



Newsletter

<https://sites.google.com/a/northampton-k12.us/nps/our-schools/jackson-street-school>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northampton-Public-Schools-Massachusetts/179921372117715>

<https://www.facebook.com/jacksonstreetpto> <http://www.jspspt.org/>

You may also connect with us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/NPSDistrict>

Ms. Alles's website: <https://sites.google.com/northampton-k12.us/mindfulnessatjss>

JSS Office 587-1510

Volume 24 No. 29

March 20, 2020

If you wish to have a copy of this letter written in Spanish, French or Arabic, please contact the school department at 587-1315. Si le gustaria esta carta en Espanol, es posible. Llama 413-587-1315. Si vous voulez une copie de cette lettre en Français, veuillez contacter le Département de l'École 587-1315. إذا رغبت في نسخة من هذه الرسالة بلغة عربية، يرجى الاتصال بالمدارس 587-1315.

MESSAGE FROM MS. AGNA

INTERESTED IN THE DISTRICT CURRICULUM?

In case you didn't get a chance to read this last week:

It's now online and accessible – check out the following links!!

The public-facing curriculum information and link to the maps on Atlas. <http://www.northamptonschools.org/project/nps-district-curriculum/>

Direct link to Atlas: <https://northamptonk12-public.rubiconatlas.org/Atlas/Public/View/Default>

FY21 FIRST VIEW BUDGET – STILL TAKING FEEDBACK

Superintendent John Provost presented the FY21 Budget to the School Committee on February 27, 2020. It is now on the Northampton Public Schools website - <http://www.northamptonschools.org/>

When you open the page, it is in the section with rotating photos. He and we all want transparency in this process – please take a look at it and if you have any questions/concerns/ideas, email me or him directly: jprovost@northampton-k12.us. We need all comments by the end of March.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A WEEK MAKES...

This time last week we, the principals, had some inkling that we might have to close schools. I'm sorry we didn't have final confirmation in time for the staff/faculty and I to say good-bye. The staff and faculty worked so hard on last Monday, the 16th, to prepare individual packets for every students with links, logins, resources, and activities. Thanks much to all who did and then all who helped to pass them out on Tuesday. I have a very few left here at my house – my home office for now– if you didn't get your child's, please let me know and we can get it to you.

The teachers, counselors, and special education teachers have been and will continue to reach out to you while the school is closed – we're working out a plan for this. Please let us know if your phone number and/or email have changed!!

Many thanks as well to Beth Maurer, our PTO's Volunteer Coordinator, who is organizing and emailing links and resources to families, for helping us stay connected if families have devices and wi-fi access. If you know of families who do not have internet access, please ask them to email me. The district is working on getting it out to all.

We just received the following information from Comcast/Xfinity:

No Disconnects or Late Fees: We will not disconnect a customer's internet service or assess late fees if they contact us and let us know that they can't pay their bills during this period. Our care teams will be available to offer flexible payment options and can help find other solutions.

Internet Essentials Free to New Customers: As announced yesterday, it's even easier for low-income families who live in a Comcast service area to sign-up for Internet Essentials, the nation's largest and most comprehensive broadband adoption program. New customers will receive 60 days of complimentary Internet Essentials service, which is normally available to all qualified low-income households for \$9.95/month. Additionally, for all new and existing Internet Essentials customers, the speed of the program's Internet service was increased to 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. That increase will go into effect for

no additional fee and it will become the new base speed for the program going forward.

News, Information and Educational Content on X1: For those with school-age students at home, we've created new educational collections for all grade levels in partnership with Common Sense Media. Just say "education" into your X1 or Flex voice remote. To help keep customers informed, we also have created a collection of the most current news and information on Coronavirus. Just say "Coronavirus" into your X1 or Flex voice remote.

I will help with the distribution of lunch and breakfast bags at Hampshire Heights Mondays-Fridays, 11AM-Noon. It was a good start to this plan yesterday and today. Come by and say HI if you'd like! And if you cannot pick up the food, please let me know and we can get it to you.

The amount of donations coming to our PTO for the Emergency Fund has been huge and phenomenal – thank you EVERYONE for your generosity! We will continue to purchase grocery cards – please donate (again) if you can. And if you need cards, please let me know!

My email address is gagna@northampton-k12.us. I will be checking my voice mail in my school office periodically – 587-1512. We will not be in the schools much, per the Commissioner of Education's order but will NEVER be out of touch!

Ms. Deirdre Johnson, Ms. Maria Vega, and I will print the progress report cards and progress notes that the teachers have done in grade 1-5 and mail them to you on Monday, March 23rd. If you do not receive yours by the end of next week, please email me.

