



# THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

March 13, 2015

*“All people are shaped by the culture in which they live,” say Hillary Dack and Carol Ann Tomlinson (University of Virginia) in this Educational Leadership article “The shaping process is both subtle and pervasive, and it can be difficult for all of us to grasp that people shaped by other cultures will see and respond to the world differently than we do” As a result it’s easy for educators to interpret unfamiliar student behavior as expressions of disinterest, deficiency, disrespect of defiance”*

*~ Kim Marshall ~ New Leader for New Schools ~Marshall Memo, 576*

## PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

March 2015

Dear Friends,

As one of the four main standards of our new state teacher evaluation, we as educators are charged with “Teaching All Students”. On the surface, this would seem like a “no-brainer” ~ what educator would have ever done otherwise. The truth is, there has never been a time when all people working in education had anything but the desire to teach all students. No one ever chooses the field of education saying, “I hope one day I can be that teacher who only teaches some of my students! I just can’t wait to be the teacher who let some of my students down.” ~ So why is it that since the inception of public education in the United States ~ when Horace Mann and others worked for public education between the 1830’s and up to the present ~ we are still trying to develop teaching and learning in environments that teach to all learners?

Part of it is due to the nature of the field. Educators study education and education is the passing on of culture. So, as one cultural change meets another, we are constantly in a process of rediscovering the world of educating. To me, there is nothing more exciting and I always look at the field of education as “the practice of education”. I believe it to be very much like the “practice of medicine.” We study, we learn, we find out more about how the brain works, and we constantly adapt and change with the goal of adopting “best practices” with each new wave of discovery.

One way we are doing this in Wayland, is to constantly study our practices. We look at how we are using technology as a learning and teaching tool. We examine our academic curriculum, our social competency curriculum and our pedagogical practices. We have very successful Response to Intervention (RTI) models around the district that are getting better all the time ~ encouraging us to be prescriptive and diagnostic in our approach and to use data to inform our instruction and knowledge regarding student learning and achievement. With all of this, we also look to the over-arching tendencies of our district. I say tendencies because we need to know and define our predisposition as a district if we are to know all of our students.

And so, we have made it a goal of our district to constantly study our practices to ensure that they are culturally relevant. Research shows that when we do this, we work to close the Achievement Gap, we create a place of learning that honors its diversity so that all are welcome and we center ourselves to create a future generation that will live and lead with the inclusive practices that make for an ever-improving society of people.

Some of the exciting ways this is happening occur at many levels. We just had the town-wide celebration of the Chinese New Year that looks as if it is heading to be an annual event. We have the World's Fair coming up for the elementary schools where we can celebrate the many cultural backgrounds that define us as a community. We have a course on teaching in a culturally relevant manner that is currently in session, that staff across the grades has signed up to take ~ until there was a waiting list and not enough seats available. Dr. Stein brought in one of the main teachers of this course to speak to us as a K-12 staff on one of our Wednesday in-service times. Her name is Kalise Wornum, M.Ed. She spoke on "Becoming a More Culturally Proficient Educator" ~ and that directly impacted the enrollment in her course.

Why? Ms. Wornum explained it in this way. She said that "Culturally proficient educators design and create instruction that acknowledges and respects a student's culture. (They) keep in mind that students come to us with fully formed cultural background(s) and knowledge. (They are) constantly looking for ways to differentiate their instruction so that it validates and invites more of the students' culture in the classroom. (And they) support a growth mindset and empower students to see and understand themselves as successful learners."

Ms. Wornum challenged us to assess our culture and name our differences, to value our diversity and claim the differences, to manage the dynamics of difference by reframing them so they can all be supported simultaneously and respectfully, to adapt to our diversity by training and learning about it and to institutionalize cultural knowledge so that our school-wide and district-wide practices change with our differences.

