



Maria Hastings PTO

EVERYONE BELONGS, EVERYONE LEARNS

June 20, 2018

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THANK YOU!

- **Departing Fifth Grade Parents**

UPCOMING MONTH'S CALENDAR

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This is the last Bulletin of the 2017-2018 academic year. It is a bittersweet time of year. We are all looking forward to a change of pace with the start of summer and we reflect on the positive memories of the year as it ends. Hastings staff have been working double time to close out the current year and plan for the one ahead.

This is the time of year when we recognize staff who are leaving our school for the next chapters in their professional and personal lives. We thank and wish all the best to retiring educator Donese Sylvester who has taught at Hastings since 18 and touched hundreds of fourth and fifth graders. Our Behavior Specialist Laurie Foster is also retiring this month. We recognize teachers who have been at Hastings for many years or just one. Lucy Lewis leaves Lexington after 13 years of teaching and deeply impacting children in Kindergarten and second grade at multiple schools. Betsy Peterson has been our intrepid technology integration specialist at Hastings and other elementary schools for eight years. Alaina Peterson moves to another district. Nithya Subramanian will take on the position of math coach in Lexington, working in other schools next year. Assistants Nicole Halvatez, Katie Benenati, Robin DiPietro, Jenny Patrick, Mojan Peykazadi, Marzia Villa, and Johanna Saint Pierre all leave Hastings to pursue new opportunities.

Very big shoes will be left to fill in our main office as Mary Tripi retires in August. Mary has seen the school grow, shrink and grow again since it re-opened in 1995. Her commitment to the children of Hastings will be felt in our school office, even when she is gone.

THIS WEEK'S LINKS IN ONE PLACE

- [Black Earth Composting - Price drop!](#)
- [STAR Newsletter](#)
- [Mosaic Sneak Peek](#)

- [Hastings PTO Facebook Group](#)
- [Hastings Families Google Group](#)

The end of the year is also an important time to acknowledge and thank people. This Bulletin is compiled and distributed by a team including Audra Myerberg, Kim-Anh Nguyen, Nicola Rinaldi, Kate Criniti, and Amy Muzyka. Our PTO leaders Nicola Rinaldi and Kate Criniti have encouraged the home/school partnership throughout the year. School Site Council Co-chair Rachel Harrington supported the work of this valuable community group. All of our staff members bring their energy, enthusiasm and care for children to Hastings each and every day. The families who make up our community create a bond with their children's teachers, enhancing the learning of everyone at our school...and our students who grow and gain confidence, competence and compassion: you are the soul of Hastings and we all applaud your learning this year.

Louise Lipsitz

NEWS

Reminder to Pick Up Medicines from the Health Office

Please pick up your student's medications from the health office by Friday, June 22nd. For any questions, please call or [email](#) Nancy Salitsky, Hastings nurse at 781-860-5800 x 1.

Summer Reading Challenge from Hastings

Look out for the Summer Reading Challenge for Hastings Student. The Challenge will be sent home via Blackboard Connect and link on the school website. It is optional and includes fun ways to read over the summer!

Summer Mailing has Gone Paperless

This year the school mailing will be sent electronically in mid-August. My summer letter, welcome letters from teachers, parent permissions from school, and logistics for arrival and dismissal will all be sent home paperless!

Lost and Found

The lost and found items at Hastings have been placed NEATLY on tables in the lobby. Please check the tables to see if any items belong to your child. Anything not claimed by Friday at 12:15pm will be donated.

June Edition of the Star Newsletter is Out!

Check out the last edition of the Star Newsletter for this school year! You can read the inside scoop on the Mary Poppins play, get a sneak peak of the new Hastings mural, learn sage advice from outgoing fifth graders, plus much more! Check it out [here](#).

Black Earth Compost Price Drop-Mention Hastings for a Donation to PTO!

Black Earth's residential curbside pick-up of compostable waste is now only \$99.99 PER YEAR! A monthly rate is also available. To support composting, the Town of Lexington is providing a free 13 gallon wheeled locking-lid bin to those who sign up (while supplies last). Mention Hastings when you sign up and our PTO will receive a \$10 donation! Trash in Lexington is incinerated, causing air pollution. Composting recycles nutrients back to the soil for use by local farmers and gardeners, and ultimately into the produce you eat. Help your planet and Hastings today! [Sign up](#) today. And tell your friends – Black Earth picks up throughout the Boston Metro.

