



SCHOOL TALK

This is your staff newsletter. Please send news items to Chris Weeks | cweeks@sau29.org

Dates to Remember:

- March 16 - El. Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Forum #6, 6:30 p.m. KHS
- March 17 - All parents are invited to attend a presentation by John Halligan, whose son Ryan committed suicide as a result of bullying. Mr. Halligan will speak at 5:30 p.m. in the KHS auditorium. This event is part of the high school's yearlong anti-bullying campaign and is open to the public free of charge. Mr. Halligan will be meeting with students earlier in the day.
- April 18 - 22 - Spring Vacation/No School

KHS

- KHS senior, **Mina Hibino**, won the **American Vision Medal** for New Hampshire at the national Scholastic Art Awards competition in New York City.
- Mar. 11 - 24 - Senior Art Show in the auditorium and library hallway.
- Mar. 17 - 2nd Semester **Open House** at 6:30 p.m. A chance for parents to meet their child's teachers and find out what materials will be covered this term.
- Mar. 17 - **Ryan's Story** presentation to juniors & seniors at 9:15 a.m. and to freshmen & sophomores at 12:55 p.m. in the auditorium.
- Mar. 18 -& 19 - **New England Music Festival** in Burlington, VT.
- Mar. 19 - **Senior Citizen Prom**, 2 - 5 p.m., cafeteria sponsored by the Key Club. Semi-formal dress, a king and queen will be selected, free refreshments, donations gratefully accepted.
- Mar. 24, 25 & 26 - **Drama Club production of Our Town by Thornton Wilder**. At 7 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students/ seniors, and may be purchased at the door.
- Mar. 23 - **Youth Risk Survey** administered block 3/ Math Team competes at Plymouth State Univ.
- Apr. 4 - KHS guidance department conducts its annual **Post Secondary Planning Night** for juniors and their parents at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.
- Apr. 5 - **Spring band concert** at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium
- Apr. 7 - 9 - **NH Allstate Music Festival** at Concord High
- Apr. 12 - **Financial Aid Award letter seminar**, 6:30 p.m. auditorium

CCC

- Mar. 28 - **HOSA** state leadership conference
- Mar. 31 - **FFA** state conference
- Mar. 31 & Apr. 1 - Spring **FCCLA** state conference
- Five DECA members who attended this year's **NH DECA Career Development Conference** received 8 certificates of excellence, 1 GOLD MEDAL and 1 Bronze Medal. **Karli Ball**, is eligible to represent the State of New Hampshire at the National Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida. Karli competing in the Sports Marketing individual event, received 2 Bronze Medals for her role-play and placed second overall and qualified for the national competition. **Nick Fiel**, competing in the Sports Marketing team event with **Josh Dutilley**, won a Bronze Medal for his exam and qualified as an alternate to compete at the nationals. **Caroline Wilhelm** and **Megan Malloy** teamed up in the Hospitality Marketing team event. Caroline won a Gold Medal in her exam and a certificate of excellence. They placed third overall and qualified as an alternate team to compete at the Nationals.

KMS

- KMS **Mathcounts** team won the regional competition in February and competed at the March 12th state meet at Plymouth State University. Team members include **Evan Twarog**, **Will Welsh**, **Delaney Bilodeau** and **Emily Grussing**. 7th grader **Canyon Foot** qualified to compete as an individual at the state meet.
- On Feb. 16 - 6th grade students hosted the school's annual **Career Expo** in the cafeteria. Displays by 150 students were featured.
- KMS student **Wayland Tolman-Anderson** has qualified to compete at the **state Geography Bee** on April 1.
- **Extensions Update** from Mary Lou Alther: Students in Grades 6 and 7 from Keene Middle School have been working hard with the **WordMaster Challenge** - a national language arts competition. Approximately 220,000 students participate annually in WordMasters,

which consists of three separate meets held at intervals during the school year. Round 2 of the annual competition has been completed with two students from Grade 7 achieving perfect scores, Erin Hickey and Pearl Allen, who are coached by English teacher Mr. John McMahon. WordMasters indicates that any score of 15 is commendable. The following students in Grade 6 achieved scores of 15 or above in Round 2: **Olivia Guerriero** and **Kyle Scholz**. The following students in Grade 7 achieved scores of 15 or above in Round 2: **Erin Hickey, Pearl Allen, Cecelia Miceli, Canyon Foot, Jamie West, Mike Varno, Sung Ki Carty, Cooper Hall, Christy Blair, Ella MacDonald, Tyler Sutherland, Reilly Sullivan, Tristan Stetson, Jake Borden, and Shenoa Duran**. Thanks to the Grade 6 English teachers, Mrs. Schinler and Mr. Eric Stinebring, and Grade 7 English teachers, Mrs. Patrice Campbell and Mr. John McMahon, for bringing WordMasters to their classrooms.

