

HAPPENINGS MAY/JUNE 2010

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a learning environment that promotes the intellectual, artistic, physical, cultural and emotional development of our students. We seek to create an educational experience based upon a curriculum reflecting the standards set forth in the Massachusetts Curriculum frameworks. Recognizing and serving individual differences, interests and abilities, our educational community aims to prepare students to become informed, skilled and responsible citizens

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“Logical consequences are the scarecrows of fools
and the beacons of wise men.”
.....T.H. Huxley

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Friends:

I would like to use this month’s newsletter to highlight *just a few* of the significant student achievements of the 2009-2010 school year:

- Thirty seven seniors qualified for the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship;
- The National Honor Society inducted eighteen new members in recognition of their outstanding qualities of scholarship, leadership, service and character;
- Six Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards were awarded to six students;
- Two students were selected by audition to represent Abington High School in the Southeast Massachusetts Bandmasters Association Festival and the Southeast District Festival;
- One student was selected by audition to participate in the Massachusetts All-State Festival;
- Seventy one students took Advanced Placement tests in 2010. Forty eight members of the Class of 2010 and twenty three members of the Class of 2011 took tests in Government, Statistics, Calculus, English Literature and Composition, US History and Physics;
- Five varsity athletic teams won their division or qualified for tournament play; and
- Every senior student has passed the MCAS exams in ELA, Math and Science required for graduation. Abington High School students continue to score above the Massachusetts state average on all three exams.

Congratulations to our students and staff who have worked very hard this year. We all take pride in your significant accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Teresa Sullivan
Principal

FRIENDS OF RACHEL

On Wednesday, May 5th, the Friends of Rachel Club sponsored a Chain Reaction celebration honoring acts of kindness and community support in the PKS Music Room. Members of the club and advisors, Brian Lanner and Susan Crowley presented an award to Ms. Christie Coombs on behalf of the Coombs Foundation for her support of the club’s project and its mission to acknowledge and celebrate acts of kindness, charity and compassion. The day began with a technology symposium organized by Ms. Crowley, Librarian, in which students demonstrated how our new donated technology has been integrated into teaching and learning. Mr. Schafer, Superintendent of Schools, presented an award to the generous Abington residents who wish to remain anonymous for their significant technology donations. Mr. John Mahoney shared a video he created of teachers and students using the donated netbooks, interactive white boards, LCD projectors and document cameras.

Ms. Sullivan thanked the donors; “I hope that they and our students take away from today a real understanding of the potency of their contributions. You have seen the practical hardware hanging from our ceilings, walls and on our desktops. But the true influence of your altruistic character has immeasurably propelled us forward in our darkest hours. And there have been some dark hours. Your donations have given us affirmation for our own growth and learning and for the opportunity to provide our students with skills we know they so desperately need to be successful in the world today. Your generosity has empowered us in a time characterized in our community as dire.”

THINGS YOUR KIDS PROBABLY KNOW BUT DON'T TELL YOU.....

School Committee Meeting in the Cotter Room (Town Hall) @ 7:00 pm on Tuesday, May 25th

Memorial Day — No School — Monday, May 31st

Music Banquet at the *Senior Center (Summer Street)* @ 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 1st
(All music students and their parents are welcome.)

Spring Athletic Awards in AHS Cafeteria @ 6:00 pm on Wednesday, June 2nd

MCAS Biology Tests in science classes on Wednesday, June 2nd and Thursday, June 3rd

Underclass Awards Ceremony in AHS Gymnasium @ 7:30 am on Monday, June 7th

End of year report cards will be mailed home before Wednesday, June 30th

First day of school for Abington High School students for the 2010-2011 school year is Tuesday, August 31st



MCAS TESTING

The MCAS Science exams are scheduled for Wednesday, June 2nd and Thursday, June 3rd. Students will be taking their exams during periods 1 and 2. Students not taking the exams will attend regularly scheduled classes on the testing days.

Students taking the MCAS Science exams should report to school *on time* to begin the exam at 7:30 am.



