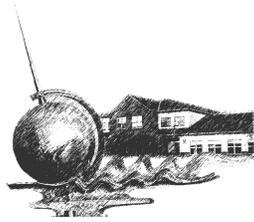


Laura E. Richards School

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

Principal's Notes



Dear Families,

Happy Fall!!! It is certainly a beautiful time in Maine!

Thank you to all the families who were able to join us for our Annual Pancake Breakfast! We had a great turnout! Having breakfast together with families is a wonderful way to start the school day for sure! Many thanks to the staff who helped prepare, serve, and supervise to make it a successful event.

We have completed our NWEA testing for all students in kindergarten, first, and second grade. Staff and I have been reviewing the scores to help us plan for the instructional needs of those students. Teachers will share your child's scores with you during Parent-Teacher conferences.

Octoberfest will be held Saturday, October 13th, at the Common from 10:00 - 2:00. This event is sponsored by our GEPTA. They are still looking for lots of volunteers to help set up, bake, run events, and clean up.

This weekend is a 4-day weekend for your children as Friday, October 5th is a Workshop Day and Monday, October 8th is Columbus Day. I hope you are able to get outside to enjoy our fall season this weekend, as the leaves have peaked and many orchards are still open for apple picking!

If you ever have a question or concern or just want to visit, please do not hesitate to call me or stop by my office.

Yours in the service of children,

Walking School Bus

Students and parents are invited to join Mrs. Moody and other staff members at the Gardiner Common at 7:55 for the Walking School Bus on Monday mornings, weather permitting, as we walk to school together.

Upcoming Events

October

- 5th: No school, staff workshop day
- 8th: No school, Columbus Day
- 10th: GEPTA meeting, 6:00 pm at RVCS Library
- 13th: GEPTA Octoberfest, 10:00 - 2:00 at the Gardiner Common
- 15th: Walking School Bus, 7:55
- 16th & 17th: Parent Teacher Conferences
- 17th: Early Release, elementary students dismissed at 12:00, no PreK
- 22nd: Walking School Bus, 7:55
- 29th: Walking School Bus, 7:55
- 31st: Assembly, 10:00 in gym

November

- 2nd: Early Release, elementary students dismissed at 12:00
- 5th: Walking School Bus, 7:55
- 6th: Picture retake day
- 12th: No school. Veterans Day observed
- 14th: GEPTA meeting, 6:00 pm at LER
- 21st-23rd: No school, Happy Thanksgiving!

December

- 12th: GEPTA meeting, 6:00 at RVCS
- 24th - 31st: No school, Holiday Break

January

- 1st: No school, New Year's Day
- 2nd: Welcome back!
- 9th: GEPTA meeting, 6:00 pm at LER
- 18th: Early Release, elementary students dismissed at 12:00
- 21st: No school, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Helpful Phone Numbers

- Laura E. Richards School 582-3612
- Superintendent's Office 582-5346
- Transportation Office 582-6663
- Boys & Girls Club 582-8458
- Special Education Office 582-7366
- LER fax 582-3175
- River View School & fax 582-3402

For safety reasons:

Please do not drop your child off at school before 8:10. There is no supervision inside or on the playground until then.

The Laura E. Richards School community will nurture, guide, and encourage students. We will provide a safe environment, rich in learning experiences, to foster respectful, caring, independent learners.



Star Students

Beginning this week, each teacher will choose a student who has demonstrated the "4 Be's" -- *Be safe, be kind, be respectful, be responsible.* Each Star Student will

receive a certificate and a special pencil!

A Note from the School Nurse

Vision & Hearing screening for Kindergarten and 1st grade will take place in October.

GEPTA News

Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 10th at 6:00 in the RVCS library.

Please join us for our annual Octoberfest on Saturday, October 13th from 10:00 - 2:00 at the Gardiner Common. There will be a cake walk, photo booth, bounce houses, games, prizes, vendors, food and more! Please e-mail geptanews@gmail.com to volunteer or for information.



No School

Friday, October 5th
Staff Workshop Day
&
Monday, October 8th
Columbus Day

Early Release Day

Wednesday, October 17th
K-5 Students will be dismissed at 12:00.
There is no PreK on Early Release Days.

