

LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Bulletin

Volume VI, Bulletin #11

May 17, 2011

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Colleagues:

Some of our special education students attend schools that are part of the LABBB Collaborative. This is a five-town collaborative that provides special education services for students in Lexington, Arlington, Bedford, Burlington, and Belmont. Last week, 200 LABBB students participated in a Special Olympics program on the LHS track. While the weather was cool and drizzly, the warm feelings by the students, their parents, and our LHS Best Buddies made everyone very proud of the LABBB students' athletic accomplishments.

Please read the article below written by Patric Barbieri, Director of LABBB. His description of the event shows one more way that Lexington goes far beyond what other school systems offer.

Paul

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Attachment:

DRAFT 2012-2013 School Calendar

Special Olympics Held at Lexington High School

Back in the late 1970s, the Special Olympics started its first local event at Lexington High School with approximately thirty high school athletes competing from the LABBB Collaborative. The LABBB Collaborative provides special education services to students from Lexington, Arlington, Bedford, Burlington, and Belmont. The event was first organized by a Lexington High School Physical Education Teacher and Lexington student leader volunteers and was held in the Lexington High School Field House. One of those student leaders was 1980 Lexington High School graduate Paula Rizzo. Paula, Special Olympics Director, has been working for the LABBB Collaborative since 1985 and currently is the Integration and Recreational Coordinator.

The success of these games is made possible by the collaboration between staff from the LABBB Collaborative and Lexington High School. The bridge that brought this collaboration together was the Best Buddies program, which has been made up of student volunteers from Lexington High School since the spring of 2004.

On Wednesday, May 11, the 8th annual Special Olympics games took place at the Lexington High School track and field. This year the event had over two hundred athletes from the LABBB Collaborative elementary, middle, and high school programs, and an amazing four-hundred student volunteers from Best Buddies. Best Buddies are student volunteers who attend Lexington, Bedford, and Arlington High School, and the Chenery Middle School in Belmont. Without the commitment and dedication of the Best Buddies this event could not be organized with this many athletes.

The procession, which was led by the Lexington Town Selectmen and School Committee, began promptly at 9:00 a.m., as the athletes and their Best Buddies walked toward the podium on the Lexington track. The opening ceremonies began as Natalie Cohen, Lexington High School Principal and Master of Ceremonies for the Special Olympics, introduced the athletes by classroom.

Message from the Superintendent (cont.)



Students from all LABBB member communities participated. As the athletes gathered behind the podium and the spectators were filling the bleachers and tents, they listened to Jackie O'Leary, LABBB Student, sing our National anthem. As the torch lighting ceremony began, a Lexington police officer and two athletes raised the Olympic torch and approached the podium.

The spirit of these games is more than just the sporting events. It brings a community of people together to support the athletes and raise awareness of students with disabilities. The Best Buddies and the LABBB connection could not happen without the LABBB students being part of our public schools. This opportunity is what makes great events like this possible. We don't have any famous sports stars hosting, but we have the dedicated LABBB staff and the Best Buddies!

Patric Barbieri, Director of the LABBB Collaborative

Upcoming Events

MAY 2011						
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	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May 16	Faculty Meeting Day
May 17	Elementary Principals Meeting, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., Estabrook School
May 18	Elementary Curriculum Council, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., Central Office, Upper Level Conference Room
May 24	Superintendent's Administrative Council, 2:30 p.m., Central Office, Upper Level Conference Room
May 26	P.D. Committee meeting, 3:45 p.m., Central Office, Lower Level Room 2
May 30	Memorial Day Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed
May 31	Elementary Principals Meeting, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m., Fiske School
May 31	School Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Town Office Building, Room G15

From the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development



The Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Len Swanton as the .5 Coordinator of Professional Development. Len has been a veteran teacher with the Lexington Public Schools since he arrived here in 1987. He is currently a grade 4/5 teacher at the Bowman School. His background and many contributions to Lexington are extensive. During his tenure, to name just a few, he received his Masters degree from Columbia University/Teachers College. He has served as an Interim Principal, a Content Coach Coordinator for our district's new teacher Mentor program, and in 1997 was named Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. Len is eager to partner with all of us as we work together in furthering the district's professional development efforts.

From the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development, (cont.)

As we welcome Len, so do we sincerely wish to extend a heartfelt note of CONGRATULATIONS and GRATITUDE to Joanne Hennessy who has worked tirelessly in establishing a wonderful foundation with the Professional Development Committee in initiating and advancing this valuable work. A GREAT big thank you from all of us!! We wish you all the BEST!

This year's 2011 Summer Professional Development Catalog will be up and running on the district's P.D. website, ready for registrations when you return from Memorial Day Weekend. Please check it out and enroll early. Courses will be running the weeks of July 11-14; July 18-21; July 25-28; August 8-11. More details to come.

