



THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER
January 10, 2014

Navigate the Newsletter:

If you find yourself pressed for time, use this guide to help you skim and scan.

- Principal's Quote and Note ~ The New Report Card Coming Your Way in January
 - Thank you!
 - Important ListServ Information ~ A must read!
 - Please Review Bus Rules.
 - Dress for the weather!
 - Lost and Found
 - January/February dates to remember
 - PTO Updates/Calendar
-

“The principle goal of education in the schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done.”

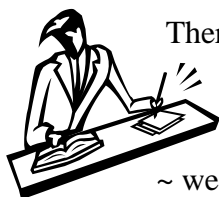
~Jean Piaget ~

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

January, 2014

Dear Friends,

In the practice of education we constantly rediscover the world in a way that passes along the culture of our time to our young people. They in turn, touch this moment ~ today; and apply what they know to a time that we can only imagine ~ the future. Because of this, as much as the fundamentals of our system for educating remain the same, they grow and change to reflect the needs of a given period.



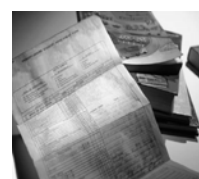
Therefore, it can be said that we measure and report out differently now than we did ten years ago... ~

It can also be said that we were grading differently ten years ago than when I was young. My peers and I were put on a Bell Curve and assigned a letter grade in each subject including conduct and effort ~ from first grade on up. In recent years, the language was different yet again ~ we looked to words that captured development, progress and exceeding expectations. We learned that development takes time and too, that people develop at different times and in different ways. Now we have the Common Core and standards that guide our process, so again we find ourselves in a period of change. In this system, the sky is the limit! No one is ever done growing “smarter”. There is no cap on one’s potential and the art of educating is to now find the “right” way to find the tools to help all to learn and to keep on learning.



I preface all of this in the above context because, it is important to recognize there were no “good ole days” in educating. ~ Every period has come with changes. Each time, we think we are falling on the greatest of the “new ways”! ~ When in fact, every decade has brought with it “new ways”. Heraclitus put it in these terms, “There is nothing permanent except change.”

In this spirit, I am pleased to announce that this January, we will be sending home our new standards-based report card. There are three main reasons for this: 1. The traditional grading categories on the most recent way of grading were too broad to give a clear and accurate picture of a student’s skill, progress and capability levels. 2. The new categories reflect what is happening right now in education across our country, state and district ~ and to that end, they align with district, state and national standards. 3. The standards-based report card will provide learners and parents with a very clear picture of a student’s progress at attaining all of the grade level standards. Instead of reporting that a student is progressing in reading, there will be many areas of reading that will be reported upon including fluency, comprehension, knowledge regarding genres ~ and all of this will be in the context of what we expect from a student at a given grade level.



This means that the new report card is reflective of the school year itself. ~ When a student enters a given grade, he/she is embarking on a year-long journey ~ and now the report card is based upon the full year’s journey. The expectation is that most students will not meet the standard until the end of the school year.

So, what will be the same and what will be different?

Remaining the same will be:

- *how we report on social development and work habits,
- *how we report on science and social studies work,
- *how the teacher reports narratively through comment boxes,
- *and the reporting periods for the year will remain the same (fall conferences, followed by a January report card, followed by a spring conference, ending with a final report card).

What will be different is:

- *each grade level will have its own progress report that aligns with the new Common Core State Standards in ELA and Mathematics.
- *Student progress will be measured and reported to reflect sub-categories under the broad topics of ELA and Mathematics, and will pinpoint student progress based on an “end-of-the-year” standard.
- *The report card will have new performance levels,
- *and it will also show changes in how we report on a student’s progress in art, music and health and wellness (physical education).

The biggest change is that you will now be able to have rich conversations with your child about his/her progress. If he/she is reading with accuracy and fluency but is finding it challenging to identify basic facts and key details in the fiction genre, you can talk about it, read together and help. This will be exciting.

