

METHUEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

SUMMER, 2015

UPCOMING DISTRICT-WIDE DATES

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Event</i> |
|-------------|---------------------|---|
| August 31 | Full Day | Teachers First Day of School |
| September 1 | Full Day of Classes | First Day of School Grades 1-12 |
| September 8 | Full Day of Classes | First Day of School PreK and Kindergarten |

OPEN HOUSE DATES

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|---|
| August 31 | 9-10 A.M. | Comprehensive Grammar School – Kindergarten |
| August 31 | 3:15-4:15 | Comprehensive Grammar School – Grades 1 – 3 |
| August 31 | 4:15-5:15 | Comprehensive Grammar School – Grades 4 – 6 |
| August 31 | 5:15-6:15 | Comprehensive Grammar School – Grades 7 - 8 |
| August 19 | 10 A.M. | Marsh Grammar School – New Students 1 st -8 th |
| August 31 | 5-6:30 P.M. | Marsh Grammar School – Lower School |
| September 1 | 5-6:30 P.M. | Marsh Grammar School – Upper School |
| September 3 | 9:30-10:30 A.M. | Marsh Grammar School – K (Brouder, Jerz & Miller) |
| September 3 | 11-12 A.M. | Marsh Grammar School – K (Becotte & DeZenzo) |
| August 19 | 11 A.M. | Tenney Grammar School – New Students 1 st -8 th |
| August 20 | 10 A.M & 2 P.M. | Tenney Grammar School – K Tours |
| August 31 | 1 P.M. | Tenney Grammar School – K Open House |
| September 9 | 5:30-7:30 P.M. | Tenney Grammar School – Upper School |
| September 10 | 5:30-7:30 P.M. | Tenney Grammar School – Lower School |
| September 10 | 5:30-8 P.M. | Timony Grammar School – K-8th |
| August 25 | 6-8 P.M. | MHS 9 th grade Open House |
| September 29 | 6-8 P.M. | Methuen High School – 9 th – 12 th Grade |

METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL, CLUB AND ACTIVITY UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Richard Barden, Principal

Summer School

Once again, Summer School has run successfully at MHS. Summer school provides students with the opportunity to recover credit in various courses. This summer there have been just under one-hundred students enrolled in Summer School. Each student enrolled has the important goal of graduating on time with their peers.

JROTC (from B. Stansbury)

The annual JROTC summer camp was held June 22-26th at Fort Devens, MA. Over 300 cadets attended from JROTC programs across the New England Region. Cadets participated in Leadership Reaction Courses, water activities, staff rides, and marksmanship. Cadets returned to Methuen late on June 26th and represented Methuen well.

The JROTC Academic Team National Competition was held in Washington DC June 26-29th. Methuen was one of 24 teams out of over 2000 to make it to the finals. Methuen reached the quarterfinals of the competition and the team performed extremely well under pressure situations. Team members were Cadet Lieutenant Colonel William Cushing, Cadet Major Christopher Quinn, Cadet Captain Alexis Ellsey, Cadet Captain Jerrel Garey, and Cadet Sergeant Eric Ton. Special thanks to Mr. Jonathan Becker who assisted me and served as a chaperone for the competition.

Coming Soon: Clubs and Activities

As we enter the month of August, we begin various clubs and activities for MHS students. The Ranger Band gathers in preparation for many events in upcoming year. MHS fall sports teams hold tryouts and practices for another competitive season in the Merrimack Valley Conference.

COMPREHENSIVE GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Christopher Reeve, Principal

After a wonderful close to the school at the CGS, we have kept very busy over the summer months preparing for the upcoming year. The custodians have been at work with their summer cleaning and improvements, as well as preparing a classroom space for a new program arriving at in the fall.

Several wings in the building have been freshly painted, as well as new carpeting in the 6th grade wing. Groups of teachers have been in inventorying curriculum resources in our science program to get them ready for students in September. The PTO is hosting our Kindergarten Play date on August 26th from 10am-12pm. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we will see you soon.

MARSH GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Stephen Sierpina, Principal

Administrators, secretaries and custodians at Marsh Grammar School have used the relative calm and quiet of July to tidy up loose ends from the last school year, and start preparations for the upcoming 2015-2016 year, such as:

- A comprehensive cleaning of all rooms in the building, including washing rugs, waxing floors, painting (including the Upper School gym), etc. New room assignments required some moving of furniture and teacher resources to new locations. The custodians continue to work diligently to thoroughly clean the entire building so that it will be ready for our students in September.
- School offices are forwarding student records (Lower to Upper, Upper to High Schools), ordering supplies and filling grade level requests as appropriate, updating and copying required documents for the “first-day folders,” scheduling students in classrooms/courses, registering new/transfer students, assigning new kindergarten students to classrooms and developing the screening schedule, and other associated preparations for the new school year.
- Administrators are reviewing the ELA and Math MCAS data as it is released by the state, as well as the third trimester benchmark results. This analysis will continue through the summer, with targeted data and reports being prepared and provided to teachers upon their return.

Information for Student Achievement Plans is being collected to assist the teachers in creating targeted strategic plans for students who did poorly on the 2015 MCAS.

- We are working on filling some vacancies in our school staff, including a new Speech and Language Pathologist, Lower School Nurse, and 0.3 Upper School Teacher to teach social studies and intervention in grade 8.
 - Steve Sierpina is hosting a luncheon for Upper School staff to meet their new Associate Principal, Rob Marino, on Thursday, August 20th. PTO will be having a “Meet and Greet” for parents and the public to meet Mr. Marino later that day from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 - New student tour will be held on Wednesday, August 19th at 10:00 a.m.
- PTO is sponsoring a “Kindergarten Kickoff” on the Lower School playground on Monday, August 31st, for kindergarten students and parents to meet and learn about PTO/school events.

TENNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Ms. Mary Beth Donovan, Principal

The Tenney Grammar School has been filled with children and staff all summer long. About 500 students are in our school Monday through Thursday, participating in the Unified Talents Program and the Extended School Year Program. The programs wind down in mid August.

We are planning for a successful 2015-2016 school year and will kick it off with the second annual PTO-sponsored back-to-School Picnic. A date and time will be announced.

TIMONY GRAMMAR SCHOOL UPDATES

Submitted by Mr. Timothy Miller, Principal

The Timony is always a busy place and this summer is no exception. This summer, the Timony is host to the Rangers Club program and has over 300 students from the city who are participating in fun activities and great field trips to a variety of locations. Additionally, there is a great deal of work that is happening outside our building to ensure that we keep up with required maintenance so that the outside areas and playgrounds are functional and safe for families and students. Inside, our custodial staff is hard at work cleaning and painting so that everything will be fresh and new when students arrive back in the fall and finally, we have been interviewing and hiring for a few open positions to ensure that we have the most qualified teachers in front of our students. The first day of school will be here before we know it and at the Timony, we will be ready!