I am certainly not very "techie" but I have recorded the Morning Meditation and a Story Time with **Jackson**. I've posted them on my own Facebook page, the JSS PTO Facebook page and on the JSS news page. I will continue to do Story Times and more videos with Jackson.

Words cannot adequately describe the sense of loss and sadness I feel now. I will continue to find ways to stay connected to you as we make our way through this pandemic.

Sending health and love to all,


Gwen Agna

Swing Into Spring Update – SAME AS LAST WEEK....

Unfortunately, we are no longer able to host our annual silent auction at the Garden House on March 27th due to the recent COVID-19 safety precautions being implemented in the district and outlined in Dr. Provost's recent letter to families. With nearly 300 amazing items donated by generous community members the PTO is not willing to throw in the towel quite yet! Our annual silent auction, Swing Into Spring, provides critical funding for daily operations of the school. Each year this auction raises between \$16,000-\$20,000 which is given directly to the school as a discretionary budget fund.

At this point, the PTO is looking at options for hosting the auction online. This requires a different skillset than in the past! If you have any past experience with hosting an online auction, photography skills, or any other tech support to offer please email the PTO at:

jacksonstreetpto@gmail.com

Thanks in advance for your dedication to helping our school community!

Become a Swing Into Spring Underwriter!

Auction items are just one part of the equation in our Swing Into Spring success! Do you know you or your place of employment can

become a Swing Into Spring underwriter? By making a monetary donation to the auction you will greatly reduce the cost of the event by funding the facility rental, printing costs, and entertainment. Underwriting is essential in supporting our wish to keep this event admission free and a fun community event for all. Help us celebrate this exciting evening and also take advantage of a wonderful advertising opportunity. Become an Auction Champion by donating \$1,000 or more, and Auction Promoter by donating \$500 or more, a Sponsor for \$250, or a Friend for \$100. All underwriters will be recognized on signage on the day of the event, and thanked publicly during the event.

Please contact jacksonstreetauction@gmail.com to make a donation or to request an underwriter form to share with someone you think may be interested.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – We’re always adding new dates so keep checking. PLEASE check the Northampton Public Schools website for district calendar updates.

Parents Hour in the Family Center the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, from 9-10AM, beginning Wed. Sept. 4. The JSS PTO meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

The Walking School Bus (Fall & Spring) – Ms. Agna alternates on Fridays around 8:10AM between the bike path (starting behind Stop and Shop) and Hampshire Heights, starting at the bottom of the hill near the CVS plaza.

Thurs. April 9 HOLA Session 3 ends

Wed. Apr. 15 PTO Meeting 6:30-8pm JSS Library – NOTE DATE CHANGE!

Mon. Apr. 20-Fri. Apr. 24 – NO SCHOOL – SPRING RECESS

Tues. May 5 HOLA Session 4 starts

Wed. May 13 PTO Meeting 6:30-8pm JSS Library

Fri. May 15 Staff/Faculty Work (1/2) Day – dismissal at 12:20PM

Mon. May 25 NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day

Thurs. May 28 2:00PM KDG students host our JSS Grads (tentative date) – We will let you know if we can hold this

Wed. Jun. 10 PTO Meeting 6:30-8pm JSS Library

Thurs. June 11 HOLA Session 4 ends

Fri. June 12th 9:15AM All-school Assembly: Ms. Agna reads “A Fine Fine School” – We will let you know if we can hold this.

ALL GRADES PROGRESS REPORT CARDS GO HOME ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – LAST DAY STILL TO BE DETERMINED. 5th GRADE GRADUATION IS SCHEDULED THE DAY BEFORE THE LAST (HALF) DAY OF SCHOOL.

INFORMATION ABOUT MCAS WILL BE FORTHCOMING – STAY TUNED...

Jackson Street School MCAS Schedule

Revised 1/9/20

Correct as of 1/9/20

ELA

4rd Grade	Wed April 1	Thurs April 2	Make Up Apr 6
3rd Grade	Tues April 7	Wed April 8	Make Up Apr 9
5th Grade	Wed April 15	Thurs April 16	Make Up Apr 17

MATH

3rd Grade	Wed April 29	Thurs April 30	Make Up May 1
5th Grade	Wed May 6	Thurs May 7	Make Up May 8
4th Grade	Wed May 13	Thurs May 14	Make Up May 18

STE

5th Grade	Wed May 20	Thurs May 21	Make Up May 22
-----------	------------	--------------	----------------

