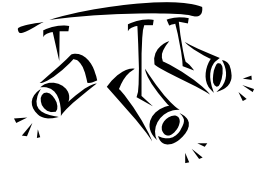




WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

Monthly Report – February 2009 **Ronald J. Farrar, Principal**

Overview of Activities for February

- Whitin School Monthly Faculty Meeting on February 2
- Annual Student Variety Show Performances on February 4
- Whitin PTO Meeting on February 4
- Mid-Year Parent-Teacher Conferences on Friday, February 6
- Whitin School Council Meeting on February 25

Subject/Course/Classroom Activities

Monthly Faculty Meeting: The monthly meeting for Whitin School faculty was held on Monday, February 2. Some topics included: plans for parent conferences, Study Island/ISSP update, crisis team meeting, schedule for upcoming MCAS tests, student of the month for February, and upcoming events. A copy of the complete faculty meeting agenda is attached.

Student of the Month: Whitin School Students of the Month for February were selected by teachers based on the theme of “Most Creative.” Students were recognized for being creative in various categories. A listing of Students of the Month for February is attached.

Student Variety Show: The annual Whitin School Student Variety Show, coordinated by Kathleen Penza, was held on Wednesday, February 4. Afternoon and evening performances included many different acts that featured singing, dancing, comedy skits, karate demonstrations, and several instrument solo performances. Congratulations to Mrs. Penza and the students for a great Variety Show. A listing of all the acts is attached.

Central District Music Auditions: Several individual members of the Whitin School Band participated in the Central District Music Auditions held on Saturday, February 7. Kathleen Penza, Band Director, was pleased to announce that Andrew Reardon (grade 8) has been accepted to the Concert Band. This is the third consecutive year that Whitin School is being represented in the Central District Music Festival. Congratulations to Andrew and Mrs. Penza.

PTO Reports and Parent Information

PTO Monthly Meeting: Whitin School PTO held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 4, 2009 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.

Upcoming Events:

March 2	Monthly Whitin Faculty Meeting
March 4	BVT Interviews
March 4	PTO Monthly Meetings
March 6	Curriculum ½ Day
March 10	Jazz and Pasta Night
March 20	Faculty/Student Basketball Game
March 27	Whitin Crisis Team Meeting
March 30	March-April MCAS Testing Begins



WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER February 2009



Parent Conferences on February 6

Mid-year parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for the afternoon on Friday, February 6 (11:30 AM – 2:30 PM). February 6th will be a half day for students. Students will be dismissed at 10:30.

PTO News

Otis Spunkmeyer Spring Fundraiser

Our Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough, pretzels, and brownie fundraiser will be starting February 9th and ending February 27th. 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.

Worcester Sharks Night

Saturday, March 7. Join us for a game and skate one hour before on the same ice as the Sharks at the DCU Center. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Order form for tickets at www.uxbridgeschools.com.

BoxTops for Education

This year the BoxTops for Education program has been reactivated and is gaining momentum. Monthly contests are being held where one winner per grade can select a \$10 gift card to their choice of: iTunes, Walmart, Target, Papa Gino's, or Game Stop. Entry forms are available near the main office. Questions can be directed to Nancy Lemire at lemires@juno.com. Visit the BoxTops website <http://www.btfe.com> and sign up to support our school

Keep an eye out for the new Whitin School message sign purchased by the PTO. We hope to install the sign in front of the school this spring!

Whitin Middle School 2009 Variety Show

The Whitin Middle School will be holding the annual Variety Show on Wednesday, February 4, 2009 (snow date – February 5th). There are 30 different student acts participating this year! There will be two different shows held – the first will be at 2:30 and the second will be held at 7:00 PM. There are 10 acts that will be participating in both shows. Cost for Adults is \$5.00 and for students is \$3.00. One admission price will admit you to both shows. Funds raised will be used to support the Music Department.

Safety First at Whitin School

In an attempt to be prepared, Whitin School has been working on practicing safety drills such as evacuation drills and lockdown drills. The students and staff have been fully instructed on expectations and procedures during these drills. These drills have been beneficial and successful.

