

The Principal's Corner Glover School

Brian Ota
Principal



R.L.

Volume 3 Issue19

December 18, 2017

Dear Glover School Families:

“If we create a culture
where every teacher
believes they need to
improve, not because they
are not good enough, but
because they can be even better
there is no limit to what we
can achieve.”

Dylan William

I have begun to investigate an educational practice called, “Learning Walks.” This is a concept that teachers will visit other teachers and observe their lessons. Unlike my observations that are formal and are part of the evaluation process for teachers, Learning Walks are done between the teachers and are not shared with me. The concept is to allow new teachers and veteran teachers to see practices that they may wish to incorporate into their own classrooms. There is much planning that must be done before the walks can begin. The staff needs to be made comfortable that they are not being graded; that what the observing teachers see is not shared unless they are invited by the observed teacher to do so. Many protocols must be developed. For example, how often will learning walks be done and how will coverage be handled for the observing teacher. Do we keep the walks within the grades or have kindergarten teachers walk through 3rd grade classrooms and visa versa? I am hoping to be able to prototype this program before the end of the year. This will allow us time to evaluate the effectiveness and to fine tune the protocols so that the practice can be put into effect the next school year.

Jaywalking: This week one of the kindergarten students tugged on my sleeve as the students came in the door. He began to whisper something. I had to bend down so I could hear him. He said, “Mr. Ota my dad jaywalks every time.” I asked him if he told his dad that this was not safe. He sadly nodded his head and said, “he still does it anyway,” and quickly walked away. It is so incredible to me that a five-year-old would tell his parent that jaywalking is dangerous and be ignored. What is this child learning?

Coffee with the Principal: On the Wednesday at 8:15, please join me over a cup of coffee and talk about Glover. There will be coffee, tea, or water and plenty of open dialog. The Coffee is simply a time I can bring you up to date on what is happening at Glover. Most importantly it is also an open forum where you can ask questions. If you have a question please feel free to forward it to me, so that I can be sure to address it during our coffee.

Recess Dress: Now that snow and winter temperature have arrived students need to have the proper winter clothing to be able to participate in recess; jackets, mittens, gloves, hats, scarfs, snow pants, and boots. If there is snow on the ground and a student is not properly dressed, they are limited to the hard topped area only.

We highly recommend you send in a complete change of clothes. This outfit can be kept in their locker until needed. There is nothing more uncomfortable than a child sitting all day in wet clothing.

Glover Third Grade Fine Arts Night You are most cordially invited to our concert and art exhibit with songs, instrumental pieces, dance, and visual art portraying seasons and cycles in nature and life on Wednesday January 17th. The performance will begin at 6:30. The snow date is Thursday January 18th

Students participating in the concert please meet at 6:15pm in room 204

Spirit Wear: If you ordered Spirit Wear it is in the main office. Please swing by and pick it up.

Magic Hat: I want to thank all the parents and staff who volunteered their time at the Magic Hat. I was finally able to get in this year and volunteer Saturday. I cannot believe how many donations there are. Over the years I have become an expert "tagger." I now know that women's petite actually comes in sizes and children's clothing colors have moved towards unisex so much so that I have to try and I have to decipher if the bright colors are boys or girls. The hour I volunteered passed away quickly.

Parent Conferences: The district has tried a new format this year. Instead of several half days we went to a full day on Friday and an afternoon/evening session that began on Wednesday that went from 1-4 and then 6-8. We would like your feedback on the new system. The survey will only take a few minutes.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPXnrqrBo7iMC1vtrSjFIRtBs2lmmvPoOibdtQHXSz00haFq/formResponse>

Virtual Backpack: *There are a lot of exciting activities and events taking place in the community. Don't miss out on any of these wonderful events. You will find a complete listing on the district website;*

<http://www.marbleheadschoools.org/index.php/quicklinks/virtualbackpack>

Important Dates:

- Coffee with the Principal, December 20th at 8:15
- Winter break no school from December 25th –January 1st.
- Professional Development ½ day January 10th dismissal at 12:00
- Fine Arts Night January 17th at 6:30
- **MCAS dates: The English Language Arts test dates are Sessions 1-3 April 24-26th and the math dates are Math sessions 1&2 May 10-11th**

On behalf of our very caring, dedicated, and most excellent staff have a great week.

Regards,

Brian

Este mensaje se puede encontrar en español en: Google translate. Por favor de contactar la escuela de su estudiante para esta opción.

Está mensagem está disponível em português, no tradutor do Google. Por favor, entre em contato com a sua escola ,para maiores informações.

Mwen bezwen mesaj sa a an kreyòl. Tanpri rele lekòl ou wa pou opsyon sa a.

Ce message est disponible en français par Google Translate. S'il vous plaît contactez votre école pour cette option.

Внимание. Вы можете получить русский перевод этого сообщения через Google Translate. С вопросами, пожалуйста, обращайтесь в свою школу.