



# SCHOOL TALK

This is your staff newsletter. Please send news items to Chris Weeks | [cweeks@sau29.org](mailto:cweeks@sau29.org)

## Dates to Remember:

- May 31 – Memorial Day-KHS & KMS Bands marching
- June 11 – KHS Graduation
- June 15 – Last day of school for students
- Sept. 1 – First Day of 2010-21011 school year

## KHS

Senior activities:

- May 22 – KHS Prom, 8 – midnight Zorn dining commons, KSC
- June 2 – Cheshire Center Awards Night, 7 p.m. auditorium
- June 3 – KHS Special Recognition Night, 7 p.m. auditorium
- June 6 – Baccalaureate (UCC Church 4 p.m.)
- June 8 – Senior Picnic, Otter Brook Dam 3 – 6 p.m.
- June 9 – Senior Awards Night 7 p.m., auditorium
- June 10 – Salmagundi Assembly, 8:45 a.m. auditorium
- June 11 – Graduation Ceremony, 6 p.m. Alumni Field (weather permitting, otherwise Purbeck Gymnasium) KHS Band will perform/Project Graduation 9:30 p.m. KHS
- May 11 – National Honor Society Induction, 6 p.m. Senator Molly Kelly is the featured speaker

Seniors elected: Rachel Mazzola, Amy Parker, Julie Reardon, Kristian Sullivan, Celeste Thibault, and Chad Waibel

Juniors elected: Lucia Allosso, Katelyn Andrews, Bregieta Arvidson, Lazlo Bogar, Julia Brush, Katherine Carbonara, Matthew Cunningham, Laura Damato, Patrick Day, Cayla Eck, Thomas Fox, Rebecca Georgina, Brianna Goodreau, Laura Haenchen, Kelsey Helin, Christine Hensel, Mina Hibino, Ian Hoppock, Rebekah Howland, Dominic Jablonkski,Carolynn Johnson, Layne Keating, Romana Kurevija, Julia Lagace, Hayley Madden, Lance Marstaller, Alison McMahan, Katelyn Nugent, Darcy Ray, Samuel Reed, Ryan Rivera, Amelia Robinson, Kelley Scanlon, Alexandra Schuman, Sarah Scott, Elizabeth Smedley, John Szot, Tamar Teitelman, Meghan Thornton, Daniel Todd, Ryan Todd, Jordan Tolman, Julie Van Saun, Johnson Whippie, and Jennifer Wiemers.

• May 11 - Students for Mr. Sintros' Anatomy/Physiology class will be recognized for their valuable contributions at a Summit, at KSC. The class collaborated with Cheshire Medical Center-Dartmouth-Hitchcock on its Vision 2020 Healthy Community project by completing physical surveys of all streets, sidewalks, etc. around each elementary school in Keene and KHS. This is part of the Safe School Initiative which helps the community plan for walk friendly, safe environments for the children of our district. Future contribution from the students will include personal "on the street" surveys assessing the "Walk ability" of our region.

- May 14 – Entrepreneurship Day/Progress Reports 4<sup>th</sup> quarter sent home/KHS Live at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria
- May 16 – Scholar/Athlete social at 4 p.m. in the cafeteria
- May 18 – Spring Jazz concert, 7:30 p.m., auditorium features KHS Jazz Ensemble, student directed jazz combos, KHS Vocal Jazz Ensemble, Grade 9 Jazz Class
- May 25 – Job Fest at KSC for KHS seniors who may be looking for employment after graduation. The Monadnock Center for Successful Transitions host this annual event. "Many useful job-related workshops are taught by local employers," said CCC counselor Susan Silk. The event concludes with a job fair.
- May 25 – Spring Choral Concert, 7:30 p.m., features the KHS concert Choir and the A Cappella Choir, women's a cappella group, Momentum, and the KHS Vocal Jazz Ensemble

## CCC

• Marketing teacher and DECA Club adviser, John Luopa, reports, "At the recent ICDC (International Career Development Conference) for DECA, KHS senior Conor Burke won two Medals. He came in first place in one of his Role Plays for Hotel and Lodging Marketing and was a National finalist in that category. He was one of 16 finalists and represented the Cheshire Center and Keene High very well. There are over 14,000 students competing at the ICDC. This is a great accomplishment."

