over six-hundred Advanced Placement exams will be administered. In mid-May, our Grade 10 students will participate in two days of MCAS Mathematics testing. I am appreciative of the commitment and effort of our students and faculty in preparing for AP and MCAS exams.

Also in May, we celebrate the ninth annual Relay for Life of Methuen. This wonderful community event will be held outside at Nicholson Track beginning on Saturday, May 20, at noon and continue through the night until Sunday morning. Each year, a special part of Relay for Life is the luminaria ceremony where personalized luminaria bags and candles are dedicated in honor, memory, or support of those who have battled or are currently battling cancer. This touching ceremony will begin at 9 p.m. Thank you to those who have contributed to the planning and continued success of our Relay for Life.

#### JROTC

##### ***Jamboree:***

On the 11th of April, 55 cadets from the Methuen JROTC Battalion attended the annual Methuen High School Band Jamboree. Cadets held up the 50 state flags during the final ceremony which included the playing of Stars and Stripes Forever from the Methuen High School Band and middle schools. This tradition was reinstated after many years of only displaying a Color Guard for the

event. The flags added a great backdrop to the song which made it even more empowering. After the song was completed our cadets walked diligently out of the gym in formation. It was a great honor for the program to be invited back to the Jamboree and we look forward to performing next year.

***JROTC Joins Relay For Life:***

On the 12th of April, Cadet 1st Lieutenant Laura Frechette held a meeting which comprised of 12 cadets from the program to help her start a JROTC Relay For Life team. At the meeting cadets were informed of the significance, what takes place, and what they need to accomplish to join Relay For Life. In past years, our program has strictly done a Color Guard for the event, but the desire of many cadets to get more involved led us to the creation of a team.

***Adopt A Veteran:***

On the 13th of April, after months of planning and hard dedication from the program, the first Adopt A Veteran event was held at the Methuen Village. Lt. Col. Stansbury and Cadets Sean Henrick, Nate Trefey, and Kaylie Demerse represented the program at the village. At the event over 30 people showed up which included around 17 veterans. These guests were briefed on what takes place in JROTC, what we plan to do with the Adopt a Veteran Program, and even got shown what everything on the JROTC uniform means and how it is similar to the uniforms they wore. Overall the first event went really well and the guests really enjoyed the company from our program. Adopt A Veteran will continue every other Thursday for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year and will begin early next school year.

***Raiders Competition Fort Devens:***

On the 29th of April, the first Raider competition will be held at Fort Devens where 8 Raider teams from around the state will compete. This year the annual beanpot was replaced by a second competition at Devens so that teams will be able to be more prepared for the final competition, as well as to accommodate for the new Raider Gauntlet. At the competition the Methuen JROTC program will compete against other schools in events such as the litter carry, the 3k run, the one rope bridge, first aid, the personal fitness test, and the raider gauntlet. Over 25 cadets from the program will be attending this competition to represent the school in the most demanding raider challenge to date.

**ADOPT-A-GRANDPARENT** is hosting the senior citizens of Methuen for a party on Wednesday, May 3 at the senior citizens center. We are providing food, drinks, and a video presentation of our "Senior" Prom in April.

**STUDENTS HELPING OTHERS**

Will be running a community Toiletry drive and will be in the Methuen Life to promote it! Attached is the letter that is going out into the community!

Hello!

Students Helping Others is a Methuen High School organization that works to assist fellow students and the community, through volunteerism, fundraising and community service.

Our organization is currently working to create a "closet" at the high school, which will be stocked with supplies that students in need will be able to access when necessary. We are beginning this venture by collecting new, unused toiletry items.

We were hoping you might be able to help us help others. We are asking for your donation of any new, unused toiletry items that will be given to students in need. We would gladly accept any of the following new/unopened toiletries:

Soap	Deodorant	Shampoo
Feminine Products (pads, tampons, etc.)	Toothpaste	Hair elastics
Disposable razors	Hairbrushes/Combs	Dental Floss
Body Lotion	Toothbrushes	Face Lotion
Cotton Swabs	Baby wipes	Shave Cream

Accompanying this note is a plastic bag. Please use this bag to gather any items you would be able to donate, and return the bag to your mailbox on Sunday, May 21st. We will be back during the day on the 21st to retrieve it.