If a child is used to receiving all “Exceeding Expectations”, he/she might receive “Progressing Independently” ~ meaning he/she is doing exactly as he/she should be with the grade level standard, and by the end of the year, he/she will be “Meeting the Standard” ~ or even showing “Exemplary Performance” at that time. The progress is based upon the year’s standard. ~ It should take the whole year to “Meet the Standard”. “Exemplary Performance” will mean a student consistently performs the *end-of-the year grade-level standard*. It also will mean that a student is self-motivated and independently grasps, applies, and extends key ideas. Everything is based on the year’s journey.

Grading categories will include:

EP ~ Exemplary Performance

MS ~ Meeting the Standard ~ The students consistently demonstrates proficiency in meeting the *end-of-the year* standard.

PI ~ Progressing Independently

PS ~ Progressing with Support

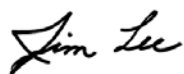
PB ~ Progressing Below Grade Level

All of these categories will be fully explained on the report card. I write to you now so you will be more informed and have time to understand the changes. Please keep in mind that students at a given grade *should be falling somewhere in the progressing range* at this time of the year because meeting the standard ~ for most, will happen at the end of the year.

As always, please contact me with any questions ~ now or when the report card goes out. In the meantime, you can view the report cards on our district curriculum page under Elementary Progress Report ~ just click on the appropriate grade. I hold that the new report card will give you an accurate picture of where your child is in a very specific way. The conversations can be precise and focused. I am very excited about this new tool! ~ We change, we grow, and we learn together, always looking to create a brighter future.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year! May 2014 bring you and your families all of life's best, always!

Much peace,



Jim Lee
Principal

This and That from the Principal's Office:

Many thanks! On behalf of the whole office staff, we wish to thank everyone for the many cards and delicious treats that you brought by the office before vacation. Each truly represented an act of kindness and was a reminder of how generous and thoughtful our school community is ~ We appreciate every effort and every thought!

Important ListServ information ~ A must read!!!

Because we know that many are still not receiving vital school information, our district is in the process of uploading all email addresses to the Constant Contact ListServ ~ the one that sends our all- important school information, updates and everything you need to know as a member of our school community.



If for some reason you do not want to receive what we consider, necessary information about the happenings at and around our school, please let us know that you "Opt Out" and we will arrange as best we can to keep you in the loop. However, should you choose to opt in, once you begin receiving the emails, there is always a link to 'unsubscribe' at the bottom of each message.

Thank you. We are very excited about having everyone enrolled for our ListServ information as an informed community is a closer and higher functioning community.

On the Bus: Please review the rules and expectations for proper bus behavior with your children ~ refer to the student handbook and then discuss your expectations. We are receiving an increase in reports of inappropriate behaviors on the buses and students need to know that inappropriate actions on a bus, could lead to a bus suspension. Students must be safe and that includes: sitting flat in a seat, talking in a reasonable voice without shouting, avoiding acts of bullying such as name calling, hitting, pushing or any related behavior. Thank you.



Dress for the Weather: Please continue to check the weather each day to ensure that your child is dressed for the day's temperature. We have some fluctuation and it can be really cold on little hands that don't have gloves. Sad faces line the edge of the hot top when snowpants and boots are needed...



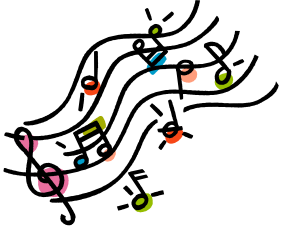
Remember to check the lost and found: Our lost and found is once again growing and we will be looking to find homes for the left clothing as we near the winter break. Please take a moment to check if you have lost an item.



January and February at Happy Hollow:

Monday, January 20	No School Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Friday, January 24	Martin Luther King Celebration	Wayland Middle School 6:00-7:15 Dinner 7:30 – 9:00 Program
Thursday, January 30	Happy Hollow Chorus Concert	7:00 p.m. HH Gym
Friday, January 31	Report Cards Distributed	
Friday, February 7	Middle School Music Ensemble visits HH	9:00 am 10:30 am Happy Hollow Gym
Week of February 17-21	Winter Vacation	
Monday, February 24	Classes Resume	

Curriculum Corner



Music Notes

Grade 4

During the month of January, fourth graders will sing, play instruments and experiment with melodic improvisation. Each student will participate in a brief mid-year assessment of rhythmic and vocal competencies through participation in a rhythm game and a song. They will also study the life and music of the American composer, Charles Ives. Students will also create an original work of visual art reflecting their own unique response to a very unusual Ives composition.

