

# THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 4 - 10/23/08

PTO NEWS is also available online at <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org>

## The Pierce School Broadsheet

Welcome to this weeks Pierce School Broadsheet Published every other Thursday by the Pierce PTO. There is a Firm Deadline for submissions of Monday at 2:00 p.m. Please drop notices in the Broadsheet box in the PTO/Outreach Office; mail to PTO Newsletter, Pierce School, 50 School St., Brookline 02446; or email (preferred!) to: Poetsareangels@rcn.com or Piercebroadsheet@gmail.com. Notices and ads are printed as space permits, without PTO endorsement. We reserve the right to edit all copy.

\*PAPERLESS\*

In an effort to be Fit and Green we hope to go paperless by December.

Please log on the the Pierce web site at <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org> and join our e-mail list.

[www.pierceschoolbrookline.org](http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org) - Main # 617-730-2580 Please Recycle!

## Mark Your Calendars for the International Pot Luck Super

When: Thursday, November 6th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Where: Pierce School Cafeteria & Auditorium \*More information to follow in Thursday folders!

## Pierce Problem of the Week #3

+                      -                      X                      ÷

Use each digit 1-9 just once to make an equation that equals 100. You may add, subtract, multiply or divide. You may even mix the operations.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Problem of the Week, Answer to POW #2 - 8 Digit Number

And the answer is...

41, 312, 432

or

23, 421, 314

(These numbers are the reverse of one another.)

## Save the Date

Monday, October 27, 2008 Farm School Trip for 7th Graders

Thursday, October 30, 2008 Professional Development Day  
(No school)

Friday, October 31, 2008 Summer Reading and Math Assembly, Grades 1-6 (8:30am)

Monday, November 3, 2008 Ice skate dropoff (7:30am)

Tuesday, November 4, 2008 Election Day, Pierce Mock Presidential Election, Ice skate dropoff (7:30am)  
Ice skate exchange (2:15pm)

Wednesday, November 5, 2008 Ice skate exchange (2:15pm)

Thursday, November 6, 2008 Early Dismissal, Grades K-6 (12:30), Annual International Pot Luck Supper (6:00pm)

Tuesday, November 11, 2008 Veterans Day (No School)

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 PTO/Principal's Forum, topic: Internet Safety

Thursday, November 13, 2008 Early Dismissal, Grades K-8 (12:30)

Friday, November 14, 2008 Grades 6-8 First Term Ends, Grades Close

## Seeking Men's Suit Donations...

The 7/8 production of GUYS AND DOLLS would greatly appreciate any donation or loans of men's' suits. Ideally, we need a grey or light colored suit for 'Sky Masterson'; other color or pinstripe suits for the gamblers would be a bonus. Thank you.

Please contact Nicole at [lapidusfamily@earthlink.net](mailto:lapidusfamily@earthlink.net)

## Mark Your Calendars for Another "Fit and Green" Event

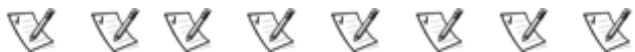
Skate Night - Friday, January 30 5:15pm-7:30pm Larz Anderson Skating Rink.

## Where Are They Now?

Pierce Alumnus Julia Jones is cast in the final season of ER as Kaya Montoya

See her article in Giant magazine at: <http://giant.blackplanet.com/articles/future-giants/julia-jones-interview/>

## A message from the Principal:



Dear Pierce Community:

At our Grades 1-6 Open House, I briefly referred to some other issues I wanted to raise with the community. One of these issues is around pick up during dismissal time, particularly at the Pit. The Pit area is an important part of Pierce and our open school. We are hoping that with parent and adult support, we can continue to keep the Pit open around pick up time as a safe and appropriate pick up and meeting place.

Closing the Pit area for six months last spring and asking parents and adults to closely supervise children during pick up times resulted in considerable improvement in teachers' and students' ability to settle in after school for work and meetings. The overall noise and safety concerns that developed earlier in the year were diminished significantly. We thank all of you who helped make this adjustment. We ask for your support again as I hope not to have to close the Pit this year.

Our after school spaces near the Pit continue to serve as learning spaces for the Math Center and the Primary and Upper Learning Centers. Several homework centers run four days a week immediately after school, as well. We need the support of the community to help address the noise and safety concerns again this year in the Pit area, and also across this open school just before school ends and during after school hours.

In order to diminish noise and child play in the school just before and after dismissal, I would ask that those picking up children refrain from entering the Unit A library area until 2:20 pm. Students and teachers are completing their final routines for the day and need to be able to focus on the tasks at hand. Most families arrange to meet their child in the lobby, cafeteria or outside, but as the weather gets cold, more families will wait in the building. Waiting in the building is not a problem if we can both contain the noise and also make certain that younger children do not run freely in the halls, the library or the Pit.

Parents and other adults are always welcomed to converse and visit with each other beyond 2:30 pm in the cafeteria. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Pipier Smith-Mumford, Ph. D.  
Principal, Pierce Elementary School  
Brookline, MA  
(617) 730-2580  
Fax (617) 264-6468

## Pierce School Mock Presidential

### Election November 4, 2008

- Pierce School will hold a Mock Presidential Election again this year. In doing this we hope to instill a sense of the democratic process, the importance of voting and some of the rights and responsibilities of being a citizen in this country.

