



GPA Newsletter

Jan/Feb 2014

Leadership Update

Students return to school for a full day on Friday, January 3rd after winter break.

GPA families, please join us for our first Health and Wellness Team meeting of 2014 on Wednesday, January 8th at 3PM in Room 11. If you can't make it our next meeting is taking place on February 5th at 3PM in Room 11. Please reach out to Nurse Sarah or Lauren Lafferty by calling the main office for more information.

GPA families, please join us for our first Family and Community Outreach Team meeting of 2014 on Thursday, January 23rd at 8:30AM in Room 18. Please reach out to Lauren Lafferty by calling the main office for more information, we are excited to have some family members!

Field trip to Boston University on Thursday, February 13th for Kindergarten-4th graders. Parent volunteer opportunities are limited due to space on the buses.

No school on Monday, January 20th.

February break will take place from Monday, February 17th- Friday, February 21st.

SAVE the date: Wednesday, March 5th for GPA's Health and English Language Arts (ELA) Night at 5:30PM and Scholastic Book Fair.

Governing Board Meeting Notes November 14th

ILT: ANET scores and demographic information was presented to parents at the 11/13 Parent Council meeting. Parents want to know what they could be doing at home to support student learning. They also want to know about student test scores and how to help.

School Report: 3rd graders visited Boston College for their Halloween celebration. There was a recent faculty meeting that focused on emotion management. Middle school teachers have been looking at IEP groups and using that information to create new reading group.

Family report: Parent election occurred and an order of succession has been settled upon. Milsy Medrano will be replacing Jimmy King as the 2nd alternate. PC has created an email account to communicate back and forth with parents, teachers, community members). Raised 500,000. Perhaps combining the Harvard and the 500,000 there will be enough for the science lab and turf field.

Financial Report: Lauren has been meeting with the Development Team since April. Funding buckets 84% designed to support academic instruction, 16% other components of running a full service school. This 16% is not fully funded. The buckets are school operating budget (fully funded); expanded learning (summer prog, afterschool, field trips, tutoring); Family (events, adult ed); Health; Arts; Social Emotional, Technology, marketing

District Report: This report was overwhelmingly favorable about staff and school climate. The feedback from the report is very focused on instruction. In terms of environment, the report says that everything looks great the kids are in class, the rooms are clean. The district is coming back in January. A Harvard principal support team will be coming in on November 21st to do classroom observation and hold a discussion that focuses on observation of student engagement and what can/should be done. There will be a visit in December from international education leaders.

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Nurses Corner

Supplies Needed for the Health Office

Our yearly budget for health supplies for the nurse's office is \$147 (\$0.40 per student), and the supplies used to take care of your children during the school day are already beginning to run out. Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated and every little bit helps! The most needed items are as follows:

- Lysol wipes
- Cough drops
- Kleenex/tissues
- Feminine hygiene supplies (pads)
- Nutritious snacks (whole grain crackers, granola bars, cereal) for kids who miss meals or are nauseated
- ACE wraps (any size)
- Cold packs (instant or reusable)
- Ibuprofen/advil and acetaminophen Tylenol (liquid or chewable)
- Ziploc bags (sandwich or snack size)
- Hand sanitizer
- Non-latex exam gloves
- Blue sweat pants (kids M-XL)

GPA/YMCA Afterschool

The GPA/YMCA Program has open seats in all grades and is looking for more GPA students to join our high-quality, and top ranked by the state after school program. We offer reduced weekly fees for families in need of financial assistance. Please call Arielle Fleisher at the school for more information.



Please be sure to "like" us on facebook by going to the Gardner Pilot Academy page on facebook and clicking "like".



Healthy Snack and Beverage Policy

Please remember that GPA has a Healthy Snack and Beverage policy. If you plan to bring in any food items for class parties/celebrations, **please discuss the item with your child's classroom teacher before purchasing and bringing the item to school.** Here are some ideas for acceptable food items:

- ❖ Veggies with dip (bean dip, salad dressing or hummus)
- ❖ Chίps with salsa or guacamole
- ❖ Popcorn or Veggie Stix
- ❖ Fresh, Dried, or Freeze-Dried Fruit
- ❖ Homemade, whole-grain fruit muffins or bread
- ❖ Fruit smoothies (frozen fruit, yogurt, & fruit juice)
- ❖ Apples or graham crackers and dip (low fat yogurt, honey, cinnamon)
- ❖ Trail Mix (raisins, whole grain Chex, pretzels, Cheerios, dried fruit)
- ❖ Fruit parfaits (yogurt, cereal or crushed graham crackers, and fruit)
- ❖ Beverages such as 100% fruit juice (servings of 4 oz. or less), low-fat plain milk, water, seltzer



Adult Education

We are in the Beginner Level 2 class. It is very exciting to learn English because we will be able to communicate with many services in our community. Our class is fun and interesting. We play English games, but dictation is our favorite activity because we listen, read, write, and repeat. Our teacher helps everyone learn and we love coming to class every Tuesday and Thursday.

January 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>No school</i>	2 <i>No school</i>	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <i>No School</i>	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31			

Schedule of Events

- * Jan 1st—New Years Day—No School
- * Jan 2nd—No School
- * Jan 3rd—student return from vacation
- * Jan 6th @ 7:30am - Governing Board
- * Jan 8th @ 5:30pm —Hispanic Coffee Hour for Spanish speaking families (Rm 11)
- * Jan 8th @ 6pm—Parent Council (room 11)
- * Jan 8th @3pm—Wellness Team
- * Jan 9th @ 8:30am—Hispanic Coffee Hour for Spanish speaking families (Parent Center)
- * Jan 14th 2nd grade to the Museum of science
- * Jan 16th @ 7:30am—Governing Board (basement art room)
- * Jan 20th—M L King Jr Day—no School
- * Jan 23rd @ 8:30pm—FCOC (Family & Community Outreach Committee) (Rm 18)
- * Adult Ed—Tuesday’s and Thursday from 6-8:30pm

Schedule of Events

- * Feb 5th @ 3—Wellness Team
- * Feb 12th @ 5:30pm—Hispanic Coffee Hour for Spanish speaking families (Rm 11)
- * Feb 12th @ 6pm—Parent Council (Rm 11)
- * Feb 13th @ 8:30am—Hispanic Coffee Hour for Spanish speaking families (Parent Center)
- * Feb 13th—BU Field Day (K-4th grade). Parent volunteer opportunities are limited due to space on the buses
- * Feb 17th—President's Day—No School
- * Feb 18-21—February Vacation
- * Feb 27th @ 7:30am — Governing Board (basement art room)

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <i>S c h o o l v a c a t i o n</i>	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27		