

THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 22 - February 9, 2010

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

Positive Press for Pierce

Boston Lyric Opera Performance

An Eighth grader, who is a talented and accomplished performing arts student, just successfully completed a starring role in "The Turn of the Screw", a Boston Lyric Opera production. In last Thursday's Boston Globe art section, the production earned great reviews with compliments on Aiden's performance. Congratulations to him and to his family for successfully completing this extraordinary opportunity while also managing his school work. Pierce is very proud of his achievement.

Successful Auditions for two Pierce Students

The Northeastern District Festival Chorus held auditions the weekend of January 30th. Hundreds of students from all of eastern Massachusetts auditioned for a spot in the chorus. Two of our Pierce 8th grade students were chosen to participate. Congratulations to the young ladies on this exciting accomplishment. They will perform in the beginning of March with the group. We are proud to have them representing Pierce School.

Needham Educators Visit Pierce Classrooms to See Think Math in Action

Kudos to Laura West (K), David Weinstein (1st), AnaMaria Caballero (3rd), Tracy Nichols (3rd), Susan Harvey (4th) Cheryl Klausner (5th), Tara Washburn and Darrielle Sullivan (math specialists) for making their practice public by volunteering to have visitors from Needham Public Schools observe their class during math instruction. Dr. Angela Allen, K-8 math coordinator (angela_allen@brookline.k12.ma.us), raved about the stellar instruction that she and these Needham visitors observed. The excerpt below is part of her thank you to our teachers:

"As you know, Tara Washburn graciously accepted my invitation to coordinate a Think Math! site visit with the Pierce teachers for the Needham Math Curriculum Review Team (3 administrators and 5 teachers) that was held last Friday, February 5, 2010.

The teachers warmly opened their classrooms and deprivatized their practice to allow our Needham guests to see Think Math! in action. The Needham administrative team was particularly awed with the strong sense of school community and inclusiveness at the Pierce School. In fact, I often observed and heard them noticing or commenting on the "good things" that went beyond the math program. More significantly, the team was thoroughly impressed with the quality of instruction across grades and greatly enlightened by the Think Math! Program. Each of the teachers thoughtfully and skillfully demonstrated how they realized Think Math! in his/her classroom. Additionally, the teachers continued to share their knowledge by participating in a debriefing session which the Needham team found to be very informative. If I had to characterize all of my [nearly 1000] days in Brookline, I would say that last Friday was definitely one of the best. You should know that I was most proud of the teaching and learning of mathematics at Pierce that I observed with the Needham team. Please join me in thanking and congratulating your teachers on a job well done!"

Pipier Smith-Mumford

Pipier Smith-Mumford, Ph.D.
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Answer to POW #10:

Halfway Up.

It took either 15 or 16 days for the grasshopper to get out. Congratulations to all of those who got the correct answer!

The 100th Day of School is Near

The 100th Day is Friday, February 12th (assuming no snow days).

Problem of the Week #11

How Green is Pierce?

The Pierce Green Team collected surveys from every classroom at Pierce to find out "how green is Pierce?" The data is impressive! Look for the data in the POW rack by the front office. The impressive! Look for the data in the POW rack by the front office. The challenge is to create a graph displaying SOME of this data on a small poster. For more suggestions, see the POW by the front office. Solutions due: Feb 24th.



**Kids... join us for some fun fitness during the school week.
Parents and teachers...its your turn to play on Friday night!
Fight the winter blues and enjoy a FUNraising,
Free good time (sponsored by the PTO)!**

Monday, March 1	Basketball...Obstacle course & more! K-3 4-6	Pierce Gym 5:30-6:15pm 6:30-7:15pm
Tuesday, March 2	Silly Soccer K-3 4-6	Pierce Gym 5:30-6:15pm 6:30-7:15pm
Wednesday, March 3	Yoga...soothe your soul K-3 4-6	Pierce Gym 5:30-6:15pm 6:30-7:15pm
Thursday, March 4	Basketball with Billy 7-8	Pierce Gym 5:30-7:15pm
Friday, March 5	Basketball for the "adults" 7/8 winner faces parent and teacher teams	High School Schlunz Gym 5:30pm-7:15pm

As always, parent volunteers are need to make this a successful event. Parents will be needed to help organize the activities, supervise events, sell Pierce Wear and Raffle tickets and more. To volunteer, please contact Deborah Heffan at heffan@verizon.net.

