

Calendar

JUNE

- 2 June (Tuesday)**
 • PTO Book Fair & Used Book Sale
 • Town-wide Spring 7/8 Band Concert
 7 pm Pine Manor
- 3 June (Wednesday)**
 • PTO Book Fair & Used Book Sale
 • PTO meeting
 7 pm library
- 4 June (Thursday)**
 PTO Book Fair & Used Book Sale
- 4-5 June (Thu-Fri)**
 8th Grade New York City Trip
- 8 June (Monday)**
 Spring Picnic
 6-8pm
- 9 June (Tuesday)**
 School Council Meeting
 8 am 2nd floor conf. room
- 11 June (Thursday)**
 (Spring Picnic RAIN DATE)
- 12 June (Friday)**
 Field Day
- 16 June (Tuesday)**
 Celebration for Departing Staff
 5-6:30 pm Library
- 17 June (Wednesday)**
 8th Grade Graduation
 6 pm Auditorium
- 24 June (Wednesday)**
 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
 Dismissal at 12:00 pm



Lawrence School Improvement Plan

A commitment to continuous improvement should be at the heart of an effective school. The Lawrence School Council, with input from faculty and parents, has developed a new three-year School Improvement Plan. I will present an overview of the plan at the PTO Meeting on Wednesday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m. The School Council and faculty developed goals around five areas:

- 1 School Vision**
 Revisiting and updating a shared vision for Lawrence School given new leadership and a large number of faculty new to the school in the past five years.
- 2 Instruction & Student Learning**
 Cultivating and supporting excellent instruction to promote student learning, through:
 - Expanded differentiation of instruction to meet the needs of all learners, including those who have not met proficiency and those who need additional challenge.
 - Improved inclusion practices.
 - Enhanced Child Study Team process.
 - Systematic intervention programs in math and literacy.
 - Clearer articulation of expectations and curriculum in grades K-2.
- 3 Community and Relationships for Students**
 - Supporting a safe, just and caring community for students by utilizing common language and practices to develop social competency.
 - Fostering meaningful relationships with at least one adult through an advisor/advisee program in grades 6-8.

- Developing a more cohesive program for our middle school-aged students that aligns grade 6 with 7/8, while taking advantage of our PK-8 configuration.

- 4 Professional Learning Community for Faculty**
 Cultivating a culture of reflective practice focused on student learning through the development of a Professional Learning Community (PLC) model. The faculty will work in self-selected PLC groups on topics connected to school improvement goals.

- 5 Service Learning**
 Establishing a school garden that is closely connected to the curriculum.

At the PTO Meeting, I will explain how the final plan is organized around the four focus areas found in the new Strategic Plan of the Public Schools of Brookline. The action steps to implement them are described in more detail in an action plan grid that will be posted online later this month. I look forward to engaging with the faculty and community in the ongoing work of continuous improvement.

—Rick Rogers, Principal

Principal's
 Corner





Fling Into Spring with the Lawrence Picnic

Our annual Spring Picnic will be held Monday, June 8, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (rain date: Thursday, June 11). Come enjoy the outdoors with your friends, family and the Lawrence community. Bring your own picnic or purchase pizza from the PTO. For dessert, maybe

you'll win a cake at the famous Lawrence Cakewalk! If you'd like to volunteer to help with the cakewalk, pizza sales, cleanup, or raffle ticket sales, please e-mail Nancy Gerber at antinancy@rcn.com or call Sam Whyte at 617-505-5836. There are several options for dropping off

your donated cake for the cakewalk: in the morning you can leave it at the office, in the afternoon bring it to the cafeteria, or in the evening bring it directly to the cakewalk (please save the cake for the rain date, if necessary). Hope to see you all there!

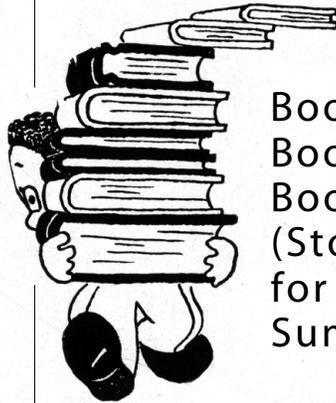


Info on Japan and Rice Balls at Picnic

Don't forget to stop by the SET-J (Sending Educators To Japan program) table at the spring picnic, where you can learn more about SET-J and Mr. Porter's (5P) trip to Hiroshima and Tokyo in November. Rice-balls will be on sale and proceeds will support this trip. For more information, please contact setj_lawrence@yahoo.co.jp.

Summer Reading Preview

Titles from the wonderful new Brookline Summer Reading List 2009 will be featured at this week's book fair, and lists will be available at the fair for your reference. All students will receive their individual copies of summer reading lists during the following week, June 8–12, so families should keep their eyes open for them then. These lists, compiled and annotated annually by our school librarians, will also be online through the Brookline Public Schools' website.



Books, Books, Books (Stock Up for Your Summer)

Don't miss the 4th annual Book Fair and Used Book Sale this week. We'll have used books for sale in the main hallway from 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, and Wednesday, June 3. The Book Fair, held in the library, will feature a huge number of new paperback fiction and nonfiction books for grades K–8, as well as books for adults and hardcover books. There will also be a Teacher's Wish List board for parents who want to purchase books for a classroom gift. All classrooms go to the library at a scheduled time to browse and purchase books. Parents are welcome to stop by anytime. The Book Fair will run Tuesday, June 2, 7:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 7:45 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, June 4, 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Proceeds from the Book Fair and Used Book Sale benefit your children through the PTO.

Around Brookline

Brookline's New Virtual Town Square

Have you visited the new town square? Check out YourBrookline.org, a new civic social media project of the Brookline Community Foundation. Whether you're looking to connect or volunteer, or want to find out about arts, advocacy, schools, seniors, parks and civic groups—or if you want to promote or communicate with a Brookline group or organization—come to YourBrookline.org!

While the PTO Paper is off line in the summer, this new web hub is a great place to find out what's going on around town. Questions? Call the Brookline Community Foundation at 617-566-4442.

Brookline Food Festival

The second Brookline Food Festival will be held on Saturday, June 6, in conjunction with the 31st Annual Coolidge Corner Arts Festival, from 12:00 p.m. to 3 p.m., with all proceeds to benefit the Brookline Food Pantry. It will take place on the grounds of the Devotion School at 345 Harvard Street. Tasting tickets will be sold by Brookline Food Pantry volunteers for \$2 each. A ticket is good for one tasting portion from any of the participating restaurants, which include: Clear Flour Bakery, Deno's Pizza, Finale Desserts, Fireplace Restaurant, J.P. Licks, Paris Creperie, Party Favors, Pita Pit, Qdoba Mexican Grill, Tatte Cookies and Cakes, Trader Joe's, Upper Crust, Vine Ripe Grill, Wings Over Brookline and Zaftigs. For further information contact Marge Amster at mamster@brooklineMA.gov or 617-730-2050.

A Successful Year at the After Hours University Program!

There will be an AHU event on Wednesday, June 10, from 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in room 5S. Several of the students' recent projects will be on display. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the program

for the upcoming school year, feel free to stop by, look around, and find out more. Open to fourth, fifth, and sixth graders. You may also contact Susan Fermin, located in room 209, or at sfermin@lawrence.k12.ma.us.