MCAS Testing Schedule for Whitin Middle School

MCAS testing for all grades will run from March 30 – April 14 and again from May 11-May 28. All grades will be taking ELA MCAS beginning in March. Math, Science and Social Studies tests will be held in May.

February Vacation: February 16 - 20

Ronald J. Farrar, Principal
Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

February 2, 2009

Date: February 2, 2009
To: Whitin Staff
From: Mr. Farrar & Ms. Puliafico
Re: Faculty Meeting

Faculty Meeting Agenda for February 2, 2009

- Ongoing Professional Development
 - Keys to Literacy Follow-up: February 10
 - First Steps In Math Training: February 23
- Gifted & Talented Update
- MCAS Schedule
- Parent/Teacher Conferences: February 6th
 - Half Day for Students (5-6-7-8)
- ISSP Mid-Year Check In
- Crisis Team Update
 - Lockdown Feedback
 - Next Lockdown Drill
- Principal Advisory Update
- Student of the Month – Most Creative
- Upcoming Fundraiser: February 9th – 27th
- Upcoming Events
 - February 4th PTO Meeting 6:30 in Whitin Library
 - February 4th Whitin School Variety Show
 - February 6th Parent/Teacher Conferences: Early Release for Students
 - February 16-20th February Vacation
 - February 26th Mid-Point of 3rd Quarter
 - February 27 Grade 5&6 Social

Whitin Middle School PTO Meeting
Wednesday, February 4, 2009
6:30pm in the Whitin Library

Agenda

- ❖ Review January Meeting Minutes
- ❖ Review Treasurer's Report
- ❖ Calendar of Upcoming Events
- ❖ Whitin School News
- ❖ Update on Box Tops
- ❖ Update on Cookie Dough Fundraiser
- ❖ Update on Shark's Night
- ❖ Spirit Wear Reorder
- ❖ 8th Grade Activities
- ❖ Teacher Appreciation
- ❖ New Business

Whitin Middle School PTO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 14, 2009

Attendance:

Lisa Anderson, Sue Bell, Deb Blackburn, Andrea Consoletti, Cay DenHerder, Laura Derderian, Kay Klos, Nancy Lemire, Michaelle Phillips, Amy Puliafico, Kim Rexford, Moe Stewart, Tracy Wagner

Review of Meeting Minutes from December 3, 2008:

Minutes from the December meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was accepted with a balance of \$ 38,190.03.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

1/16 Professional Development Day-NO SCHOOL

1/20 Inauguration Day/ Marks Close

1/23 7th & 8th Grade Dance 7-9pm

1/27 Report Cards Go Home

2/4 Variety Show

2/6 Early Dismissal- Parent/Teacher Conferences

Whitin School News:

-Both Christmas Concerts went very well.

-There were 10 finalists with the Geography Bee. Wade O'Neil in 8th Grade took first place and took the test to see if he qualifies for the state level.

-The Principal's Advisory Group met on 1/13/09. The group is made up of 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. There were 4 lunches of pizza with the topics of the meetings being buses, bathrooms, and the transition to High School. The meetings were very productive and they will meet again in Feb. They would like to have 2-3 more students per grade be a part of this.

-On 1/14/09 Whitin had its first Lock Down Drill. Everyone was aware of the drill ahead of time. Another one will be done in February with the Police Dept. It will not be made public. The first drill did have a few things to be worked out.

Update on Box Tops:

We received a check for \$699. We would like to possibly get a letter to go home about this as a reminder to do it. The 8th grade had only 1 entry last month and it was Mrs. Robbins. We would like to possibly ask the Student Council or the Principal's Advisory Group about how to get the students excited about this.

Update on Gift Barn Fundraiser:

No \$ has been received as of yet. We do have some \$ coming but it may take some time to get it.

Update on School Sign:

This has been tabled until the spring because of frozen ground. Sign is ready and the company is storing it. It will be delivered when we are ready. We are targeting for March. We will pay last 50% when delivered.