- Mar. 18 - **Don Healy** will make a presentation to 7th grade Cluster D students about his recent summit expedition of **Mt. Everest**. Healy will discuss his training for the climb, mountaineering gear, glacier formation and characteristics, and the "Great Trigonometric Survey" of India when Everest was first discovered by Westerners. This is part of a mountaineering unit organized by Language Arts teacher, Patrice M. Campbell, whose students have read short stories dealing with mountain climbing and adventure.
- Mar. 24 - **Cluster E to Lowell, Mass./Band Concert**, 7 p.m.
- Mar. 26 - **Strings Festival** in Goffstown for 6th and 7th grader

Daniels

- Mar.16. - 2nd Trimester Ends, Afterschool RAD Kids
- Mar.17 - Last Day of Afterschool RAD Kids
- Mar.18 - Last Day of Pennies for Patients Drive/ Grades K-3 Don't Be Board Games Club/Project Eye-to-Eye
- Mar. 20 - Jonathan M. Daniels birthday-Mar. 20, 1939
- Mar. 21 - TV Turn-Off Week
- Mar. 24 - Math Beyond the Dots Program
- Mar. 25 - Project Eye-to-Eye, Jason Purdy Magic, Evening Show - ELF Fundraiser
- Mar. 28 - Kindergarten Registration Week
- Mar. 31 - Math Beyond the Dots Program
- Apr. 1 - Grades K-3 \Board Games Club, Proj. Eye-to-Eye
- Apr. 6 - KMS Instrumental Demonstrations to 3rd Graders
- Apr. 8 - Project Eye-to-Eye
- Apr. 12 - JDA Meeting-6:15 p.m.

Franklin

- Mar. 16 - Math Beyond the Dots
- Mar. 19 - Friday Activity Walk
- Mar. 21 - K & Gr. 1 Bully Proof Prog./Gr. 5P Harris Center
- Mar. 22 - Student Council/Gr. K, 1 & 2 to The Colonial Theatre/Gr. 5P Harris Center/
- Mar. 23 - Math Beyond the Dots
- Mar. 24 - Gr. 5P Harris Center
- Mar. 26 - Friday Activity Walk
- Mar. 28 - Kindergarten registration week/K & Gr. 1 Bully Proof Program/Gr. 4 NH History presentation/Gr. 5P Harris Center
- Mar. 29 - Gr. 5P Harris Center/Intramurals
- Mar. 30 - Gr. 5P Harris Center
- Mar. 31 - Gr. 5B Harris Center
- Apr. 1 - Friday Activity Walk
- Apr. 6 - Monadnock Music/Math Beyond the Dots
- Apr. 8 - Friday Activity Walk
- Apr. 12 - Popcorn/Pencil Sale/Gr. 3 & 4 to Colonial Theatre

Fuller

- Mar. 16 - Math Beyond the Dots/KMS 5th grade meeting w/ parents
- Mar. 17 - St. Patrick's Day

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The mission of the Keene School District is to provide students with the tools to become productive and responsible citizens in an ever-changing world.



BOARD NOTES

(Continued from other side)

- Mar. 18 – Contra dancing assembly
- Mar. 22 - Grades 1& 2 to Colonial Theater
- Mar. 23 - Math Beyond the Dots
- Mar. 30 - Math Beyond the Dots
- Apr. 1 - Assembly
- Apr. 6 - Math Beyond the Dots/3rd Gr. KMS band tour
- Apr. 12 - Grades 3-5 to Colonial Theater for Math Magic

Symonds

- Symonds School music teacher **Peter Siegel** joined famous folk music legend Pete Seeger in a recording "Pete Seeger and the Rivertown Kids" which just won a Grammy Award.
- March 14 - **BIRDWALK** benefit at Symonds School. Hand painted birdhouses by area artists and Symonds students were auctioned off to raise money for the school's community garden. The event was organized by teacher **Sue Meehan**.
- Mar. 21 - Day One Assembly
- Mar. 22 - Second Grade to Colonial Theater
- Mar. 23 - Afterschool 5210 Club
- Mar. 25 - Fourth Grade to Concord Statehouse
- Mar. 28 - Kindergarten Registration Week
- Mar. 29 - Day One Assembly
- Mar. 30 - Afterschool 5210 Club
- Apr. 5 - Afterschool Chess Club
- Apr. 6 - Day One Assembly/Afterschool 5210 Club
- Apr. 11 - PTA Sponsored Book Fair begins in Library
- Apr. 12 - First Grade to Colonial Theater

