

The Principal's Corner Glover School

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Principal



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Good Morning Glover School Families:

I don't know about the rest of you but, it was a surprise to me that Friday was only our 6th day in school. Friday was a scorching 93 degrees. This high heat did not stop the students from flying around the playground. We request water bottles be sent in with your students.

We celebrated Friday with our first Spirit Day. With little notice, it was a great success! Spirit day helps students make Glover their own and instills a pride in being a member of our community. In the future I promise that you will be given advanced warning.

I want to thank the PTO for the welcome back to school barbecue. It was a great success. I was able to meet so many of you and the students were very happily engaged in the games, dancing, face painting and of course the hot dogs and hamburgers. Pictures can be found on our web page.

School Pictures: Coffee Pond School Pictures are scheduled for September 28th.

Lockdown/ Fire Drill: We had our first lockdown drill on Wednesday with the Marblehead Police Department. These drills are very important to ensure the safety of our students. I asked the police to do the full unlock to expose our students to how the full procedure is followed.

The lockdown drill went very well with a few errors that we have already corrected.

We will be having a fire drill very shortly.

Bus Evacuation Drills: We will be having our bus evacuation drills on September 13th.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS): We have begun introducing PBIS to our Pre-K and Kindergarten classes and reviewed it with the 1st-3rd grades. The token system is now back in place and we are rewarding the students or classrooms who exemplify our three Core Values; Respectful, Safe, and Responsible. If you ask your 1st-3rd grade students to explain what the Core Values are and what they mean, I hope they able to articulate them in depth to you. If you have a moment drop me an email and let me know what they say. We are very focused on their socio-emotional growth, so finding out if they really have incorporated it and can explain it to you would be of great interest to us. I plan to briefly speak about PBIS at our Open House. The teachers will explain how PBIS is used in their classrooms and throughout the building.

Pre-K-3rd Grade Open House: Our open house is scheduled September 15th at 6 PM. We will begin in the Cafetorium with brief opening remarks by me. The PTO leadership will be introduced. I will introduce the faculty and then release you to the classrooms.

How can I volunteer at Glover? We welcome parent volunteers in the classrooms, at morning drop off, during recess, and in the Cafetorium during lunches. If you are interested in helping the classroom teachers, please contact them directly. If you are interested in helping at drop off, during recess, or during the lunches please contact me and I will explain how your generous offer will be used.

Early Release Day: Our first ½ day early release is scheduled September 21st at 12:00. Our faculty will be meeting by grade with their counterparts from Bell and Coffin/Gerry as follows: K-1 Bell, 2nd grade Coffin, and 3rd grade at Glover. These early release days are the only way we can get all of the grade level teachers and specialists (art, music, library, and physical education) together to ensure all the schools are in synch with each other and that they have developed curriculum maps that are consistently used in each school. This practice of having the grade level teachers work together ensures that the best teaching practices are shared.

During this half day the special educators will also be participating in focused training to ensure they are up to date on the best practices for students requiring special education services.

Keyboarding: We will begin typing lessons for our 3rd grade students. MCAS 2.0 over the next few years will require students take this test using computers. The focus this year is on the 3rd grade students and the district has selected an on-line typing course that will be used during the day. This course can be accessed at home so that the students can continue practicing after school. We just received a large shipment of keyboards for our iPads and we will begin to implement the typing classes soon.

Magic Hat: The Magic Hat is one of the key fundraisers for the PTO. Magic Hat awards the schools funding based on the number of volunteer hours each school completes. One hour of your time raises \$40.00. Last year the Magic Hat awarded Glover \$18,000. This money sponsored the bulk of the enrichment activities at Glover. It is an easy and fun way to help the PTO and Glover. Our week is September 27th-Oct 1.

You can sign up by going to this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B49A9A822A46-glovermagic3>

Important Dates:

- Pre-K-3rd grade open house is September 15th at 6 PM.
- PTO Parent Coffee/PTO Meeting September 16th at 8:30-9:30 in the library
- Magic Hat Sept 27th-Oct 1st
- Early release Sept 21 at 12:00
- School Pictures Sept 28th

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

Regards,

Brian