## KMS

- Apr. 29 – KMS had its first National Junior Honor Society

ceremony. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students inducted: Anna Furlone, Cameron Jessup, Emily Villeneuve, Felicia LaLomia, Forest Hall, Johnny Silk, Kody Frye, Matthew Stone, Maya Swope, Peter Murphy and Stephanie Varno.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade students: Abigail Thornton, Celia Baybutt, Chelsea Weinrieb, Delaney Bilodeau, Emily Grussing, Fiona Morris, Kelly Choate, Madeline Hubbard, Noah Lachman-McCartie, Robin Bigaj, Sarah Dintino, and Taylor Lindsay

- May 11-13 - NECAP testing
- May 13 – 15 – French students travel to Quebec
- May 13 – KMS String Orchestra Concert at 7 p.m. performing such pieces as Japanese Lullaby by Keiko Yamada and Spring for Vivaldi's The Four Seasons
- May 18 – KMS band tours elementary schools/parent group meets at 1 p.m.
- May 20 – Parent Advisory Group meets at 6:30 p.m.
- May 24 – Cluster E to KHS/Jazz Band ice cream social at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria
- May 25 – Cluster F to KHS/Cluster E solar car races
- May 26 – Cluster F solar car races
- May 27 – Showchoir Assemblies
- June 1 – Parent Group lunch meeting at 1, conference room/ The KMS Spring Chorus Concert, KHS auditorium. 6th and 7th gr. choruses at 6 p.m. At 7:15 tShowchoir and 8th grade chorus
- June 3 – Staff appreciation luncheon/Band Concert at 7 p.m. in the auditorium
- June 4 – Poetry Alive – Cluster B
- June 10 – Discussion with KMS families on the rigor and appropriateness of the curriculum, 6:30 p.m., cafeteria
- KMS Builders Club – Form adviser George Piers "The KMS Builder's Club is winding down a very successful first year working hard on programs like Red Ribbon Week, Kick Butts Day, and the Halls and Walls Project which focused on bullying, diversity, self-esteem, personal responsibility and character.

## Daniels

- May 12 - Grade 4 After school Fishing Club
- May 14 - Grade 5 Spring Pictures
- May 17 - Grade 5 Field Trip to KMS/Grade 5 After school Fishing Club/After school Yoga Club
- May 18 - Grade 5 After school Fishing Club
- May 19 - After school Yoga Club
- May 20 - KMS Jazz Band Performs/KMS Instrumental demo
- May 22 - JDA CIRCESTA
- MAY 24 - Grade 4 Field Trip To Concord/Grades 3, 4, 5 Afterschool Fishing Club
- May 25 - Grades 3, 4, 5 Afterschool Fishing Club
- May 26 - Elementary Strings Concert-KSC Mable Brown Room
- May 28 - All Grade 3 Keene Elementary Students to Robin Hood Park for Keene Comes Alive
- June 1 - 4 - 5<sup>th</sup> Graders At Nature's Classroom
- June 7 - Band Gathering
- June 11 - Field Day
- June 14 - Rain Date For Field Day/Grade 5 Recognition Program
- June 15 - Last Day of School/Awards Program a.m./Early Dismissal at 12:30 p.m.

