
NORWOOD SCHOOL NEWS



March, 2010



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

NECAP SCORES

I am extremely happy and proud of all of our students, staff and parents. Our Fall 2009 NECAP scores are back and the students in grades three through six at Norwood have made significant gains in both the reading and math NECAP scores. These gains from the 2008 to the 2009 scores were notable enough to make the front page of the Warwick Beacon. The percentage of students in grades three through six who were proficient in reading rose from 75% to 81% and the percentage of students who were proficient in grades three through six in mathematics rose from 60% to 72%. Writing scores were not reported this year because it was a pilot program. We were able to "celebrate" this accomplishment with a little dancing through the corridors before vacation. At the March 10th PTA meeting I will present the annual School Report Night where we will be able to look at the scores in depth.

The students and staff worked very hard reviewing for the assessments and the students exhibited extraordinary work ethic during the testing. Parents, I would also like to thank you for your role in making sure your child was well prepared by a good nights sleep, a well balanced breakfast and getting them to school on time. Amazing things happen when everyone works together! Let's keep up the great work!

THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2010. THIS IS A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY FOR THE TEACHERS.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

March 1 – 5 is kindergarten registration throughout the district for the 2010 - 2011 school year. All children who will be five years of age as of September 1, 2010, are eligible for kindergarten next year. You may stop in or call the main office for a registration package. You will need your child's social security number, proof of residence and a birth certificate to start the process. I would suggest you register early so that we may get some preliminary numbers for our kindergarten next year. Principals start with estimated enrollments next week. If you know of neighborhood children who will be eligible, please pass this information along.

KID'S Day is scheduled for **Friday, April 30, 2010**. All children who have been registered for kindergarten will receive a letter regarding this very special day.

PTA NEWS

There are two big events going on this month. First, on Monday, March 1st, we will begin the daily drawings for our **March Calendar Raffle**. We will choose a lucky winner each morning to be announced during the morning messages. The daily winner will be notified by a PTA parent to arrange to have your prize picked up at school. Good luck!

Second, the Family Events committee has been working hard to plan a great **"March Madness" Family Night Dinner Dance**. Watch for the sign up flyer that will go home shortly. Dress up as your favorite sports figure or character. Dinner will consist of pasta,

meatballs, salad, Italian bread, beverage and dessert. There will be a disc jockey and family photographer, if you choose to have a picture taken. All the action takes place on **Friday, March 12, 2010 at Pilgrim High School from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. SAVE THE DATE!** Price: \$5.00/Person; Children 3 and under are free. You can't beat that!

On March 8th, the Norwood Spirit of Pride Norwood Clothing Sale is back by popular demand. You will be able to purchase, tee shirts, sweatshirts, sweat pants and jackets with the Norwood logo on them. This is not a fundraiser. The PTA charges what the company charges us. We did this three years ago and parents and staff have been asking to have the opportunity to purchase the clothing again. Mrs. Pat Battison is chairing this project. Brochures will be sent home next week.

PTA PLAYGROUND

On February 9th, the Norwood Playground Committee chairperson, Mrs. Sharon Johnston, presented the committee's expansion plan to the school committee for approval. All went well and the committee has chosen Friday and Saturday, May 14th and 15th as the building days. A flyer went home earlier asking for help on these days. I hope you can find a few hours during this time to help with the build. Donations of food and drink will also be helpful on this day. Save the dates!

The monthly meeting of the PTA will take place on **Wednesday, March 10, 2010** at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. Babysitting will be available.

SEE REVERSE SIDE

NORWOOD SCHOOL

SIXTH GRADE COMMITTEE

Well, talk about more March Madness! The sixth grade girls and boys teams have been practicing hard for the big game against Holliman on **Friday, March 26, 2010** at Pilgrim High! Boys are practicing under the coaching of Mr. Peladeau and the girls are being coached by Mr. White and Mrs. Monteiro. Watch for further information on one of the most popular yearly events.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Sixth grade community outreach committee will head up our annual **Pennies for Pasta Days** which will be starting soon. We had excellent participation in last month's community service projects. **We collected three boxes of winter coats for the Warwick Helping Neighbors Market Place, close to \$800.00 for the Haiti earthquake victims and \$143.00 for our first ever Matty Hatty Day.** The fifth graders are getting good practice for next year's committee as they were a big part of our successful earthquake donation buy selling Puff Pets and beaded ornaments. Way to go fifth graders!

CLINICAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

Did you know...March is Clinical Social Work Month? Please join me March 18th at 8:00 a.m. in the All Purpose Room for a tasty treat. Student + Family + School + Clinical School Social Work Expertise = Improved Education Environment. School social work practice dates back to the school year 1906-07' and connects to the Settlement Movements in NY, Hartford & Boston. The "friendly visitors" moved out of the settlement houses and agencies to build community by fostering family and school partnerships. The initial work was so helpful that these cities integrated the social work programs with their respective educational systems. The National Association of Visiting Teachers & Home School Visitors, founded in 1919, evolved into the National Association of School Social

Workers (NASSW) in 1943. In 1955, the organization merged with other social work organizations to form the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). The professional identity of the clinical school social work practitioner has expanded and evolved to meet the ever changing social and educational trends that have impact on students and families. Clinical School Social Workers have a Masters Degree in Social Work from a school accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. The Master level clinician has completed 65 semester credits in addition to 1,100 total hours of clinical practice under the direction of a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker. Clinical School Social Workers are licensed by both the Department of Health and are certified by the Department of Education. Clinical School Social Workers provide hope and direction

- direct individual and group therapy
- crisis intervention
- risk assessment
- home-school-community liaison work
- case management services
- parent/education/support groups
- psychosocial assessment
- functional assessments and positive behavioral supports
- teacher consultation
- interdisciplinary team member
- outside agency referrals and coordination of services
- social skills groups
- comprehensive program planning and evaluation
- serve mental health needs of students and families

Come and celebrate with your Clinical School Social Worker, Heidi Fanion, and learn more!

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| March 1 - 5 | Kindergarten Registration |
| March 8 | Spirit and Pride Clothing Sale kick-off |
| March 10 | PTA/School Report Night, 7:00 p.m. in the library |
| March 12 | "March Madness" Family Night Dinner and Dance, Pilgrim, 6:30 p.m. |
| March 15 | No School, Professional Development Day |
| March 26 | 6 th Grade Basketball Challenge vs. Holliman, Pilgrim, 6:30 p.m. |
| April 15 | School Play Night |