

Ahern Middle School Newsletter

April 2017

Notes from the Principal

Snow! April 1st! I was busy anticipating Spring! I am sure it will arrive, but the consistent sunny days and warmer temperatures seem to be a little farther in the future. Since winter was not as cold, we seem to have accumulated some jackets. Have your child check the Lost and Found on the cafeteria stage if you are missing some outerwear!

Spring also brings students in greater numbers outside, sometimes less aware of potential dangers than they are of being in the good weather or walking and playing with friends. For this reason I respectfully ask parents to observe the signs in the bus circle that ask for no cars at certain times. **The 2:15 to 4:00 time is the most problematic.** This is a time when bus activity is greatest and short students can become obscured behind vehicles. Parents who pick up students can use the normal procedures at the back drop-off area or park alongside the school by the flag, by the sidewalk along the driveway, anywhere but in the bus circle. Please, for safety's sake, do not enter the bus circle at the times posted on the signs in the bus circle!

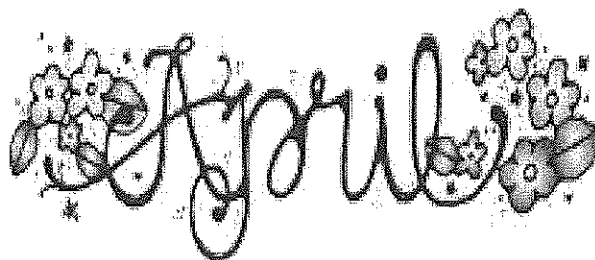
Term three ends on April 7th and report cards will be issued April 13th. We also begin our state assessments on Monday, April 3rd. The schedule is on the district calendar and in the newsletter.

April has numerous other events scheduled. Please see the calendar attached.

Our last day of school is now scheduled for Thursday, June 22nd and the grade 8 Promotion Ceremony will be on Thursday, June 22nd. The exact time will be confirmed next month. However, it will be in the morning as the last day of school is an early release day. As we firm up dates and create enriching activities for the end of the year, we will share that information.

Enjoy the busy Spring month and the April Spring break.

Warm Regards,
Sue Abrams



The World Languages Department of the
Foxborough Public Schools

Proudly presents:

The 4th Annual
World Language and Culture Night
"One World, Many Stories"
Monday, April 10, 2017
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Foxborough High School Cafeteria and Media Center

Tickets to the World: No charge for admission

International Buffet

6:00-7:45

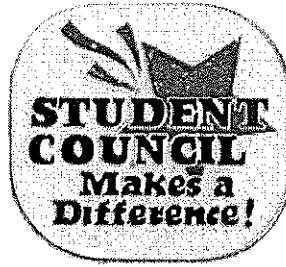
Sample whatever you wish. Many thanks to Antonia's, Bangkok Café, Foxboro Mandarin, Jalapeño's, Mandarin Chef, North End Deli, Olive Garden, Papa Gino's, South Street Pizzeria, Stop and Shop, Tavolino's, and more!

Events:

6:00-8:00

- Live music by *Fiesta del Norte* - Thank you to Partners in Patriotism!
- Henna tattoos by *Sumayyah Akhtar, Zoher and Jumana Bootwala*
- Showcase Dance Productions (7:00 pm)
- *Cole Hovey* on Piano
- World Language Karaoke
- Minumentals Art Exhibit
- Arabic, Hebrew, and Mandarin name writing
- Cultural crafts and games
- Cultural displays
- Displays of student work
- Raffle - \$1 per ticket, \$5 for 6 tickets
- And more!





Happy spring!

The StuCo has been very busy lately! We'd like to thank everyone who was kind enough to donate items to the Birthday Wishes drive! It's a great feeling knowing that all our donations are going to a good cause that will put a smile on a kid's face!

Next up we are planning on running a Cradles to Crayons drive! For those of you who are not sure what it is, it is a nonprofit organization that helps less fortunate children. We are looking for donations of clothes from size infant to age 12. Just make sure any donations are in good condition or are brand new! This drive will run from March 27th to April 4th.

PAC NOTES



Yes, spring is here! We are beginning to plan for spring events!

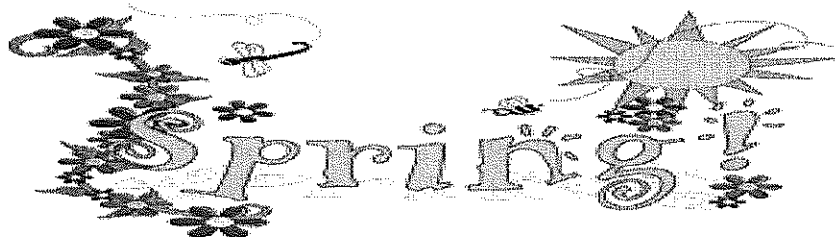
Our next PAC Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 11th at 7pm in the Library.

We invite everyone to come and join us for a meeting to see what we are all about. It's never too late to join in. The PAC's primary purpose is to raise funds to help provide for our students with the following: agendas, field trips, 8th grade Career Day, Exchange City, etc. We could use new ideas and welcome them.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help coordinate the 8th Grade Party on Tuesday, May 20th from 2:30-4:30pm at the Ahern. If you are interested, please contact us at the emails below.