We cannot thank you enough for your support of all our classmates.  
With appreciation,  
Member of Students Helping Others MHS Students Helping Others

### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

NHS did a service activity with the Jumpstart organization yesterday after school (4/27). We created literacy materials for pre-schoolers. About 10 of our members worked for 2 hours after school to help out with this.

### **BEST BUDDIES**

Best Buddies held a creative and fun activity on Tuesday, April 25th at which members tie dyed Best Buddies official t-shirts that can be worn to the chapter's final event to be held on May 22nd in the Methuen High School cafeteria.

While twisting elastic bands around the once white t-shirts, everyone had a fabulous time turning back time to reflect on the many events held during the year.

As the year comes to a close, Best Buddy officers will attend Methuen SEPAC's Annual Resource and Recreation Fair to be held on Sunday, 3-6, at the Comprehensive Grammar School. Officers are commended for taking time away from his/her personal lives, sports, family and friends to demonstrate outstanding community commitment and Ranger pride.

As for myself, I've had a truly rewarding experience as Methuen High School's Best Buddies sole Faculty Advisor for the past 8 years and shared the role for several years prior to. It's one of the best clubs at Methuen High, is the only club that is student led, and represents an international organization.

### **GSA**

The GSA would like to thank those who supported the GSA fundraiser at Fuddruckers on Thursday, April 27. It was greatly appreciated.

### **BOOKS & BAGELS**

Members are very excited about their upcoming field trip to the Boston Public Library. The group will partake in the Art & Architecture Tour of the library. A visit to the newly renovated Teen Central section of the BPL will be the group's final destination. Here, the group will be exposed to all of the library's exciting learning spaces. Teen Central is intended for young adults from grades 6-12. There is a digital makerspace for media creation; a Media Lounge for gaming; there are Books, CD, DVD's and computers that students can use for research. One of the YA Librarians will conduct our tour. Members have been given the opportunity to sign up for a BPL Library Card that will

enable them to borrow books and access all of the library's digital resources. This should be a wonderful learning experience for all.

Finally, the B&B members have chosen next year's "reads". The titles and meeting dates have been posted on the Books & Bagels website, thus ensuring another great year of "reads."

***Events to plan for coming up in May and early June:***

AP Exams - Monday, May 1, 2017, through Friday, May 12, 2017  
Faculty Meeting - Monday, May 1, 2017  
Connections - Friday, May 5, 2017  
SAT Administration - Saturday, May 6, 2017  
District Jazz Concert - Wednesday, May 10, 2017  
JROTC Pass in Review - Friday, May 12, 2017  
Senior Class Trip to Six Flags - Friday, May 12, 2017  
Department Meetings - Monday, May 15, 2017  
MCAS Mathematics Grade 10 Test, Session 1 - Tuesday, May 16, 2017  
MCAS Mathematics Grade 10 Test, Session 2 - Tuesday, May 17, 2017  
JROTC Blood Drive - Friday, May 19, 2017  
Relay for Life of Methuen - Saturday, May 20, 2017  
Senior Class Trip to Red Sox - Tuesday, May 23, 2017  
Choral Spring Concert - Tuesday, May 23, 2017  
Senior Class Breakfast - Wednesday, May 24, 2017  
Honors & Awards Night - Wednesday, May 24, 2017  
Connections - Thursday, May 25, 2017  
Senior Prom at Atkinson Country Club in Atkinson, NH - Thursday, May 25, 2017  
Early Release - Faculty Professional Development - Friday, May 26, 2017  
Memorial Day - School Closed - Monday, May 29, 2017  
Senior Class Trip to Loon Mountain - Wednesday, May 31, 2017  
Commencement Practice and Senior Class Cookout - Thursday, June 1, 2017  
Connections - Friday, June 2, 2017  
Class of 2017 Commencement - Friday, June 2, 2017  
SAT Administration - Saturday, June 3, 2017  
Faculty Meeting - Monday, June 5, 2017  
MCAS STE Grade 9 Test, Session 1 - Monday, June 5, 2017  
MCAS STE Grade 9 Test, Session 2 - Tuesday, June 6, 2017  
Move up to MHS - Timony & Tenney Grade 8 Students - Thursday, June 8, 2017  
Move up to MHS - CGS & Marsh Grade 8 Students - Friday, June 9, 2017  
Final Exam Review Days - Monday, June 12, 2017 & Tuesday, June 13, 2017  
Final Exams - Wednesday, June 14, 2017, through Tuesday, June 20, 2017  
Early Release - Last Day for Students and Faculty - Tuesday, June 20, 2017