Update on Cookie Dough Fundraiser:

On 2/9 info. will go home, 2/27 end of selling, 3/18 delivery. We will make a 45% commission. When 3 are sold child will get an entertainment book, 1 book per family. The 4 top sellers will receive \$25 gift cards.

Update on Magazine Drive:

Mrs. Legere's class was one of the classrooms to win an ice cream party. She was very excited about this. 4 teachers received gift cards some of which were donated to the food pantry.

Update on Shark's Night:

Sat. 3/7 at 7:00pm. Pre-game skate from 4:45-5:45. Each participant needs their own skates. Tickets are \$10. Flyers will go home and it will go on the website.

Update on Spirit Wear:

We will do a reorder in March of pants, black sweatshirts, and black T-Shirts.

8th Grade Activities:

Class trip will be to Six Flags. Possibility of Dinner Dance once again being at Arrowhead Acres.

There is no move up day but there is an orientation. Maybe a possibility of a shadow day.

New Business:

Teacher Appreciation gift for this year- possibly hand sanitizer and protectors for ID cards.

We did receive a thank you for \$400 from 7th and 8th grade dance that was donated to People First.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

Submitted by, Tracy Wagner- Secretary

MCAS TEST SCHEDULE FOR SPRING 2009

Grade 5

	<u>Reading Comprehension Test</u>	
Mon. March 30	ELA Practice Test	8:30 - 10:00 AM
Tues. March 31	ELA Session 1	8:00 – 10:15 AM
Wed. April 1	ELA Session 2	8:00 – 10:15 AM
Thur. April 2	ELA Session 3	8:00 – 10:15 AM
Fri. April 3	ELA Make-Up	8:00 – 10:15 AM

Grade 6

	<u>Reading Comprehension Test</u>	
Mon. April 6	ELA Practice Test	8:00 – 11:00 AM
Tue. April 7	ELA Session 1	8:00 – 11:00 AM
Wed. April 8	ELA Session 2	8:00 – 11:00 AM
Thur. April 9	ELA Session 3	8:00 – 11:00 AM
Mon. April 13	ELA Make-Up	8:00 – 11:00 AM

Grade 7

	<u>ELA Composition Test</u>	
Tues. March 31	Session A: First Draft	8:00 – 9:20 AM
	Supervised Break	9:20 – 9:40 AM
	Final Composition	9:40 – 11:00 AM

Grade 7

	<u>Reading Comprehension Test</u>	
Mon. April 6	ELA Practice Test	
Tue. April 7	ELA Session 1	11:45 – 2:00 PM
Wed. April 8	ELA Session 2	11:45 – 2:00 PM
Thur. April 9	ELA Session 3	11:45 – 2:00 PM
Mon. April 13	ELA Make-Up	11:45 – 2:00 PM

Grade 8

	<u>Reading Comprehension Test</u>	
Mon. March 30	ELA Practice Test	12:30 – 2:00 PM
Tue. March 31	ELA Session 1	12:30 – 2:00 PM
Wed. April 1	ELA Session 2	12:30 – 2:00 PM
Thu. April 2	ELA Session 3	12:30 – 2:00 PM
Fri. April 3	ELA Make-Up	12:30 – 2:00 PM

