March 2nd, 2014

Dear Fuller Families,

Last Thursday, the Fuller staff participated in a professional development activity that supports our growth as the district’s STEAM school. I was inspired and impressed (but not surprised) by the teachers’ excitement, creativity and collaboration.  Teams worked together to develop ideas for inquiry-based projects that requiring critical thinking from students, are inquiry-based and come from essential questions, allow for student choice, have multiple entry points and extensions into the curricula, and are highly motivating and engaging for kids.  Being a STEAM school does not change all the things you love about Fuller; rather, it helps us provide a more personalized learning experience for all students. We look forward to sharing with you more about this process as we develop and shape our identity as a STEAM school.

Parents and guardians of 8th grade students: please note that Monday night is an *Evening Parent Coffee* focusing on *Successful Transitions to High School*. Our talented and dedicated Guidance staff will be facilitating the discussion; I truly hope you will join us in the Fuller Library at 6:30 pm.

Friday night is the *Variety Show*!  You all know better than I what a smashing success this will be.  Fuller staff has been very busy preparing for their performances and getting ready for what is likely to be a “full house.” I hope you are among the cheering fans in the audience this Friday night.

Have a wonderful week.

Regards,

Sharon

**This week Fuller Dates**

March 3                             6:30 pm -- 8th Grade Parent coffee in Library - Topic-“Successful Transition to FHS”

March 6                              Early Release Day

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

**Future Fuller Dates**

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

March 12                           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                             Trimester 2 Report Cards go home

March 27                             MCAS Make up

March 28                             MCAS Make up

March  31                           5th graders visit Fuller and get a sneak preview of Suessical!

March 31                             Fuller School Council 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the Fuller library

March 31                             Fuller PTO 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Fuller library

April 1                                  8th Gr. Keefe Interviews - Follow up

April 10                                 Lifetouch - Spring Picture Shoot

April 18                                 NO SCHOOL - Good Friday

April 21 - 25                         Spring Vacation

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

**Important Topics**

STUDENT COUNCIL/INTERACT CLUB

NEW!! The Pennies for Patients Homeroom contest has begun!  We can see that the competition is head to head in grade six within the Opal team!  Is the seventh and eighth grade really going to let them just walk away with this competition?  Our school goal is to raise $1700 and we are a long way from this.  The following website is a direct location for parents and supporters to access and make a donation; <http://ma.llsevent.org/ng/index.cfm/a919d34/regPages/pledge/FULLERMIDDLESCHOOL/>.  Thecontest and the site will be open for the next two weeks, until March 10. Thanks in advance for your generosity in this great cause.

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 3:00-4:00 every Wednesday