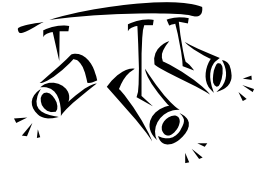




WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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 – March 2009 **Ronald J. Farrar, Principal**

Overview of Activities for March

- Whitin Middle School PTO Monthly Meeting on March 4
- Whitin School Monthly Faculty Meeting on March 9
- Whitin Middle School Lock Down Drill on March 9
- Celebrating the Arts and Jazz and Pasta Night on March 10
- Whitin School Council Meeting at 1:00PM on March 11
- Annual Student vs. Teacher Basketball Game on March 20
- Crisis Team Planning Meeting on March 27
- MCAS Tests in ELA Composition and Reading Comprehension from March 30–April 15
- Superintendent’s Gala on March 28

Subject/Course/Classroom Activities

Monthly Faculty Meeting: The monthly meeting for Whitin School faculty was held on Monday, March 9. The faculty meeting agenda included attention to the following topics: curriculum planning projects, MCAS testing, and mid-quarter progress reports. A copy of the complete faculty meeting agenda is attached.

Curriculum Planning Day: A half-day for curriculum planning by all Uxbridge School staff was scheduled on Friday, March 6. Whitin School faculty members worked in small groups on a variety of curriculum and instruction projects including MCAS preparation, Key 3 teaching planning and math training.

Whitin Lockdown: On Monday, March 16 the Whitin Middle School conducted a lock down drill with the assistance of local police and fire. We are happy to report that the lock down was successful. Additionally, students and staff members were very cooperative and were well prepared.

PTO Reports and Parent Information

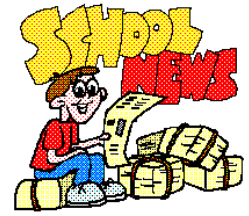
PTO Monthly Meeting: Whitin School PTO held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 6:30PM in the school library. A group of parents have been attending PTO monthly meetings. Copies of PTO meeting agenda and monthly Parent Newsletter are attached for your review.

Upcoming Events:

April 1	Marks Close
April 1	Whitin PTO Meeting
April 6	Faculty Meeting
April 3	Grade 5-6 School Social
April 3	Grade 7-8 School Dance
April 13	Report Cards Sent Home
April 15	District Wide Choral Concert
April 16	School Council Meeting
April 20-24	Spring Vacation



WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER March 2009



Celebrating the Arts on March 10

The Uxbridge Public Schools presents the 2nd Annual "Celebrating the Arts" event on Tuesday, March 10 at Whitin School. The event will feature an art show in the Whitin School Library highlighting work from Taft, Whitin and UHS art students. The Art Show will be open to the public from 8 AM- 3 PM and 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM. In addition to the artwork displays, there will also be musical performances by students from Taft and Whitin throughout the day. In the evening, the "Celebrating the Arts" events continue with "Music and Meatballs" in the Whitin School cafeteria. The menu will include salad, pasta, meatballs, breadsticks, desserts and beverages. Entertainment will be provided by the Whitin Middle School and UHS Jazz Bands and the UHS Rock/Blues Bands. The dinner concert begins at 6:00 PM. Admission for "Music and Meatballs" is \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students and \$25.00 for a family pass. Tickets are available through the Whitin School office or at the door.

Whitin Student Chosen for Central District Band

Congratulations to eighth grade student Andrew Reardon for being accepted into the Jr. High Central District Band. This group is an auditioned ensemble made up of students from throughout Central Massachusetts. Andrew was accepted as the top scoring mallet percussionist. He will attend two four-hour rehearsals in April and perform in a concert on May 2nd. We are pleased to have Andrew represent the Whitin Middle School.

Student vs Faculty Basketball on March 20

The annual Student vs Faculty basketball game, known as "March Madness," will be played in the Whitin gym on Friday, March 20, starting at 2:45 PM. Student members of the Whitin boys' and girls' basketball teams will play against members of the faculty. Cost of admission will be \$2.00 per person. Profit from the game will help to fund this year's school yearbook as well as activities sponsored by the School Climate Committee. Parents are invited to join in "March Madness."

PTO News

Neighborhood Rewards Program from Shaw's Supermarket

The receipt rewards program from Shaw's Supermarket has a new name and a new way for our school to earn funds without collecting register receipts. It's now called Neighborhood Rewards, and we can earn funds through your Shaw's reward card when shop on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursdays. Please complete and return the attached information sheet so we can link your rewards card to our school. You can visit www.shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards to link your card. Our school ID # 49001019208.

Spirit Wear Sale Will take place March 16th through March 27th. Order forms will be coming home soon. We will have additional forms available in the office.

Thank you for participating in the Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Reminder: Pick up on March 25th

Note from the Nurse...

Sign-ups for spring sports at the Whitin Middle School will be soon. Any student trying out for spring track, baseball or girls softball will need a current physical exam on file **prior to the first tryout**. If your child has had a physical exam within the last year, he/she will be cleared for sports. Please contact Mrs. Donahue if you have any questions.