*Carol Pilarski,
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction, & Professional Development*

National School Nurse Day

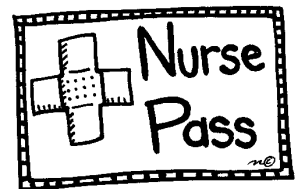
National School Nurse Day – Wednesday, May 11, 2011

"Vision, Voice, Visibility: Sail towards Healthy Horizons"

Dear Colleagues:

Wednesday, May 11, was National School Nurse Day, a time to celebrate the profession of school nurses. School nursing is recognized as a specialized practice that advances the well-being, academic success, and life-long achievement of our students. Our school nurses are innovative and resilient in promoting health and safety. We recognize how they intervene with actual and potential health problems, and actively collaborate with others to build student/family capacity for self management, self advocacy, and learning. It is because of our school nurses that Lexington children are healthy and well prepared to learn. The Lexington Public Schools and the community of Lexington are encouraged to join with their school nurses in celebrating this important day. Please join me in recognizing this team of committed professionals for the difference they make!

Paul B. Ash



Human Resource Notes



Important Licensure Reminder

Effective April 28, 2011, the DESE will no longer send hard-copies of licenses in the mail to licensees to verify that an educator holds a credential and has met the requirements as an educator in the Commonwealth. Instead, the DESE's online Educator Licensure and Recruitment system (ELAR) will serve as the official record for educator licensure. Therefore, it is important for you to review your ELAR page on the DESE's website on an ongoing basis.

Accordingly, for the purpose of your continued employment in the Lexington Public Schools, if there is any change in the status to your license (i.e. new license, license at a new level and/or subject area, etc.), please send a copy of your updated ELAR page to the Human Resources Office as soon as the change occurs.

Licensure Renewals

If your DESE license will be expiring between now and the beginning of the 2011 – 2012 school year, please make every effort to renew your license as soon as possible. You will still retain your original expiration date if you renew early. Please be reminded that, in order for a teacher to be lawfully employed in Massachusetts, he/she must hold a valid license in the subject area and at the grade-level of his/her teaching assignment(s). If you currently hold either a Preliminary or Initial license and need to advance to the next level of licensure, we strongly recommend that you review the requirements for doing so on the DESE's website and begin the process as soon as possible. Please contact the HR Office if you need any documentation and/or assistance.

Bob Harris
Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

2011 - 2012 Anticipated Teaching Vacancies

Elementary

- 1.0 Kindergarten at Bowman (2011-2012 school year only)
- 1.0 Grade 4 at Bowman
- 1.0 Grade 5 at Bowman
- 2.0 Grade 1 at Estabrook
- 1.0 Grade 2 at Estabrook
- 1.0 Grade 5 Long-Term Substitute at Hastings (approx. dates 10/7/11 - 12/23/11)
- 1.0 Physical Education at Harrington
- 0.3 Reading Specialist
- 1.0 ASD Intensive SPED at Fiske
- 0.8 Occupational Therapist at Fiske



Middle School

- 1.0 Reading Specialist
- 1.0 Spanish/French (or separate part-time positions)
- 1.0 Grade 6 Ancient Civilization (2011 - 2012 school year only)
- 0.6 Long-Term Substitute Social Worker (Approx. dates 8/29/11 - 1/20/12)
- 1.0 Long-Term Substitute SPED ASD (Approx. dates 8/29/11 - 10/14/11)

High School

- 1.0 English (2011 – 2012 school year only)
- 0.4 French
- 0.8 Latin
- 1.0 Debate/US History
- 1.0 Drama
- 1.0 Math
- 0.2 Reading Specialist
- 1.0 SPED - ASD
- 1.0 Long-Term Substitute Chemistry (approx. dates 8/29/11 - 11/11/11)

To apply for any of the above positions, please go online to <http://lpscareers.org/>

2011 - 2012 Stipends



METCO Extended Learning Program - Literacy Teacher

4 hrs/wk (2 hrs direct instruction, 2 hrs planning/prep time)

Req: Reading license highly preferred, 3 yrs. experience teaching reading, in-depth knowledge of literacy development.

\$4,533 annual stipend

Please send a letter of interest to Marie-Louise Bean, Bridge Elementary School or email her at mbean@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us

Middle School Guidance Chair

- Plan and lead the join Clarke and Diamond department meetings.
- Facilitate efforts to accomplish middle school department goals.
- Work with the high school Director of Guidance and K-5 Chairperson to plan and lead K-12 meetings.
- Meet with the middle school principals to discuss departmental and school needs.
- Communicate with the Director of Student Service.

\$1,814 annual stipend; no change in guidance load.