Remember to collect and send in your empty Box Tops for Education, Hannaford Helps certificates, and empty printer cartridges!



It's Time for
Parent-Teacher Conferences!

Tuesday, October 16th
Wednesday, October 17th

Please go to
<https://pickatime.com/client?ven=11612871>
to schedule your conferences.

MSAD11 Parents' Right To Know Notification

Your child is attending a school receiving Title I federal funds through the Every Student Succeeds Act (referred to as ESSA). This Federal law requires that parents be notified of their right to know the professional qualifications of their child's teacher(s) in core academic subject areas, including the following:

1. The type of state credential or license that the teacher holds. Some teachers will have a credential in a particular subject area, such as English or mathematics, and others will have a multiple subject credential, which allows them to teach a variety of subjects, such as in elementary schools.
2. The education level and subject area of the teacher's college degree(s). All teachers have a bachelor's degree, and many teachers have graduate degrees beyond the bachelor's, such as a masters or doctoral degree.

In addition to the qualifications of the teacher, if a paraprofessional (Educational Technician) provides your child services, you may also request information about his or her qualifications. Many paraprofessionals have two years of college, and others have passed a test that verifies their qualifications.

If you would like this information, please contact the school principal.

Notification from the Director of Operations

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Staff Member:

Each year it is required that I inform everyone on our policies for handling Asbestos and the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. Below is some information regarding each topic.

- **Asbestos:** The current operation and maintenance plan is maintained at the Superintendents office. This includes a 6-month surveillance program and a 3-year AHERA inspection conducted by an independent company as outlined in the State Regulations. The following facilities have been identified as having asbestos floor tile, ceiling tile or both: Pittston Elementary, and the Gardiner Area High School.
- **Integrated Pest Management:** The objective of the IPM program is to provide effective pest control while minimizing pesticide use. Through maintenance and the cleaning, we will reduce or eliminate available food and water sources and hiding places for the pests. We will also routinely monitor the school area to detect pest problems and prevent the pest from becoming established. Non-chemical methods will always be implemented first when dealing with pests. However, pesticides may be necessary to control individual pest problems. When this happens, the school will use the least hazardous effective pesticide feasible. Spraying of exteriors will only be used in a worse case situation and is not allowed at this time. The Director of Plant Operations is the only individual authorized to allow the contacted company to spray for pests.

Parents, legal guardians, and school staff will be notified of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the registry. Notification will be given at least five days before planned pesticide applications. Notices will also be posted in school and on school grounds. If you need a copy of the registry form please ask for one at the front office at your school. Please remember that we are not spraying for pests at this time and we would only use this in an extreme situation. Each school is required to maintain records of monthly inspection and information about the pesticides used.

If you have any questions about asbestos or the IPM program please feel free to call me at the Superintendent's Office at 582-5346.

Sincerely,
Gabe Dostie
Director of Operations

M.S.A.D. #11 Child Find Policy

MSAD #11 seeks to ensure that all children within its jurisdiction are identified, who are school-age five through the school year in which they turn 20 and who are in need of special education and supportive assistance, including homeless children, state wards, state agency clients, students who have been suspended or expelled, children attending private schools receiving home instruction, children incarcerated in county jails, children who have the equivalent of 10 full days of unexcused absences or seven consecutive school days of unexcused absences during a school year, highly mobile children (including migrant or homeless), and children who are suspected of being disabled and in need of special education and supportive assistance even though they are advancing from grade to grade.

MSAD #11 is responsible for Child Find for resident students attending private or public schools through public tuition payments or public contract and shall meet this duty either through appropriate arrangements with the receiving school unit or through direct child find services by district personnel or contracted personnel.

MSAD #11's Child Find responsibility shall be accomplished through a unit wide process which, while not a definitive or final judgment of a student's capabilities or disability, is a possible indicator of special education needs. Final identification of students with disabilities and programming for such students occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by the IEP team.

