



WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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NELMS Spotlight School

Dr. Ronald J. Farrar, Principal

Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

Operational Report – January 2011 Dr. Ronald J. Farrar, Principal

Overview of Activities for January

- Whitin PTO Meeting on January 5
- Whitin School Monthly Faculty Meeting on January 10
- Variety Show Auditions on January 10
- Whitin Geography Bee on January 7
- Professional Development Day Focused on Technology on January 18
- Whitin School Council Meeting at 1:00PM on January 19
- Dance for Grades 7&8 on January 28

Subject/Course/Classroom Activities

National Geographic Geography Bee: During the week of January 10th, 660 students at Whitin participated in the annual National Geographic Geography Bee. Whitin School winner was 7th grade student Sam Wojciechowski. Sam took a written test in hopes of qualifying for the state competition being held in April.

Project 351: Whitin Middle School is happy to announce that Trevor Gardner participated in the Governor's Project 351 inauguration activities in Boston on January 15, 2011. Trevor, along with 400 other grade 8 students from across the Commonwealth met the Governor and other guests at a morning session, were involved in a service learning project during the day, and closed the day with a special community celebration. Trevor reports that, "The day was awesome." An article featuring Trevor's "awesome day" is posted in the Blackstone Valley Tribune. We are proud of Trevor.

Curriculum Planning: A district professional development day for all staff was scheduled for Tuesday, January 19. Due to inclement weather, the professional day activities were canceled.

Study Island: Whitin students have continued to benefit from their ongoing participation in Study Island. Study Island provides students with additional academic support based on state standards. Students have not only participated in Study Island during the school day, but are encouraged to participate at home.

PTO Reports and Parent Information

PTO Monthly Meeting: Whitin School PTO held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2011, at 6:30PM in the school library. A group of parents have been attending PTO monthly meetings. Copies of PTO meeting agenda and monthly Parent Newsletter are attached for your review.

General School Information

January Student of the Month: Whitin faculty members were asked to nominate students who were most responsible during the first half of the school year. Students receiving nominations were awarded with a student of the month bumper sticker, a pencil, and a certificate. Next month's category is most creative.

Monthly Faculty Meeting: The monthly meeting for Whitin faculty was held on Monday, January 3, 2011. Some topics included: Our district bullying presentation, professional development activities, MCAS testing schedule, and upcoming events for the month of January. A copy of the complete faculty meeting agenda is attached.

March MCAS Testing: Students in grades 5-8 will participate in the first of two spring MCAS testing sessions beginning in March. In early January, teacher teams have been asked to review the proposed testing dates and times with a focus on student groupings and accommodations. The March MCAS schedule will be attached to the February Parent Newsletter. In addition to MCAS testing, select students will participate in the MEPA and MCAS Alt. testing sessions.

Upcoming Events:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| February 1 | Report Cards Sent Home |
| February 2 | PTO Monthly Meetings |
| February 4 | ½ Day for Students – 10:17 Dismissal |
| February 4 | Whitin Parent Teacher Conferences Afternoon Only |
| February 7 | Monthly Whitin Faculty Meeting |
| February 9 | Whitin Variety Show 7:00PM |
| February 16 | School Council Meeting |
| February 18 | School NBA / NHL Spirit Day |
| February 21 – 25 | Winter Vacation |

Whitin Middle School PTO Meeting
Wednesday, January 5, 2011
6:30pm in the Library

Agenda

- Review of December Meeting Minutes
- Review of Treasurer's Report
- Whitin School News/ Calendar of Events
- Update on Box Tops
- Update on Cookie Dough Fundraiser
- 8th Grade Activities
- Teacher Requests
- New Business

Whitin Middle School PTO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 5, 2011

Attendance:

Amanda Ayers, Sue Bell, Paula Ceglowski, Kim Demers, Dr. Farrar, Kris Holt, Kay Klos, Nancy Lemire, Karen Mages, Michaelle Phillips, Sue Pickering, Lisa Rooney, Tracy Wagner

Review of Meeting Minutes: Minutes from December 1, 2010 meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was accepted with a balance of \$15,540.04.

Whitin School News/ Upcoming Events:

1/3 Classes Resume
1/7 Finalist will be chosen for Geography Bee
1/10 Variety Show auditions Gr. 5 & 6
1/11 Variety Show Auditions Gr. 7 & 8
1/17 No School MLK Holiday
1/18 No School Professional Development Day
1/19 School Council Mtg. 12:45pm
1/20 Variety Show Audition Call Back
1/24 Marks Close Term 2
1/28 Dance 7-9pm Gr. 7 & 8
1/31 Report Cards Go Home

Box Tops Update:

- 125 Box Tops turned in Feb./ Received a \$50- Bonus Coupon from a student
- Sending home the flyers to parents really helped
- \$175- for December
- Last submission was \$624.10/ Next submission will be in February

Cookie Dough Update:

- Packets go home 2/7/11
- Orders need to be turned in by 2/28/11
- Entertainment Book will be given to students that sell at least 3 items (1 book per student)
- Tentative Pick-up Date is 3/24/11

8th Grade Activities:

- Letter will go home to get pictures of 8th graders for slide show at Promotion Night
- Looking at possibly switching the venue for the Dinner Dance (Kris will talk to 8th grade advisor-Renee Bianco)

New Business:

- Teacher Request- Cost of Great East Trip is \$10,770.00/ they are looking for \$3,475.00 from PTO

Next PTO meeting will be Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at 6:30pm in the library.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Submitted by,
Tracy Wagner
Whitin PTO
Secretary



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Dr. Ronald J. Farrar, Principal

Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

Date: January 10, 2011
To: Whitin School Faculty
From: Dr. Farrar & Ms. Puliafico
Re: **Faculty Meeting Agenda**

Faculty Meeting Agenda: January 10, 2011

- Bullying Survey Results
- Bullying Training
- Student of the Month: Most Responsible
- Upcoming Events

January 18: No School – Technology Professional Development

January 26: Grades Due in iPass

January 28: Dance for grades 7 & 8

January 31: Report Cards sent home

Contact Person: Gr. 5: S. Dhosi Gr.6: C. Tanner Gr. 7: B. Beane
Gr. 8: S. Legere UA: J. Nadeau

Whitin Middle School

February 2011



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | 1 Basketball Home Game (Oxford) School Committee 7 pm UHS | 2 Ground Hog Day  PTO Meeting 6:30 Library | 3 | 4 Early Release 10:17 Parent Conferences Basketball Home Game (BMR) | 5 |
| 6 | 7 Variety Show Dress Rehearsal Faculty Meeting 2:00 Library | 8 Basketball Home Game (Grafton) | 9 Variety Show 2:15 & 7:00 | 10 Basketball Home Game (Millbury) (Variety Show snow date) | 11 | 12 Lincoln's Birthday  |
| 13 | 14 Valentine's Day  | 15 Basketball @ Miscoe Hill | 16 | 17 | 18 Community of Caring Family Bingo Night 5:30-8:30 NBA-NHL Spirit Day | 19 |
| 20 | 21 Winter Vacation Presidents' Day  No School | 22 No School Washington's Birthday  Washington's Birthday | 23 No School Winter Vacation Ash Wednesday | 24 No School Winter Vacation | 25 No School Winter Vacation | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | | | | | |