

METHUEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2017

UPCOMING DISTRICT-WIDE DATES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>PLEASE SEE SCHOOL UPDATES BELOW FOR HAPPENINGS IN THEIR SCHOOLS</i>			
10/23	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Workshop	MHS-Media
10/27	Early Release	K-12 – Teacher's Professional Development	D-Wide
11/7	NO Classes	Full Professional Development Day for Teachers	
11/10	NO School	Veterans Day Observed – All Buildings Closed	
11/13	6:30 p.m.	School Committee Meeting	MHS-Media

METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL, CLUB AND ACTIVITY UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Richard Barden, Principal

JROTC

Drill Team

On Wednesday the 6th, the Methuen JROTC kicked off the Drill and Ceremony Teams. There are a total of 4 teams this year with last year's Drill Commander, Nicky Obando, returning to lead the platoon to another great year. There will be a total of 3 competitions this year in various locations against other JROTC programs within the COMAL.

Mentorship Meeting

On Wednesday the 20th, the Methuen JROTC Mentorship Officers met to discuss the expansion of the Mentorship Program to other middle schools in Methuen. There was a turnout of 40 cadets, who will be sent to the CGS, Tenney, and Timony Middle Schools to mentor younger students.

Battalion Formation

On Wednesday the 27th, the entire Ranger Battalion will meet for the annual battalion picture and fundraising kickoff. Every cadet is expected to be in uniform. Ranger cards will be distributed and cadets will be expected to sell all the cards. This is the only fundraiser for the Methuen JROTC program per year.

MHS Open House

On Thursday the 28th, Methuen High School will be holding an open house. Methuen JROTC cadets will be volunteering as tour guides and have an informational table about the program. Cadets will explain to guests' activities during, and after-school that take place in JROTC.

JROTC Recruitment Video

The JROTC staff created a one minute video that included the various activities of the program. The video was given to Mr. Barden who will be sending it to the students in the high school. Hopefully,

10.4.17
RB

the program will see an increase in enrollment in the spring semester as the first year enrollment numbers are low and will negatively affect the program.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

NHS is starting the process of inducting new members from the junior and senior classes. They hope to have their induction ceremony in November.

DECA

The DECA club has had their signups and the officers have done a great job recruiting new members to compete at the regional competition that takes place at Merrimack College in January.

SENIOR CLASS

The Senior Class is excited for their senior class trip to NYC on Saturday November 18th. They will see the Statue of Liberty and/or Ellis Island, The 9/11 Memorial and will end the day having dinner in Times Square at the Hard Rock Cafe. The Seniors are very excited about their first senior class trip.

ADOPT-A-GRANDPARENT

They kicked the year off at the senior center this week. The club started teaching 45's to a new group of students while other students made origami pinwheels with a new senior citizen member.

BOOKS AND BAGELS

Books and Bagels will have its first official meeting on October 12. We will be distributing our first book, *Matched*, by Ally Condi. We will also begin discussing our holiday fundraiser.

OTHER NEWS

Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA) Financial Aid Seminar

October 3, 2017

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

MHS Senior College Planning Presentation

October 3, 2017

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

SAT Administration

October 7, 2017

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2017

PSAT Administration

October 11, 2017

7:15 AM - 11:28 AM at MHS

MHS Colleges, Careers, & Community Service Fair

October 11, 2017

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM in the MHS Field House

Anna Maria College	Army National Guard	Assumption College
Bay Path University	Bay State College	Becker College
Bridgewater State University	Bryant University	Cambridge College
Cameo Modeling and Talent	Clark University	Colby-Sawyer College
Continental Pools	Curry College	Dean College
Eastern Nazarene College	Elms College	Emmanuel College
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising		Festival of Trees
Fisher College	Fitchburg State University	Framingham State University
Gordon College	Great Bay Comm. College	Holy Family Hospital
Husson College	Idea2Career	Johnson & Wales
Keene State College	Lasell College	Lesley University
Lyndon State College	Lyndon State College @NECC	
Mass Maritime Academy	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences		
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)		
Maverick Technical Institute	Merrimack College	Methuen Fire Department
Methuen Police Department	Methuen Rotary Club	Middlesex Community College
Millennium Training Institute	Mount Ida	Nashua Community College
Nevins Family of Services	Nevins Memorial Library	New England College
New Eng. Institute of Technology	New Eng. School of Photography	
New Hampshire Institute of Art	Newbury College	
Nichols College	North Shore Community College	
Northern Essex Comm. College	Northern Vermont University	
Penn State University	Plymouth State	Providence College
Regis College	Rivier University	Sacred Heart University
Saint Anselm College	Saint Joseph's College of Maine	
Salem State University	Salve Regina University	Simmons College
Southern Maine Comm. College	Southern N.H. University	
Southern New Hampshire University- Advantage Program		
Springfield College	St. John's University	Stonehill College
Stony Brook University (SUNY)	Suffolk University	SUNY Geneseo
The College of New Jersey	Thomas College	U. S. Air Force
U.S. Army	U.S. Marines	U.S. Navy
UMass Dartmouth	Unity College	Universal Technical Institute
University of Alabama	University of Connecticut	University of Hartford
University of Maine	University of Maine at Farmington	
University of MA Amherst	University of MA, Boston	University of MA, Lowell
University of New England	University of N.H.	University of New Haven
University of Rhode Island	University of Southern Maine	
University of Tampa	Utica College	ValleyWorks
Vermont Technical	Western New England	Westfield State
Windrush Farm	Worcester State University	

OCTOBER EVENTS

- Faculty Meeting - Monday, October 2, 2017
- MEFA College Financing Seminar - Tuesday, October 3, 2017