Grade 1

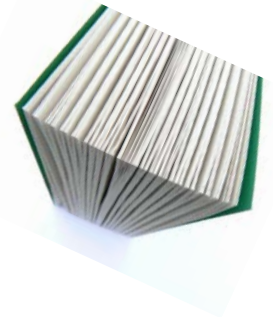
During the month of January we will focus on musical storytelling. Students will participate in a variety of classroom activities and games designed to foster the development of enhanced listening, beat-keeping, rhythmic literacy and vocal and percussion performance skills. Students will also participate in a brief mid-year assessment of rhythmic and vocal competencies.

I am always delighted to be working with Wayland's creative and talented young students. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Susan Calkins, DMA <susan_calkins@wayland.k12.ma.us>

FROM THE LIBRARY :

Thanks to generous funding from the PTO, we will be hosting visits from two outstanding authors this year.



Students in grade K-3 will be meeting Maryann Cocca-Leffler, author and illustrator of "Jack's Talent", "Mr. Tanen's Ties", "Bus Route to Boston", "A Vacation for Pooch", "Theo's Mood" and "Princess Kim and the lie that grew". Ms. Cocca-Leffler is a Boston native and will discuss

"The Story Behind the Story", I show how a book is developed from concept to finished book. Many of my books are based on my own childhood or that of my children, further encouraging students to write from their own experiences."

See her website for further information:

http://www.maryanncoccaleffler.com/Maryann_Cocca-Leffler_Author_Illustrator/Visits.html

Ms Cocca-Leffler's books are available at local bookstores and she will be glad to autograph any that students bring in to school on February 6.

On Monday, February 3, the fourth and fifth grades will hear from Elizabeth Suneby who will discuss her latest book "Razia's Ray of Hope", an inspiring true story about a girl from Afghanistan who desperately wants an education and must convince the men of her family to allow her to receive one. Ms. Suneby will discuss girls' education in Afghanistan and her work in this area. For more information about Razia :

<http://www.elizabethsuneby.com/books/razia/>

"Razia's ray of hope" is also available at local bookstores and your purchase will help a girls' education in Afghanistan. Ms. Suneby will be happy to autograph any books brought to school on Feb. 3

During the month of January. library classes will prepare for these visits by reading the books, visiting the websites and doing some activities connected to the readings. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email.

Elizabeth Bryant

Library Teacher

INSPIRING TRUE STORY

<http://www.elizabethsuneby.com/books/razia/Based> on

Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier

January 2014

other

Students enjoyed the Hour of Code activities in December. I tell the students that programming is problem solving; similar to working with puzzles. Some of us can solve these problems quickly; some of us need to work on it. It was amazing to see the children help each other when they were stuck on a program. We will continue to use programming throughout the year. Links to the Hour of Code sites are still posted on the Computer Lab Links page under "For Students".



Kid Pix Deluxe 3D

1st Grade: Students continue to learn the tools in Kid Pix 3D. The newest tools we have explored are the backgrounds and stickers tool. A new feature of Kid Pix 3D is animating a sticker. Ask your child about this.

2nd Grade: Second graders are working on a programming-robotics unit. Robotics deals with the design, construction and operation of robots. We used the website [Turtle Pond](#), and the Hour of Code websites to review the four basic commands. Ask your child what are the 4 basic commands. This month students will carry over that knowledge and design an animated scene using the software MicroWorlds Jr.



MicroWorlds Jr

3rd Grade - We begin January with a word processing unit. First we will introduce the students to All The Right Type, our online keyboarding program. To access ATRT online - please use the link under the ["For Students" section of the Happy Hollow website](#). Because student data is saved in the cloud, students can now work seamlessly on their keyboarding skills between home and school. At this point, I reinforce accuracy with the children. Speed will come with time.