**Friday,
May 14th
Term 4
Progress
Reports
Issued**

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Seniors Last Day
Friday, May 28th
11:00 am Dismissal

Senior Receiving Line
Friday, May 28th
AHS Front Lawn
5:30 pm

Senior Reception
Friday, May 28th
Raffael's in Nantasket
7:00 pm

Senior Awards Evening
Thursday, June 3rd
AHS Gymnasium
7:00 pm



Graduation Rehearsal
Friday, June 4th
AHS Gymnasium
10:00 am

Senior Picnic
Friday, June 4th
AHS Back Lawn
11:15 am

Class of 2010 Graduation
Saturday, June 5th
AHS Gymnasium
4:00 pm

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jazmin Gauvain, a member of the class of 2012, was accepted to the New England Young Writer's Conference (NEYWC) at the Bread Loaf Campus, Middlebury College, Vermont. This year's conference will be held from May 13th through May 16th.

NEYWC is an opportunity for "juniors and exceptional sophomore writers who show commitment to their writing" to gather with like-minded people and further develop their writing craft under the direction of professionals. According to the NEYWC director Matthew Dickerson, "What really makes the conference worthwhile, however, is the group of young writers who come up to walk on the same ground and sit in the same places that Robert Frost once sat."

As only schools in New England and New York can participate, and each school may select no more than two students to apply, those who are accepted by NEYWC to attend are part of a very small and selective group of enthusiastic and talented students. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Greg Corbett, a member of the class of 2013, who placed third at the Massachusetts State Science Fair held at MIT last month. Greg competed in the chemistry division of the science fair with his project titled "Investigating the Effects of Various De-icing Chemicals on the Rate of Corrosion of Steel." This project examined the effects that current de-icing salts have on the infrastructure of bridges and roadways throughout the United States. Greg also won the Prentice Hall Book Award and was the alternate to the \$8,000 Framingham State scholarship.

Robert Foley, a member of the class of 2013, recently placed among the 169 highest scoring 9th graders in the entire country for WordMasters Challenge, a national competition for high school students requiring close reading and analysis of many different kinds of prose and poetry. Abington High School's participation was overseen by Ms. Patricia Pflaumer.

Congratulations to the Class of 2011 Prom King Alex Morris and his court Andrew Dion, Conor Fraser, Steven Littlefield and Mason Sloan and Prom Queen Caitlin McNamara and her court Amber Dickinson, Kayla DiMarzio, Meaghan Hurley and Pamela Woods.

The junior class would like to thank all the parents who built the set and decorated the gym for the Grand March. It was wonderful and the class of 2011 appreciate all the hard work and time spent on the project. The class would also like to thank the community for supporting the students in the Jr. Class Auction this past December to help raise funds for the junior prom.

A special thank you to junior class advisor Ms. Kerri Murphy.

SAT EXAM

JUNE 5TH

ACT EXAM

JUNE 12TH

COLLEGE FAIR

Abington High School
Guidance Department
Spring College Fair
One Hundred College
Representatives
May 19th in PKS Room
6:00 pm—8:00 pm



SUMMER HOURS

The Main Office at the high school will generally be open from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Parents and students are advised to call 781-982-2160 to ensure that the main office is open. Working papers are available during those hours. Once a student has a job, working papers can be processed.

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be mailed home before June 30th. If your child owes money for a lost book, materials, or athletic or band uniform, you will be notified of that obligation in the same mailing.

When you review the report card, take special note of final grades. Your child may have to make up a course before returning to school to remain on track for graduation. Every year many students and

families miss information on the fourth quarter report card that can have consequences if not responded to in a timely fashion.

Students should check for credit total, failures and/or incomplete grades.



GUIDELINES FOR ATHLETIC/MARCHING BAND FEES

1. The Abington School Committee has established an Athletic/Marching Band and Color Guard Fee of \$250.⁰⁰ per student per sport (or marching band).
2. If a student or parent/guardian feels he/she cannot afford the fee, he/she may request a waiver by July 1 each year. Letters explaining the need for a waiver should be submitted to the Athletic Director or Marching Band Director. A committee to review requests will consist of the Superintendent, High School Principal and Athletic Director or Marching Band Director. Decisions will be made by August 1. If the committee determines there is a need, the committee will reduce or waive the entire fee.
3. The fee is non-refundable except for those students who are cut from any team by the coach in order to reduce the number of team members. Students who leave the team or band/color guard or who are removed from the team are not eligible for a refund.
4. Fees will be collected in the high school office between 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. each day. All payments must be made by check or money order payable to the ABINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' ACTIVITY REVOLVING FUND by July 15 for fall sports, Marching Band and Color Guard, October 1 for those students participating only in winter sports and February 1 for those students only participating in spring sports. Checks should include the name, address and telephone number of the student and Parent/Guardian. Receipts will be given for each payment.
5. Students may not report and equipment will not be issued until a list of participants has been finalized and on file with the Athletic or Marching Band Director, and the fee has been received. All payments must be in full; partial payments will not be accepted.
6. The playing time each participant receives is the prerogative of the coach or Marching Band Director. There is absolutely no assurance that each squad member will receive equal or any playing time.