## Franklin

- May 12 - Cup Stacking SHINE/Gr 3D - Junior Achievement/Gr 3 – PSNH/Student Council/Lend an Ear
  - May 13 - All School assembly/Gr 3D - Junior Achievement/K2 - Junior Achievement
  - May 14 - Gr 3D Junior Achievement/Math Mystery Club
  - May 18 - Running/walking club
  - (• May 19 - Cup Stacking SHINE/Student Council
  - May 20 - K2 Junior Achievement
  - May 21 - K to Green Mountain Railroad/Math Mystery Club
  - May 24 - Gr 1 to East Hill Farm/Gr 5 - Junior Achievement
  - May 25 - Gr 3W Junior Achievement/Gr 5 Junior Achievement/
- School Talk continued on other side)**

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# BOARD NOTES

Informational Bulletin from the Superintendent's Office | [cweeks@sau29.org](mailto:cweeks@sau29.org)

## **(School Talk continued from other side)**

### Running/walking club

- May 26 - Cup Stacking SHINE/Gr 3 Binocular lesson - Harris Center/Gr 5 - Junior Achievement/Running/walking club
- May 27 - K2 Junior Achievement/Gr 5 Junior Achievement
- May 28 - Keene Comes Alive/Math Mystery Club/Gr 5 - Junior Achievement/Memorial Day Assembly/Student Council field trip
- June 2 - Gr 3 Bird Walk
- June 3 - K-2 Book Swap/K2 - Junior Achievement
- June 4 - Gr 3-5 Book Swap/K to Friendly Farm
- June 7 & 8- Gr 4 - Junior Achievement
- June 8 - Popcorn/pencil sale/Gr 3 to Wyman Tavern
- June 9 - Gr 2 to Billings Farm
- June 10 - Gr 4 to Concord/Gr 4 - Junior Achievement

### Fuller

- May 12, 19 & June 2 - Drama Club rehearsals
- May 18 - 5th Grade to KMS for a Tour/KMS Jazz Performance
- May 21 - Kindergarten to East Hill Farm
- May 26 - KMS Band/Drama Club/Fuller School Chorus Show
- May 28 - KEENE COMES ALIVE/K to KHS Horticulture Dept.
- June 1 - 1B & 1C to Stonewall Farm
- June 3 - Kindergarten Celebration
- June 4 - FUNESTA
- June 8 - Drama Club Performance

### Symonds

- May 12 - Day One Assembly/Afterschool Homework Club/PTA Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- May 14 - Rain date for Kindergarten field trip to the French Farm/4th Grade to Langdon Place/After school Garden Club
- May 17 - After school Homework Club/After school Garden Club
- May 18 - After school Homework Club/After school Chess Club/After school Bike Club
- May 19 - 5th Grade to KMS/After school Homework Club
- May 20 - Day One Assembly
- May 21 - 3rd Grade to tour City of Keene/After school Garden Club
- May 24 - 5210 Spirit Week Activities all week long/After school Garden Club
- May 25 - After school Homework Club/After school Bike Club
- May 26 - After school Homework Club/5210 Evening Event and Healthy Choices Cookbook rollout
- May 27 - 4th Grade to Montshire Museum
- May 28 - Day One Assembly/3rd Grade to Robin Hood Park for Keene Comes Alive/After school Garden Club
- June 1 - After school Homework Club/Afterschool Bike Club
- June 2 - Afterschool Homework Club
- June 3 - Hand bell Choir Assembly
- June 4 - Annual Symonds Circus/Afterschool Garden Club
- June 7 - Afterschool Garden Club/Afterschool Homework Club
- June 8 - Day One Assembly/5th Grade to Boston Museum of Science/After school Homework Club/After school Bike Club

### Wheelock

- May 12 - Keene Public Library presents the Summer Reading Program; Mrs. Smith's K class visits Walpole Savings Bank/ Nature Club and Turtle Trotters meet after school
- May 14 - Turtle Trotters meet after school
- May 18 - KMS Jazz Band performs at Wheelock/Staff yoga with Josephine Russell after school
- May 19 - Mr. Gillard's fifth grade class visits KMS/Nature Club and Turtle Trotters meet after school
- May 20 - Ms. Gagne-Hall's and Mrs. Symonds' first grade classes visit Stonewall Farm
- May 21 - Turtle Trotters meet after school
- May 25 - Staff yoga with Josephine Russell after school
- May 26 Memorial Day Tribute Assembly/Nature Club meets after school; Turtle Trotters meets after school
- May 28 - Mrs. Keene Comes Alive/Turtle Trotters meet after school
- June 2 - PTA meeting in the library @ 6:15pm
- June 3 - Westmoreland Hand Bell Choir performs at Wheelock
- June 4 - Wheelock Elementary Band Assembly
- June 7 - Preschool Promotion Celebrations

*This is a summary of the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Keene Board of Education held in the LGIA, KHS at 6:30 p.m. and carried live on Cheshire TV, Channel 8.*

### **Large Turnout at Board Meeting**

About 60 people turned out last night for the regular monthly meeting of the Keene Board of Education. More than a dozen spoke, most of who were asking that the recent decision to switch principals between Daniels and Symonds be reversed. After listening to all the comments, Co-Superintendent Bill Gurney said he would release a statement about the decision at some point in the near future.

### **Extended Discussion on School Funding**

There was quite a long discussion about expected cuts in state funding including reductions in adequacy aid, catastrophic aid, and an increase in local funding of retirement expenses. All in all, the district expects state aid to be reduced by \$1.1 to \$1.5 million.

### **Elementary Ad Hoc Committee**

Chair Kristin Blais reported that the forum last week was very well attended with lots of good input. She said the next forum would be Wednesday, May 19 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the LGIA at KHS. The topic will be *Exploring Ways to Gain Greater Efficiencies in our Elementary Schools*. In that vein, she said suggestions boxes will be placed in all Keene schools asking staff and parents for their suggestions as to ways to gain greater efficiencies in the schools. An electronic suggestion box will also be posted on the new web site devoted to the Ad Hoc Committee, which will be up soon.

### **New and old KMS Discussed**

Old: Neil Donegan, Co-Chair of the KMS Marketing Committee, said that committee would be meeting with the prospective buyer of the old middle school this afternoon. He also mentioned that two more bids have come in for the building and that they would be held in the ready should the original bid fall through. New: Mr. Donegan and Mr. Gurney reported that construction of the new middle school is going well and that it is on schedule.

### **34 West Street**

The district plans to sell 34 West Street because the SAU staff will be moving to a new building on Maple Avenue. In anticipation of that move, SAU business Administrator John Harper has had the building appraised (\$875,000) and plans to issue a RFP (request for proposal) to sell the building. If a buyer is forthcoming and the board accepts the offer, an article will be placed on the warrant next year to ask voter approval of the sale.

### **In other action:**

- The Board approved a sole source agreement with Ells Electric to install lights at Alumni Field.
- Mr. Gurney and KHS liaison Amy Speas thanked all those involved with Nostalgia. They said it was a great show, that it obviously took a lot of work to pull together and that it highlighted the incredible talent of KHS students.
- Mr. Gurney announced that two Franklin School students had placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the NH State Water Fair. Maya Lee Kiernan placed 2<sup>nd</sup> for Solar Distribution and Amanda Montoly, 3<sup>rd</sup>, for Hydroelectricity. He thanks all those involved in promoting and organizing this annual event.
- Mr. Gurney noted that the KHS National Honor Society inducted 51 students into its ranks last night and that earlier in the month, KMS held its first National Junior Honor Society ceremony during which twenty-three 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders were inducted.
- Mr. Gurney also reported that 9 KHS juniors were selected and 7 will attend the St. Paul's Advanced Studies Program where they will study everything from molecular biology to forbidden fiction.
- Mr. Gurney also reported that he had attended a day long 2020 Vision workshop at KSC put on by the Cheshire Medical Center as part of its effort to have Cheshire County be the healthiest community in the country by 2020. In conjunction with that, Board Chair Kathleen O'Donnell reported that Symonds School Phys. Ed Teacher Beth Corwin who has been on a leave this year, will make a report to the board next month on her recommendations to improve wellness efforts in the district.

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