To sign up for activities, look for a registration form in Thursday folders the week of February 8.

AN OPPORTUNITY
TO HEAR SOME OF
PIERCE SCHOOL'S
UPPER-GRADE
TEACHERS
DISCUSSING
RECENT BEF
GRANTS AND HOW
THESE GRANTS
ENHANCE LEARNING
FOR OUR
STUDENTS.



SAVE THE DATE:
February 12, 2010 at 8:00 am
Special Breakfast Event
for K-2 Parents
Meet the teachers,
chat with other parents,
have bagels and coffee

For more info:
Cherie Gaehde • cgaehde@gmail.com
(4S, 6L, BHS)
Ian Roffman • iroffman@rcn.com
(KG, 3G)
Julie Leitman • julie.leitman@academicintl.com
(BHS, Pierce Alum)

Sponsored by the Brookline Education Foundation
www.brooklineeducation.org

Volunteers Needed for March Madness - This is a great opportunity to contribute to the Pierce community by getting involved, especially if you haven't been able to in the past. March Madness is coming and we need help with sales of our new Pierce T Shirt. We would be most grateful for any help you can give Monday the 22nd through Friday the 26th of February in the mornings - from 7:45 until 8:30. We also need help during March Madness - from 5-7:30 pm in whatever increments you are able to give us. Please contact Anna Asphar at annalouise@rcn.com if you are able to help out. Thanks.

Special Performances for Early Release Days

Grades 1-5 12:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.
sponsored by the Pierce School Extended Day

- Thursday, March 11 **Mike Bent-Comedy and Magic** www.abrakidabra.com
Tuesday, March 16 **Wayne From Maine** www.waynefrommaine.com
Thursday, March 25 **Dan Foley-Juggling** www.airbornecomediants.com
Tuesday, March 30 **Toe Jam Puppet Band-Go Green!** www.toejampuppetband.com

Please use the following link to register your child
<https://psed.wufoo.com/forms/pierce-school-early-release-series/>

Cost: \$48 or \$12 per show (checks should be payable to PSED)

Registration Deadline is Monday, March 8.

***If you enroll after the March 8 deadline, the cost of each show will be \$24.**
We are unable to accommodate children signing up on the day of the performance.

***It is not necessary to if your child attends extended day on these days.**

For additional information contact:

Abbie Fennell pierceenrichment@gmail.com or 617-730-2589

Hats for Haiti



Hats For Haiti! This coming Wednesday, February 10th, students, teachers and staff will have permission to wear a hat during school hours in exchange for a donation to help Haiti. Wear a ball cap, a tall cap, a silly hat, a frilly hat! If you would like to participate, donations will be collected in the classrooms and split between the American Red Cross and Partners In Health efforts in Haiti. We ask that each child bring in \$1, but donations of more are welcome and appreciated!



**American
Red Cross**

Men anpil, chay pa lou. With many hands, the burden is light.

Special Education Transition Planning

Brookline Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) is sponsoring ***From School to Work and Independence: Practical and Legal Information for Effective Transition Planning*** on Thursday, Feb. 11, 7-9 p.m., in the Martin Luther King Jr. Room at Brookline High School. Pamela Coveney, JD, and Jeanine Solomon, JD, of the Disability Law Center will present important information about transition planning, a required part of IEP's for high school students age 14 and older who receive special education services. The DLC presentation will address federal and state laws, transition planning and services, IEP development, MCAS and graduation readiness, how state agencies can help and the details of significant recent cases in Massachusetts. Light refreshments will be served. Brookline SEPAC is a Brookline 2010 climate action partner: please bring your own cup. Questions? Write brooklinesepac@gmail.com. To learn more about SEPAC and join the listserv visit www.brooklinesepac.org.