- Senior College Planning Presentation - Tuesday, October 3, 2017
- Homecoming Football Game - Friday, October 6, 2017
- Community Open House for Grades 5 through 8 - Saturday, October 7, 2017
- Homecoming Dance - Saturday, October 7, 2017
- Ranger Run 5k Run/Walk - Sunday, October 8, 2017
- PSAT Administration - Wednesday, October 11, 2017
- Colleges, Careers, & Community Service Fair - Wednesday, October 11, 2017
- Connections - Thursday, October 12, 2017
- Senior Class Photo - Thursday, October 12, 2017
- Department Meetings - Monday, October 16, 2017
- Mathematics Olympiad - Thursday, October 19, 2017
- Red Ribbon Week - Monday, October 23, 2017, through Tuesday, October 31, 2017
- Connections - Wednesday, October 25, 2017
- MHS Substance Abuse Awareness Day (Wear Red) - Wednesday, October 25, 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

- The kindergarten students will visit Parlee Farms in Tyngsboro, MA on October 11th. This engaging experience will provide students with key science knowledge. Students will learn that bees are important garden helpers, as they are responsible for pollinating apple blossoms. It is always a great time!
- The first "CGS PUP Rally" of 2017 will be held on October 13th. All students will participate in this event. Our own *Buddy the Bulldog* will make an appearance to help encourage all students to follow our CGS motto: CGS is the BEST! Staff and students are responding positively to this significant initiative.
- On October 20th, students will partake in our Popcorn Day fundraiser! For \$1 students can purchase a small bag of popcorn to eat at lunch.

UPPER

We are celebrating the fall at the CGS upper school in a number of ways. Here are some of the things we are doing:

- Rolling out a new Reading Plus program for grades 5 and 6
- Newsela integrated into all of our upper school classes
- CGS Upper School Pup Rally with Minute to Win It prizes and a Pie Contest on 10/13/17
- Progress Reports 10/20/17

MARSH GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Ms. Mary Jean Fawcett, Acting Principal

A.L.I.C.E. and fire drills were successfully completed. Teachers reviewed and practiced all safety procedures with student in and around the building so the students would be familiar with the procedures during each drill. Our School Resource Officer visited several classrooms at the request of teachers to explain procedures and answer questions for both staff and students.

Lower School teachers completed fall reading and writing assessments with students to determine current proficiency levels and inform their instructional plans. Kindergarten teachers are fully implementing the new Wilson Foundations phonemic awareness program with fidelity.

Upper School teachers received training on the implementation of NEWSOLA for all 5-8 teachers. Teachers in grades 5-6 also met to begin creating groups for Reading Plus intervention.

Picture Day for the Marsh is Friday, October 13th. The PTO fundraiser was completed on October 2nd and orders are being processed. We are looking forward to the PTO annual "Fall Festival" on Saturday, October 21st from 10-2. The event will include raffles, food, bouncy houses, pumpkin decorating, dunk tank (if we have volunteers), and other fun activities.

Firefighter Phil will be coming to present to grades 1, 2 and 3 on October 12th.

TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Ms. Mary Beth Donovan, Principal

We have built our routines for learning at the Tenney as we enter our second month of school. Here is a look at what is happening at our school:

Our staff is sharing good teaching ideas.

- At our October staff meeting teachers hosted seminars for one another, sharing what strategies work in their own respective classrooms. Topics included *Collecting Data Using Google*, *The Mindful Minute*, *Teaching with Poverty in Mind* and more. A special thank you to the teachers who offered to share their great ideas. They included **Elizabeth Fulks, Dana Gastich, Kathy Bodenrader, Karen Zucker, John Lagnese, Doug Patten, Jen Lucier, Becky Devendorf, Jessica Hogan, Ashley Chester and Dawn Patterson.**
- Every Monday, we tweet out a reminder of why we so love Mondays at the Tenney. The tweets feature our staff and the reasons why they teach. Please follow us on Twitter at TenneyGrammar@MPS_Tenney.
- Our staff gathered for a craft night led by our SEA **Carrie Ingrassia**. We made Halloween wreaths to hang on our doors. Craft nights have become a tradition with our staff.

Our students are learning about safety:

- We held our first ALICE and fire drills. Both went well
- More than 24 classrooms met with our new **School Safety Officer David Gardner** to review how students can be responsible for their own safety.

Our parents are getting involved:

- Dozens of parents signed up for CORI review at our Open Houses, bringing the total of parents who can legally chaperone to the 650+ mark. Thanks to Mrs. Sweeney, principal clerk for organizing.
- Our first PTO meeting was well-attended and on Oct. 6, the Yankee Candle fundraiser concludes. At the meeting, the PTO members talked about upcoming events like the Monster Bash, Light the Night and more.

And finally, here are some important dates to put on your calendar:

- Oct. 9: Columbus Day, no school.
- Oct. 11: Bus evacuation practice
- Oct. 12: Picture Day

- Oct. 13: Quarrybrook Experiential Education Field Trip, grade 8
- Oct. 20: Monster Bash sponsored by our fabulous PTO
- Oct. 19: PTO Meeting 7 pm, Staff lounge
- Oct. 25: Museum of Science Engineering Activity, Grade 2
- Oct. 27: Early Release Day, 11:15 upper school dismissal, 11:45 lower school

AS always if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at mydonovan@methuen.k12.ma.us or at 978-722-9026 x 4414.

TIMONY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Timothy Miller, Principal

As we reflect on the month of September with the myriad of tasks that come with the opening of any school year we would like to recognize the entire Timony Staff for all of their efforts that help make the Timony successful. We celebrate the addition of a new kindergarten teacher and the new Grade 4 teachers; each a wonderful addition to the Timony family and community.

The students have been reviewing and practicing PBIS expectations, Fire and Alice drills as well as settling into classroom routines and academics. We are looking forward to an exciting and positive year.