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**

- MCAS testing for mathematics will begin on **May 8th** for all students in grades 3-8.

**The sessions are as follows:**

<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Session 1: May 9th</b>
	<b>Session 2: May 11th</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Session 1: May 15th</b>
	<b>Session 2: May 16<sup>th</sup></b>

Students have been encourage to “*Show What You Know,*” through problem solving skills, and computation. We are hopeful that students will show great progress.

- The beloved *CGS Community Guest Reader Event* is scheduled for **May 4th** from 9:00- 9:45. The students look forward to seeing many community leaders and partners at this event. We hope you can join us!
- We are so proud of our active student athletes and their accomplishments! Collectively our students in the *100 Mile Club* have logged thousands of miles! The last day for the 100 Mile Club is **May 16th**.
- Students will be getting their pearly white smiles ready for homeroom pictures on **May 3rd**. This year, if Mother Nature cooperates, we hope to take scenic outdoor pictures.
- The third grade teachers will be hosting *Write Night* on **May 24th**. During this evening, parents and students will be invited to collaborate on writing prompts. The sharing session is always a blast!
- We hope for a great turnout at the *CGS Family Fitness Night* on **May 25th**. Each year we are impressed with the participation of families, as they work together on fitness activities.
- We are excited to have award winning author *Julia Cook* present a social skills performance on **May 30th** to students in grades K,1, 2. Her engaging stories carry a powerful message about making good choices.

### **UPPER**

May 1: Grade 8 Calendar Fundraiser

May 25: Family Fitness Night

Month of May: CGS Boys' Basketball

May 31: Spring Concert

## MARSH GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

*Submitted by Mr. Stephen Sierpina, Principal*

### **LOWER**

- Grades 4 and 3 will take their Math MCAS tests on May 9-10 (computer based) and May 11-12 (paper-based), respectively. We are hoping to have a small number of abstentees as we did for the ELA test, which makes the administration significantly easier!
- Teacher Appreciation Week was recognized by PTO with a dessert lunch on Monday, 5/1, Texas Roadhouse Luncheon on Tuesday, 5/2, and breakfast on Wednesday, 5/3.
- The Marsh Retirement Celebration will be held on June 8<sup>th</sup> at Tuscan Kitchen from 4-6PM. Lorie Tardugno, Cathy Morrissey and Kristin Coletti will be feted at the celebration, and we are hoping for a good turnout!

## UPPER

- The PTO is hosting a week of Teacher Appreciation events the first week of May, including a day of dessert, a day of breakfast, and a day of lunch for teachers.
- Spring Chorus Concert is on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 in the Marsh Auditorium.
- Upper School Basketball for boys and girls have games here at the Marsh on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 3:30. Other games in May will be played on Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at the CGS, then on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at Methuen High School.
- MCAS testing dates for Math and Science:  
May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>—Grade 8 Math  
May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>—Grades 5-7 Math and Grade 8 Science, Technology, and Engineering  
May 16 and 17<sup>th</sup>—Grade 5 Science, Technology and Engineering
- All Teachers are meeting with evaluators this month to present evidence. Teacher evaluations will be complete by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Academic Bowl finals will be in June.

## TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

*Submitted by Ms. Mary Beth Donovan, Principal*

April was the month of Tenney writer. Several of our students were honored for their way with words: Here is the good news and more:

- Eighth grade students **Josiah Concepcion** and **Megan Bergeron** were named winners of the Israel Arbeiter Essay Contest. The contest is named in honor of human rights activist and Holocaust survivor Israel Arbeiter. Meghan and Josiah and many of their classmates attended and were recognized at the Day of Remembrance Ceremony at Faneuil Hall on April 23. Josiah and Meaghan received scholarships and will be treated to a private tour of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum later this year in Washington, DC. This marks the tenth consecutive year our students have been the recipients of this prestigious award! Eighth grader Emily Carter's artwork was featured in the program.
- Hundreds of young Massachusetts entered the *Letters About Literature* writing contest, sponsored by the Massachusetts Center for the Book. Tenney students made an impression, making connections between their worlds and works of literature. Winning writers include **Kyla Nguyen**, Grade 8, named one of the top ten writers in the state and who will be honored at a State House ceremony next month. We are also proud of **Jenny Nguyen**, Grade 7, Semi-finalist, **Abigail Edgerly**, Grade 8, Semi-Finalist; **Emma Chappell**, Grade 8, Honorable Mention.
- We rocked the MCAS! We had 100 percent in the ELA MCAS, meaning every child eligible to test sat for every session. Attendance and punctuality were at all-time records on testing days. And, our PTO provided breakfast to every child who tested. Grades 4 and 8 completed the computer-based version of the test, making Tenney history. Thank you teachers, staff and families for this great partnership. Math and Science MCAS begins May 9.
- Grade 8 hosted a Gallery Walk Night and movie night for families. Families got to tour our 8th grade wing to look over student projects. Then they gathered to view the movie *A Beautiful Life*.
- Some of our students went on the road to learn. Band students enjoyed the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Chorus students enjoyed a performance at Methuen High and our kindergarten students saw the play *Pete the Cat*.

We look forward to a strong finish as we head to the end of the school year. AS always, if you have any concerns or ideas, Please contact me.

***Important dates:***

*May 11, 12: Tenney and Timony Production of The Lion King, Tenney Auditorium*

*May 15: Tenney Band Parents Concert*

*May 26: Early Dismissal*

*May 29: Memorial Day - No School*

**MCAS Dates:**

*Grade 3: Math: May 16, 17*

*Grade 4: Math: 18, 19*

*Grade 5: Math May 9, 10; Science: May 23,24*

*Grade 6: Math: May 9,10*

*Grade 7: Math: May 16, 17*

*Grade 8: May 18, 19; Science: May 23, 24.*

**TIMONY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES**

*Submitted by Mr. Timothy Miller, Principal*

MCAS testing took place during April for ELA and May for Math and Science. Jump rope for hearts, poetry contest just happened. Ongoing is the Middle School boys and girls basketball tournament the Championship will be on May 18th at the Methuen Field House. The Lion King Junior Timony/Tenney event is scheduled on May 11th and 12th. The PTO spring social will be May 25th. The book fair runs from May 26th to May 31st. PBIS “Boy’s Night Out” will be held late May. The Art show at the Nevins Library will go through the first week of May.

National Junior Honor Society just announced the list of accepted 7th graders. The induction will take place on May 31st at 6pm. Based on GPA 54 students were eligible, 38 student submitted application forms and 20 candidates were accepted.

**SADD**

**HIGH SCHOOL**

This month we sent representatives to the Methuen Police Department CARES event to speak about community-wide drug prevention. They represented our students and group so well and one of the students was in fact offered a job by one of the panel members. Additionally, the SADD group has been working hard on planning for the Relay for Life event. We have our own team and are doing some fundraising next week.

**MARSH**

I had a group help out at the Rail Trail cleanup on April 22nd. In May, students are organizing a trip to JayGee's after school. I will meet them there and keep an eye on the group.

**TENNEY**

This month, SADD is focusing on mental health awareness month. We will be doing ribbons, kids began creating art for around the building with the facts about teen mental health, and activities will go throughout the month to promote positive mental health. I have attached some pictures for you in this email.

**TIMONY**

***April Activities***

Students worked on bulletin board

Planned a school wide 'Hat and Cultural day' fundraising event for the Methuen Arlington Neighborhood 'back to school' program to be held in early June.

***May meetings:***

Continue with our April work

Begin planning for 2017-8!