

GRAY-NEW GLOUCESTER
MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENTS as PARTNERS
NEWSLETTER



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September 4th, 2009
#1 09/10

Dates to remember:

- 9/07/09 Labor Day Holiday no school
- 9/10/09 School pictures
- 9/21/09 Early release 12:00 pm dismissal
- 9/17/09 PTSA meeting 7:00pm in Library

***Please call the school prior to
7:30am if your student will
be absent or tardy.

Drama Club

GNG Middle School Drama will have its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 15, right after school from 2- 4:30. We will be meeting in the GNGMS Cafe/stage. Students in grades 5-8 who are interested in Drama should attend this meeting.

Fill Your Tank!

Breakfast served daily in the cafeteria.
7:10-7:30 a.m.
Full price \$1.00
Free/Reduced \$0.00

HELP WANTED!

Cafeteria Servers needed for all lunches
Come help your community and get a free meal!
See Mrs. Mooney in the cafeteria if you are
interested!

Welcome Back!

We hope that everyone enjoyed a relaxing and fun (yet wet) summer vacation. We are excited about the new school year and look forward to working with the students, staff, and families that make up the Gray-New Gloucester Middle School community. Best wishes for a productive school year!

First Dance

The first dance of the school year will be held from 6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M on September 25th. School dances are open to all 6th – 8th grade students. All school rules apply. Dress and behavior expectations will be observed. We ask that students arrive as close to 6:30 as possible and be picked up promptly at 9:00. Admission to dances is \$5.00. Students must be in attendance for the school day to be eligible to

attend the dance.

Dismissal Reminder

We have implemented a new dismissal procedure for the end of the day. We ask parents wishing to dismiss and pick-up their students at the end of the day to do so prior to 1:45. Office staff will be stationed at a desk outside the main office entrance to sign students out. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this effort.

Hannaford Helps Schools

We are registered with Hannaford in Gray for their “Hannaford Helps Schools” program. If you purchase participating products you will receive a certain number of “school dollars” with your receipt. These “school dollars” can be deposited in the collection tower at Hannaford in Gray, or if you shop at other Hannaford locations, you can turn the “school dollars” into the Middle School office and we will get them to the Gray store for collection. More details of this program are available at www.hannaford.com/hhs or you can pick up a flyer in our office. The deadline for earning Hannaford “school dollars” is December 6, 2009. All funds collected from this program will go towards Middle School activities.

Pictures

School Picture day will be September 10th. Students will have the opportunity to purchase packages of pictures using the order form sent home at the beginning of school. Fall sports pictures will also be September 10th. Coaches will distribute ordering information for their teams prior to the 10th.

Wellness Day

Friday, September 18th will be a day for all Middle School students and staff to be involved in activities that promote physical health and well being. As part of the day we will be learning about the Harvest Lunch Program, which promotes locally grown and produced foods, and our cookout for the day will include locally produced corn on the cob.

Because we will be active all day we are asking students to come to school prepared to participate in a variety of active and not-so-active events. Students and staff will be working on cross-grade level teams.

It is very important that students are dressed appropriately. Please use the following list as a guide.

1. Students must wear sneakers or other shoes that allow them to run and walk outside. **Flip-flops, sandals, or dress shoes** should not be worn.
2. Dress in layers. It might be cooler in the morning and warm enough for a t-shirt in the afternoon.
3. Bring a lunch if you are not planning to preorder a hot lunch. There will be no a-la-carte served.
4. Bring a small pack/bag with a water bottle, sunscreen, insect repellent, and a hat. We recommend applying tick repellent at home before coming to school.

Bring a snack or two. You will be active.

8th Grade DC Trip Set for May 11- May 14

There is still time to sign up for the Gr8 Discover DC program as registration does not close until October 9th. Among our many activities, we will explore major historical landmarks, lay a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery, and meet with one of Maine's Senators during our four days in D.C. Details about our program and a sample itinerary are available online at www.worldstrides.org or contact Karen Morgan (kmorgan@msad15.org) here at the Middle School for more information.

Civil Rights Team

Do you want to have a positive impact on your school and community? Join the Civil Rights Team! If interested, please sign up on the sheet posted outside of Mrs. Hennessey's room (120) during the week of 9/8. The Civil Rights Team will meet for the first time on Tuesday, September 15th from 2-3pm. Our meetings will be every-other Tuesday from 2-3pm. Students can be picked up at 3pm or take the Activity Bus. For more information, feel free to contact Amanda Hennessey at 657-4994 or ahennessey@msad15.org

Student Council Update

The GNG Middle School Student Council will hold its first meeting on Monday, September 21st. Representatives are needed from all teams, at all grade levels, 5 - 8. Information will go out to students within the next week.

National Junior Honor Society

National Junior Honor Society will have its first meeting on Monday, September 21 in room 218 from 2:10 until 3:00. Please pick up notices about becoming an NJHS officer from Mrs. Brown in room 218. A schedule will be handed out at our first meeting.

The 5th and 6th graders are enjoying the hopscotch and 4 square games that were painted on the asphalt in the play area by the '08 - '09 National Junior Honor Society!

Helping Students Learn

Once a month with Parents as Partners you will be receiving the Helping Students Learn pamphlet. Included in this are tips for parents in assisting their students to be successful in their education. September's issue is included as part of this week's Parents as Partners, as well as Learning Planner for the beginning of the school year. We hope that you find the information useful for both you and your student.

Athletic Update

Our fall sports season has begun. More than 120 boys and girls are currently participating on a team. Student-athletes are reminded to turn in their mandatory paperwork by Monday. This includes the Athletic Participation Form (available on the district website), the \$25 activity fee, and proof of a physical within the last two years. Checks can be made out to MSAD15, but make sure to include your child's name in the memo line. Don't jeopardize your opportunity to play by neglecting to fulfill these requirements.

This year, due to lacking participation at the 7th grade level, we are offering 6th grade girls the chance to play field hockey. It is not too late to sign up and no prior experience is necessary. This is a great

opportunity to try something new and deadlines will be extended to meet all requirements listed above. We look forward to seeing you all on the playing fields this fall.