4th Grade: Welcome back everyone. In January we will pick back up with our small moment digital story project. Students have been writing a small moment story in google docs. We have been working on adding descriptive details to their writing. This will move their writing beyond just a series of events. Students are using Kid Pix to illustrate pictures for their story. I would like the children to use a website called VoiceThread which would allow them to pull these pieces together into a digital story. This project pulls in a variety of expectations - narrative writing process, using technology tools for publishing, and use of voice. **If you haven't already given me permission, please use the [following link to learn more about VoiceThread and to grant permission](#) for your child to use this online resource. I will create the account for students. If you don't complete the permission form, then your child will not be able to use VoiceThread. Thank you for your attention to this matter.**



Grade 5:

5th Grade: Students in Ms. Mattson's and Ms. Candini's class will work on the Hour of Code websites, as I didn't see them for this rotation in December. Students will also finish up their Digital Superhero Comic Strip. Students designed their own digital superhero whose goal is to protect digital citizens. Students are using Kid Pix to illustrate and depict their superhero saving the day. Students will then export their Kid Pix pictures as jpegs. Lastly, students will bring their pictures into iMovie to create the comic strip. We will share our projects upon completion.



iMovie

5th Grade Tech Crew - If your child is in Ms. Candini's class and interested in participating in the Assembly Tech Crew - please use [this link to sign up](#). Thank you in advance for your support and to the children for your commitment and dedication to this volunteer program.



EALTHY HOLLER

Jeanne MacDonald, RN

News from the Health Room January 2014

Head Lice:

- Thank you to PTO and parent volunteers for the ALL school head lice check done Tuesday, January 7, 2014.
- Please continue to check your student's head as part of their daily hygiene for possible head lice.
- Early detection and treatment will help minimize additional cases.
- Please review the resources listed for additional information:
 - <http://www.headlice.org/>
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/index.html>

Flu Information:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/index.htm>

Please Remember:

- To keep your child home if they have a fever, vomited, and/or are not feeling well.
- To make arrangements for your child to be picked from school in a timely manner if you are not readily available when called by the school nurse.
- Children need to have a coat, snow pant, boots, gloves/mittens, and hat to be able to go to recess safely.
- 4th grade students need an updated physical exam, required by the MA. Department of Public Health. Please send your child's updated physical exam to the school nurse if you have not done so this year.

Please call and/or email with any questions/concerns

Jeanne MacDonald RN

Jeanne_MacDonald@wayland.k12.ma.us

508-358-6051

2013-2014 PTO Events: Happy Hollow

Save the Date

Together We Can Make It Happen!

Dates subject to change

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you looking to get involved at school? We are in need of volunteers for many unique opportunities. Most of these volunteer opportunities require only a small time commitment, but have a huge impact on our schools and our children. Take a peek at the events calendar and contact the committee head to learn more or email Amy Simmons at: happyhollowpto@gmail.com.

EVENT	DATE/TIME	CONTACT
Cultural Enrichment	Ongoing	Alexia Obar & Seta Abrahamian
Just Like Me	Throughout the year	3rd Grade: Laura Byrne & Jamie Janoff 4th Grade: Jen Bonner
5 th Grade Activities	Events/Dates TBA	Tamara Kolz
Nutrition Challenge		
Fitness Challenge		
Gift Your Child: Part 2, Backpack Auction	January 2014	Amy Simmons
Chinese Folk Art Performance	Jan. 25 (S) 2:00-4:00 HS Auditorium	Nan Li
Adult Social – Broomstones Curling Club	Jan. 25 (S) 7:30-11:00 pm	Amy Simmons
PTO Board Meeting	Feb. 7 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Lice Checks	Feb. 25 (T) at 8:45	Jeanne MacDonald
PTO Board Meeting	Mar. 7 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Fifth Grade Roller Kingdom Trip	Mar. 13 (F) after school	Marci Alvarado
Bingo Night	Mar. 28 (F)	Alexia Obar
World's Fair	Mar. 29 (S) 1-4 at Loker	Becky Lloyd
PTO Board Meeting	Mar. 4 (F) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Talent Show	April 4 (F)	Vicky Sin
Lice Checks	April 29 (T) at 8:45	Jeanne MacDonald
Earth Day Events	TBD	Katrien Vander Staeten
PTO Board Meeting	May 2 (Fri) at 9:00 in Loker Library	Amy Simmons
Florence Adler Walk/Run	May 10 (S) registration 9:00 at Wayland Middle School	
Fifth Grade Play	May 22 (Th)	Kristin Neprud
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	Jun. 4 (W) at 9:00 am HH Caf	Amy Simmons
End of Year Picnic	Jun. 9 (M) at 5:30 pm Rain Date: Jun. 11 (W)	Cathy Caulfield
Book Fair	Jun. 9 & 10 (M & T)	Lynne Cribben & Gretchen Dresens
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	Jun. 5 (Th)	Jill Zukerman & Samantha Richter

