

***Si usted quiere acceso a las minutas de esta reunión en español comuníquese con la junta ejecutiva del PTO.***

*These meeting minutes will be up for approval at a PTO meeting.*

As a parent of a child at Barbieri you are a member of the Barbieri PTO.

All parents are welcome to meetings. Childcare is provided.

Thank you to Joy Greenwald for providing refreshments for the PTO meeting.

Attendance: Ms. Hardy – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, Principal Dr. McGilvary-Rivet, Kate Coleman – Math Coach for Barbieri & Woodrow Wilson, Ms. Fawley – Literacy Specialist

### **Some (not necessarily all) Important Dates between Now & Next Meeting**

School events calendar: <http://framingham.k12.ma.us/districtcalendar.cfm>

Barbieri events calendar: [http://framingham.k12.ma.us/barbieri\\_calendar.cfm](http://framingham.k12.ma.us/barbieri_calendar.cfm)

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| No School-Martin Luther Day | -Monday, January 16                                 |
| Townwide PTO                | -Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 pm, Stapleton          |
| Restaurants Night           | -Thursday, January 19, Chuck E. Cheese 3:00-9:00 pm |
| Early Release               | -Thursday, February 2                               |
| Barbieri School Council     | -Wednesday, February 8 at 8:00 am                   |

### **PTO Meeting Refreshments**

- PTO is in need of someone to volunteer to provide refreshments for the March or April PTO meeting.

### **Thank yous**

- Thank you to all the parents who volunteer.
- Joy Greenwald – BJ's membership, refreshments for this evening's meeting.
- Justine Peterson – Re-take Picture Day.

### **Principal's Report**

- In an ongoing effort to better communication at Barbieri, Dr. McGilvary-Rivet is asking for feedback on the change of having school and classroom information included on the C.A.R.E Friday reports. You can send in any feedback (positive or negative) to school.
- Kindergarten Expo April 24 5-7:30
- Kindergarten School Tours: Thursday, April 12, 7:00 pm; Friday, April 27, 9:30 am; Thursday, May 3, 7:00 pm.
- We have a new Administrative Assistant – Mariana Ravanales, Ms. Ravanales will be working with Mrs. Cartier in the front office. Ms. Ravanales is bi-lingual.

### **Assessment Presentation**

- Margaret Fawley – Literacy Specialist at Barbieri
- Kate Coleman – Math Coach for Barbieri and Woodrow Wilson

### **Assessment Overview**

- Language Art and Math assessments
- Data Pyramid and different types of data
- Explanation of how educators use assessments to inform instruction

## **Data Pyramid**

- Summative District and State Assessments are the top of the data pyramid
- The base of the data pyramid is daily-weekly assessment (self assessment, written response, tests, oral expression, observations).
- The goal of our assessment is to focus on the base of the data pyramid – daily & weekly assessment – in order for the assessment to be a true tool in order to aid instruction.

### **Summative Assessment – top of the Data Pyramid**

**MCAS** – Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System topics are aligned with Massachusetts curriculum frameworks.

- MCAS is an assessment tool for grades 3,4,5.
- MCAS is given annually – Language Arts is given during March and April. Math is given during May.
- Results of MCAS – The results of MCAS are used by the State, District, and our school.

## **MCAS Results - Terms**

- AYP – Adequate Yearly Progress, a measure of the extent to which a student group demonstrates proficiency in English language arts and mathematics (definition from the Massachusetts Department of Education website). AYP is data that focuses on a group of students.
- SGP- Student Growth Percentile, measures how much the student changed relative to other students statewide with similar scores in previous years (definition from the Massachusetts Department of Education website), SGP is data that focuses on an individual's performance and progress.
  - SGP – After the fourth grade MCAS testing the SGP data is compiled, because after two years a student has data to compare. SGP data is continued for the rest of the years the student takes the MCAS.

## **Individual Student Performance**

MCAS results are represented as Advanced, Proficient, Needs Improvement, and Warning.

- Needs Improvement – within the Needs Improvement (NI) category there is high NI and low NI.
- High NI – needs improvement zone, but a high score in the needs improvement range.
- Low NI – needs improvement zone, but a low score in the needs improvement range.
- Warning – within the warning category there is high warning and low warning.
- High Warning – failed but a high score in the fail range.
- Low Warning – failed but a low score in the fail range.

