

2010
Annual Administrator's Report
Of the Mattapoisett Public Schools

Submitted Jointly By
Rosemary T. Bowman, Center School Principal
and Matthew D'Andrea, Old Hammondtown School Principal

Student Enrollment & Facilities:

The 2010-2011 school year in Mattapoisett opened with 299 students registered at Center School (PreK-grade 3) and 234 students registered at Old Hammondtown School (grades 4-6) for a total school population of 533 students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6.

We continue to appreciate the support and financial commitment that the citizens of Mattapoisett have made to their public schools. The staffs at both schools continue to be committed to providing the highest quality of instructional programs and level of services possible for our students.

Personnel:

There were a number of personnel changes that occurred in the Mattapoisett Public Schools during 2010. Old Hammondtown School wished a fond farewell to two staff members who have retired. Mrs. Maureen McQuillan retired as the Speech and Language Pathologist after thirty years of service, and Mr. Stan Ellis retired as the Instrumental Music Teacher after twenty-nine years of service. Center School bid farewell to Luz Jackivicz who had served our children in the library for over twenty years. Gail Sutherland, the head cook in the cafeteria at Center School, resigned in September to assume a position closer to her home. On behalf of the staff and students, we would like to extend to them our sincere thanks for their years of dedicated service and their many contributions to the students and staff of Center School and Old Hammondtown School. They will all be missed!

The Old Rochester Regional School District welcomed our new Superintendent, Mr. Douglas White, who officially began his duties on February 1, 2010. Mr. White, a resident of Plymouth, previously served as a regional school superintendent in New Hampshire. The district also welcomed Mrs. Elise Frangos as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Old Rochester Regional School District. Mrs. Frangos works with the teachers at each grade level on professional development, best classroom practices, curriculum and assessment.

This year the Old Hammondtown School welcomed two new staff members. Paul Halpainy is our new Instrumental Music Teacher. Paul has served as the music teacher at the Joseph A. Browne Middle School in Chelsea the past three years. In addition to instrumental music, Paul is teaching our sixth grade general music classes. Jill Foye is

our new Speech and Language Pathologist. Jill has been an independent contractor working in the Wareham Public Schools since 2006, and previously worked in the Middleboro Public Schools. We welcome these dedicated professionals to the Old Hammondtown School staff!

Center School welcomed Mrs. Colleen Johns as the Library Media Specialist. Mrs. Johns, a Mattapoisett resident, previously worked as the librarian at Falmouth Academy. The new Head Cook at Center School is Mrs. Stacy Leonardo. Mrs. Leonardo, a resident of Mattapoisett, previously held the position of Second Cook at Center School. We welcome these dedicated professionals to the Old Hammondtown School and Center School staff!

School Council:

As a result of the passing of the Education Reform Act of 1993, each school's School Council is now in its eighteenth year of operation. The role of the School Council, as defined by law, is to assist the Principal in identifying the educational needs of the students, review the annual budget of the school, and develop an annual school improvement plan. For the 2010-2011 school year, Center School and Old Hammondtown School continued to have a Joint School Council and a Joint School Improvement Plan.

The members of the Joint School Council of Center School-Old Hammondtown School are:

Rosemary Bowman	Principal	Center School
Stella Brogioli	Parent	Center School
Penny Carlstrom	Community Representative	
Carolyn Canastra	Grade Four Teacher	Old Hammondtown School
Erin Custadio	Kindergarten Teacher	Center School
Matthew D'Andrea	Principal	Old Hammondtown School
Kim Field	Parent	Old Hammondtown School
Kathy Goulart	Parent	Old Hammondtown School
Amy Hartley-Matteson	Parent	Center School
Laurie Kassabian	Parent	Center School
Tammy Kelley	Grade One Teacher	Center School
Kyle Letendre	Grade Six Teacher	Old Hammondtown School
Renee Pothier	Parent	Center/Old Hammondtown
Kristen Sunde	Grade Five Teacher	Old Hammondtown School
Kevin Tavares	Grade Five Teacher	Old Hammondtown School
Maria Tomon	Grade Two Teacher	Center School
Jeannine Tranfaglia	Grade Three Teacher	Center School
Kimberlee Wiley	Kindergarten Teacher	Center School

(Teachers representing Kindergarten and Grade Five attend on alternate months)

The Joint Center School-Old Hammondtown School Council's 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan Goals are the Old Rochester Regional School District's Strategic Goals:

1. By June 2013, the delivery of instruction in ALL the Tri-Town schools will be restructured where necessary so that ALL students will be actively engaged in their learning.
2. By June 2013, ALL students in ALL the Tri-Town schools will have opportunities via activities and expanded curricular offerings to develop increased global awareness.
3. By June 2013, ALL the Tri-Town schools and their communities will provide the resources necessary to ensure currency of technological equipment and student experiences.
4. By June 2013, ALL Tri-Town schools will have activities and curricula in place so that ALL students have the opportunity to develop responsible social skills and citizenship.
5. Communication - Increase parent awareness of school related activities.

MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System)

As a result of the 1993 Education Reform Act, state mandated tests are now given to all third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth graders each year. The assessments for the students at Center and Old Hammondtown Schools in March/April/May of 2010 were: Grade Three – Reading and Mathematics; Grade Four - English/Language Arts (which included a long composition/writing prompt) and Mathematics; Grade Five - English/Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering; and Grade Six – English/Language Arts and Mathematics.

At Center School, Mrs. Eileen Brooks, our Consulting Teacher of Reading, in conjunction with the Third Grade Teachers, developed an MCAS Prep Program for third graders. The focus of this program stressed good reading strategies before, during and after reading a passage. Through modeling, using prior released Grade 3 MCAS Reading Test passages, the students were guided through the process of how to apply these reading strategies.

In September 2010, each school received individual student and building MCAS scores. The results from this testing have been reviewed by the administration and staff from each school and the testing results have been sent to parents. A 2010 Testing Report of the MCAS score results was presented to the Mattapoisett School Committee on November 8, 2010. The testing report included a three-year overview of the results of the MCAS Tests.

Academic Support classes will be offered before and after school at Old Hammondtown School to students in grades four, five and six. These small classes are focused on

questions in Mathematics and English/Language Arts depending upon the need of the student. Students will be chosen to participate in these classes based on the scores from the 2010 MCAS assessment. These classes will meet from January through March 2011 and are funded as part of the school budget.

Environmental Projects

Center School's second annual "Earth Celebration" took place on Wednesday, April 14. Many different facets of how to be sensitive to our environment were addressed at each grade level. Students in Project GROW, Kindergarten, Grade One, Grade Two and Grade Three shared information and projects focused on environmental respect for the world we live in. Students in Project GROW created special containers using recycled materials. Students in Kindergarten focused on the theme of the three Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – How do we make this part of our everyday life? Students in grade one focused on, Keep the Earth Beautiful-Eliminate Litter! The students (with help from teachers and parent volunteers) participated in a "Litter Clean Up" in the area around Center School. Grade two students completed a unit on the environment focused on the Monarch Butterfly – Monarchs, Metamorphosis, Migration ~ Project Milkweed! Students in grade three focused their projects on the water cycle and created projects sharing their story about the Journey of the Water Bottle. Many families came to acknowledge and support all of the work that the students had completed for our Environmental Fair. Families had the opportunity to hear the chorus sing songs about our environment at the beginning of our special evening. In the Cafeteria we welcomed the Mattapoisett Land Trust, Mattapoisett Sustainability Club and Elaine Botelho representing "Trees USA".

We truly appreciate all of the efforts of our children, all of the classroom teachers, Mrs. Dowling and Mrs. Anderson for their support in Art and Music, the Mattapoisett PTA for their financial support of this special celebration, all of the families who attended our environmental fair and our local community members who joined our school community for this special celebration. Our children hold the future in their hands. We applaud them for their hard work and leadership in the work that they have done for the Environmental Fair.

In March, the fifth grade at Old Hammondtown School had their annual Invention Convention. Students displayed their unique inventions for the students, parents, and community. Students shared individually developed inventions that solve everyday problems. Projects investigated a question, developed a hypothesis, completed research and experiments, collected data and developed a new solution. In April, all of the students in the grade four classes participated in the "Zoo Night". The cafeteria was filled with the most creative animals! Exhibits displayed how student created animals had adapted to their environment in order to survive. In June, grade six participated in a Geography Fair. Each student developed a presentation about an African country. Exhibits included food, games, and ceremonies from each culture. Parents and community members were invited to view all of the projects.

Cafeteria News

In September the *NutriKids* system was put into place in the cafeteria at Center School and Old Hammondtown School. Each child has an individual student identification number and a bar code for the student ID#. Students can use the system by punching their ID# on the keypad or by scanning their bar code.