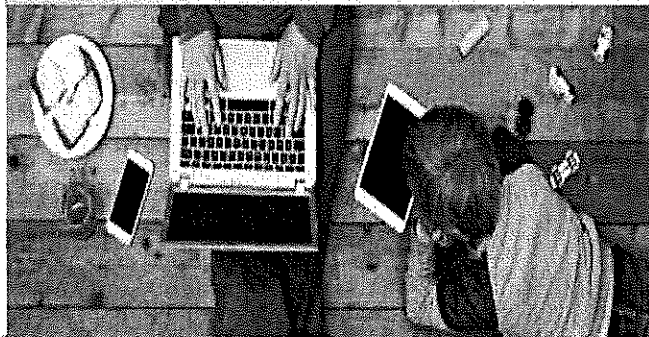
The PAC is also looking for volunteers to assume the President and Secretary for the 2017-18 school year. Please reach out to Bryn at brynmyozzo@gmail.com or Mindy at TaylormindyL@gmail.com.

President position responsibilities include attendance at the monthly meeting, preparing the agenda, running the monthly meeting, and preparing information for the monthly newsletter. The time commitment for the month is about 2 hours total. Bryn is willing to co-president next year to help train the volunteer who steps up.



Parent Technology Night: You are Invited!

Technology can make it difficult to parent kids today. Come learn more about what you should know about the impact of digital devices, social media and networking, and cyberbullying.



WHEN: Wednesday, April 5, 2017
WHERE: Ahern Middle School Auditorium
TIME: 6:30 PM
AUDIENCE: All Parents/Guardians

Babysitting will be available and is provided by the Foxborough High School National Honor Society.

Presentation and Q&A by Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Psychologist, author, and Director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center at Bridgewater State University

Purpose: To provide parents with an understanding of the impact that technology, digital devices and social media have on students and to provide resources and strategies to Foxborough Public Schools students and families.

Goal: Parents will be updated on some of the myths or ineffective solutions that they might have heard regarding digital devices and cyberbullying; and what parents can actually DO!

Topics of discussion include:

Factors that are making it difficult to parent kids today:

- Adults feeling uncertain about technology
- Digital devices impact on social skills
- Digital devices impact on sleep
- Influence of social media - growing as kids grow
- Overusing the terms bullying and cyberbullying

Ineffective myths and solutions:

- Parents need to know everything about technology
- Adult predators are the real problem
- Give them tech or they'll be unpopular
- A cell phone isn't a telephone

What actions can parents take?

- Think about problem behaviors, not apps
- Teach your kids about emotions, and privacy perceptions online
- Set time limits
- Practice social skills - here's how
- Control what you can: devices in the bedroom

Latest research on family dinner & cyberbullying.

Send anonymous questions to Dr. Englander at: <http://tinyurl.com/parentsfoxboro>

Your questions will be answered at the event!

PARENT CALENDAR

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p>	<p>3 Day 6</p>	<p>4 Day 1</p>	<p>5 Day 2</p>	<p>6 Day 3</p>	<p>7 Day 4</p> <p>Term III Ends</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>10 Day 5</p>	<p>11 Day 6</p> <p>PAC Meeting 7:00</p>	<p>12 Day 1</p> <p>Parent Technology Night and Q&A w/Dr. Elizabeth Englander in Ahern Auditorium 6:30</p>	<p>13 Day 2</p> <p>Report Cards Issued</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Good Friday / No School</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>VACATION</p>	<p>19</p> <p>WEEK</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24 Day 3</p>	<p>25 Day 4</p>	<p>26 Day 5</p>	<p>27 Day 6</p> <p>Staff Meeting No Late Buses</p>	<p>28 Day 1</p>	<p>29</p>

2017

April

MCAS Calendar Parents

Draft

	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>
3 Day 6		4 Day 1	5 Day 2	6 Day 3	7 Day 4
ELA Grade 6 (Per. 1-3)	ELA Grade 6 (Per. 1-3)	ELA Grade 7 (Per. 1-3)	ELA Grade 7 (Per. 1-4)	ELA Grade 8 (Per. 1-4)	
10 Day 5	11 Day 6	12 Day 1	13 Day 2	14	No School Good Friday
ELA Grade 8 (Per. 1-4)	ELA Grade 5 (Per. 1-2)	ELA Grade 5 (Per. 1-3)			
17	18	19	20	21	↓
VACATION WEEK					
24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26 Day 5	27 Day 6	28 Day 1	
			<i>Testing Times are approximate</i>		

May

MCAS Calendar Parents

Draft

<i>Mon</i>		<i>Tue</i>		<i>Wed</i>		<i>Thu</i>		<i>Fri</i>	
1 Day 2	2 Day 3	3 Day 4	4 Day 5	5 Day 6					
8 Day 1 Math 6 (Per. 1-2)	9 Day 2 Math 6 (1-2)	10 Day 3 Math 8 (Per 1-2)	11 Day 4 Math 8 (Per 1-2)	12 Day 5					
15 Day 6 Math 5 (Per 1-2)	16 Day 1 Math 5 (Per 1-2)	17 Day 2 Math 7 (Per 1-2)	18 Day 3 Math 7 (Per 1-2) Sci 5 (Per 1-3)(paper) Sci 8 (Per 1-3)(paper)	19 Day 4					
22 Day 5	23 Day 6 Grade 8 Band, Orchestra, Jazz Concert	24 Day 1	25 Day 2 Grade 7 Band, Orchestra, 7/8 Chorus Concert	26 Day 3					
29 No School Memorial Day 	30 Day 4 Art Show	31 Day 5	<i>Testing Times are approximate</i>						

2017