

ESTABROOK UPDATE

Joseph Estabrook Elementary School, 117 Grove Street, Lexington, MA (781) 861-2520

Principal: Martha Batten

Volume 2 Number 18

Friday, January 18, 2008

A Principal Notes... We had a lively Principal coffee discussion last Friday on professional learning communities at Estabrook. I shared more about the underlying principles of teachers collaborating together with a focus on learning. We discussed some of the ways teachers are using specific data about their students and then working with grade level colleagues as well as reading teachers and special educators to design teaching strategies.

We also discussed progress on our traffic engineering study. We have reviewed, rejected, and refined several options. As soon as we have sketches of proposed options, we will display them and seek additional input. All plans will separate buses and cars in such a way that car traffic will not be stopped when buses are unloading and loading.

Regardless of the final plan, due to cooperation from parents and extra efforts by staff to be outside at dismissal, our current procedure is faster and safer than last year, even though we have more cars. Thanks to all in our community for working together.

Bravo to students and teachers for the superb performances at Thursday's Band and Chorus performance. Next week I will write about a pilot reading program coming to Estabrook and Bowman as part of a grant with Tufts University.

Movie Night – Lots of Fun!! All who attended the Estabrook PTA family movie night on Friday night the 11th had a fun night. Over 300 people enjoyed pizza, popcorn and a movie in the gym. Many thanks to Robin and Brian Spencer for their amazing efforts in pulling the evening together. The night wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of Mrs. Carfagno, who loaned us her DVD projector. A special "thank you" to the Estabrook Staff who provided us with baby photos for "Name That Estabrook Staff Person". It was the highlight of the night! Congratulations to the Royer-LoBuglio family who won the gift certificate to the Burlington Cinema for correctly identifying 5 out of the 7 staff members. Many thanks to:

Girl Scout Troop #1683 who bagged 590 cups of popcorn for the event, helped hand it out and sold water; Jennifer Breen, Sarah Kuli, and Victoria Kohlasch who helped with the pizza and our pre-movie game; Kamala Soparkar and Skott Klebe for helping with the sound system; and, finally, all of you who came and did a wonderful job of cleaning up after the event!

Estabrook Library is looking for New

Volunteers Due to changes in many of our volunteer's personal schedules; I am once again looking for new library volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, but can't make the entire shift, feel free to call me and I'll see if we can work something out. If there is a class regularly scheduled during the time it is noted. The open shifts are as follows:

A Week

Monday 11A.M. - 12:30P.M.

Wednesday 8:30 - 10A.M.

Friday 2-3P.M. (*Mrs. Ray's class*)

B Week

Monday 8:30-10A.M. (*Ms. Horan's class*)

Tuesday 11:30A.M. -1: 30P.M. (*Mrs. Lieberman's class*)

Wednesday 8:30-9A.M.

Thursday 11A.M.-12P.M.

The most critical times are those when there is a regularly scheduled class, but as students come in throughout the day it is always good to have volunteers during all open library times. Volunteers help students find books, check them in/out on the computer, shelve books, check the shelves to be sure the books are in order, and help our librarian, Mrs. Kuhn, with any projects. If you can help in the library or have any questions, please contact Kim Coburn at (781) 863-6285 or thecoburns@aol.com

We Collected 75 Coats For Kids The Coats for Kids program has officially ended. Thank you Estabrook families for contributing 75 coats to this important cause. Thank you to the Hoffman family for collecting, counting and delivering the coats to Anton's Cleaners!

To subscribe to the listserv, send an email to: **majordomo@silver.ci.lexington.ma.us**. Send it from the email address that you want to subscribe. In the body of the message, put only the following two lines:

subscribe estabrook-announcements
end

Please note that the Estabrook Update will be sent via listserv, unless you have requested a paper copy (which will be sent home in your child's backpack).

Calendar

January

- 18 Ms. Lam's Publishing Party 2:30-3 P.M.
- 21 NO SCHOOL-MLK Jr. Day
- 23 Band Night-5th Gr., LHS, 7:30-8:30 P.M.
MLK Jr. Assembly for school, 9 A.M.
- 24 5th Gr. Basketball, 5:45-8:15 P.M.
- 25 Y.E.S., Grade 4, 3:15-4:15 P.M.
BBY Walk, O'Hare-Gibson
- 30 NAEP, 9-11 A.M.
Snow Date for 5th Gr. Band Night, 7:30 P.M.
- 31 5th Gr. Basketball, 5:45-8:15 P.M.

February

- 1 Y.E.S., 3:15-4:15 P.M.
 - 4 AntiBias Meeting, 6-7 P.M.
Orchestra Night, 7:30-8:30 P.M., Gr. 4 & 5
Strings- All Town Elem. Orchestra
African American Read-In, 9-10 A.M.
 - 5 Presidential Primary, 7 A.M.-8 P.M.
 - 6 Tales from Greek Mythology, 9-11 A.M.
 - 7 Family Friends
5th Gr. Basketball, 5:45-8:15 P.M.
 - 8 Y.E.S., 3:15-4:15 P.M.
 - 11 Snow Date for Orchestra Night, 7:30 P.M.
 - 13 Site Council Meeting, 4-5 P.M.
 - 14 5th Gr. Basketball, 5:45-8:15 P.M.
 - 15 Y.E.S., 3:15-4:15 P.M.
- 5th Gr. Math Olympiads every Tuesday @ 8 A.M.
4th Gr. Math Olympiads every Thursday @ 8 A.M.

MCAS TESTING SCHEDULE 2007-2008

MARCH 24 – APRIL 4

March 25	Tuesday	Gr.4 Long Composition
March 26	Wednesday	Gr. 3 Reading Gr. 4 ELA
March 27	Thursday	Gr. 3 Reading Gr. 4 ELA
March 28	Friday	Gr. 3 Reading Gr. 4 ELA
March 3	Monday	Gr. 5 ELA
April 1	Tuesday	Gr. 5 ELA
April 2	Wednesday	Gr. 5 ELA Gr. 4 Long Comp Make-up

MAY 12 - MAY 29

May 13	Tuesday	Gr. 5 Math
May 14	Wednesday	Gr.5 Math
May 15	Thursday	Gr. 3 Math Gr. 5 Science
May 16	Friday	Gr. 3 Math Gr. 5 Science
May 20	Tuesday	Gr. 4 Math
May 21	Wednesday	Gr. 4 Math
May 23	Friday	Gr.5 History
May 27	Tuesday	Gr. 5 History