Parents can send checks, made out to *Mattapoisett School Lunch Program*, or cash can be sent into school at anytime in order to pay for their child's lunch. Lunches are \$2.25 per day or \$11.25 per week. Parents who prefer to send in amounts higher than the weekly cost may do so and the cafeteria personnel will input the amount into the system so their child can utilize the funds each day. Snacks can also be purchased from the funds that you have placed into a child's account. Parents may also deposit funds into their child's account by using the online system: www.mynutrikids.com

After-School Programs:

Several after-school programs were offered during the school year. Students participated in Sports and Games, Basketball, Cooking, Scrapbooking, and Origami. In March, the Mattapoisett Bulldogs, our Special Olympics basketball team, competed in the state games; and in June, the Drama Club, under the direction of Tracy Gendreau, performed "The Lorax".

Community Outreach Programs:

A strategic goal for the Old Rochester Regional School District is, "Schools will have activities and curricula in place so that ALL students have the opportunity to develop responsible social skills and citizenship." On January 18, Dr. Martin Luther King Day, families were invited to participate in a day of service at "Gifts to Give" in New Bedford. Many families from our district visited this facility and learned first hand what the mission of this nonprofit organization is. This student powered, community organization is an extraordinary place to visit and volunteer your time. This affiliation with "Gifts to Give" was continued as part of the "Environmental Fair" at Center School. Families were given the opportunity to donate to "Gifts to Give" as part of our Environmental Fair. Clothing, books, toys, baby furniture, school supplies, prom gowns or tuxedos were donated to "Gifts to Give". A truck was parked outside of Center School during the Environmental Fair where all donations were placed.

A Multicultural Festival was held on Saturday, February 6, 2010 in the Center School gym. This event was planned and facilitated by the Old Rochester Regional High School AFS Student Club. Stations focused on games, crafts, songs, music and dancing, targeted for Pre-K – grade 3 children, were set up in the Center School gym. The cost was \$5.00 per child or \$10.00 per family. All proceeds benefitted the ORRHS AFS Student Club. Special thanks are extended to Michelle Barry, Lisa Wright and Kim Thomas and all of the families who volunteered their services and shared their time and enthusiasm to raise funds for the children of Haiti. The "Family Game" afternoon was held on February 27, 2010. It was a huge success! Through the generosity of many families one thousand two hundred and sixty-five dollars (\$1265) was collected and sent to the American Red Cross. This was an incredible community event!

On June 4, 2010 the Third Graders were involved in putting on their Seventeenth Annual Senior Citizen Appreciation gathering. The theme for this year was the "Great American Breakfast." Each student in grade three completed a research project on a Great American Hero. On the day of the Senior Citizen Breakfast students dressed up as the person they had studied and shared various facts that they had learned about this American Hero with the Senior Citizens that they were serving. The Grade Three Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Willow Dowling, sang patriotic songs to entertain the guests at the Great American Breakfast. The response from our guests was very gratifying and we received a number of thank you notes from Senior Citizens to our students.

The students at Old Hammondtown School provided outreach to the community in several ways during 2010. The Old Hammondtown School Student Council, under the direction of Miss Laura Mirabito, Mrs. Kris Brammer, and Mrs. Laura Courage, has been collecting food items for the local food pantry. Donations were collected during the month of November. In December, the Student Council organized a hat, scarf, and mitten drive for needy families, and donations were given to the Salvation Army. In May, Old Hammondtown School sponsored a T.V. turnoff week. Students were challenged to refrain from watching television for three to five days. Students kept a journal signed by parents that documented their participation. During the week, the school hosted a game night, which included games, sports, and activities that did not require television or computers to participate. The night was a huge success!

The Holiday Performance at Center School, "Paint the Town December", will took place on Tuesday, December 21 at 9:30 am. The students in grades one, two and three shared songs and stories about our very special town during this joyful season! Mrs. Willow Dowling directed this holiday celebration. Diane and Dennis Perry provided sound and lighting support for this production. Many parent volunteers worked with the Art teacher, Mrs. Greta Anderson, to create the scenery and costumes for this holiday performance.

Our twenty-second annual Holiday Family Fund, held in December of 2010, raised a total of one thousand one hundred forty dollars (\$1,140.000). This school-wide project is a free-will offering from our staff members, students and families each year. The generosity of the Center School community truly made a difference during this holiday season!