Classes will come to the Polling Place at the Pit throughout the morning. Results of the election will be announced at the end of the day and later in the Broad-sheet.

In preparation for the national event, many teachers are discussing the election in the classroom. Students are engaged and excited about following current events. In the coming weeks, the eighth graders will be displaying age-appropriate posters about the candidates throughout the school. Students in 5K will staff the Polling Place and count the ballots. We look forward to an exciting educational experience.

## Want To Help Make Our Buildings Better? ...Come To The Pierce Building Task Force's First Meeting Of The Year?

**If so, please...** The Pierce Building Task Force will meet on Thursday, October 23, 8:10-9:10 a.m., in the conference room next to the principal's office. If you don't know us this is a group of Pierce parents who, along with Pipier and a teacher liaison, work on ways we can help, as volunteers, make our building and grounds the very best for our students and teachers. We advocate with the Town for improvements, we do work parties as needed (the "Clutter-Buster" events), and we try to find ways to help the faculty and staff focus on teaching rather than replacing light bulbs in hard-to-reach places. Issues we'll be discussing at this meeting include: status of ongoing plans for the auditorium upgrade and display/storage cabinets at the library entrance; targeted window replacement in Unit A (library/classrooms); possible improvements to the area outside the main entrance; and any other building improvement ideas that are on your mind! We welcome parents with carpentry, building design, or landscaping skills, but no prior experience is necessary. If you can't make the meeting, but have a suggestion for the Task Force to consider, or would like to be notified of future Task Force activities (including "Clutter-Buster" work parties), please contact Task Force chair Peter Sacks, 617-943-8900, [sacksjacobs@verizon.net](mailto:sacksjacobs@verizon.net).

## The Early Morning Math Program is looking for donations of used math games.

Board games such as Chutes and Ladders or Monopoly or Card games are welcome. We could also use chess and checkers sets. If you have a game that you would like to donate, please bring it to Susan Leipman (grade 1 teacher, in Unit C). Thank you.

## Pierce School Early Release Series For Children in Grades 1-5 sponsored by the Pierce School Extended Day

The deadline for The Early Release Series is Tuesday, October 28. After October 28 the cost will double. This programming is offered to children in grades 1-5 at the Pierce School on specific early release days. The dates are Nov. 6, Nov. 13, Nov. 20, and Dec. 4. We are also looking for parent volunteers to help assist and your child is able to attend at no cost. Additional forms are located near the main office and PSED office. Please contact Abbie at [pierceenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:pierceenrichment@gmail.com) or call 617-739-1919.

## Confused about how to help with your 8th grader's math?

Go to <http://connectedmath.msu.edu/parents/>

Click on the packet your child is learning in class.

It will help with an overview, a sidebar on concepts and explanations of selected homework questions.

## The next Pierce Reads, a book discussion group for students, parents and teachers, will take place Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. The theme this year is "Between Two Worlds."

Fifth and sixth graders will read and discuss *Becoming Naomi Leon* by Pamela Munoz Ryan, an award-winning book about a bi-cultural brother and sister abandoned by their mother and living in their great grandmother's trailer in southern California. It is a gripping story that readers will find hard to put down.

Seventh and eighth graders have a special treat -- an author visit. They will read and discuss *New Boy* by Julian Houston, the story of 15-year-old Rob Garrett, who leaves his home in Virginia to become the first African-American to attend a prestigious private boarding school in Connecticut. The story takes place in the mid 1950's. Segregation is still the law in the south, though people in both the north and the south are beginning to organize for change. Mr. Houston, a retired Massachusetts justice of the Supreme Court and a Brookline resident, will be on hand to answer questions and talk about the book.

We look forward to wide participation from Pierce's community of readers. If you wish to participate and have not yet signed up to receive a copy of the book, please call Joan Hamilton or Shirley Re at 617-730-2586.

## Are You Collecting Box Tops!

Make a difference at Pierce! Help the Kindergarten classes to meet our goal this year--\$1000! We can do it!

It's simple:

1. Find products with the Box Tops coupon.
2. Clip the Box Tops coupon.
3. Put the Box Tops in one of our collection boxes at Pierce!

Where are the new collection boxes???

Look for the boxes in three places:

1. Outside the Main Office
2. Outside KM in the Historical Building
3. In "The Pit" area

Easy as 1, 2, 3!

Please see Colleen Muldoon with questions or email [colleen\\_muldoon@brookline.k12.ma.us](mailto:colleen_muldoon@brookline.k12.ma.us).

Or check out the Box Tops for Education website: <http://www.boxtops4education.com>

## Skate Exchange

An ice skate exchange will be held at Pierce starting Monday, November 3 in the cafeteria.