Please send a letter of interest to Steven Flynn, Clarke Middle School or email him at sflynn@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us

Middle School Team Leaders

\$1,814 annual stipend

Please send a letter of interest to either Steven Flynn, Clarke Middle School or Anne Carothers, Diamond Middle School

2011- 2012 Support Position

Middle School Support Personnel

To provide clerical support to a middle school main office. Lunch coverage required.

Class 3 LESA -10 month position – 29 hrs/wk; 6 hrs/ per day Monday – Thursday, 5 hrs/per day Fridays

\$17.38 - \$19.64/hr

Starting August 30, 2011

To apply for any of the above positions, please go online to <http://lpscareers.org/>

Lexington School Committee Meeting Agenda

*Lexington School
Committee Meeting
to be held on Tuesday,
May 31, 2011, in the
Selectmen's Meeting Room*

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Lexington Town Office Building, Selectmen's Meeting Room
1625 Massachusetts Avenue

7:30 p.m. Call to Order and Welcome:

Public Comment – (Written comments to be presented to the School Committee; oral presentations not to exceed three minutes.)

7:40 p.m. Superintendent's Announcements

7:45 p.m. Members' Reports / Members' Concerns:

7:55 p.m. Discussion:

1. PTA Technology Requests
2. Update on Year Two of the English Language Arts Curriculum Review
3. Update on the Anti-Bullying Law Implementation

10:00 p.m. Action Items:

1. Vote on School Choice

The next meeting of the School Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Office Building, Selectmen's Meeting Room, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue.

All agenda items and the order of items are approximate and subject to change.



School Calendar

Draft 2012-2013 School Calendar

Attached to the Bulletin is the draft 2012-2013 school calendar. Please examine the calendar and let your principal know if you have any suggestions. The School Committee is scheduled to vote the calendar on June 7, 2011.

LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS **2012 – 2013** **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

NOTE: All Thursdays are half-day dismissal at the Elementary School

B = Back to school night

C = Middle School (MS) and/or LHS Conferences; See specific month for ½ day or no school

E = Elem. Conferences, Students – ½ day

H = Holiday, Schools and Offices closed

P = Professional Development

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	P6	E7	E8	9
H12	13	E14	E15	16
19	20	21	H22	H23
26	27	28	29	C30

6 – All Day Professional Development; Students - No School

7, 8, 14, 15 – Elem. Conf.; Students – ½ day

12 – Holiday

21 – Students & Staff – ½ day

22, 23 – Holidays

30 – MS Conf.; Students – NO school

MARCH				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	P7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	H29

7 – Prof. Dev.; Students – ½ day

21 – Kindergarten Orientation

29 – Holiday

AUGUST				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
T27	28	29	30	31

27 – Teachers Only

28 – All K-5, All 6th grade, & All new students begin – ½ day

28 – Only Gr. 9 students – full day

29 – All Students Gr. 1 – 12 – full day

29 – All Kindergarten students – ½ day

31 – Schools Closed, Offices Open

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	C7
10	11	12	13	C14
17	18	19	20	21
24	H25	26	27	28
31				

7 – MS Conf.; Students – ½ day

14 – MS Conf.; Students – ½ day

24 – Schools Closed, Offices Open

25 – Holiday

26 to 31 – Schools Closed, Offices Open

APRIL				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	E3	E4	5
8	9	E10	E11	12
H15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

3, 4, 10, 11 – Elem. Conf.; Students – ½ day

15 – Holiday

15 to 19 – School Closed, Offices Open

SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	T	F
H3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
H17	18	19	PB20	21
24	25	H26	B27	28

3 – Holiday

17 – Holiday

20 – Prof. Dev.; Students – ½ day

20 – Back-to-School Night – Bowman Bridge, Estabrook, Fiske, Harrington, and Hastings

26 – Holiday

27 – Back-to-School Night – Clarke & Diamond

JANUARY				
M	T	W	T	F
	H1	C2	3	4
7	8	9	P10	11
14	15	16	17	18
H21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

1 – Holiday

2 – LHS Conf.; Students – NO school LHS students only

10 – Prof. Dev.; Students – ½ day

21 – Holiday

MAY				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	P9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
H27	28	29	30	31

7 – Clarke and Diamond Students ½ day for 5th grade orientation

9 – Prof. Dev.; Students – ½ day

27 – Holiday

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	B4	5
H8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

4 – Back-to-School Night – LHS

8 – Holiday

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
H18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	

13 – LHS Curriculum Night (snow date – Feb. 14th)

18 – Holiday

19 to 22 – Schools Closed, Offices Open

JUNE				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	F19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

9 – LHS Graduation

19 – Final day for students and teachers if no snow; Students – ½ day

20 to 26 – Snow Days (if needed)

Secondary Term Closes

November 2
 January 18
 March 28

Elementary Term Closes

November 30
 March 7

Half-Day Dismissal

Elementary 12:15
 Middle School 11:45
 High School 11:15