

The Principal's Corner Glover School

November 21, 2016

Brian Ota
Principal



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Volume 2 Issue 15

"Do not judge me by my successes, judge me on how many times I fell down and got up again"
Nelson Mandela

Good Morning Glover School Families:

We are really into fall weather now with dropping temperatures and very light snow falling on my way into work!

It was great to see so many students, teachers, and parents at the PTO Hoedown Friday. I had not realized we had so many cowboys and cowgirls at Glover! Judging by the high level of energy from our posse I would say without a doubt a hearty Hee Haw was in order and a grateful thank you to the parents who organized this dance!

Drop Off Line: Now that the weather is changing from fall to winter the car drop off line is getting longer. To ensure we can get you in and out of the line as quickly as possible please do the following:

- *Remember to pull all the way down the line* so that we can get as many cars in the line as possible.
- Please put coats and jackets on your students before they get in the car at home.
 - ***Please do not get out of your car to dress your students.***
 - It holds up the line and once the snow hits the lines will become very long.
- If possible seat your student on the rear passenger side seat so they can exit the car easily
 - If you cannot because there is a car seat already there, please pull the front seat forward so your student can exit on the passenger side for safety reasons.

District Initiatives: The district has initiated several key academic focuses this year. Dr. Brad Smith, the assistant superintendent, along with several consultants, has been leading these groups. Currently there are four groups focused on English Language Arts, Math, Science, and the Fine Arts.

ELA: Teachers from the 4 elementary schools have been working to develop common writing assessments for grades 3-6. This group has been reviewing the ELA Scope and Sequence (drafted last October) and is drafting the initial 3 units. When this work is completed the Village School will have the same assessment data on each incoming 4th grader regardless of whether they come from Glover, Bell or Coffin.

Math: A select group of teachers from the elementary schools has been working with a consultant to develop the final math assessments. This team incorporated work done by last year's district assessment group. That group had mapped all of the assessments used by the various schools. The work of the new group is to agree on a common set of assessments, formal and informal, to determine each student's math progress.

Science: The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has released the new Common Core Standards for Science. This group of teachers is reviewing the current science curriculum against the new standards. The key deliverable of this team is to create a multi-year map of how the district will align itself with the new standards. The changes to the curriculum are significant with a heavy focus on Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM).

Fine Arts: The fine arts teachers (art, music, media services, and physical education) have been developing a framework to map out units, using concepts/skills/topics as organizing centers. The teachers have been reviewing curriculum outlines/units to their lessons. The goal is to have a consistent set of curriculums throughout the elementary schools

Crazy Hat Day Fundraiser: On November 30th we will be holding a fundraiser to support our Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program. Students are encouraged to donate \$1.00 to wear a crazy hat or any hat for that matter in school all day.

Marblehead Public Schools Dashboard: The District has launched its new informative and interactive dashboard. This easy to use tool gives you information about our faculty, finances, performance, enrollment, and technology in a user friendly format. You can visit the dashboard at: <http://idashboards.marbleheadschoools.org:6700/idashboards/viewer/?guestuser=guest&dashID=15>

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:

- Early release at 12:00 PM November 23rd
- No School November 24th -25th
- Crazy hat fundraiser Nov 30th
- December 1 evening parent conferences from 6 PM-8:00 PM.
 - Please check with your classroom for available time slots
- Dec 8 2nd grade is hosting Math Game Night for 2nd grade students from 6-7 PM
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On behalf of our very caring, dedicated, and most excellent staff have a great week.

Regards,

Brian