Mosaic Sneak Peek!!

You may have heard, either at the adult social in 2017 or from your student, about the mural planned for the entrance of the new school, created by the same artist who designed and worked on the mural at the entrance of the current Hastings building. Work has already commenced, with students at various grade

levels drawing pictures to be included, and the fifth graders getting to actually take part in mural creation before they leave, as they've heard so much about the new building and many of them helped make it happen by leading tours or speaking at town meeting. Please click [this link](#) to see a compilation of some pictures of the mural work so far. We still need to raise some funds to finance the mural (about \$7,500 to go, with ~\$13,500 raised at the 2017 adult social and more in the form of various grants obtained by Principal Lipsitz). As you consider donations for this year, please keep the mural in mind; we will be fundraising in the fall. Thank you!!

THANK YOU!

The PTO would like to extend a huge thanks to all the fifth grade parents leaving our community in a few days to head to Diamond. In particular, we'd like to thank those who have volunteered time either on the PTO Executive Committee, PTO Board, or both! It really takes a village to run the PTO and all the activities, and the efforts of all are so appreciated! We have compiled a list of activities outgoing fifth grade parents have been involved in since 2012 - before that directories were not online so we no longer have the information.

Executive Committee (and Board) (alphabetical by first name)

Bobbie Basta--Bingo Night 2013-15, Fifth Grade Activities 2014-15, Secretary 2012-15

Kim-Anh Nguyen--STAR newsletter 2013-14, Vice President-Technology 2014-17, Website 2013-18

Lin Jensen--Vice-President 2012-13, Co-President 2013-15, Fifth Grade Activities 2017-18, Go Green 2012-18, Map Night 2015-17, Star Newsletter 2012-13

Shannon Lu--Treasurer 2014-16

PTO Board

Christos Perakis--Harvest Run 2016-18

Dahua (Daniel) Pan—School committee liaison 2015-17

Dawna Cellucci--Boxtops for Education 2015-16, Staff Welcome Lunch 2012-15

Denise Bandaru--BOKS Before School Fitness 2015-16, Fifth Grade Activities 2015-16, Math Olympiad 2016-18

Jenn Yaar--Safe Routes to School 2013-15, School committee liaison 2012-15, SEPAC/SEPTA liaison 2014-18

Jungsoon Park--Koreans of Lexington (KoLex) Liaison 2016-17

Kristen Parker--Book Fair 2014-18, Go Green 2013-17

Kristen Terrell--Lobby bulletin board 2012-15

Lisa Cassidy--Harvest Run 2012-18

Quamrun Zaman--Flatbread Pizza 2014-16

Sally Suen—Talent show 2012-18

Sandy Han--Koreans of Lexington (KoLex) Liaison 2017-18

Sharon Caouette--School pictures 2012-18

Thank you all so much for your efforts coordinating these various activities, and thank you to ALL parents who have volunteered to help throughout the school year!!

SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND OTHER UPDATES

If you'd like to stay updated on school building projects and other community updates (sports teams, club registration as well as community posts), please join the Hastings Families Google Group at <http://bit.ly/HastingsFamilies>.

UPCOMING MONTH'S CALENDAR

View all upcoming events online at hastings-pto.org/pta-calendar/ and save to your Google Calendar.

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|--------------------------|---------|---|
| 6/21 Thursday | 8:45 am | Fifth Grade Moving On Ceremony |
| 6/22 Friday | | Last Day of School-½ day |
| 8/28 Tuesday | | First Day of School-½ day |
| 8/28 Tuesday | 9:00 am | PTO Welcome Coffee, Hastings Cafeteria |
| 8/31 Friday | | No School (Labor Day Weekend) |
| 9/3 Monday | | No School (Labor Day) |

Bulletin submissions are due on Mondays by 12:00 pm and should be made [online](#).
Visit the [Hastings PTO website](#) to find more information and helpful resources. And don't forget
to join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1493554707397661/>.