Please See the March/April MCAS Schedule on the Back

Ronald J. Farrar, Principal
Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

March 9, 2009



WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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NELMS Spotlight School

Ronald J. Farrar, Principal

Amy Puliafico, Assistant Principal

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

Faculty Meeting Agenda for March 2, 2009

- District Update – Dr. Boyaj
- Curriculum Day – March 6 (1-2-3-4)
 - Key 3
 - First Steps
 - Gifted & Talented
 - MCAS Planning
- Progress Report Timeline
 - Submit grades by March 5
 - Progress Reports sent on March 9
- Crisis Team Update
- Snow/Emergency Call Chain
- Upcoming Events
 - March 4 BVT Interviews in the Library
 - March 4 PTO Meeting at 6:30 in the Library
 - March 5 Principal's Advisory Council
 - March 6 Curriculum Half Day 10:45 dismissal
 - March 7 Uxbridge Night at the Sharks
 - March 10 Celebration of the Arts
 - March 18 School Council at 1:15 in the Library
 - March 20 Student/Faculty Basketball Game
 - March 27 Crisis Team Meeting at 1:30 in the Library
 - March 28 Superintendent's Gala

Reminder: MCAS Testing Begins March 30th.

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

Agenda

- Review February Meeting Minutes
- Review Treasurer's Report
- Calendar of Upcoming Events
- Whitin School News
- Grade 8 Class End of Year Activities
- Box Tops Update
- Spirit Wear Update
- Sharks Night Update
- Cookie Dough Fundraiser Update
- PTO Expo.
- Plans for Teacher Appreciation Week
- Gala Update
- New Business

Whitin Middle School PTO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Attendance:

Lisa Anderson, Sue Bell, Deb Blackburn, Andrea Consoletti, Cay DenHerder, Laura Derderian, Ron Farrar, Michelle Ferrara, Nancy Hanson, Kris Holt, Kay Klos, Nancy Lemire, Anne Maloney, Michaelle Phillips, Kim Rexford, Lisa Rooney, Moe Stewart, Tracy Wagner

Review of Meeting Minutes from January 7, 2009

Minutes from January Meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was accepted with a balance of \$30,059.73.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

2/4/09 Variety Show 2:30 & 7:00

2/6/09 Early Release(Parent Conferences)

2/10/09 Keys to Literacy Training

2/15/09-2/22/09 Winter Vacation

2/26/09 Progress Reports Closing Date

2/27/09 5th and 6th Grade Social (Movie & Popcorn)

Whitin School News

School Council is working on a school improvement plan

MCAS Schedule will be going home with the next newsletter

Crisis team is still working on Lockdowns. The next one teachers will be alerted but not students.

Then there will be one where no one is alerted.

Box Tops Update

We did not have a big turnout for January.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser

The cookie dough fundraiser is running from 2/9/09 thru 2/27/09. Delivery will be on 3/25/09.

Prices range from \$12-\$14. Gift Cards will be awarded to top 4 sellers. Each child that turns in 3 sales will receive an entertainment book.

Sharks Night Update

No update at this time.

Spirit Wear Update

Orders will be taken in mid March. Prices will be the same as in the fall. Hooded sweatshirts, T-shirts, and flannel pants will be offered.

8th Grade Activities

As of right now Promotion Night is scheduled for June 17th. This may change if we have any more snow days.

Debate will be held hopefully the second week of June.

June 15th is the 8th Grade Dinner Dance.

Teacher Appreciation

May 4-8, 2009. To be discussed at next meeting.

New Business

We will be looking into purchasing a popcorn machine. We borrowed one from Taft PTO but we decided that we have enough events to use one so why not buy one of our own. We will be looking into this.

Gala- we will wait to hear cost of tickets and then we will vote to purchase 6-8 tickets that will be raffled off to the teachers.

We are also looking into possibly purchasing more LCD projectors for the teachers.

Tentative last day of school is 6/18/09.

\$1700 was approved for buses for the band and the Great East Festival.

Right now the 8th grade class trip to Six Flags is scheduled for the same day as the band festival.

Ron will look into this.

Meeting Adjourned 7:00pm

Submitted by, Tracy Wagner/ Secretary Whitin PTO

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



WHITIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

April 2009



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 MCAS Reading Gr. 5 & 8 PTO Meeting 6:30pm Library	2 MCAS Reading Gr. 5 & 8	3 Reading Time 1:15 MCAS Reading Gr. 5 & 8 Social Gr.5&6 2:30-4 Dance Gr.7&8 7:00-9	4
5	6 Faculty Meeting Library 2:30pm	7 MCAS Reading Gr. 6 & 7 School Committee 7:00pm UHS	8 MCAS Reading Gr. 6 & 7	9 MCAS Reading Gr. 6 & 7 First Day of Passover	10 No School Good Friday	11
12  Easter	13	14 Girl's Softball & Boy's Baseball vs. Grafton Middle School	15 District Wide Choral Concert 7:00pm Gr. 4-12 	16 Gr. 5 Zoo Mobile 12:30-1:30	17 Reading time 8:15 Girl's Softball & Boy's Baseball vs. Dudley Middle School	18
19 Orthodox Easter	20 	21 Spring Vacation	22 Administrative Professionals Day Spring Vacation 	23 Spring Vacation	24 Spring Vacation 	25
26	27 Girl's Softball & Boy's Baseball at Northbridge Middle.	28	29 Girl's Softball & Boy's Baseball vs. Miscoe Hill	30 Gr. 5 Field Trip to BV Cinema "Earth"		