

JACOBS SCHOOL BLUE NOTES

JANUARY 26, 2023



A Note from the Principal

As I'm sure you have heard by now, the School Committee voted on Monday to adopt the School Consolidation Plan, putting it into place over a 2-year period. Currently the Jacobs School houses grades PreK-5, Memorial Middle School houses grades 6, 7 & 8, and Hull High School, 9, 10, 11 & 12. Starting next year, grade 6 will remain at the Jacobs School, leaving grades 7 & 8 at the middle school. In year 2 of the consolidation, grade 7 will remain at the Jacobs, grade 8 will move to Hull High School, and the middle school building will be repurposed. Simply put, starting with this year's grade five class, students will remain in the Jacobs School building through 7th grade, and then will move on to Hull High School for grades 8-12.

I presented many of the initial plans during the December 12 School Committee meeting. I would encourage you to view my portion of that presentation [here](#) (start at 34:45 and end at 59:45) to get an idea as to some of our preliminary thoughts. In addition, you may view the Power Point that was referred to during the presentation by clicking on [this link](#). Over the next several months, our planning will intensify. I will make sure to continually update you on decisions as they are made. I look at this next chapter in the district's history as one that is exciting and filled with opportunities.

This week, after months of preparation, teachers in grades preK-5 started our **ELA curriculum piloting process**. The Jacobs School Literacy Committee developed a rigorous selection process to help us decide which materials best meet our needs, and ensure we took the time to consider our options. Members of the Literacy Committee began working with the Massachusetts Department of Education's Evaluation and Selection Network to guide our process of selecting a high-quality curriculum for preschool through fifth grade. Following an extensive curriculum review of the literacy programs available, we decided to field-test/pilot **two** literacy programs: **CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts)** published by Amplify, and **Wonders** published by McGraw-Hill Education. Both programs are top-rated curriculum materials on EdReports, an organization comprised of teacher experts who evaluate curricula for their alignment with state standards and usability. Christine Cappadona, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, has worked with the two companies to coordinate field-tests/pilots of each program for all teachers and students, PreK-grade 5. The units we will field-test fit into what teachers would be teaching at this point in the year. We began field-testing CKLA on Monday and will start *Wonders* on March 13. Each field test will last five weeks. Both CKLA and *Wonders* are robust curricula and have the potential to meet the needs of our school. We are excited to dive into these curriculum resources over the next ten weeks and will update families at various points during the process.

~Mr. Shaw



Attention Parents of Grade 3 Students: According to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 56, every child in grade 3 is required to have a current physical exam on file in their school health record. Please send updated forms to the school nurse.

Mark Your Calendar!

- Jan 31—Reading Pirate's birthday! Sign the PTO's card at Hull Public Library!
- Feb 3—Spirit Day/Assembly
- Feb 8—Kindergarten-101 Parent Info Night 5:30pm
- Feb 20-24—Vacation Week

RADI!



We Want Your RAD Photos!

Send photos of your RAD Pirates having fun in their Core Value T-Shirts or school colors to Mrs. Menice at ecmenice@town.hull.ma.us! Photos will be featured in the slideshow at our next schoolwide assembly, and maybe even in the Blue Notes!

**MORE UPSTANDERS HAVE BEEN SPOTTED
SPEAKING OUT TO SUPPORT THEIR
FELLOW STUDENTS!**



**OUR NEWEST HIGH FLYERS:
SYDNEY BULLEN!
ERIN GOODFELLOW!
HANNAH SUMMERS!
HUNTER DONAHUE!**

Kindergarten-101 Parent Information Night
For parents/guardians of children who will be 5
years old when school starts next year.

Wednesday, February 8

5:30-6:30pm

See the attached flyer



READING NOOK

Have any books to donate? JES would be happy to give your gently used books a new home! Next week is a Blue Week. The following classes have library:

Monday: Smith, Huntington, Wilson, Silva

Tuesday: Buttkus, Rajan, Martin

Friday: Gomes, Connelly, Mitchell