



## WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

120 Granite Street  
Uxbridge, Massachusetts 01569  
Main Office: 508-278-8640  
Fax: 508-278-8639



NELMS Spotlight School

Ronald J. Farrar, Principal

Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

### **Operational Report – January 2010** **Ronald J. Farrar, Principal**

#### **Overview of Activities for January**

- Whitin School Monthly Faculty Meeting on January 4
- Whitin PTO Meeting on January 6
- Variety Show Auditions on January 11
- Professional Development Day Focused on Technology on January 19
- Whitin School Council Meeting at 1:00PM on January 21
- Dance for Grades 7&8 on January 29

#### **Subject/Course/Classroom Activities**

**Curriculum Planning:** A district professional development day for all staff was held on Tuesday, January 19. Whitin School faculty members attended a variety of technology workshops throughout the day. Whitin Paraprofessionals attended CPR training at the Whitin Middle School. The descriptive feedback received from staff regarding this day was encouraging.

**National Geographic Geography Bee:** During the week of January 4<sup>th</sup>, students at Whitin participated in the annual National Geographic Geography Bee. Whitin School winner was 5<sup>th</sup> grader Matthew Kelly. Matthew took a written test in the hopes to qualify for the state competition being held in April.

**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. Attached are statistical reports for each grade related to Math, Science and ELA for your review.

#### **PTO Reports and Parent Information**

**PTO Monthly Meeting:** Whitin School PTO held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 6, 2010, 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**

**Monthly Faculty Meeting:** The monthly meeting for Whitin faculty was held on Monday, January 4. Some topics included: professional development, MCAS Schedule, Diversion Program and upcoming events. Copy of the complete faculty meeting agenda is attached.

**Grading What Matters Discussion:** Whitin faculty members and administration examined current assessment practices occurring at the middle school. An article entitled Grading What Matters by Tony Winger, become the focus for our discussion during team meetings.

**Upcoming Events:**

February 1	Monthly Whitin Faculty Meeting
February 1	Report Cards Sent Home
February 3	PTO Monthly Meetings
February 3	Remote Control Assembly for Grades 7 & 8
February 5	Whitin Parent Teacher Conferences Afternoon Only
February 10	School Council Meeting
February 10	Whitin Variety Show 7:00PM
February 15 – 19	Winter Vacation



WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PARENT NEWSLETTER  
January 2010



**No School for Students on January 18 & 19**

There will be no school for all Uxbridge Public School students on Monday & Tuesday, January 18 & 19. Uxbridge Public Schools will be closed on January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. On January 19, teachers and school staff will be participating in a full-day program of professional development training. Once again, there is no school for students on Monday & Tuesday, January 18 & 19.

**Second Quarter Ends on January 27**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report card period at Whitin School ends on January 27. This means that students will be taking mid-year quizzes and tests during the upcoming week. It is also likely that varied class assignments and projects will be due during the next few days. Parent involvement and support can be very helpful at this time of year; parents can help by encouraging students to study for tests and by monitoring completion of assigned classwork. Report cards will be sent home during the first week in February.

**Parent Conferences on February 5**

Mid-year parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for the afternoon on Friday, February 5 (11:00AM – 1:45 PM). Conference sign-up forms will be sent home to parents in report card envelopes during the first week of February. February 5<sup>th</sup> will be a half day for students.

**PTO News:**

**Otis Spunkmeyer Spring Fundraiser**

Our Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough, pretzels, and brownie fundraiser will be starting February 8th and ending February 26th. Our school will be receiving 45% of every purchase. As a special bonus, every student that sells 3 or more items from this fundraiser will receive a 2009 Entertainment Book when the orders are placed. You can serve your family fresh-baked cookies anytime.

**BoxTops for Education**

Reminder: BoxTops for Education program is running at Whitin. Monthly contests are being held where one winner can select a \$25 gift card to their choice of: iTunes, Walmart, Target, Papa Gino's, or Game Stop. Entry forms are available near the main office or online. Questions can be directed to Nancy Lemire at [lemires@juno.com](mailto:lemires@juno.com).

**Want to Get Involved??**

The Whitin PTO is always looking for new members to attend meetings. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Whitin Library. **This year, the Whitin PTO is looking for members interested in taking over a position on the PTO Board.** Please come to a meeting and see if this how you would like to get involved.

**Dance for Grades 7-8**

A school dance for students in grades 7-8 is scheduled for Friday, January 29, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Price of admission is \$5.00. Students and parents are reminded that the School Dress Code shall be enforced – page 24 of Handbook. Parents are asked to pick up students at 9:00 PM when the dance ends.

### **Whitin Middle School 2009 Variety Show**

Auditions for the annual Whitin School Variety Show were held on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday January 12<sup>th</sup>. Call backs will be held on January 21. The Variety Show will be presented on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 and 7:00 PM.

