February 10, 2014

Dear Fuller Families,

As we approach the week before February break, I am excited to share with you that Fuller has many exciting events happening which lie outside the typical clubs and after school activities listed below. On Monday, the girls and boys middle school basketball teams play at home - in the Fuller gym. Monday and Tuesday, admissions counselors from Keefe Vocational Technical High School will be interviewing prospective 8th grade students. This Wednesday night, all three middle school jazz bands perform at Walsh for an “All Jazz Evening”. Thursday brings a special mathematics competition to Fuller, as we host the *Intermediate Math League of Eastern Massachusetts* to be held after school. We will finish the week with our first annual “Bandapalooza” event; all Fuller students and staff will be together during the last period of school to listen to the Fuller Band and the Fuller Jazz Band perform several pieces of music.

There are a number of reasons why I am highlighting the extra-curricular events of the week:

1. I appreciate that we have a wide range of activities to offer students. Dr. Robert Brooks, who spoke with staff from all three middle schools for two hours last Thursday afternoon, underscored the importance of schools helping all students find their **“islands of competence”.** He described these as areas where students have the chance to demonstrate that they are good at something, and that they have strength, confidence, and skills to contribute to the community. We share this vision and take pride in focusing on students’ strengths, gifts, and unique talents.
2. I am pleased to point out the range of “islands” that we offer students to develop their competence – this week; Fuller is alive with events in the areas of academics, athletics, and music. It is important that we strive for this balance, especially since our student body has different needs, interests, and strengths.
3. I am thrilled to collaborate with our Performing Arts Director, Donna Wresinski, and the Fuller music staff to bring more music into the school! I look forward to the Fuller community coming together to celebrate the musical achievements of our Fuller students. What a terrific way to kick of February vacation!

Have a wonderful week, and I hope to see you at one or more of the events this week!

Regards,

Sharon

PS – Please save the date – February 24 – read below!

**This Week Fuller Dates**

February 10 & 11th Keefe Tech. 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 13th Fuller hosts the Intermediate Math League of Eastern Massachusetts (IMLEM) competition after school.

February 14th Bandapalooza!! All School Concert for Fuller students at 1:30

**Future Fuller Dates**

February 17th NO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS’ DAY

February 18th -21st NO SCHOOL – Winter Recess

February 24th “Your Child’s Cyber Footprint” – Presented by Bill Bowman, head of Information Security at Bright Horizons, President of the (ISC) 2 Eastern Massachusetts Chapter, and a Framingham parent. Program begins at **6:00 pm** in the **Cameron Middle School Auditorium**. Bill’s organization gives back to communities by giving talks to parents about information security and privacy. Parents from all three middle schools are invited to attend. This presentation is intended for adults only.

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

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

February 27th Early Release

March 7 Staff Variety Show 7:00-9:00 Fuller Auditorium

March 10th Grade 8 Parents/Guardians – 7:00 pm FHS Curriculum Night

March 12th 6:00 -7:30 pm – Grade 8 Medieval Museum Evening Exhibit in Fuller Library

March 18 MCAS -- ELA Long Comp. for grade 7

March 19- 20 MCAS -- ELA Reading/Comp. for grade 6 & 8

March 25-26 MCAS -- ELA reading/Comp. for grade 7

March 26 Tri 2 Report Cards go home

March 27 MCAS Make up

March 28 MCAS Make up

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 droppe*d 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 punctual and present every day, unless they have a fever or are 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**

Late buses run 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:

After School TV club will meet from 3:00-4:00,Tuesday afternoons and run through May 20th. They will meet in the *Access Framingham* studio at Fuller.

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 7:00-8:00 am on Thursday and Friday.  All are welcome to join!

Study Center: 3:00-4:00 every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

After School Activities: in the Gym 3:00-4:00 every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

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

Politics and Current events: 3:00-4:00 every Wednesday in Rm. B24

Yearbook Club: 3:00-4:00 every other Wednesday

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

Future Science and Engineers Coming - meets Wednesdays