January 27, 2014

Dear Fuller Families,

Although we are off to a somewhat “jagged” start to the 2014 school year having had two snow days so far, I want to assure you that teachers and staff are focused on providing the support and momentum necessary for students to continue to achieve. Seventh grade students recently completed a practice Long Composition writing exercise to prepare for the March 18th MCAS date, and our English Language Learners just completed their ACCESS testing. All Fuller students are being assessed and placed in their next Extended Learning Time (ELT) group, with various start dates depending on the grade. Although these assessments take time from the regular routine of teaching and learning, they provide essential information that will help us make adjustments to our instructional planning.

As we approach the mid-year point, I am very proud of the progress that Fuller Middle School has made thus far, and am excited about the work ahead of us. On Friday, January 31, although school is not in session for students, Fuller teachers will be engaged in exciting professional development. The focus of our learning will be to identify and understand the key elements of a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) and Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL) approaches to teaching and learning. We look forward to the evolution of our STEAM programming, and its impact on student engagement and learning!

Have a great week, and stay safe and warm!

Regards,

Sharon

**This Week**

January 27th Fuller School Council 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the Fuller library

January 27th Fuller PTO 7:00- 8:00 p.m. in the Fuller Library

January 28 –May 20 **New** – FIRST After School TV Club (3;00 – 4:00) Tuesday afternoons

January 31st NO SCHOOL --- Professional Development

**Future Fuller Dates**

February 5th Progress Reports

February 6th Early Release

February 10 & 11th Keefe Interviews

February 12th All Jazz evening. Jazz Bands from all 3 middle schools and two jazz bands from the high school will perform at Walsh. Concert begins @ 7:00 p.m.

February 14th All School Concert at 1:30

February 17th NO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS’ DAY

February 18th -21st NO SCHOOL – Winter Recess

February 24th Fuller School Council 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the Fuller library

February 24th Fuller PTO 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Fuller library

February 27th Early Release

May 13th FHS 8th Grade Athletics Orientation @ 6:00 p.m. in FHS Auditorium

**Important Topics**

STUDENT COUNCIL/INTERACT CLUB

Did you know that there is an Interact website that will keep you informed on all of the wonderful service activities that our students are involved in?  The site contains photos, upcoming events, and synopsis of events well done.  Please take a moment to check it out.

[http://gallaghersciencegrade8-com.webs.com](http://gallaghersciencegrade8-com.webs.com/)

PARENT PICK-UP/DROP OFF

Students can ONLY be dropped off in the side (Mass Bay Community College) parking lot. For safety reasons, students should not be dropped off in front of the school. Drivers please take note and respect signs in front of the school and traffic monitors. Please drive slowly while on or near school property.

FULLER WEBSITE

We have a great website that is updated by our talented webmaster, Joe Pagano. We hope that the information here will be an excellent communication tool for families. As we work to improve the website’s effectiveness, please give us feedback. Check it out at <http://framingham.k12.ma.us/fuller.cfm>

FULLER PTO

Fuller PTO has a Facebook page! Be sure to check it out and become a “friend” of this page to stay connected with PTO activities. Please sign up for the PTO newsletter by contacting fullerpto@gmail.com

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Regular, on time attendance to school is strongly associated with academic achievement. Please make sure that you are encouraging your child to be on time and present every day, unless they have a fever or vomiting. Students who are repeatedly tardy without an excuse will be assigned consequences such as lunch detention and/or office detention.

FULLER PARENT CENTER

We are very excited to announce that our Parent Center, located in the Guidance Office, is now open to parents and guardians of Fuller students. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and parents need to sign-in at Guidance and provide a form of ID. There are four computers with internet access and soon, we will open the Parent Portal of X2 for parents and students to check progress.

**Clubs/After School Activities**  It is not too late for kids to join a club!! Encourage your child to stop in to any of the following clubs.

There is a new After School TV club starting January 28. The club will meet from 3-4,Tues. afternoons

and run to May 20th. They will meet in the at the Access Framingham studio at Fuller. Enrollment limited to 15 students.

There is a new morning vocal group called Chamber Choir, offered by Erin Morrill, our new Music/Chorus teacher.  Chamber Choir is open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders who enjoy singing from a variety of repertoire and will be performing in the 2014 Spring Concert.  Meetings are at 7am in the morning on Thursday and Friday.  All are welcome to join!

Late buses are up and running Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. After school buses will pick up students at 4:15 p.m. and bus them home. The following clubs are offered on the following days:

Study Center-Library: 3-4 every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

After School Activities: in the Gym 3–4 every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Math Club: 2:30-3:30 every Thursday in Rm. B45

Politics and Current events: 3-4 every Wednesday in Rm. B24

Jazz Choir: 7–8 a.m. on Thurs. & Fri. Rm. C13; Jazz Band: 7–8 a.m. on Thurs. & Fri. Rm. C20

Yearbook Club: 3 – 4 every other Wednesday; Dates are as follows: Oct. 23; Nov. 6; Nov. 20; Dec. 4; Dec. 18; Jan. 8

Student Council: 2:30–3:30 every Thursday in Rm. B40

Future Science and Engineers Coming - meets Wednesdays