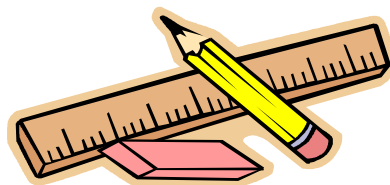
CHESTER J. MILLETT, JR. OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

The Chester J. Millett, Jr. Outstanding Teacher Award is presented annually to that teacher who by his or her performance has demonstrated a willingness to accept responsibilities and perform deeds well above those normally expected thereby distinguishing the teaching profession through great example, dedication, perseverance and commitment to helping students. The award will be presented by Chester J. Millett, Jr. on August 30th at the “Back to School” meeting at Abington High School. However, due to probable budget reductions, it was decided at this time to announce the winner and nominees of the award. Congratulations to Marianne Dankese who is the 2010 Chester J. Millett, Jr. Outstanding Teacher Award winner! Congratulations to Jim Dorman, John McGinness, Kerri Murphy and Jason Scott, this year’s nominees from Abington High School.

SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Abington Public Schools will offer Secondary Summer School for grades 7 through 12 from July 5th through July 29th, (Tuesday through Friday the first week and Monday through Thursday for the remaining weeks), at Abington High School. For more information contact Amy Lewis at 781-616-2925 or amylewis@abingtonps.org. Registration will be held at Abington High School on Monday, June 28th from 4:00—6:00 pm and Wednesday, June 30th from 4:00—6:00 pm. High School tuition will be \$200 per course for residents and \$275 per course for non-residents. There will be a late registration fee of \$20 per course due upon registration.

The purpose of the program is to provide remediation for students who need academic support to recover credits for graduation requirements. Because the coursework is concentrated, 100% attendance is mandatory. There is no opportunity for makeup work. This program is self-funded. All courses must have sufficient enrollment to be offered. The courses expected to be offered are English I, II, III, IV, Algebra I & II, Geometry, US History, World History, Physical Science and Biology.



FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

1. Parents must notify the office by phone prior to the exam that a student is ill or a family emergency exists. A written note that specifies the nature of the illness or emergency should be brought to the office upon the student's return to school.
2. Students who arrive late to school should report to the office for an admittance slip. Teachers will not allow students to enter an exam without a pass.
3. Students who arrive ten minutes or more late to school/class during exams may be allowed to enter the exam at the discretion of the teacher.
4. Buses will run at the regular time (1:57 pm) on June 11, June 14 and June 15.
5. Students will be expected to make up an exam on the same day of tardiness unless a teacher instructs otherwise.
6. In case school is cancelled, the exam schedule will follow the same sequence.
7. Students are expected to stay out of the academic areas where exams are being held. If students arrive early, they should report to the cafeteria.
8. Students will be expected to remain quiet and in the classroom until the end of the exam period.

Thursday June 10, 2010	Advisory	7:25 – 7:30		
	Period 2	7:32 – 8:14		
	Period 3	8:17 – 8:59		
	Period 4	9:02 – 9:44		
	Period 6	9:47 – 10:29		
	Period 7	10:32 – 11:14		
			Lunch 1	11:16 – 11:39
	Period 5A	11:16 – 11:58		
			Lunch 2	12:00 – 12:23
	Period 5B	11:42 – 12:24		
	Period 1 Exam	12:27 – 1:57		
Friday June 11, 2010	Period 2 Exam	7:25 – 8:55		
	Period 3 Exam	9:05 – 10:35		
	Make-Up /Extra Help	10:45 – 1:57		
Monday June 14, 2010	Period 4 Exam	7:25 – 8:55		
	Period 5 Exam	9:05 – 10:35		
	Make-up/Extra Help	10:45 – 1:57		
Tuesday June 15, 2010	Period 6 Exam	7:25 – 8:55		
	Period 7 Exam	9:05 – 10:35		
	Make-up/Extra Help	10:45 – 1:57		
Wednesday June 16, 2010	Review Exams or Mission Activity	7:25 – 10:45		Early Release Schedule
	Grading, Room Cleaning, Check-Out Procedure	10:45 – 1:57		