



SCHOOL TALK

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

Dates to Remember:

- Nov. 25 – 27 – **Thanksgiving break** – no school
- Dec. 4 – **Teacher Workshop Day**/no school
- Nov. 14 – **Winter Sports Ski, Board & Skate Swap** at KHS cafeteria, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. to benefit the KHS Alpine ski team. (Drop off items to sell at the cafeteria on Friday, Nov. 13 from 4 – 8 p.m. or Sat. morning from 8 – 9 a.m.)
- Jan. 24 – In celebration of **Martin Luther King Day**, Keene's MLK-Jonathan Daniels Committee is producing "**The Struggle for Freedom: A Program of Poetry, Dance and Music**" featuring Keene elementary school choruses, the KMS Show Choir, KHS student readers and MOCO Arts. There will be two performances in the KHS auditorium – 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

KHS

- Nov. 7 - The Keene Community Kitchen's successful **Empty Bowls** fundraiser depends on donated bowls made by local students. At KHS, National Art Honor Society members Melanie Andreasen, Megan Hart, Mina Hibino, Alex Hoffman, Kayla Hoffman, Gabby Pacella, Kashena Perkins, Sarah Scott, Carly Shaw, Jackie Todd, and Hannah Wiley made bowls and exhibited them at school before taking them to the kitchen for the fund raising project.
- Nov. 13 – **Women's Studies** class to the **Museum of Fine Arts** in Boston.
- Nov. 17 – The **KHS A Cappella Choir**, under the direction of Tom Martin, will participate in a **NHPTV taping** in Durham featuring musical arrangements by seacoast composer/arranger Tim Janis. Eleven other high school choral ensembles will take part in this program to be aired in January.
- Nov. 17 – The **Fall Jazz Concert**, 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium, features big band, instrumental combos, and vocal ensembles. Students selected for the NH Jazz All-State Music Festival will be featured. The concert is free and open to the public. Instrumentalists are under the direction of KHS Band Director, Eric Anderson and vocalists are under the direction of KHS Choral Director, Tom Martin.
- Nov. 18 & 20 – **World Perspectives 2** classes to the **Worcester Art Museum**.
- Nov. 20 - **Earth and Space Honors to Wise Mine** in Westmoreland
- Nov. 20 – **AIDS Memorial Quilt** will be on display in the auditorium. This showing coincides with the 20th anniversary celebration of AIDS Services for the Monadnock region.
- Dec. 1 – **College Financial Aid planning program** sponsored by the guidance department for seniors and their parents, 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.
- Dec. 8 – **World Perspectives 1** classes to the **Higgins Armory Museum** in Worcester, Mass.
- Dec. 11 – **Holiday Band Concert** at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium featuring the premier performance of Andrew Boysen's composition *Heirloom* commissioned specifically for the KHS band with funding provided by the Irwin Fund.
- KHS student **Michael McDougall** won a **National Council of Teachers of English Writing Achievement Award** while attending KHS during the 2008-9 school year. He is one of only four students in the state of New Hampshire to be recognized for 2009. • KHS Biology teacher **Cliff Lerner** Inducted into Canon Envirothon Hall of Fame. Cliff has led his high school team to the North American competitions where they have repeatedly finished in the top ten. This past summer the Keene High School team Envirothon placed 9th nationally in competition. The Envirothon Hall of Fame is reserved for teachers who have displayed exceptional leadership, involvement, and dedication in helping to move the Envirothon program forward.
- Music News: On the basis of prepared auditions Keene High School students earned membership in the following 2009-2010 NH Jazz All-State Performance Groups:
2010 NH Jazz All-State Honors Jazz Band

- 1st Alto Saxophone - **Rachel Cassar**
- 2nd Trombone (of four trombones) - **John McStravick**
- Vibraphone (of one) - **Colby Baker**
2010 NH Jazz All-State Jazz Band
- 2nd Alto saxophone - **Ashley McCormick**
- Drum set - **John Ogleby**
2010 NH Jazz All-State Honors Jazz Choir
- Alto Voice - **Sydney Skinner**
- Tenor Voice - **Dustin Beardsley**
2010 NH Jazz All-State Jazz Choir
- Soprano Voice - **Caitlyn Schillemat**
- Alto Voice - **Isabella Kosmacher** and **Tamar Teitelman**
- Bass Voice - **John Whippie**
- In December, at its **holiday concert**, the KHS A Cappella Choir will be performing the complete **Missa Brevis in D** by **W. A. Mozart** with a string orchestra of local musicians.

