

GPA Newsletter

FEBRUARY/
MARCH 2012

Leadership Update—GPA introduces Detention Plan

GPA has been working on a student behavior consequence plan within the Boston Public Schools Code of Discipline. Part of GPA's plan includes detention as another viable consequence for students. Detention would offer an alternative to out of school suspensions, which prevent students from engaging in learning and requires parents to arrange for childcare. Suspensions will still exist as a discipline intervention for those behaviors warranting out of school suspensions per Boston Pub-

lic school's code of discipline. However, each situation will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Detention will take place one day a week from 2:45-4:00pm. It is tentatively scheduled for Wednesdays, with a start date of February 15th. Parents would be responsible for picking their child up at 4:00pm following detention. A letter will be sent home shortly with a list of behaviors which would qualify a student for a detention verses a



Detention will take place one day a week from 2:45-4:00 (Wednesday) starting February 15th

suspension. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Sara at 617-839-3098.

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Technology Update



GPA subscribes to 3 educational websites. Your child should know his/her username and password but if not, please contact your child's teacher.

To prepare for MCAS, for grades 3-5

we have www.studyisland.com

For reading practice, we have www.Raz-Kids.com. For beginning readers, we have www.readingeggs.com

Other websites that are fun and educational:

www.Abcya.com

www.primarygames.com

www.Sheppardsoftware.com

www.funbrain.com

www.starfall.com

For any questions contact our Media & Technology teacher, Ms. Rosenberg at srosenberg@boston.k12.ma.us



Updates from the Health Room

Please remember that your child should stay home from school for at least 24 hours after any episode of vomiting or diarrhea. There are many viruses that circulate at this time of year, and children may be contagious even if they are beginning to feel better. To treat gastrointestinal illness make sure your child drinks plenty of clear fluids such as water,

broth, or tea. Children can begin a soft, bland diet of bananas, rice, apples and toast when they are tolerating clear fluids. If you have any questions about whether your child may return to school please con-

tact me and I will be happy to help!
Thank you.
Nurse Dana



Children should stay at home for at least 24 hours after vomiting or diarrhea.

Wellness Council

The next Wellness Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 1st at 3 p.m. We will be discussing ideas for projects for the remainder of the school year. Hope to see you there!

Happy New Year!
Nurse Dana

Zumbathon

A huge thanks to all the parents who volunteered their time and energy for our first GPA Zumbathon! The event was tons of fun and over \$3,200 was pledged to support the Playworks program!

Adult Education—Basic Beginner

The Basic Beginner ESOL class at GPA has had a fun fall term, and the students are enthusiastic to be learning English and new life skills. The class has been working

towards reaching their goals in a variety of ways on Tuesday and Thursday nights. They've been learning English grammar basics, while studying a variety of practical top-

ics, including health and food. The class has been especially excited about completing their first two writing samples, which talk about personal background and about our

class. We are looking forward to a fun and challenging 2012!

MCAS and MEPA Testing

During the month of March we have the very important MCAS and MEPA testing for English Language Arts. In order to be prepared for these assessments it is critical that all students are present at school ready to learn. Please remind your child to get a good night rest and eat a healthy breakfast every morning.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

March 5-16

MEPA Reading and Writing
(English Language Learners take this assessment in grade K-5)

March 20th

MCAS ELA Long Composition
(All students in grade 4)

March 21st–April 1st

ELA MCAS (all students in grades 3-5)

*“Spirit Week will
be taking place
the week of April
2nd, more details
to follow”*

Afterschool Update

After School has begun our second cycle for the school year! Students are participating in new clubs cycles, new social studies content and all partnerships will be fully running by the second week of Febru-

ary. If you have questions about getting your child enrolled in the program and what is offered in GPA/YMCA After School please contact Lauren Fogarty. There is currently space in Kindergarten class-

rooms, 1st grade and 3rd grade.



February 2012

FCO—Family Community and Outreach Committee
 HCH = Hispanic Coffee Hour
 PC = Parent Council

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	S
			1 3pm—Wellness Team	2 7:30am Gov Board 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	3	4
5	6	7 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	8 8:30 Golden Hands assembly 10-2pm field day at BU	9 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	10	11
12	13	14 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	15 5:30pm HCH 6:00pm PC	16 8:30am HCH 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	17 RIF Book Fair	18
19	20 HOLIDAY	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL	23 NO SCHOOL	24 NO SCHOOL	25
26	27 3-4:30pm K-8 Mtg	28 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	29 8am FCO mtg			

March 2012

MEPA = Mass. English Proficiency Assessment for ELL students
 ELL = English Language Learners
 MCAS = Mass Comprehensive Assessment System
 ELA = English Language Arts

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 MEPA TEST	6 MEPA TEST 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	7 MEPA TEST 8:30 Golden Hands assembly	8 MEPA TEST 7:30am Gov Board 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	9 MEPA TEST 8:30am Enrichment showcase	10
11	12 MEPA TEST	13 MEPA TEST 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	14 MEPA TEST	15 MEPA TEST 6-8:30pm Adult Ed 3rd, 4th and rm 31 trip to Boston Symphony	16 MEPA TEST	17
18	19 3-4:30pm K-8 Mtg	20 MCAS Long Comp. 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	21 ELA MCAS grades 3-5 3pm—Wellness Team	22 ELA MCAS grades 3-5 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	23 ELA MCAS grades 3-5	24
25	26 ELA MCAS grades 3-5 REPORT CARDS	27 ELA MCAS grades 3-5 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	28 ELA MCAS grades 3-5 8am FCO mtg 5:30pm HCH 6:00pm PC	29 ELA MCAS grades 3-5 8:30am HCH 6-8:30pm Adult Ed	30 ELA MCAS grades 3-5	31