

The Principal's Corner Glover School

Brian Ota
Principal



R.L.

Volume 3 Issue 24

“If we teach **today's** students
as we taught **yesterday's**,
we rob them of
tomorrow.”

John Dewey

Well, we have passed the school's mid-point last week. For the students it is a fun moment because school is half over. But to us it is the beginning of the “crunch.” Teaching is a living, breathing entity, which is constantly evolving and growing. In my past newsletters I talked about the various learning activities that the staff is undergoing. We are working to incorporate all of the new standards in English language arts, math, and science. Some of which the teachers do in their professional learning communities on a weekly basis. We have several study groups focused on specific topics that occur on a district level. The two year study group, Instructional Rounds (IR), that I am forming will be comprised of teachers from all four elementary schools. The purpose of IR is to provide teachers with another valuable tool to improve their pedagogy. Study groups are typically one to two years long.

Teachers are now reviewing the remaining materials to be taught and tightening up their schedules. The learning pace will begin to speed up as we try to teach everything the state mandates must be taught in the Common Core standards. It is a daunting task because the state continues to update and enhance the standards to ensure Massachusetts has one of the highest standards in the country.

Third grade is beginning to plan time to prepare the students for their first state mandated assessment, Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS).

In between all of that academic learning still comes the focus on social emotional development through our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) framework.

Our fine art specialists continue to expand our students through music, art, media, and physical education. They continue to plan such events as “Fit February, the Maypole dance, and March Reading Madness,” to name a few.

January 29, 2018

Dear Glover School Families:

Parking Lot: Parents coming in from Humphrey or Tedesco roads please turn into the main parking lot entrance. If you are driving to the upper lot entrance you are creating a bottle neck for parents coming in from Lafayette Street. Parents coming in from Lafayette Street create a second lane to turn into the parking lot. If you come up Maple you are creating another lane as you turn right into our upper lot. This is creating a fourth lane on a street where parents are parking and walking in and creates a dangerous driving situation for parents passing through Maple Street.

For those parents who are double parking in our lot to walk your students to school, please do not do that, you are creating a traffic jam in our parking lot and sometimes block our school buses from pulling in. I would suggest you park on Cedar or Cypress and walk in from there.

Magic Hat: Ali Drayer from the PTO wrote, "I have good news - and (kind of) bad news! Good news is we had several volunteers this week at the Magic Hat! The bad news - it wasn't our dedicated week. Evidently I have been working off of an outdated schedule and next week (1/30-2/3) is actually Glover's dedicated week at the Shop.

Following is a new link to use for this coming week. Hopefully we'll get more volunteers in, and in light of the scheduling error, we'll pick up some extra hours.

Please use this link to update principal's corner, newsletter, facebook, etc.

Thank you and I apologize for any confusion.

Ali"

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0949AAAA2DAA8-glovermagic2>

School Improvement Plan (SIP): We have begun review of our SIP. This is a multi-year plan that outlines the area our learning is focused on. It contains our plans for the academic content to be taught or developed, plans for our school culture, and safety. Our plan is coordinated with Bell and Coffin/Gerry so that it is consistent across the district. The PLC's provide input and the three principals formulate our SIPs. Dr. Smith the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Teaching, oversees the SIPs. The drafts are also worked with each school's School Advisory Committee (SAC). Upon completion of our work Ms. Perry, our Superintendent, reviews them for her approval. The SIP is then presented the School Committee as the approved plans for each school.

We are also required at the end of the year to prepare a review of the school's performance against the SIP for the School Committee. The work has begun to develop this review.

Allergy Awareness: We have been working with the school nurse to continue to promote allergy awareness to the students, staff, and parents. An example of this work can be found as you enter every classroom. Posted on the doorways are a list of any known allergies that students have in that classroom. The list does not specify which student, it only shows anyone entering the room that a specific allergy is present. Our staff is also trained in the use of Epi Pens. The nurse also prepares and distributes a backpack to classrooms that contains medicines for students in that room that has a serious allergy, such as nuts. That backpack is carried with the class where ever they are.

Kindergarten Registration information:

Registration will be held from February 1–28, 2018, Monday through Thursday, by appointment, at Central Administration, 9 Widger Road. Packets can be picked up on Orientation night, at Central Admin or downloaded from our website at marbleheadschoools.org.

If you know of any first time Kindergarten parents, please pass this information on to them.

Jump for Life: Our annual Jump Rope for Heart Event will take place February 12th-16th. The event will take place during the physical education classes. More information will follow as we get closer to the date.

School Spirit Day: *We will be having a School Spirit Day on February 2nd.* Students are encouraged to wear any Patriot's gear, or blue and red clothing, any Marblehead Spirit Wear, or any Marblehead Sports Team clothing, for example, soccer, football, field hockey, or cheerleading.

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:

- Kindergarten Registration begins February 1st-28th.
- School Spirit Day February 2nd
- Jump for Life February 12th
- Winter Break February 19th -23rd No School
- Village School Incoming 4th grade parent night February 28th. Parents will be contacted by the Village School with more information

- ***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.