## **How are the Results of MCAS used to help Instruction**

- Educators look for patterns of strengths and weakness in topics.
  - For example if there is a certain topic many children did not do well on, the educators can look to see if they can teach the topic in a different way or decide to make the topic more of a focus in order to help children understand.
  - For example if there is a certain topic many children did well on, the educators know that their methods of teaching are working well with the children and can build their teaching from there.
  - The SGP (Student Growth Percentile) is helpful determine individual student growth over time. If a student is in the needs improvement category for several years in a row but the student's SGP shows some positive progress, then the student, teacher, and parents have a better idea about the actual growth of the student.
- MCAS results can be considered old data, because the test is taken in the spring and the results are not available until the fall.

## **Common Core/2011 MA Framework – English Language Arts and Math**

- Common Core State Standards Initiative – The Common Core State Standard Initiative is a program that gives educators, parents, and students throughout the country common curriculum guidelines. Forty-five of the states have adopted the Common Core State Standards.
- Massachusetts will be aligned to Common Core frameworks by 2013-2014.
- MCAS will be based exclusively on the new frameworks in Spring 2014.
- Massachusetts Frameworks are closely aligned with the Common Core State Standards, so the transition to the Common Core is going smoothly.

## **PARCC**

- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. There is a possibility that the English Language Arts test may be switched from MCAS to PARCC in the future.

## **MELA-O and MEPA**

MEPA and MELA-O are English proficiency tests and are given to students with limited English proficiency.

MELA-O – MA English Language Assessment – oral assessment for students who are not fluent in English.

- MELA-O is used for kindergarten through fifth grade.
- The assessment looks at different areas of language development.
- The assessment is done during an observation window of time.
- Ideally, the teacher should know the student for at least two months.
- Teachers are trained and are tested in order to become MELA-O certified k-5<sup>th</sup> graders.

MEPA (MA English Proficiency Assessment) is a reading and writing assessment used for grades 3-12.

- The test is taken on-line once a year.
- Different levels of assessments: ELPBO – English Language Proficiency Benchmarks and Outcomes
- Results are given to parents.

Both the MELA-O and MEPA assessments are being faded out.

## **WIDA**

- State is transitioning to WIDA - World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment measures English language proficiency and is tied to an English language curriculum.
- WIDA is coming out with Spanish standards, too.

## **Benchmark Common Assessments – middle of the Data Pyramid**

Benchmark Common Assessments are given two to three times a year.

### **MAP – Measures of Academic Progress assessment.**

- MAP is a computerized test given to third, fourth, and fifth graders.
- The focus of the assessment is English language arts and mathematics.
- MAP is a norm –reference assessment (children are compared to other students). Percentile scores compared nationwide, but we also compare percentile scores District wide.
- Only our District sees the students' information, not the State.
- The test scores are practically instantaneous.
- The data is available to teachers, and they can use the data to know how to help the students.
- The students' scores are sent home.

### **District Math Assessment**

- The assessment was created by Massachusetts teachers and aligns with MA Curriculum Frameworks.

- Grades 3, 4, and 5 take the Scantron (fill in the bubble answer sheet) assessment three times a year.
- Grades k-2 also have some exposure to the Math assessment in this format.
- The results are used by the District, school, and grade level for 3-5; individual performance results for k-5.
- Educators can look at how students perform on a certain concept/standard (ex: division, measurements, word problems).
- The results can show patterns in areas of strength and weakness for a group.
- The results are used to determine interventions for specific students.
- The results are generally known within two weeks.
- Traditionally the Math Common Assessments are used in-house and not sent out to parents.

### **Clay's Observation Survey**

- Clay's Observation Survey is a measure of early literacy.
- Our teachers use it to assess early Spanish & English literacy: letter identification; Concepts About Print (CAP) – read left to right, top to bottom, words vs. letters; hearing and recording – hear the sound of the letter and connect with the actual letter
- The Survey process is used District wide to various degrees at each school.
- Barbieri uses the observation survey in grades K-1.
- The classroom teachers perform the Clay's Survey Observation primarily. At times the literacy specialist will observe.
- A results data sheet is not given to parents. Your child's report card has an area about early literacy that takes into account information gained from the Clay's Observation Survey, classwork, and other observations.

