



John Eliot School

Bulletin

November 1, 2019

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Principal's News:

ELIOT SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school council is a representative school based committee made up of teachers, administration, parents and community members. This year, the members are Brian Weeks (parent), Melyssa Taylor (parent), Betsy Maxwell (2nd grade teacher) and Stephanie Calvo (5th grade teacher). Stephanie will join us when she returns from her leave.

The primary purpose of the council is to update the school improvement plan and review the school budget. The school improvement plan can range from 1 - 3 years and helps the school create a framework for improvement for the coming years. Our improvement plan is based on district goals which are focused on three major areas, academic, social emotional/ wellness and infrastructure goals.

This past Tuesday, we met for the first time to discuss the current plan and began the process of adapting it to the Portrait of Needham graduate. For your reference, our current school improvement plan is posted on our website. We hope to present our revised plan in the Spring and educate the community on how Eliot school is working toward the portrait competencies. After a brief comparison, it was clear Eliot school is currently using methodology that is reflected in the portrait document.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10th at 3:00. It is an open meeting and anyone is welcome to join in on the conversation. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any school council member if you have suggestions for ways we can continue to make Eliot School a great place for our children.

THIRD GRADE VOCABULARY PARADE

The Needham Rotary Club recently presented each third grade student with a personal dictionary. Students learned how to use the dictionary and research words. This week, the third grade participated in a vocabulary parade inspired by the book *Miss Alaineus* by Debra Frasier. Students chose a vocabulary word and created a costume using common household items such as boxes, tin foil or grocery bags. The third grade paraded throughout the school and showcased their creative costumes. Many students were able to creatively show the multiple meanings of their words...such as "waffle" and "to waffle". Other words examples were reflection, bookworm, flee, kindness, camouflage and predator among many others. Students were excited to show off their costumes to their Eliot family.



11/5/2019	PHOTO RETAKE DAY	
11/6/2019	Early Release Day	Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
11/11/2019	No School - Veteran's Day	
11/27/2019	No School - Professional Development Day	
11/28-29/2019	THANKSGIVING RECESS	
12/11/2019	Early Release Day	Dismissal at 12:15 p.m.
12/17/2019	Winter Chorus Assembly for students	Performance Center at 8:45 a.m.
12/17/2019	Winter Instrument Assembly for students	Performance Center at 1:30 p.m.
12/17/2019	Winter FAMILY Concert	Performance Center at 6:30 p.m.
12/23 - 1/1	WINTER RECESS	
1/2/2020	School Resumes after winter recess	

ELIOT's PHOTO RETAKE DAY

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 5

If your child is having a photo retaken, please be sure they bring in their Lifetouch envelope and give it to the photographer.

Or, if your child was absent on our September photo day, please fill out the envelope have have them return it to the photographer.

NEEDHAM HAPPENINGS

Needham Youth & Family Services is now accepting nominations for the Patrick and Patricia Forde Good Person Memorial Award.

This award is designed to recognize a Needham adult who helps make the community a better place for youth and families through his/her volunteer work. Applications and more information can be found on our website: www.needhamma.gov or by emailing Sara Shine, sshine@needhamma.gov . Deadline for nominations is December 1, 2019.

Mitchell Elementary School will host a screening and panel discussion of the documentary, Far From the Tree on Wednesday, November 6th at 7pm in the cafeteria. This evening is funded by a grant awarded through the Needham Education Fund. Please join us for this thought provoking film that speaks to the joy and challenges of raising children with unique differences.



See you next week!