KMS

- Nov. 12 – The Parent Group Meeting features Jeff Drake speaking on "Challenges of Parenting Your 'Tween'", 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 – Fall Awards Assemblies
- Nov. 19 – Drama Club's *Cliques and Cafeterias* at 7 p.m.
- Nov. 24 – Drama Club Assembly
- Dec. 1 – Quebec meeting at 2:30 p.m.
- Dec. 3 – Janis Wetmore scholarship essays due
- Cluster A** - A canned food drive with Mrs. McRae's homeroom has begun. The goal is to beat last year's record of 4000+ cans and have Mrs. Frazier dress up in the Campbell Soup costume again. A bake sale on October 29th by Ms. Schinler's homeroom benefited Miracles in Motion.
- Cluster B** - Ms. Connary's homeroom has sponsored a bake sale for the victims of the tsunami in Samoa. The bake sale was held for two days at the end of October.
- Cluster E** - Cassidy (K.C.) Perkins was selected by the Keene Sentinel as the Constitution Day Essay winner. She will be attending a ceremony at the Supreme Court in Concord on Nov. 3.

Daniels

- Nov. 12 – Math Beyond the Dots
- Nov. 19 - Math Beyond the Dots
- Nov. 16 – After school Yoga Kids – 1st Session
- Nov. 24 – Elementary 1st trimester ends
- Nov. 20 - JDA Movie Night
- Nov. 23 – After school Yoga Kids – 1st Session
- Nov. 30 – After school Yoga Kids – 1st Session
- Dec. 3 - Math Beyond the Dots
- Dec. 4 – NO SCHOOL – Parent Conferences
- Dec. 5 - **JDA Craft Fair** - The 22nd annual fair will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. with many tables of fine handcrafts, gifts, and holiday trimmings. Lunch, dessert, and snacks will be available for purchase. There will be many opportunities to win great items in the wonderful annual raffle.
- Dec. 7 - Afterschool Yoga Kids – 2nd Session

Franklin

- Oct. 27th was a special International Harvest Night at Franklin. Parents of English Language Learners, from such diverse countries as China, Turkey, India, Japan (me), Ukraine, Kyrgstan, and Pakistan, and their children brought cultural dishes to share. ELL teacher Maurice Kimura reported it was a great success.
- Nov. 12 & 13 - Games SHINE (enrichment program)
- Nov. 16 & 17 - Computer SHINE
- Nov. 18 - Student Council/Popcorn/Pencil sale/Computer SHINE/Strings SHINE (**School Talk continues on other side**)

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

Informational Bulletin from the Superintendent's Office | cweeks@sau29.org

(School Talk continues from previous page)

- Nov. 19 - Title 1 breakfast
- Nov. 20 - Bake Sale/Computer SHINE
- Dec. 1 & 8 - Climbing SHINE
- Dec. 2 - Student Council/Strings SHINE
- Dec. 4 - Student Council trip - Toys for Tots
- Dec. 9 - Popcorn/Pencil sale/Strings SHINE

Fuller

- Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day - No School
- Nov. 12 - Title 1 before school program
- Nov. 17 - Title 1 before school program
- Nov. 18 - Math Beyond the Dots/2nd Grade to Colonial Theater/3rd Grade Night/Title 1 before school program
- Nov. 19 - Title 1 before school program
- Nov. 20 - 3rd Grade to Plimouth Plantation
- Nov. 24 - End of 1st Trimester/Title 1 before school program
- Nov. 30 - Title 1 Breakfast
- Dec. 1 - Title 1 before school program
- Dec. 2 - FSA Meeting/Title 1 before school/Math Beyond the Dots
- Dec. 3 - Title 1 before school program
- Dec. 8 - Title 1 before school program
- Dec. 9 - Pizzeria Uno Fundraiser Night/Jay Mankita Performance/Title 1 before school program