I write to you about this for three reasons. First, I want you to know that we are constantly looking to grow and change in all areas of our approach to educating your children. Second, I want to invite all of you to attend the World's Fair celebration on March 28, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Loker School. The third and final reason is because I respectfully request that you let us know. Let us know when we are doing well in honoring your family's culture and background and let us know where we can improve and when you feel left out in any way. My door is always open and I would love to hear from you by phone or email as well. Take care and let's make our "March madness" one filled with the passion of great learning in a school that celebrates and welcomes all of its constituents with open arms.

All best always,

Jim Lee  
Principal



### March and April at Happy Hollow:

This school calendar lists the days that your child will be participating in state testing and other important events.

Also, as always, we ask that you please make certain that your child has a good night's sleep, and a hearty breakfast before coming to school.

March 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 PARCC ela grade 3	17 PARCC ela grade 4	18 MCAS PARCC ela grade 3	19 PARCC ela grade 4	20 PARCC ela grade 3	21
22	23 PARCC ela grade 4	24 PARCC ela grade 5	25 PARCC math grade 3	26 PARCC ela grade 5	27 PARCC math grade 3	28
29	30 PARCC ela grade 5	31 PARCC math grade 4	Apr 1 PARCC math grade 5	2 PARCC math grade 4	3 NO SCHOOL GOOD FRIDAY	4

April 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar 29	30 PARCC ela grade 5	31 PARCC math grade 4	Apr 1 PARCC math grade 5	2 PARCC math grade 4	3 NO SCHOOL GOOD FRIDAY	4
5	6	7 PARCC math grade 5	8	9	10 PTO Talent Show	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18

May 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Apr 26 Spring Recess	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
3	4	5 MCAS sci/tech grade 5	6 MCAS sci/tech grade 5	7 PARCC ela grade 3	8 PARCC ela grade 5	9
10	11 PARCC ela grade 4	12 PARCC math grade 3	13 PARCC math grade 5	14 PARCC math grade 3	15 PARCC math grade 5	16
17	18	19 PARCC math grade 4	20 PARCC math grade 4	21	22	23

## Curriculum Corner



### What's coming up in March?

#### Technology News for Grades 1-5 from Ms. Crozier

**1st Grade:** Students are close to finishing their penguin picture. We have focused on adding appropriate stickers to their picture to reflect their penguin fact. With regards to sticker pictures, students can move, resize and delete them. Students also learned how to use the animation feature of a sticker. Lastly, students will use the recording tool to record themselves reading their penguin fact. Their pictures should be ready to share next month!!



**2nd Grade:** Students will begin to build their internet researching skills by researching facts to use in their continent study. Internet research is a difficult skill at any age. Students will use the Encyclopedia Britannica website (a subscription paid for through the MA Library Association) to begin their researching experience.



**3rd Grade:** Students have started their first word-processing project using Google Drive (Docs). In this project, we will address many basic word-processing skills such as formatting text, spell check and adding images. Students will use their paragraph writing knowledge of "TREE" or "TIDE" to write about LARK. Remember LARK is WPS's acronym for Digital Safety.



**4th Grade:** We have used technology class to support students with their immigration research project. Students used the information they learned in the keyword search lesson to help them locate images and facts on their culture of study. Students also used the presentation feature of google docs to layout their facts and images. We will also revisit Code.org and continue with our programming journey.



**5th Grade:** Students continue to make good progress on their Digital Superhero Comic Strip. Most students are putting the finishing touches on their drawings (which includes text edits) and ready to put them together into iMovie. If students are not using iMovie then students are using Scratch to animate their superhero comic.



**5th Grade Tech Crew:** Ms. Mattson's Tech Crew finished up their hosting responsibilities this week. They did an amazing job running the technology needs during our assemblies. If you'd like to see their video work, please check out [this link](#). Ms. Devlin's class will be hosting next and sign ups for tech crew have begun. If you are interested in participating, more information can be found on the [Assembly Tech Crew website](#). I take the first 10 students who sign up with a parent.



## NOTES FROM BAND

The band students are busily preparing for upcoming events. Our Wayland Grand Band Concert is Tuesday, June 2nd at 7:00 in the High School Field House. Band students are submitting designs for Grand Band t-shirts this month. We will be voting on our favorite design in April. Any band student may submit a t-shirt design by Friday, March 20th.