PTO Volunteer Needs

GREEN TEAM PARENT VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The PTO is looking for a Parent Representative to help coordinate Green Team activities at Happy Hollow. Volunteers, teachers and students plant, water and harvest our gardens, and now serve produce in our cafeteria. Events include Earth Day in April, and National Food/Harvest Day in the fall. Questions can be directed to Deborah Niles, second grade teacher, at deborah_niles@wayland.k12.ma.us.



BOOK FAIR COORDINATOR FOR NEXT YEAR

Do you and your children love the book fair? It is a Happy Hollow favorite, and the PTO is looking for a Scholastic Book Fair coordinator for next year. We are hoping to find a parent who is able to shadow our long-time coordinators for the last two book fairs of the school year (March and June) to learn the ropes. If you are interested, contact Lynne Cribben (lcribben@yahoo.com) to learn more!

JUST LIKE ME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for parent volunteers for the upcoming 4th grade unit, Learning Disabilities.

Volunteers are needed:

Wednesday, January 15th - 9-10:30am - Ms. Devlin
10:45am-12:15pm - Ms. Aronian

Thursday, January 16th - 9-10:30am - Ms. Cherwinski
10:45am-12:15pm - Ms. Rogers

Volunteering is fun, rewarding and a great way to be with your child in the classroom. Kids really enjoy the program because they learn through lively and interactive activities led by parent volunteers. Training takes place on **Monday, January 6th from 7-8pm at Happy Hollow** and is strongly suggested. For more information, email Jennifer Bonner at jenbonner@verizon.net. Thank you!

PTO News & Events

PTO BOARD MEETING – Cancelled in January

Please join us on **Friday, February 7th, at 9:00 am** in the Loker Library for our first board 2014. These meetings are open to the entire membership and everyone is encouraged to with any questions, ideas or suggestions. Little ones in tow are always welcome!



meeting of
attend



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Saturday, January 25, 2014, 2:00-5:00 at the Wayland High School Auditorium
Brought to you by Wayland PTO, Wayland 375th Committee and Wayland Chinese-American Association

Your family is invited to the Town of Wayland's 2014 Chinese New Year Celebration! Chinese New Year is a celebration for everyone. It brings happiness, peace, harmony and unity to the community, and our celebration will be part of a year-long series of events for Wayland's 375th anniversary.

Starting at 2:00, the Chinese Folk Art Workshop staff will coordinate authentic Chinese folk art crafts for children of all ages in the High School Commons. For those interested in learning more about Chinese cultural and language education in Wayland, a slide show will start at 2:30 pm in the theater presenting experiences and works from the Wayland High School Exchange Program, Wayland Middle School Mandarin class, the after-school elementary Chinese Program, and the in-school Chinese classes at Happy Hollow. Our featured presentation will begin at 3:00 pm when approximately 40 young Chinese Folk Art Workshop artists from elementary, middle and high schools throughout Massachusetts will perform ten traditional Chinese folk dances, including the Dragon Dance, Lion Dance, Chinese Yoyo, and more. Following the performance, please join us for a Chinese hors d'oeuvre reception in the commons with demonstrations by, and opportunities to meet, the performers.

Tickets are available Russell's, and Donelan's. For online purchase, please visit

<https://unipaygold.unibank.com/Default.aspx?customerid=1078>. Adult: \$8; Student & seniors: \$6; Under 5: free. Family maximum: \$20. Please contact Nan Li at annie060303@hotmail.com with any questions.