Symonds

- Nov. 12 - After school Stamp Club
- Nov. 13 - Day One Assembly
- Nov. 17 - Annual Turkey Trot at 2 p.m./Food drive for Keene Community Kitchen/After school Chess Club/Grade two Harvest Supper
- Nov. 18 - Annual Title I breakfast/Turkey Trot rain date/PTA Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 19 - Afterschool Stamp Club
- Nov. 23 - Day One Assembly
- Nov. 24 - Mrs. Kennedy's 2nd Grade - Stone Soup play & celebration/ End 1st Trimester
- Dec. 1 - Book fair begins and runs through December 4th/After-school Chess Club
- Dec. 3 - Afterschool Stamp Club/PTA Pizzeria Uno Fundraiser Night
- Dec. 7 - Day One Assembly

Wheelock

- Oct. 16 - Keene Firefighters, Mike Gianferrari and John Bates, brought a fire truck to the playground for preschool and kindergarten students to explore.
- This year, while trick-or-treating, Wheelock School students asked for canned goods or a food product to be donated to our November food drive. Mikayla Murphy, a fifth grade student, pioneered the idea for this collection. Wheelock students collected food items to jumpstart our food drive!
- On Tuesday October 27, Joanne Sullivan's Preschool morning class went on a field trip to visit Bentley Commons. Once they arrived by buggy, the residents greeted them with cider and apples. The Preschoolers sang songs and danced with a packed audience. The preschoolers were able to go "trick or treating," collecting lots of goodies from their new senior friends. Upon leaving, the preschoolers received a haunted house gingerbread kit to make for their Halloween party on Friday October 31st. It was a wonderful day and we all enjoyed meeting our new neighbors.
- On Tuesday, October 29, Wheelock students were entertained by Troy Wunderle of Wunerle's Big Top Adventures. Students learned with hands-on, how to juggle, balance feathers, spin plates, twirl devil sticks, and diablo (yoyo).
- Tuesdays - Staff Yoga with Josephine Russell after school
- Tuesdays & Wednesdays - Big Brothers/Big Sisters after school
- Wednesdays - Math Beyond the Dots before school
- Nov. 18 - PS Potluck Dinner
- Dec. 2 - PTA Meeting

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This is a summary of the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Keene Board of Education held in the LGIA at KHS on Tuesday, November 10, 2009.

Board Formally Accepts \$1.3 million in Federal Stimulus Money

After a very brief public hearing, at which no one from the public spoke, the Keene Board of Education formally accepted \$1,331,534.44 in ARRA funds. The vast majority of the funds - \$918,681 - is targeted for special education; \$404,757.02 for Title I, and \$8,096.42 for the homeless. The funds will be used primarily for professional development.

Special Board Meeting Scheduled to Hear Final Report and Recommendation of Administrative Structure Review Task Force

After much discussion, the board decided to hold a special board meeting on Dec. 15, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the LGIA at KHS to hear the final report and recommendations of the Administrative Structure Review Task Force because it could have an impact on the Keene School District budget process. The task force, made up of administrators and board members, has been meeting all fall to see if, in light of declining enrollments, the administrative structure of the district can be streamlined.

Board Sets Tuition for 2010-2011 School Year

Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, the board accepted the following tuition rates for next year:

	General	Special Education
KHS		
AREA	\$10,611	\$20,315
Non-AREA	\$11,397	\$22,119
KMS		
AREA	\$11,653	\$28,559
Non-AREA	\$12,889	\$35,796
Elementary		
ALL	\$10,721	\$35,831

In other action:

- **H1N1 (swine flu)** - Mr. Gurney reported that KMS and Fuller have had a number of students and faculty absent. He said school nurses and administrators are working closely with local and state health officials.
- **Social Studies realignment** - Mr. Gurney reported back to the board after a Symonds School parent raised concerns at last month's meeting about the change in curriculum. Mr. Gurney told the board that the changes were made to realign the curriculum to state standards so students were prepared to take state assessment tests and to prevent redundancy.

The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Keene Board of Education will be on Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the LGIA at KHS.