



# November 7, 2019 Newsletter

## Superintendent Goguen

### Upcoming Events

November 11<sup>th</sup> ~

No School Veterans Day

November 13<sup>th</sup> ~

Parent/Teacher Conferences in the evening

November 14<sup>th</sup> ~

½ Day of School and Parent/Teacher conferences in the afternoon

November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> ~

BHS Play - The Crucible, contact BHS for pre-sale tickets!

November 27<sup>th</sup> ~

½ Day of School

November 28<sup>th</sup> ~

100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary of Bartlett High vs. Southbridge Thanksgiving Day Game in Southbridge!

November 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> ~

Thanksgiving Holiday – No School



Dear Students, Families and Staff,

Whether you have been outside enjoying a sports game, taking a walk or simply driving around, it's been hard not to notice how beautiful the foliage is this season! It never ceases to amaze me how fast we move from Fall to Winter in New England! One day it's 60 and the next 45!

With these quick turns of the weather and the hint of snow flurries on Friday, here is a reminder about our School Cancellation procedures.

Notifications for our school delays and/or cancellations will be announced the following ways:

- One –Call phone notifications system
- School Website [www.webster-schools.org](http://www.webster-schools.org)
- News Channels – See attached flyer

It is crucial that we have accurate phone numbers and emergency contact information for each one of our students. Please take the time to check that you have provided current information on your child/children.

### News and Updates:

#### **Safety**

Each school has successfully conducted fire and lockdown drills this Fall. We continue to be impressed with our students and staff quick responses to these drills. We also want to thank the Webster Police, Fire and EMS for their ongoing assistance with safety.

#### **“Manufacture Your Future” At QVCC**

High school students from Bartlett High School took the opportunity to tour Quinebaug Valley Community College, in Danielson, CT, on Oct. 2. The students attended the college's “Manufacture Your Future” event that featured an introductory session on the school's technological offerings, interactive workshops, tours of the machine shop, and a chance to speak with business representatives about job opportunities.

## Parent/Guardian Opportunities for Involvement- We need YOU!

### SEPAC Meeting

The Special Education Parent Advisory Group has scheduled their first meeting for November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the District Administrative Offices. Please come and see attached flyer for more information.

### Bully Intervention Committee

We are looking to update and review our bully intervention policy and procedures and I am seeking a few parents/guardians on this committee. If you are interested, please contact Lori Glennon at [lglennon@webster-schools.org](mailto:lglennon@webster-schools.org)

### Substitute Teaching

If you are interested, or if you know of a college student who is seeking experience in a school setting, we are looking to increase our Substitute Teacher pool. Please contact Lori Glennon at [lglennon@webster-schools.org](mailto:lglennon@webster-schools.org) for more information.

### Webster Educational Foundation

WEF is an important foundation that works to benefit our schools and they are seeking more members. If you are interested, please contact Becky Snyder at [bsnyderwef@gmail.com](mailto:bsnyderwef@gmail.com) or Amy Hutchowski at [amyprschla526@yahoo.com](mailto:amyprschla526@yahoo.com)

### EL Parent Advisory Group

We are seeking parents of second language learners to join this group. Please contact our School Community Liaison Margarita Nieves at [Mnieves@webster-schools.org](mailto:Mnieves@webster-schools.org)



### Donations.... In Webster...Kindness Matters!

1. I am pleased to share that we have recently received a very generous donation of \$18,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Fels to purchase new band uniforms for our band students at BHS. Our students can not wait to get these and show them off!
2. Our partnership with Mapfre is simply wonderful! Recently they donated a piano and two displayed cases that will be used at the BHS!
3. Long Subaru and Webster Five Bank recently donated a large number of school supplies to PAE!



STEM is thriving at Webster Middle School! In 7th Grade Engineering classes, students are demonstrating the safe use of tools while creating a Totem Board that represents their hobbies, spirit animals, beliefs, strengths, family and culture. The project required the wood to be measured, cut, sanded and totems to be assembled using all the classroom tools. Students enjoy the freedom of a workshop environment: movement, application of vocabulary, and creative use of common tools and materials, while being encouraged to upcycle and recycle materials. Students love giving materials new life!