### **Community of Caring Coat Drive**

Whitin Middle School will be holding a coat drive from January 20 – 29 to benefit One Warm Coat. We will be collecting clean, reusable coats, snow pants, gloves, hats, and boots. The goal of One Warm Coat is to provide any person in need with a warm coat, free of charge. Providing this simple yet vital need helps people live productive lives year round. For more information about One Warm Coat, visit their website: [www.onewarmcoat.org](http://www.onewarmcoat.org).

### **Fundraising Event by Parents for a Safe Graduation**

The Parents for safe graduation would like to advertise a family style Spaghetti dinner @ Blissful Meadows on Friday, January 22, 2010 from 6-9 pm. Ticket prices are \$10.00 per adult, \$7.00 for Seniors Citizens and Students, \$4.00 for children 6 and under. Tickets can be purchase by contacting Wade Warner @ 401-374-7858.

Ronald J. Farrar, Principal  
Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

January 13, 2010



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NELMS Spotlight School

Ronald J. Farrar, Principal

Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

Date: January 2010  
To: Whitin School Faculty  
From: Mr. Farrar & Ms. Puliafico  
Re: Team meetings

### **Team Meeting Agenda for January 11, 2010**

- Technology P.D. Day: January 19, 2010
- Going Green Presentations (Grades 5 & 6)
- Remote Control Presentation (Grades 7 & 8): February 3
- Diversion program (Grade 8)
- Pass/Fail List
  - Article “Grading What Matters”
- MCAS Schedule
- Calendar of Events
- Other

Team Leaders:

Gr. 5: Ann Lane (100)

Gr. 7: Barbara Beane (203)

Gr. 6: Donna Yargeau (109)

Gr. 8: Sue Legere (118) U.A.: John Nadeau

(218)

Whitin Middle School PTO Meeting  
Wednesday, January 6, 2010  
**6:30pm in the Library**

**Agenda**

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

**Whitin Middle School PTO**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 6, 2009**

**Attendance:**

Amanda Ayers, Sue Bell, Andrea Consoletti, Laura Derderian, Nancy Hanson, Kay Klos, Nancy Lemire, Karen Mages, Michaelle Phillips, Amy Puliafico, Kim Rexford, Lisa Rooney, Tracy Wagner

**Review of Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes from the December meeting were accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The treasurer's report was accepted with a balance of \$20,136.69.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events:**

1/11-12 Variety Show Auditions  
1/18 No School-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
1/19 No School-Professional Development Day  
1/21 Variety Show Auditions Call Back  
1/27 Marks Close Term 2  
1/29 Dance Grades 7 & 8  
2/4 BVT Going Green Presentation Grades 5 & 6  
2/4 Middle School Presentation Grades 7 & 8  
2/5 Half Day- Parent Teacher Conferences  
2/10 Variety Show

**Whitin School News:**

- Grade 5 & 6 Social was held in December and went very well. A movie was shown and popcorn and ice cream were served.
- Both Christmas Concerts went very well.
- Basketball started on 12/10.

**Box Tops Update:**

- Mrs. Yargeau's class won for December.
- October's submission was \$543.00.

**Cookie Dough Update:**

- Cookie Dough Fundraiser starts on Monday, 2/8 and ends on Friday, 2/26.
- The school gets 45% profit.
- Each student that sells at least 3 tubs of cookie dough will get an entertainment book for free (one per student).

- Delivery will be on 3/24.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities:**

- A flyer will be going home about the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade slide show, looking for photos.

**Teacher Requests:**

- \$280 was approved for the community of caring project for raffle prizes.
- Grade 5 whale watching field trip- bus cost was approved at \$2,340.
- Great East Festival- bus cost was approved at \$2,325.

**New Business:**

- On 1/27 Taft is having a fundraiser (Cash for Gold). Taft gets 15% of total sales. All are welcome.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.**

Next Whitin Middle School PTO meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 3, 2010** at 6:30pm in the Whitin Library.

Submitted by,  
Tracy Wagner  
Whitin Middle School PTO  
Secretary



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## WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

### 2010 Geography Bee Schedule

#### **Round 1: Wednesday, January 6, 2010**

All-School Round will be conducted in homeroom immediately following announcements on Wednesday morning:

- Homeroom teachers will read each of the 30 questions orally
- Students will record their answers on paper
- Students will correct papers
- Teachers will use the 8 tie-breaker questions if necessary
- Teachers will send the name of 1 homeroom winner to the office

#### **Round 2: Thursday, January 7, 2010**

Homeroom winners will compete in Round 2 in the cafeteria on Thursday morning during the 1<sup>st</sup> period. This will consist of 30 questions delivered orally and answered in writing. 10 finalists will be selected to advance to the next round

#### **Round 3: Friday, January 8, 2010**

The 10 finalists will compete to determine the Whitin School Champion. Round 3, conducted in oral geography bee format, will be held in the library during the 1<sup>st</sup> period.

