



# September 2011 Newsletter

Welcome From Mrs. Williams



Rogers School

Our first week was a tremendous success! The students and staff are all so happy to see each other again. In the classrooms, learning is already happening as we have an exciting year ahead of us.

I want to give a special welcome to all of the new members of the Rogers family. We have 9 new families in gr. 1-5 that have joined us this year, in addition to the 37 new kindergarten students. This brings our total enrollment to 227 students, 12 less than last year. Rogers School is truly a special and close-knit community where each family supports and cares for each other.

The staff at the school goes beyond expectations in doing what is needed to meet the needs of each individual child. I am sure it won't take you long to realize all of this!

Speaking of excitement, we have some new staff who have joined us this fall.

Miss Hannah is our new Music teacher.

## Help Needed!

As I stated, a school is a team and a vital part of that team is you. If you have some free time, I urge you to get involved in the school by assisting in the cafeteria as a monitor or by becoming a volunteer. It's as easy as completing a CORI check.

Thanks to response to my letter in the handbook last week, we have secured some cafeteria monitor volunteers but could use more. A lunch monitor assists during lunch times helping the students open milk, ensuring that they're eating their lunch safely, giving them permission to throw away trash and wiping the tables at the end of each lunch shift. The hours are 11:30am-1:00pm.

Besides the classroom, there are also various other areas where we could use your help. Please consider helping out at the library, assisting children to find and check out books.

She was previously the substitute music teacher last year. Now that she is with us officially, she has been hard at work updating the space in the basement by adding a rug and making the area more conducive to learning activities. We are surely happy and lucky to have her join us!

We also have a new Junior Custodian who also previously worked at Rogers. Mr. Mitchell was previously a custodian at East Fairhaven School. I know he brings great experience to help Miss Annie keep our school looking fabulous.

We are fortunate to have these new staff join us at Rogers! Their presence will help make Rogers School a better place to be!

My door continues to be open and welcome to you. I look forward to another phenomenal year working together for our students! ☺

Even a short period of the day would be a tremendous help. Our library can only happen if parents are willing to volunteer.



Our upcoming Book Fair is another area where we really need your help.

To volunteer in the library or Book Fair, contact Shelley Alger at (508) 992-0346 or email shelleyshush1967@yahoo.com.

Perhaps you have time during the day and love to answer phones. Mrs. Besse would love to have you cover her desk while she goes to lunch, even if you can only commit to one day. To volunteer in the office or cafeteria, contact Mrs. Williams.

To volunteer in a classroom, contact your child's teacher.

I look forward to seeing you in our school!

Wendy A. Williams  
Principal

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## Important Dates:

- ☺ Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>—PTO Meeting
- ☺ Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>— $\frac{1}{2}$  Day
- ☺ Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>—Open House
- ☺ Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>—Picture Day
- ☺ Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>—No School
- ☺ Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>— $\frac{1}{2}$  Day
- ☺ Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>—No School
- ☺ Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>— $\frac{1}{2}$  Day
- ☺ Nov. 24 & 25<sup>th</sup>—No School

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## Summer Updates at Rogers



The Feasibility Study and Existing Conditions Reports completed last year as part of the building project resulted in some striking improvements to the school over the summer. Outside the school are the most noticeable improvements. The area between the 3 portables was paved in an effort to alleviate standing water during heavy rains, all 3 portables had gutters installed above the doors and the walkway where 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders are dismissed leading to Center St. got some new concrete. I am sure you noticed the beautiful landscaping around the school and the new mulch on the playground. Inside the school, both Second Grade classrooms had new ceilings installed, a falling portion of the boys basement bathroom was repaired and the floors and ductwork outside the boys bathroom were painted (the humidity over the summer caused paint to peel). All of these improvements will help students and staff remain safe and dry with whatever mother nature sends us!

## Building Project Update

The School Building Committee continued to meet over the summer to finalize the Schematic Design for the proposed new school to be built on the Wood School Site. On September 28<sup>th</sup>, the MSBA Board will meet to review the Schematic Design. Once we get their approval, the town will then move forward with steps to gain local funding. This will involve Town Meeting support and a Special Town Vote for funding (expected to be in November). There is a lot of information and discussion about this project. If you have any questions or want more information about the project, I encourage you to please come speak with me. As a member of the Building Committee I can answer questions, show you drawings, and provide facts about the project proposed.

## Safety Reminders

Student safety is our daily concern. **If there is a change to your child's normal dismissal routine, including if they will be picked up early or are going home at 2:50 with another adult, you must send in a note to your child's teacher on that day.** Remember that this person must be indicated on the emergency form.

I know it was in the handbook, but I wanted to again point out the rule about pets on the playground. **For the safety of all, dogs and pets of all kinds are not permitted on school property during the hours of 8:30am-3:10pm.** I know we're a walking school and it is nice to walk your pets to school while you pick up or drop off your child, but the bottom line is that for many children, pets can cause fear and anxiety and they can be unpredictable. I appreciate your cooperation and understanding with this.