### **Reading Inventories**

- Rigby PM – a series of resource books for learning and assessment.
- Rigby PM is for Spanish language assessment.
- This assessment is for k-5<sup>th</sup> grade and is performed twice a year.

### **DRA2**

- DRA2 - Diagnostic Reading Assessment.
- DRA2 is an English reading assessment given to 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade twice a year.
- The results information from the DRA2 test are helpful in multiple ways.
  - Independent reading level information – individual child's reading level.
  - Instructional reading level information – data lets the teacher know what level of language a teacher can teach the class.

### **Bear Spelling Inventory**

- The assessment is for Spanish & English language literacy.
- The Spanish test is given to grades 1-5 once to twice a year.
- The English test is given to grades 2-5 once to twice a year.

## **Formative Classroom Assessments for Learning – Base of the Data Pyramid**

Formative Classroom Assessments are given daily or weekly.

Formative Classroom Assessments are given in language arts and math.

### **Math**

- Information from the Formative Classroom Assessments drives each separate class' instruction.
- Types of Math Assessments

- Pre-assessment
- Post assessment
- LAB worksheet – independent practice, students take what they learned from the group instruction and use the knowledge gained in order to do independent work.
- SPRs – daily fact practice

### **Language Arts**

- Information from the Formative Classroom Assessments drives each separate class' instruction.
- Types of Language Arts Assessments
  - Individual reading with the teacher
  - Center activities
  - Guided reading
  - Daily writing samples during Writer's Workshop

### **Successmaker**

- Computer based language arts & math program that offers interactive learning activities and is differentiated for students based upon their assessed needs.
- Each students needs are being met at each student's level.
- Successmaker is used for grades 1-5.
- The assessment is done during computer laboratory time.
- Successmaker is a part of the learning experience at least once a week and is ongoing throughout the year.
- The program measures student growth over time and reports can be generated by teachers.
- Successmaker is used in English and Spanish, but the Spanish is used more in the lower grade levels.

### **Any questions feel free to contact:**

- Margaret Fawley, Literacy Specialist [mfawley@framingham.k12.ma.us](mailto:mfawley@framingham.k12.ma.us)
- Kate Coleman, Math Coach [kcoleman@framingham.k12.ma.us](mailto:kcoleman@framingham.k12.ma.us)

### **Questions**

#### **Social Studies and Science Assessment?**

- For social studies the assessments are unit tests primarily for grades 3-5.
- For younger grades the assessment is less formal than a unit tests.
- For science lower grades focus more on scientific method vs. specific knowledge of science.
- For upper grades unit tests and scientific method are the focus.

#### **Spring Fundraiser**

- The date of the Spring Fundraiser is March 31 at Barbieri 1-4.

#### **PTO President's Meeting**

- The PTO President's Meeting focused on the budget.
- Fuller, Farley, MassBay – As MassBay is deciding whether or not to continue in the Framingham District Buildings, the District is developing a transition plan. The transition plan includes a full building assessment of Fuller, Farley, and MassBay.
- Technology will continue to be funded over the next few years in an ongoing effort to maintain quality education technology.
- Funding for upgrades of furniture for schools is included in the budget.
- Full Day kindergarten is continuously being looked at. Full day kindergarten may be a possible in the next couple of years.

- Woodrow Wilson Air Quality – Woodrow Wilson had air quality tests done in November. There was a slight anomaly in the air quality results. More tests were done in December and the results show no anomalies. Woodrow Wilson will continue to be monitored.

### **Financial Report**

- The Barbieri magnets are paid for and are in. An order form went out in the Friday Folders.
- MCAS Tutoring is being funded.
- Money from TAF (Teachers Appreciation Fund) was used for the new Keurig coffee machine for the teachers. Several people tried to fix the old machine, but the machine was done.

### **Directory**

- Copies made for each family and each family will receive one this year.
- The first & last names, address, phone numbers, and emails of students whose families opted in to be in the directory are printed.
- The first name only of students whose families did not opt in to be in the directory are printed
- There was a motion to help pay (up to \$300.00) for the paper copies of the directory. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.

### **Possible Future Topics**

- Math for March.
- English Language Development through the Grades – April or May

### **Yahoo Group**

- Please sign-up to receive messages about Barbieri at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Barbieri/>.
- Click the Join this Group! button in blue.

### **Meeting Minutes**

- There was a motion to pass the minutes. There was a second on the motion. The motion passed.