Wheelock

- **Maryanne Keating**, Tobacco Counselor/Educator from Cheshire Coalition for Tobacco-Free Communities, Cheshire Medical Center/ Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene, will teach tobacco education to grades K-5.
- First grade teacher **Dawn Loughery-Symonds** coordinated a collection for "A Cup of Joe for a Joe." The school received heartfelt thanks from service men and women: "Good day, Wheelock School Staff - I would like to thank you for my cup of coffee; it's a reminder of home. I would also like to thank you for your support of our Airmen and fellow sisters and brothers here in Iraq. Hope you, your families and your friends are safe and well. Be safe and God Bless," SMSgt Christine Pinkney
- Specials teachers **Michelle Tiani, Eva Roeder, Cathy Harvey** and **Helen Carr** along with retired PE teacher **Judy Dubriske** are currently putting on a residency Circus. Students will culminate their two weeks of practice with a performance at KSC on March 17.
- March 16 - April 13 - Guiding Good Choices for Wheelock and Symonds Parents will meet at Symonds School on Wednesdays.
- **Dawn Loughery-Symonds** received a document camera through Donor's Choice, a donation from Walpole Savings Bank and matching donation from Horace Mann.
- Mar. 16 - Knitting Club with Mrs. Harvey
- Mar. 17 - **Circus Performance** at KSC
- Mar. 23 - Staff Breakfast sponsored by Horace Mann/ Wednesday assembly featuring American Heart Association/ Knitting Club
- Mar. 25 - Mr. Sullivan and Mrs. LaPointe's second grade classes visit **Strawberry Banke Museum** free of charge through charitable donations to the museum.
- Mar. 30 - Wednesday assembly - kickoff for **Pennies for Peace Campaign**
- Apr. 2 **PTA First Annual Craft Auction** and Bake Sale, 9-12 noon in the Community Room.
- Apr. 6 - Wednesday Assembly with a visit from **Ribby/KMS band** students visits Ms. Symonds and Ms. Gagne's third grade classrooms.
- Apr. 12 - Mrs. Sawyer's fourth grade and Ms. Symonds and Ms. Gagne's third grade classes walk to the **Colonial Theatre** to see "Mathemagic."

This is a summary of the Keene Board of Education's monthly meeting held on Tuesday, March 15, 2011, in the LGIA at KHS. The meeting was carried live on Cheshire TV, Channel 8.

Possible Significant Budget Shortfall Looms

The board started the discussion of what action to take to offset the governor's proposed budget which has significant reductions in state aid – drastically reduced building aid (\$1.3 million), no contribution to NH retirement system (\$1 million), drastic reduction of catastrophic aid (\$330,000). The board will have to make major decisions before the deadline of April 15 to issue professional staff contracts.

New and Re-elected Board Members, Moderator and Clerk Sworn-In

Shortly before the board meeting started, school district attorney, John D. Wrigley, swore in newly elected board member John Stewart and re-elected members Kathleen O'Donnell, Neil Donegan and Ann Szot. He also swore in newly elected moderator Joe Hoppock and school clerk Rob Hale.

Board Officers Elected

By a unanimous vote, Kathleen O'Donnell was re-elected board chair, Kristin Blais elected vice-chair, and Carl Panza chosen as secretary.

Board Committee Make-Up Approved

The board also approved the following standing committee assignments for the coming year:

Building Facilities

Christopher Coates, chair
Neil Donegan
Mark Nugent
Kris Roberts

Education

Mark Nugent, Chair
Kristin Blais
John Stewart
Ann Szot

Personnel

Kris Robert, Chair
Kristin Blais
Carl Panza
John Stewart

Finance

Neil Donegan, Chair
Christopher Coates
Carl Panza
Ann Szot

School Liaison Assignment

KHS- Ann Szot
CCC – Neil Donegan
KMS – Carl Panza
JD – Mark Nugent
Franklin – John Stewart
Fuller – Kris Roberts
Symonds – Chris Coates
Wheelock – Kristin Blais

2011-2012 School Calendar Approved

The board approved the school calendar for next year that calls for the first day of school on Tuesday, September 6. There is one workshop day before school on Thursday, September 1, four built into the school year and one after the last day of school now set for June 19 (does not account for possible snow days). The calendar is posted on our web site.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be Tuesday, April 12, 2011 in the LGIA at KHS. It will not be broadcast live.