The School District will continue use of the Reverse 911 system. The emergency forms that went home last week help to ensure we have the most accurate and up-to-date contact information on file. Remember, it is vital that you contact us whenever there are changes in phone numbers or people you authorize to pick-up. The system also affords me the ability to send calls from a school level pertaining to Rogers School only. I will be diligent in being sure to only use it when necessary so that you understand the importance should you get a call. This system will alert you to Snow Days, Delayed Openings, Emergency Dismissals or changes to dismissal procedures. It is another way we are working to keep you informed while keeping your child safe.

## DIBELS

Over the next 2 weeks, you may hear your child say they DIBELED in class. Each student in K-5 is administered the DIBELS assessment 3 times per year (Sept, Jan, & May). The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills are a set of short fluency measures used to monitor the development of early literacy and reading skills. Students receive a score of: *Low Risk*, *Some Risk* or *At Risk*. These scores are then used by teachers and staff to plan appropriate instruction and intervention, if necessary. Students scoring *Some Risk* and *At Risk* are monitored to ensure progress is made. Be sure to speak with your child's teacher to find out how your child performed on this first round of measures.

## Rogers Pride Days

This Friday marks the first Rogers Pride day of the year. Every Friday at Rogers School we celebrate our love of our school by wearing our school colors: blue & white. You can wear any clothing of blue & white or you may choose to wear the Rogers School clothing (kindergarten can wear the t-shirts given last Thursday). We will have order forms going home Wednesday if you are in need of the logo clothing. Can't wait to see everyone in their blue & white!





## Box Tops Continues

We will continue to collect Box Tops this year and I am sure the clipping will heat up as in years past. Last year, students collected over 8,000 Box Tops which means Rogers School got \$883.05! This goes right to the PTO for field trips and activities for the students! Look for more info and contests to be coming home soon. In the meantime, keep clipping!



## Breakfast & Lunch

Chartwells continues as the food service company for the district. Breakfast begins at 8:00. Please try not to arrive earlier as there is no supervision. As always, you do not need to sign up for breakfast. The cost for lunch has increased to \$2.10. I urge you to apply for a free/reduced (\$.40) lunch. The guidelines have changed again so you may now qualify even if you have not in the past. You may continue to send money on a daily basis with your child or you may pay ahead. The cafeteria staff are available from 8am to 1pm if you prefer to drop off the money yourself. Money can be kept on your child's account. More information on the NutriKids Program will be coming home soon!

## Staff Directory

Mrs. Besse	Secretary	
Mrs. Jarvis	Nurse	
Ms. Beaubien	School Adjustment Counselor	
Mrs. Dwyer	Kindergarten	Mrs. Ingemi
Mrs. Vasconcelos	Grade 1	Ms. O'Malley
Ms. Ambra	Grade 2	Mrs. Mello
Mrs. Antonio	Grade 3	Ms. Pavlic
Ms. Guilfoyle	Grade 4	Mrs. Ponte
Mrs. Panell	Grade 5	Ms. Lamarre
Mr. Foster	Learning Center (LCF)	
Mrs. Medeiros	LCF Support	Ms. Sylva
Ms. Riley	Special Education	
Mrs. Ferreira	Inclusion Support	Mrs. Correia
Mrs. Loo	Inclusion Support	Mrs. Schmitt
Ms. Judd	Inclusion Support	
Mr. McGreevy	Speech	
Mrs. Anderson	Reading Support	
Mr. Munce	Phys. Ed.	Miss Silva
Ms. Hannah	Music	Mrs. Campoli
Ms. Hamric	Music	
Ms. Chiriogotis	Strings/Band	Mr. Young
Mrs. Deschamps	Art	Ms. Cashman
Ms. Liarikos	Custodian	Mr. Mitchell
Ms. Lavoie	Occupational Therapist	
Mrs. Johnson	Physical Therapist	



## Paperwork Reminders

I know you were swamped with forms to fill out and things to sign last week however, I'd like to issue 2 reminders.

1. Free/Reduced Lunch Applications—You **must** reapply every year. Students will be moved to full pay unless you have applied and been accepted this year.
2. CORI Forms—I must verify each one before it can be processed. This simply means that you have to show me your drivers license along with the CORI application. If you have already sent your CORI in, I will be holding them until you have a chance to come in. Open House Night I will also be available for this. Be sure to see me. CORI checks are good for 3 years so check with Mrs. Besse to see if you need one completed. We want to have you in the school!

## First PTO Meeting

The First PTO meeting will be held on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:00pm in the auditorium. The format will be a Meet & Greet Social event. We have new board members and exciting events for the new year. It's a terrific way to meet new people and find out about what the PTO has planned for this year! Be sure to join us to hear all about it!

## Newsletters & Calendars

Be on the look-out for these newsletters at the beginning of each month. Each will contain the menu, monthly calendar, and various other informative material. You may find that a good place for the calendar is on your fridge or other prominent area so that you don't miss all of the exciting events going on at the school.



Visit us on the web! There are links to email teachers, copies of newsletters and school calendars, the district calendar, and various other educational sites. Check it out!

**Caption describing picture or graphic.**