This Child Find process shall include obtaining data on each child through multiple measures, direct assessment, and parent information regarding the child's academic and functional performance, gross and fine motor skills, receptive and expressive language skills, vision, hearing and cognitive skills. MSAD #11 may schedule child find activities during its annual kindergarten enrollment to assist in planning for necessary special education and related service at the start of the school year. If screening occurs in the spring prior to school entry, MSAD #11 will refer the child to the regional Child Development Services (CDS) site within 10 school days.

If the Child Find process indicates that a student may require special education and supportive services in order to benefit from regular education, the student shall be referred to the Individual Educational Plan (IEP) Team to determine the student's eligibility for special education services.

School staff, parents, or agency representatives or other individuals with knowledge of the child may refer children to the IEP team if they believe that the student, because of a disability, may be in need of special education and supportive services in order to benefit from regular education. Such a referral should follow the school unit's pre-referral and referral policy.

Legal Reference: 34 C.F.R. §300.111 (2006)
Maine DOE Rule Ch. 101 § IV(2) (July 2011)
Adopted: April 7, 1994
Revised: November 4, 2004; May 3, 2007; December 3, 2009;
February 4, 2016

MSAD 11 2018 – 2019 School Calendar – Approved March 1, 2018

2018

2019

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	H	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY - 21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		H	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	ER/QE	19
20	H	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST - 3						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	NS	25
26	W	W	F1	F2		31

FEBRUARY - 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	ER	16
17	H	V	V	V	V	23
24	25	26	27	28		

SEPTEMBER - 19						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MARCH - 20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	TE	9
10	11	12	13	ER	W	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	ER		29
31						

OCTOBER - 21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	W	6
7	H		9	10	11	12
14	15	16	ER	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL - 16						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	QE	6
7	8	9	10	11	W/TC	13
14	H	V	V	V	V	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

NOVEMBER - 18						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	ER/QE3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	V	H	V	24
25	26	27	28	29	TE	

MAY - 22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	ER	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	H	28	29	30	31	

DECEMBER - 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	V	H	V	V	V	29
30	V					

JUNE - 5						
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	LD	G
9	W	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

H – School Holidays

- July 4 - Independence Day
- August 24 - New Staff Only
- August 27 - All Staff Workshop Day
- August 28 - Workshop Day
- August 29 - Start of School K-9
- August 30 - Start of School 10-12
- September 3 - Labor Day
- September 4 - Start of School Pre-K
- October 5 - Workshop Day
- October 8 - Columbus Day
- October 17 - Early Release Parent/Teacher Conf.
- November 2 - Early Release Day
- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 12 - Veterans Day Observed
- November 21 - Vacation Day
- November 22 - 23 - Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 - Holiday Break
- January 18 - Early Release Day
- January 21 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed
- February 15 - Early Release Day
- February 18 - Presidents' Day
- February 19 - 22 - February Break
- March 14 - Early Release Day
- March 15 - Workshop Day
- March 28 - Early Release Parent/Teacher Conf.
- April 12 - Workshop Day/Teacher Comp Day
- April 15 - Patriots' Day
- April 16 - 19 - April Break
- May 8 - Early Release Day
- May 27 - Memorial Day
- June 7 - Last Day w/out Emergency Days
- June 8 - Graduation Day
- June 10 - Workshop Day

W = Workshop Day, ER = Early Release Day,
 H = Holiday, F1 = Start of School for K-9,
 F2 = Start of School for 10-12, F3 = Start of School for PK,
 V = Vacation, G = Graduation, TC = Teacher Comp Day,
 LD = Last Day of School w/out Emergency Days
 NS = New Staff Orientation, QE = Quarter Ends,
 SE = Semester Ends, TE = Trimester Ends

- *Rosh Hashanah - September 9-11
- Yom Kippur - September 18-19
- Hanukkah - December 2-10

175 Student Days 6 Workshop Days
 181 Teacher Days

Grades 6-12

- 1st Quarter Ends (45) November 2, 2018
- 2nd Quarter Ends (44) January 18, 2019
- 3rd Quarter Ends (48) April 5, 2019
- 4th Quarter Ends (38) June 7, 2019

PK – 5 Schools

- 1st Trimester Ends (61) November 30, 2018
- 2nd Trimester Ends (57) March 8, 2019
- 3rd Trimester Ends (57) June 7, 2019