

The Principal's Corner Glover School

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Principal



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Volume 3 Issue10

October 9, 2017

Many parents wonder what the value of the Professional Days are. Teachers are expected to improve their own learning to ensure we deliver the highest quality learning experience we can. To guarantee that our learning practice is consistent across the district it is vital that whenever possible we gather all of the teachers together so that they can receive this training together. This year the Superintendent postponed her kickoff meeting to Tuesday. After Superintendent Perry's opening remarks the teachers will hear our guest speaker Chad Hymas presentation on leadership, team building and growth. After the presentation and Ms. Perry's closing remarks the teachers will break down by grade. For the lower elementary grades, the sessions will grade specific. From Pre-K to 3rd grade they will meet separately with Christine Downs from the May Institute to learn Tier 2 behavioral interventions (BI). The K1-3rd grade will have separate sessions on analyzing student math exemplars and solving math problems with Sue Looney and Molly Vokey. The K-3 specialists (art, music, physical education and media services) in addition to the BI work will then separate and work on curriculum specific topics based on their fields. The special education program faculty (ACCESS, PACE, TIDES, Academic Skills, and Language Base) will meet with their Special Education Chairs for program specific training. The Instructional Support Staff (OT, PT, Speech and Language, Counselors, School Psychologist) will meet to discuss specific discipline related topics.

This very balanced schedule was the work of Dr. Brad Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Learning and Robert Bellucci, the Director of Student Services.

Dear Glover School Families:

Coffee with the Principal: Due to my extended absences and with no school today or tomorrow I am going to postpone the Coffee with the Principal. I apologize for any inconvenience.

Service Learning Project: One of the great things about Glover is how much our students have taken our school motto of "Choose Kindness," and our three core values: Respectful, Safe, and Responsible to heart. We had taken Disaster Relief as our Service Learning Project. Our objective was to have the students begin this project by writing what they were planning to do for the fund drive. The second phase was to earn their donation by using their energy and time to earn their money; putting sweat equity in for the sake of others. The final phase was to reflect verbally (age dependent) or write about their experience and what they learned.

It was a huge success. Glover raised a little over \$3,100! We announced this amount at our Community Meeting and the money was presented to a representative from the Red Cross.

We are evolving our Service Learning Project (SLP) .I had asked for parent feedback and received some very helpful suggestions. After a discussion at our faculty meeting (which included the parent comments) we are going to begin planning our next SLP. These projects will be grade specific. Each grade will work together to create an SLP that can be accomplished at school and focused more on ways to benefit others, without the need to raise money. This will shift the responsibility from parents to the school. Ideas we are looking at are visiting nursing homes, cleanup projects of public use properties, and many more.

2nd Grade Math Night: The 2nd Grade team is happy to announce our **2nd Grade Math Night!** Join us on **Thursday, November 2nd from 5:30 - 6:30** in the Cafetorium. Come learn, play, and leave with new math games that reinforce second grade math skills. **This special event is for 2nd graders accompanied by an adult.** Last year we had a great time with over 90% attendance of 2nd grade families!

School Spirit Day: Our next school spirit day is October 13th. Students are encouraged to wear any school Spiritwear, MHD team sports clothes, Patriots Gear, or anything red and blue.

MCAS Test Dates: The lower elementary schools have set the following dates for this year's MCAS. 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. Please mark these dates in your calendars. One of the measurements for MCAS is school attendance during the tests. **It is important that you plan your vacations, or student's doctor's appointments around these dates.** There are makeups, but those require staff and rooms to hold them and we have little staff available and almost no rooms.

3rd Grade Aqua Farming: Thanks to a generous grant from the Friends of Marblehead Public School, our aqua farms have arrived. The 3rd grade will be learning how to grow food with sustainable, recycled water. The importance of this form of farming is critical. We are running out of arable land and water. It is important to find new ways to grow food and maintain healthy environment. You will soon see in our cafeteria windows 3 aqua farms. We chose this appropriate location for many reasons. One of the most important reasons is that all students in the building will see how food is grown and how environmentally safe it can be done.

Magic Hat: Ali Drayer reported that "Glover had **207.48** hours between April 1-September 31, 2017 resulting in **\$12,704.99,**" being allocated to the Glover PTO. This was made possible by the Glover parents who volunteered their time over the summer. This is a huge part of the enrichment dollars that the PTO invests at Glover. On behalf of our school, thank you. I will post this month's Glover Magic Hat schedule as soon as I receive it.

Lost and Found: With weather going from cool to hot students shed their sweaters, pullovers just as quickly out on the playground and forget to pick them up. Please feel free to search the lost and found located under the main stairwell.

Health Screening Information: Nurse Murray will be performing health screening please see the attached Health Screening Note for more information

Virtual Backpack: *There are a lot of exciting activities and events taking place in the community. For example Cub Scouts and Girl Scout signups. 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:

- No School October 9th Columbus Day
- No school October 10th Professional Development Day
- School Spirit Day October 13th
- October 20th PTO Trunk or Treat 5:30
 - Rain date October 27th
- Picture Make Day Monday November 13.
- 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

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