#### **Round 4: Monday, January 11, 2010**

The Whitin School Champion will take the 2009 Geography Bee written Qualifying Test on Monday morning, January 11. This test will be mailed to National Geography. If the student score qualifies, he/she will be invited to the State Geography Bee to be held in April.

# Study Island Results

## January 2010

<b>5th Graders</b> <b>5th Grade - MA Standards Mastery and MCAS Preparation</b>					
Subject	<b>Weekly Stats</b> (01/03/2010-01/09/2010)		<b>Yearly Stats</b> (08/01/2009-01/09/2010)		
	Questions	% Correct	Questions	% Correct	
Math - on-grade-level	495	68.5%	16,829	71.0%	
ELA - on-grade-level	850	78.2%	4,866	73.0%	
Science - on-grade-level	295	68.5%	10,714	67.2%	
<b>All Sections</b> - on-grade-level	<b>1,640</b>	<b>73.5%</b>	<b>32,409</b>	<b>70.1%</b>	

<b>6th Graders</b> <b>6th Grade - MA Standards Mastery and MCAS Preparation</b>					
Subject	<b>Weekly Stats</b> (01/03/2010-01/09/2010)		<b>Yearly Stats</b> (08/01/2009-01/09/2010)		
	Questions	% Correct	Questions	% Correct	
Math - on-grade-level	1,854	71.7%	18,466	72.1%	
ELA - on-grade-level	2,074	80.5%	14,752	75.4%	
<b>All Sections</b> - on-grade-level	<b>3,928</b>	<b>76.3%</b>	<b>33,218</b>	<b>73.6%</b>	

<b>7th Graders</b> <b>7th Grade - MA Standards Mastery and MCAS Preparation</b>					
Subject	<b>Weekly Stats</b> (01/03/2010-01/09/2010)		<b>Yearly Stats</b> (08/01/2009-01/09/2010)		
	Questions	% Correct	Questions	% Correct	
Math - on-grade-level	1,727	73.1%	15,403	70.1%	
ELA - on-grade-level	300	70.7%	11,012	71.4%	
History and Social Science - on-grade-level	271	64.9%	875	69.6%	
<b>All Sections</b> - on-grade-level	<b>2,298</b>	<b>71.8%</b>	<b>27,290</b>	<b>70.6%</b>	

**8th Graders**  
**8th Grade - MA Standards Mastery and MCAS Preparation**



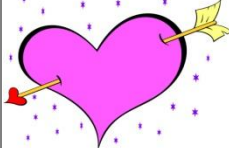
Subject	Weekly Stats (01/03/2010-01/09/2010)		Yearly Stats (08/01/2009-01/09/2010)			
	Questions	% Correct	Questions	% Correct	Students Passing**	Program Completion***
Math - on-grade-level	1,982	67.1%	15,804	69.7%	<a href="#">(57/113)</a> <a href="#">50.4%</a>	9%
ELA - on-grade-level	893	83.3%	20,275	76.5%	<a href="#">(80/112)</a> <a href="#">71.4%</a>	18%
Science - on-grade-level	292	75.7%	3,548	70.5%	<a href="#">(20/33)</a> <a href="#">60.6%</a>	5%
<b>All Sections</b> - on-grade-level	<b>3,167</b>	<b>72.5%</b>	<b>39,627</b>	<b>73.3%</b>	-	11%



# Whitin Middle School

## February 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Basketball @ Oxford Jr. High  Report Cards Sent Home  Faculty Meeting 1:50 Library	<b>2</b> Ski Club  Groundhog Day	<b>3</b> Basketball @ Blackstone Millville  Assembly Gr7&8 "Remote Control" 9:30-10:30  PTO Meeting 6:30	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Parent Conference 11:00-1:30  Early Dismissal 10:00  Basketball @ Bartlett Jr. High	<b>6</b> Jr. High Central District Auditions
<b>7</b> Jr. High Central District Auditions Snow Date	<b>8</b> Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 2-3:30pm Basketball at Grafton MS  Spring Fundraiser Begins	<b>9</b> Ski Club	<b>10</b> Variety Show Performance 7:00	<b>11</b> Variety Show Snow Date  Basketball at Millbury Jr./Sr.	 Lincoln's Birthday Reading Time 9:00	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> President's Day  No School Winter Vacation	<b>16</b> No School Winter Vacation	<b>17</b> No School Winter Vacation	<b>18</b> No School Winter Vacation	<b>19</b> No School Winter Vacation	<b>20</b> No School Winter Vacation
<b>21</b>	 Washington's Birthday	<b>23</b> Ski Club	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Ski Club	<b>26</b> Reading Time 9:55  Spring Fundraiser Ends	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>						