## **STORIES OF THE LIBRARY**

The entire school enjoyed a wonderful presentation from "authorator" David Biedrzycki in February. Luckily, we were just able to fit in his visit in between snow days! Students had a great time hearing how Mr Biedrzycki writes and illustrates his books, and learning about how he uses the computer programs Sumo Paint and Photoshop along with a Wacom Tablet for his work. We all had fun watching Mr Biedrzycki create a customized beetle for each grade. Special thanks to the PTO for sponsoring our visiting author.

This year's MSLA (Massachusetts School Library Association) bookmark contest theme was "Look What I Discovered in My School Library." Happy Hollow students presented some lovely bookmark submissions. Congratulations to our school winners who were selected to represent Happy Hollow School at the state level. Division 1 (grade 1): Kayleigh Walker, Peter Caputa, and Marley Eggers; Division 2 (grade 2-3): Isabelle Peredna, Arpi Abrahamian, and Noreen Javed Shah; Division 3 (grade 4-5): Sophie Simmons, Benjamin Chen, and Megan Chau.

Please have your children remember to return their library books each week. If you have any questions about lost or overdue books, feel free to email the school librarian at colleen\_flannery@wayland. [k12.ma.us](http://k12.ma.us). Thank you!

## **HEALTHY HOLLER** **Jeanne MacDonald, RN**

### **Check your child!**

- Please continue to check your child's head at home as part of their daily routine.
- Please review the following websites for information and/or call the Happy Hollow health room if help is needed.
- [www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html)
- [www.headlice.org](http://www.headlice.org)

### **Snacks and water:**

- Please be sure that your student eats a healthy nourishing breakfast every morning. If possible, they should have a morning snack sent into school with them. Students should be encouraged to drink plenty of water throughout the day to be well-hydrated.

### **Parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders:**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health School Health regulation requires all students entering grade 4 to submit a report of a physical examination that was performed within the last twelve (12) months of entering the grade. Please forward the necessary documentation to the school nurse. (August 2014-present)

### **Clothing for Winter/Spring Play:**

Please send in an extra clothes with your child as clothing does get wet/damp from playing outside. Student also need snow pants, boots, gloves, hat, and jacket to be able to play outside.

**Please contact the health room with any questions and/or concerns.**

Thank you

Jeanne MacDonald RN

[jeanne\\_macdonald@wayland.k12.ma.us](mailto:jeanne_macdonald@wayland.k12.ma.us)

508-358-6051

## PTO News and Events

### **THE BACKPACK AUCTION IS HERE!**

The Backpack Auction catalogs have been delivered, and it's time to start bidding! If you didn't receive one via your child's backpack, you can view it on-line at [www.waylandpto.org](http://www.waylandpto.org).

Bids **must be received by Wednesday, March 18, at 5:00 pm**, and can be dropped off in the Backpack Auction Bid box at your child's school, submitted via email to [backpackauction@gmail.com](mailto:backpackauction@gmail.com), or submitted online at [j.mp/waylandbackpackauction](http://j.mp/waylandbackpackauction).

With over 200 items in this year's Backpack Auction catalog, there's something for everyone! Summer camps, classes, lessons, parties and family fun, as well as sections for Claypit Hill, Happy Hollow and Loker all return to this year's auction. A complete donor list (including websites) is available on-line at the above link, and is a great place to find out more about a particular camp or company. You can also stop by your school lobby to browse the Backpack Auction display, which includes materials (flyers, brochures, etc.) for many of the camps and businesses participating in this year's Backpack Auction.

Don't forget the many special items donated by our teachers, staff and the Wayland community at large – special time with a favorite teacher, a ride to school with the Police or Fire Chiefs, or learning a new activity (cooking, gardening, sports, art...) are all unforgettable experiences for a child and their family.

