

Monthly Report
Superintendent of Schools
October 2009

- On October 7, I met with Kate Traveline, President of the Uxbridge Education Foundation, to discuss plans for the annual Superintendent's Gala. This year's Gala will be held on Saturday, March 13 at Blissful Meadows with a theme of "the 50's." The theme aligns with the UHS Drama Club play of *Grease*, which will be held the following weekend.
- Met with the Finance Committee on October 27 to discuss the reductions that were made in this year's budget.
- On October 26, John Higgins, Ernie Esposito, Don Sawyer, and I met with Noah Luskin, Project Manager, and Gene Raymond, Architect, to discuss the building project and educational specifications for the proposed high school building project.
- Sharon O'Connor from IMG held an informational session for administrators and support staff on October 26 to discuss the implementation of iParent. iParent would allow parents the ability to view some of their child's school information such as grades, attendance, and discipline on-line. We are looking into our technology capacity to handle this program with the hope of making it available to parents.
- The Uxbridge Public School's Administrative Team Meetings were held on October 6 and 20. Topics included:
 - H1N1, Budget, Curriculum, iParent, MCAS, Secretary Evaluations, Professional Learning Communities, and Growth Model
- Held budget meetings with administrative staff to begin building the FY 2011 budget.
- I participated as a member of the Town Safety Committee during our monthly meeting on November 6. The issue of school bus stop safety was brought before the committee by the Town Manager who received a letter from a parent who expressed concern for the bus stop. I informed the committee on the process used to determine the safety of bus stops and that this particular stop has been reviewed multiple times by the bus company, school committee chair, superintendent and police chief. Each time it has been determined to be safe. The Safety Committee is supportive of the decision.
- I attended the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents meeting for new superintendents held at Hudson High School on October 14.
- Held evaluation and goal setting meetings with administrators.

- The H1N1 flu continues to make headlines across the country as some schools, including neighboring Grafton, have chosen to close school temporarily due to a large number of student and staff absenteeism. Over the past couple of weeks we have monitored our absentee rate in the Uxbridge Public Schools. Approximately 8% of our students district wide have been absent on a daily basis, which is slightly more than last year during this same time. Uxbridge Public Schools' nurses have worked closely with the Uxbridge Board of Health to develop a plan to address the spread of the disease as well as a plan to hold inoculation clinics when the vaccine becomes available to us. You will find additional information in this newsletter regarding our schools' protocol in dealing with the H1N1 flu, as well as recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention on ways to protect you and your family from the flu.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Zini". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

George Zini
Superintendent of Schools