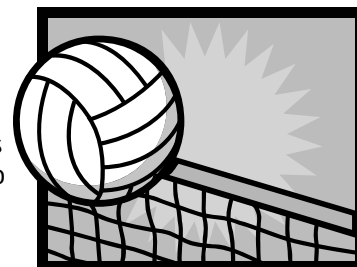
Ice skates can be dropped off on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Anyone dropping off a pair of skates can exchange for another pair starting afterschool on Tuesday, November 4 (Election Day). Skates can also be exchanged on Wednesday (before and afterschool).

Anyone willing to help before or after school on November 3-5, please contact Ellen Ball ([ellenball@alumni.rutgers.edu](mailto:ellenball@alumni.rutgers.edu)). If you know a good organization who would like any leftover skates, please contact Ellen.

## Pierce Sports

**BEFORE + AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS HAVE CONTINUE!!!**

Both are open to students in grades 4-8. There is no fee to participate in either.



**BEFORE** school sports are Tues. + Thurs. from 7:15-7:55am. **AFTER** school sports are Thurs. + Fri. from 2:30-3:30pm.

The 7/8 **VOLLEYBALL** team has been selected. Congratulations to all who made it! Practices will be on Mondays from 2:30 -3:30pm. Games will be on Wednesdays, check schedule for location.

## The Pierce School Community Directories are in...

and will be distributed to staff and sent home with students on Friday. Thank you to everyone who helped with the process this year especially Jean Malley, the Pierce teachers, our advertisers, sponsors and volunteers. Please remember to submit any changes to me, Felina Mucha-Cyr at [poetsareangels@rcn.com](mailto:poetsareangels@rcn.com). Enjoy this useful tool!

## Welcome to the Pierce GREEN Corner!

When available we will provide helpful information on how to stay GREEN around the school and/or at home so keep an eye out for helpful information coming your way. While your here, see what's here today... thanks for stopping by.



Join Connelly Hardware and Climate Change Action Brookline (CCAB) for a Coffee Hour: Saturday, October 25th, 10-12, at Connelly Hardware, 706 Washington Street, Brookline, MA. (Coffee and Pastries Provided.)

\*Learn About Our Green Tools Campaign  
\*Sign Up for a Low Carbon Diet Workshop To Help Reduce Carbon Output at Home and Save Money  
\*Talk To Energy Experts About Retrofitting Your Home Before Winter

Connelly Hardware, Aborn True Value, and Economy Hardware, in Collaboration with Climate Change Action Brookline (CCAB), Announce Their GREEN Tools Program

Tools and Products That Will Help Home Owners and Small Business Owners Reduce Carbon Emissions and Save Money. Look For Items That Address Water Conservation, Insulation, Heating and Cooling, Electricity, Recycling and Composting, Greener Paint and Cleaning Products. This Is One Of CCAB's Town-Wide Initiatives To Reduce Brookline's Carbon Footprint. For More Information, Contact [HTTP://WWW.CLIMATECHANGEACTIONBROOKLINE.ORG](http://www.ClimateChangeActionBrookline.org)

**Congratulations to Pierce Parent Steve Lipsitt! Join Steve and the Boston Classical Orchestra in a Musical Celebration.** On the second program of the Boston Classical Orchestra 2008-2009 season, we're playing a program of Baroque and Classical concertos for multiple instruments, along with the world premiere of my first composition in almost thirty years, featuring members of the orchestra as our solo artists. [To celebrate my tenth season as music director of BCO, we're presenting this player showcase, and] I have written a triple concerto for English horn, bass clarinet, & contrabassoon. [Although my graduate degrees are in conducting, I did study composition [with Martin Bresnick and Jacob Druckman].] My composition is a set of variations on Mozart's "Soave sia il vento" -- the trio from *Così fan tutte*. The title is Terzettino/Terzettone ; the orchestration of the piece (2 oboes, 2 horns, strings) recalls the sound-world of the 18th- century Sinfonia Concertante, but the structure of the work owes more to Brahms' Haydn Variations. Please also view the Boston Globe write up at: [http://www.boston.com/ae/music/articles/2008/10/18/feeling\\_playful\\_conductor\\_composes/](http://www.boston.com/ae/music/articles/2008/10/18/feeling_playful_conductor_composes/) Best regards, Steve (Steven Lipsitt) Music Director Boston Classical Orchestra <http://www.BostonClassicalOrchestra.org> mobile: (617) 899-4397

## Broadsheet Publication Dates for 2008-2009

09/11/08 \* - 09/25/08 \*  
10/09/08 \* - 10/23/08  
11/06/08 - 11/20/08  
12/04/08 - 12/18/08  
01/08/09 - 01/22/09  
02/05/09 - 02/19/09  
03/05/09 - 03/19/09  
04/02/09 - 04/16/09  
04/30/09 - 05/14/09  
05/28/09 - 06/11/09

\* Visit <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org> for past issues.

If you haven't signed up to receive the broadsheet or other Pierce PTO info via email, please visit the pierce website and subscribe today.

Thank you for your interest and support!

Sincerely,

*Felina-Marie Mucha-Cyr*

Editor, The Pierce School Broadsheet  
[poetsareangels@rcn.com](mailto:poetsareangels@rcn.com)