All proceeds from the backpack auction go directly towards funding the many educational enhancement programs sponsored by the PTO at the elementary level. If you have any questions about the Backpack Auction, please email the auction committee at [backpackauction@gmail.com](mailto:backpackauction@gmail.com)

**CORRECTION: Item #216 - Super Soccer Stars - One Private Outdoor Soccer Lesson should have had a value of \$160. Enjoy!**

### **It's Coming...**

#### **Happy Hollow Talent Olympics!!!**

Calling all students from Kindergarten to Grade 5! It's your chance to showcase your acting, singing, dancing, poetry, comedy and creative expression. For 5<sup>th</sup> graders: be an Announcer for the show...participate and have fun with your school community!

Auditions: Wed. March 25<sup>th</sup> 2:00-3:00pm or Thurs. March 26<sup>th</sup> 3-4:30pm

Showtime: Friday April 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-8:30pm Happy Hollow Gym/Theater

Tickets: \$2.00/person OR \$10/family

To register, go to the follow link:

<https://hhtalentshow.wufoo.com/forms/happy-hollow-talent-olympics-2015-registration/>

### **JOIN US FOR THE NEXT PTO MEETING**

When: April 8, 2015 (Wed.)

Where: Happy Hollow Cafeteria

Time: 9:00 AM

Join us to find out what we are planning and how you can get involved. We have something for every schedule and personality! Feel free to bring your little ones to the meeting.

# 2014-2015 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 in your child's 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 below and contact the committee head to learn more. Or, email the Happy Hollow PTO President, Jennifer Pearlman, at: [happyhollowpto@gmail.com](mailto:happyhollowpto@gmail.com).

Town-wide PTO meeting	March 13 <sup>th</sup> (F)	<a href="#">Stephanie Leong</a>
Bingo Night	March 27 <sup>th</sup> (F)	<a href="#">Julie Suratt</a>
World's Fair	March 28 <sup>th</sup> (Sat) Loker	<a href="#">Samantha Richter</a>
Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast	April 1 <sup>st</sup> 9:00 High School Commons	
Talent Show	April 10 <sup>th</sup> (F) 6:30 PM – 8:30 Happy Hollow Gym	<a href="#">Vicky Sin</a>
Earth Day Events	TBD	<a href="#">Jennifer Hood-DeGrenier</a>
Elementary Joint Social – Disco Party!	May 9 <sup>th</sup> (Sat) Sandy Burr Country Club	<a href="#">Cathy Caulfield</a>
Annual PTO Meeting & Thank you Breakfast	June 3 <sup>rd</sup> (W) at 9:00 AM in Happy Hollow Cafeteria	<a href="#">Jennifer Pearlman</a>
Teacher & Staff Appreciation Event	June 4 <sup>th</sup> (Th)	<a href="#">Jill Zukerman &amp; Catherine Theobald</a>
Town-wide PTO meeting	June 5 <sup>th</sup> (F)	<a href="#">Stephanie Leong</a>
Book Fair	June 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Sara Langan &amp; Christine Walsh</a>
End of Year Picnic	June 8 <sup>th</sup> (M) at 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Rain Date: June 10th (W)	<a href="#">Cathy Caulfield</a>

## The 2014-2015 Board

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email</u>
<b>President</b>	Jennifer Pearlman	<a href="mailto:jenniferorzo@yahoo.com">jenniferorzo@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Meg Flatley	<a href="mailto:megflatley@gmail.com">megflatley@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Julie Suratt	<a href="mailto:juliesuratt@gmail.com">juliesuratt@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Christine Roberts	<a href="mailto:christine.j.roberts@gmail.com">christine.j.roberts@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ways/Mean (1)</b>	Cathy Davies	<a href="mailto:cdavies@rtegroup.com">cdavies@rtegroup.com</a>
<b>Way/Mean (2)</b>	Andrea O'Brien	<a href="mailto:aobrien68@gmail.com">aobrien68@gmail.com</a>
<b>Social</b>	Cathy Caulfield	<a href="mailto:ccaufield16@gmail.com">ccaufield16@gmail.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Stephanie Leong	<a href="mailto:stephanie_leong@alum.wellesley.edu">stephanie_leong@alum.wellesley.edu</a>