

January 20th: High School Make-Ups/Final Exams and Regular Day for Middle School

The School Board has approved using the last day of the 1st semester, Friday, January 20, 2012, for the taking of final Exams for half year classes as well as for high school students to make-up any incompletes they have from 1st semester. It will be a regular school day for Middle School students. High School students who do not have a 1st semester final exam and who do not have any incomplete competency grades to make up do not need to come to school on that day. In the past, the last day of school in June has been reserved for final Exam make-ups and for completing any competency work that is still marked as incomplete due to a grade less than 70%. This will no longer be the case. The teaching staff at MA felt that it would be more valuable to use this day in the middle of the year to help students catch up rather than using it at the end of the year. The staff also felt that it was important and fair to schedule mid-year finals so that these classes have the same amount of time to complete a final as they do if the final is taken in June.

AVAILABLE ON OUR HOME PAGE

Some of the items that might be of interest to parents that can be found on the MA Home Page include:

- *The Daily Announcements, which are read to students every day during B block.
- *The Athletics Schedule for all games, home and away, including middle level.
- *First quarter slide show.
- *The MA Principal Blog.
- *Teacher pages that include links to course syllabi and contact information for each teacher.
- *Guidance pages, including SAT Prep information.
- *Breakfast and lunch menus for the dining hall.
- *7th, 8th, and 9th grade homework.

We can also be found on Facebook thanks to the efforts of Ms. Austin and Ms. Maroon.

Parent Volunteers Sought for Re-Accreditation Committees

Every ten years Moultonborough Academy goes through the re-accreditation process as a member school of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Our re-accreditation site visit is scheduled for March of 2013, which means that this school year is devoted to completing what is known as the Self Study Report. The NEASC requires all schools to undergo a rigorous self-examination to measure themselves against the seven Standards for Accreditation. Each of the seven standards is studied by a committee made up of school staff, parents, and students.

The seven standards committees are as follows:

- Core Values, Beliefs, and Learning Expectations
- Curriculum
- Instruction
- Assessment of and for Student Learning
- School Culture and Leadership
- School Resources for Learning
- Community Resources for Learning

It's important that we have parents on each of these committees in order to get a better sense of how well we fare in the eyes of parents and the community. If you are willing to serve on one of these committees, or interested but would like some more information, please call (476-5517) or email (acoppinger@sau45.org) Mr. Coppinger at the Academy.

SAT Prep Options

At the request of members of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC), a number of SAT Prep options have been identified for students who are preparing to take the PSAT or the SAT. The options range from full SAT Prep courses offered for a fee to various on-line options, several of which are free. To learn more about each one call Mrs. Chapman in the Guidance office (476-5517), go to the Academy's Guidance home page and search under Testing, or follow this link:

<http://fc.sau45.org/webpages/guidance/testing>



Superintendent Search Public Listening Session

The School Board has identified the members of the Superintendent Search Committee and has chosen to hire the NH School Boards Association to facilitate the search process. The School Boards Association recommended that there be an equal balance between school employees and non-employees. With that in mind, the School Board appointed the following members to the Superintendent Search Committee:

- Dawn Alexander-Tapper (MCS AP/Assessment Coordinator)
- Celeste Burns (Community Member/Parent)
- Andy Coppinger (MA Principal)
- Lydia Eaton (Community Member/Parent)
- Kathy Garry (School Board Member)
- Laura Maroon (Technology Coordinator)
- Chris Misavage (MCS Teacher)
- Kay Peranelli (School Business Administrator)
- Kim Prause (Community Member)
- Shaw Smith (MA Teacher)
- Gary Torressen (School Board Member)
- Peter Velie (Community Member/Parent)

The Committee held its first meeting on Monday, November 28 and began to identify the Qualities and characteristics sought in our new superintendent. In order to continue this process and to hear from a larger segment of the community, the Search Committee has scheduled a **Public Listening Session to be held at the Academy Dining Hall on January 5, 2012 at 6:00 pm**. If you would like to have input on the hiring of our new superintendent please plan on attending this session or providing your thoughts directly to the committee. The School Board hopes to find the right candidate to fill Mr. Lancor's shoes by the Annual School District meeting in March.

Ad Hoc Dress Code Committee

The School Board, at the request of the Parent Advisory Council and Mr. Coppinger, have authorized the creation of an Ad Hoc Dress Code Committee to review the MA dress code for possible revisions. The current dress code was written nine years ago by a similar Ad Hoc Committee and approved by the School Board at that time. Between changing styles and some ambiguous language, there seemed to be some good reasons to re-examine the current dress code to ensure it suits the Moultonborough School Community. There is room on the committee for a couple more parents (four have already signed up). If you are interested please contact Mr. Coppinger by phone or email. The first meeting will be held in January.