MCAS Alternate Assessment Due May 9th

VARIETY SHOW – 2009

SHOW “A” – 2:30 PM

1. “Girlfriend” – vocals, Nicole and Danielle Jolicoeur
2. “When I Grow Up” – dance, Mikayla Rooney and Jen Roy
3. “I Just Can’t Get To You” – original song, Jared Robert
4. “Cotton-Eyed Joe” – dance, Lyndsey Hebert and Michaela Lamy
5. “Jesus, Take the Wheel” – vocals, Emily Greeson
6. “Ode to Joy” – violin solo, Courtney Bond
7. “Girls Just Wanna Have Fun” – vocals, Alexis and Chelsea Berlinguet
8. “Canon in D” – piano, Abby Centrella
9. “Over My Head” – piano, Chris Kelly
10. Balloons – balloon figures act, Isadora Silva
11. Lizzie’s gymnastics – gymnastic routine, Lizzie Davidson
12. “Breathe” – vocals, Jessica Lam
13. “Pon de dreams” – dance, Amber Yaroshefski, Molly Wallace, Gillian Toomey, Emily Hanson, Melissa Taylor, Emma Vickery
14. Rap time – original rap, Jackson Wright and Alex Bianco
15. “Bop to the Top” – vocals, Maura Wilson
16. Karate demonstration – karate, Samantha Beaudet
17. “My Heart Will Go On” – flute and violin, Katherine Wills, Amber Yaroshefski, Molly Wallace, Laurelyn Anderson, Gillian Toomey
18. Guitar solo – Jordan Tancrell
19. “Take a Bow” – dance, Amber Yaroshefski
20. “I’ll Stand By You” – Theresa Loell
21. “The Butterfly” – dance Mikaela Shanley

2009 VARIETY SHOW “B” – 7:00 PM

1. “Before He Cheats” – vocals, Harley Bison, Emily Anderson
2. “Circus” – dance, Theresa Loell, Brittany Ruiz
3. “Over My Head” – piano, Chris Kelly

4. "I'll Stand By You" – vocals, Theresa Loell
5. "Bulls on Parade" – guitar & drums, Matt Hamel and Devon Borjeson-Troupe
6. "Wanted Dead or Alive" – drum set, Luke Higgins
7. original guitar solo, Jordan Tancrell
8. "Tim McGraw" – vocal, Harley Bison
9. "Take A Bow" – dance, Amber Yaroshefski
10. "Balloon" – balloon act, Isadora Silva
11. "My Heart Will Go On" – violin and flute, Katherine Wills, Amber Yaroshefski, Molly Wallace, Laurelyn Anderson, Gillian Toomey
12. "Karate" – karate demonstration, Sam Beaudette
13. Original rap – Jackson Wright, Alex Bianco
14. "Girlfriend" - Nicole Jolicoeur, Danielle Jolicoeur
15. "Pon de dreams" – dance, Amber Yaroshefski, Molly Wallace, Gillian Toomey, Emily Hanson, Melissa Taylor, Emma Vickery
16. "Picture to Burn" – vocals, Nicole Jolicoeur
17. "The Butterfly" – dance, Mikaela Shanley

**Whitin Middle School
Student of the Month – Most Creative**

February 2009

Grade 5

Patrick Aldrich
Margaret Calvo
Abigail Cote
Jacob Irving
Erin Kalousdian
Sophie Lynch
Kerry Monahan
Setu Patel
Jared Robert
Rachel Roy
Katherine Salzberg
Lukasz Wisniewski

Grade 6

Danielle Albertelli
Jon Arguin
Michelle Baker
Abigail Centrella
Emily Cole
Owen Dugan
Nathan Harpin
Lacie Kraich
Sean Raleigh
Adam Rielly

Grade 7

Chelsea Berlinguet
Demetrius Chokshi-Fox
Verity Hirsch
Xavier Labbe
Christina Smith

Grade 8

Harley Bison
Lindsey Centrella
Fernando Puggleasa
Nathan DeOrsey
Jonathan Robert

Whitin Middle School

March 2009



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Faculty meeting 2:30pm Library Orthodox Lent Begins	3 School Committee Meeting 7:00pm UHS	4 BVT Interviews 8:00am Library PTO Meeting 6:30pm Library	5	6 Early Release 10:45 Curriculum Day Periods (1,2,3,4)	7 PTO Night with the Sharks @ DCU Center
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins 	9	10 Art Show Jazz Pasta Night	11 Art Show Jazz Pasta Night Snow Date	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20  Spring Begins Student/Faculty Basketball Game 2:30pm	21
22	23	24	25 PTO Cookie Dough Pick-up	26	27 Crisis Team Meeting 1:30pm	28 Superintendent 's Gala
29	30 MCAS Testing Begins	31 Marks Close 3 rd Qtr. Gr. 7 MCAS Long Composition				