*Click here to watch a performance by The Chinese Folk Art Workshop: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUxFPsGWVJE>



The Backpack Auction is Here!!

The **Gift Your Child Backpack Auction** catalogues will go home in all elementary school backpacks on Tuesday, January 20th. The catalogue will also be available on-line, including a full list of this year’s donors, at that time.

The **Backpack Auction** is Part 2 of the PTO’s annual **Gift Your Child** fundraising campaign and is a silent-style auction that gives our teachers and community the opportunity to ‘gift our children’. An auction catalogue will go home in every elementary-aged backpack with over 150 items for families to bid on. Items are categorized by **Camps, Classes & Lessons, Parties & Family Fun, For the Grown-Ups**, and then there is a section for each school – **Claypit, Happy Hollow** and **Loker** - with many wonderful donations from our teachers and staff.

This year’s auction includes many returning camps (**Summer Adventure, Beach Buddies, Camp Longfellow, Camp Sewataro** and **Meadowbrook Day Camp**) and perennial community favorites including exciting opportunities for our elementary-aged kids with some **varsity sports teams**, the **police/fire rides to school**, and the many wonderful donations from our elementary school **teachers and staff**.

Take a look at the Backpack Auction Catalogue, browse with your families, coordinate with your friends and send in your best bids! If you have any general auction questions, please contact the Backpack Auction Committee at backpackauction@gmail.com.

Happy Hollow Hurrah!

HAPPY HOLLOW HURRAH

Many thanks to...

Jill Zukerman and Samantha Richter for organizing a wonderful Faculty/Staff Appreciation luncheon at Happy Hollow in December. **Subway and Whole Foods** for donating delicious treats to our Faculty/Staff Appreciation luncheon.

And many thanks to those we might have left off this list! If there’s anyone who’s helped out that you wish to acknowledge in future newsletters, please email the information to Andrea O’Brien at aobrien68@gmail.com.

Welcome 2013-2014 Board

President & Townwide Rep	Amy Simmons
Vice President	Andrea O’Brien
Treasurer	Pamela Cerne
Ways and Means	Abby Brogan & Heidi Renneker
Secretary	Cathy Davies
Social	Cathy Caulfield
Kindergarten Rep & Townwide Rep	Lisa Lappi
Kindergarten Rep	Christine Walsh
Past President	Stephanie Leong

Visit us online at <http://www.happyhollowpto.org/>

THE METCO BOSTON PARENT COUNCIL PRESENTS
THE 26TH ANNUAL
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
A TRIBUTE TO NELSON MANDELA

TIME: DINNER 6:00 – 7:15/ PROGRAM 7:30-9:00 P.M.

WHEN: FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2014

WHERE: WAYLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL, 201 MAIN STREET, WAYLAND
DINNER, PROGRAM AND CHILDREN'S CRAFTS

PROGRAM FEATURING "WHAT MAKES ME WHITE" BY AIMEE SANDS
AND
PERFORMANCES BY THE WPS STUDENTS

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, ANY QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CALL THE METCO OFFICE: (508)-358-3755

MLK DINNER RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE RESERVE ___ CHICKEN, RICE, SALAD DRINK & DESSERT

PLEASE RESERVE ___ 2 SLICES OF PIZZA, SALAD, DRINKS & DESSERT

CHICKEN DINNER \$12.00 PER PERSON, PIZZA DINNER \$6.00 PER PERSON
DINNER INCLUDES ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM. PROGRAM ONLY- \$5.00 PER PERSON

PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN JANUARY 17, 2014

TICKETS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR, BUT RESERVATIONS ARE PREFERRED AND ADVANTAGEOUS IF YOU WANT THE CHICKEN DINNER.

PLEASE SEND/ENCLOSE YOU CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: BOSTON PARENT COUNCIL
41 COCHITUATE RD., WAYLAND, MA 01778 OR E-MAIL YOUR RESERVATION TO
RENA_SANTILLO@WAYLAND.K12.MA.US

NAME _____ TELE# _____

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE NIGHT, WILL YOU HELP? CALL (508) 358-3755

SPONSORED BY: THE METCO BOSTON PARENT COUNCIL, COORDINATED BY WAYLAND METCO PROGRAM