Pierce Parent is Looking for a Babysitter for her 2nd Grader

I'm looking for a 7th/8th grade babysitter for a 2nd grader, especially for Wednesdays afternoons. Please contact me at jmargaridaa@gmail.com or by phone at 617-953-3900.

Save the Date!!!

Calling All Gardeners and Want-to-Be-Gardeners!

Harvest More in Brookline this Year Come to **Bountiful Brookline's *Spring into Gardening*** event and learn about growing vegetables in tiny spaces, tall spaces, shared spaces and very long skinny spaces.

Sunday, March 28

th 1:00-4:00 at the Pierce School

50 School Street, Brookline *a community gathering featuring a reading and book signing by Ben Hewitt, author of The Town that Food Saved, as well as gardening workshops and opportunities to connect with other gardeners and would-be gardeners " This is the start of something fresh and dirty! Join us!"*

www.BountifulBrookline.org

Bountifulbrookline@gmail.com

Learn More/Volunteer

Community Information

Special Education Transition Planning

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Join the Cast of Beauty and the Beast

Join the cast of ***Beauty and the Beast***, the spring youth theatre production for children ages 8-12 at the Leventhal-Sidman JCC. Filled with fun costumes and music, the show allows children of all abilities to be part of this Broadway classic. Rehearsals take place on Sundays from 3-5:30pm beginning February 28. Everyone gets a part and the show is open to the entire community. Participants learn all elements of creating a musical theatre production including acting, choreography, voice, singing and set design. Performance date is Sunday, June 13. Cost: \$425. Register at www.iccgb.org/showstoppers or call 617-558-6480. The JCC is located at 333 Nahanton Street in Newton.

"Beyond the Lunar New Year"

Please join the Brookline Asian American Family Network for an event "Beyond the Lunar New Year" on Saturday, February 27, 2-4 PM at the Coolidge Corner Library. The event will feature presentations from two of our Brookline Asian American educators, Lihua Zhang Shorter and Alicia Hsu. Brookline Asian American Family Network was formed to support the needs of Asian American students in the Brookline schools. To RSVP or for more information, contact chichiwu@hotmail.com.

Save the Date

Tuesday, February 9, ***Kindergarten registration***

Wednesday, February 10, ***Kindergarten registration***

Thursday, February 11, ***Chinese New Year celebration*** (8:30am)

Monday, February 15, ***February vacation***

Tuesday, February 16, ***February vacation***

Wednesday, February 17, ***February vacation***

Thursday, February 18, ***February vacation***

Friday, February 19, ***February vacation***

Monday, March 1, ***PTO March Madness***

Tuesday, March 2, ***PTO March Madness***

Wednesday, March 3, ***PTO March Madness***

Thursday, March 4, ***PTO March Madness***

Friday, March 5, ***PTO March Madness***

Friday, March 5, ***Potluck Community Breakfast***

Pierce School Menu: <http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/NR/rdonlyres/F11BCF49-7AC4-4986-A1E8-2F775BDD205A/3168/Feb2010.pdf>

Broadsheet Schedule for the 2009-2010 School Year

Welcome to another year of a "green" Broadsheet. This year, the Broadsheet will be e-mailed on Tuesdays to all who have registered for electronic information. If you would like to register for the **PiercePost**, visit <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org/> or the **Pierce Broadsheet** email poetsareangels1963@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting articles for the broadsheet is Monday at 2pm. Anything not received by that deadline will go in the next broadsheet. Each Thursday a limited number of paper copies will be distributed to the teachers and will be available outside the main office.

Classified ads will run on the last Thursday of each month by email only.

Broadsheet
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Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

piecebroadhsheet@gmail.com

Felina Mucha-Cyr's Cell: 617/935-4367
Pierce School Brookline: 617/730-2580

Thank you for your interest and support!

Sincerely,

Felina

Felina-Marie Mucha-Cyr
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