

GPA Newsletter

May / June 2014

Governing Board Notes—April

Principal Report: 3rd and 6th took PARCC assessments on chrome books. The kids did great. Erica saw John McDonough on Thursday, April 10th. Asked about her schedule change. She was told to call the secretary and schedule a time, no decision has been made as of yet. **Advance Work Class Info Session:** 10 families were invited to the info session only two came. Only 1 family has decided to leave the Gardner. We will have to problem solve about 4th grade because our number are high (this is a good problem). **Budget:** have not heard back. GPA families and staff will hold the 3rd Annual "**Put Your Hands Up for GPA!**" event on Thursday, May 22, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., at Harvard Business School. If interested in helping out with planning reach out to Lauren. Science Night tonight (April 16th) Harvard Sponsored about \$2,000. **Science Classroom** (basement) - have not heard back about our science classroom plans for the basement. Hopeful that next summer 2015 this will start to happen. **Faculty Report:** MCAS: ELA is finished getting ready for math. **Parent Report:** Parent Council met on April 9th. Mr. Sara gave an update on safety and behavior. Parent asked for cameras and other things to improve safety. Parent and Mr. Sarah to conduct a safety walk after April break to make a list of what our safety needs are. **Target Grant:** looking into this grant for art supplies (2,000). Friendship Feast: planned for June 6th. **Funding Report.** Increase grant fund for art, expand learning time and family. Gap has decreased to just under \$30,000. After School: we are in a positive place for next year, but next summer (2015) we do not have funding for yet. Our school is one of three schools in the city of Boston that has been selected to submit a proposal for funding for the next three years! Instructional Rounds: Ms. Baima presented on the rounds.



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Adult Education

The Gardner Pilot Academy's Adult Education program has been busy at work this year. We are all so motivated to come to class, even though we have many challenges that face us. Some of us are parents, and some of us work late, others are just exhausted at the end of the day, but we still manage to come and learn (although this harsh winter has not made it

any easier!). But as they say, *all work and no play makes us a dull class*, so we have been getting creative with games and activities to help us up the energy at night and speak more fluidly and naturally all the time. We are tired of translating in our heads and ready to think in English. In the long run, it's less work! What we also are working to improve is

our pronunciation, because we are also tired of repeating ourselves and are ready to learn and say all those bizarre English sounds. Though we are all at different levels, we see ourselves as a bit of a family so we help each other out along the way. And even though it's cold out there, we don't want to miss a beat.

Nurses Corner

Thank you to everyone who supported our health and wellness efforts this school year! We have had a number of accomplishments, including:

- Annual zumbathon and walkathon
- ELA/Health Night
- First year of GPA Fit Club
- Supermarket torus for first graders

We will announce our top achieving students in GPA Fit Club at the June assembly, and hold our T-shirt ceremony on June 23 at Field Day. Let's keep encouraging our students to track as many miles as possible from now until the last day of school!

If you are interested in joining our Health and Wellness Team next year, please contact school nurse Sarah Khoury at [617-635-9562](tel:617-635-9562) or skalil@bostonpublicschools.org. We meet monthly, and are looking for more parent members!

GPA/YMCA Summer Program

GPA Summer Program will be run at GPA from Monday, July 7th-Friday, August 8th. This five week program will serve students in K-1-7th grade. This program is a balance of academics and enrichment and has been deemed as highest quality by the Department of Early and Secondary Education. Each Friday, all students and staff will attend full day Friday field trips. We offer reduced weekly fees for families in need of financial assistance. We are eager to work with families to ensure cost is not a barrier to participation. Please call Arielle Fleisher at the school for more information. Applications are available in the main office.

GPA/YMCA After School Program

The GPA/YMCA After School 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. We are eager to work with families to ensure cost is not a barrier to participation. Please call Ari Fleisher at the school for more information.

MCAS

Students in 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th grade and 7th grade will be completing the MCAS Math and Science assessments on days during the following weeks: week of May 5th, May 12th and May 19th. The testing schedule is as follows:

Monday, May 5th - 5th grade Math
 Tuesday, May 6th - 4th grade Math
 Wednesday, May 7th - 3rd grade Math
 Thursday, May 8th - 6th and 7th grade Math
 Monday, May 12th - 5th grade Math
 Tuesday, May 13th - 4th grade Math
 Wednesday, May 14th - 3rd grade Math
 Thursday, May 15th - 6th and 7th grade Math
 Monday, May 19th - 5th grade Science

Special points of interest:

Kindergarten Welcome event will be held here at GPA on Wednesday, May 7th at 5PM.

No school on Monday, May 26th or on Tuesday, June 17th.

Spirit Week will be taking place from Tuesday, May 27th - Friday, May 30th - details to come.

Annual Friendship Feast hosted by GPA Hispanic Coffee Hour and Parent Council will take place on Friday, June 13th.

Final Friday Arts Showcase will be taking place on Friday, June 20th at 8:30AM.

Last week of school will be June 23rd - June 25th. June 24th and June 25th are both half days. Field day will take place on the last full day of school, June 23rd.

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

Adult Ed's Pot luck year-end event will be held on Thursday June 5th from 6-8:30 and that Adult Ed will be selling raffle tickets for \$2 each during the month of May (we will draw winners at our event on June 5th)



Playworks 5k

Playworks 5K will take place at Franklin Park on Saturday, May 3rd. All registration fees brought directly to GPA will go towards our Playworks Program at GPA. Additional registration forms can be found in the main office.

May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6pm--adult ed	2	3 Playworks 5K Franklin Park
4	5 <u>5th grade Math MCAS</u>	6 <u>4th Grade Math MCAS</u> 6pm--adult ed	7 <u>3rd Grade Math MCAS</u> 3pm Wellness Team 5pm Kindergarten Welcome	8 <u>6th/7th Grade Math MCAS</u> <u>3rd Grade Math MCAS</u> 6pm--adult ed	9	10
11	12 <u>5th grade Math MCAS</u>	13 <u>4th Grade Math MCAS</u> 6pm--adult ed	14 <u>3rd Grade Math MCAS</u> 5:30pm HCH 6:00pm Parent Council	15 <u>6th/7th Grade Math MCAS</u> 8:30am FCO 6pm--adult ed	16 5th grade Science MCAS	17
18	19 5th grade Science MCAS	20 6pm--adult ed	21	22 5:30pm Hands Up Event 6pm--adult ed	23	24
25	26 HOLIDAY	27 6pm--adult ed	28	SPIRIT WEEK		31
				7:30 am Gov Bd 6pm--adult ed		

June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 6pm-- Adult Ed End of Year Event	6	7
8	9 HOLIDAY	10	11 3pm Wellness Team 5:30pm HCH 6:00pm Parent Council	12 8:30am FCO	13	14
15	16 Canobie Lake Park	17 HOLIDAY	18	19	20 Friday Arts Showcase	21
22	23 FIELD DAY	24 1/2 day dismissal @ 12:30pm	25 1/2 day dismissal @ 12:30pm LAST DAY	26	27	28
29	30					