## Student Programming

ELL is very proud of the Newcomer Morning Meeting Group at Park Ave Elementary School. This provides an opportunity for students who have very limited English to meet each other, converse in their native language and build relationships with their ELL teachers and other ELL students. We currently have students from grades 2-4, and three different languages, who participate every morning. We follow the same procedures that they do in their classrooms (greeting, positive affirmations, activators, etc). Our goal is to help them eventually assimilate and fully participate in their own classroom morning meeting.

We have great plans for the upcoming year. We are looking into grants to obtain iPads for our students to help with communication/translation. We are also brainstorming ideas to bridge the gap between school and home for our students and their families.

ELA is in the second year of implementing the *Wonders* ELA program, PAE teachers are working with McGraw-Hill consultants in refining the instructional pathway, reviewing program assessments, and using data to inform small group instruction to support all learners. At Webster Middle School and Bartlett High School, ELA teachers in grades 6-10 are in their first full year of implementing the *StudySync* ELA program which provides students with a blended learning experience. Teachers are supported through a continued partnership with McGraw-Hill consultants through embedded coaching focusing on improving students' ability to think and write critically when analyzing text.



## BHS Food Pantry

In the winter of 2019, we were awarded Teacher Champion (through Project Bread) in the state of MA. Along with that came a \$1000 check to be used towards the Fight Against Hunger in our schools. With the help of BHS Post-Graduate Students and Ellen Nylen, we were able to establish a Food Pantry in the classroom kitchen, as well as a Backpack program. Backpacks are filled with food staples each week by Post Graduate students. Any student who would like to take a bag home on Fridays comes to the designated room (no questions asked). We also provide soap and personal care items.

The Food Pantry is stocked by the local Food Share in the town of Webster. The students all take part in distributing snacks throughout the school, stocking shelves, and taking an inventory of our supplies every Friday. We are very happy to help the community, and the Post-Graduate students take pride in their accomplishments !

## Mathematics:

Teachers at PAE and WMS are in the second year of implementing *Ready Math* (K-8) and teachers at BHS are in the second year of implementing *College Preparatory Math* (9-12). Newly designed curriculum maps aligned to the MA Curriculum Frameworks are being implemented this year (K-12). Math teachers district wide continue to receive professional development and on-site coaching from Looney Math Consulting. Math manipulatives are being utilized to assist students in moving from concrete to pictorial to abstract, and data from the District's i-Ready Benchmark Assessment for Math is available to inform instruction (K-12).

- PAE was awarded an *ST Math* grant (K-4); we are in the first year of implementing ST Math and students really enjoy when Jiji the Penguin, our ST Math mascot, makes an appearance at PAE.
- WMS is offering a new Grade 8 Honors (CPM) math class this school year.
- BHS and WMS teachers (7-12) are receiving phase two of professional development and on-site implementation support from CPM Educational Program this school year.

**Science** at PAE, classroom teachers in grades 3 and 4 are in the first year of implementing *STEMscopes 3D*, a MA Science and Technology/Engineering (STE) curriculum framework aligned science program. As part of this implementation, they received hands-on, integrated science kits. Grade K-2 teachers are using embedded science material in Wonders to teach science. At WMS, teachers are in year 2 of a 3-year transition to teaching integrated STE in grades 6, 7 and 8. Grade 6 began teaching integrated science in SY18/19, grade 7 is implementing it now (SY19/20), and grade 8 will begin next year (SY20/21). This year, grade 7 science teachers received hands-on, integrated science kits. Last year, grade 5 and 6 science teachers received them and next year, grade 8 science teachers are expected to receive them. At BHS, science teachers were provided with new curriculum resources, including new AP Physics, AP Biology, Chemistry (Honors), and Chemistry (College) textbooks and online resources.

## Social Studies:

Teachers at the WMS are piloting two new Social Studies programs this school year. The grade 5 program, *Impact* from McGraw-Hill, piques students' curiosity through inquiry-based learning experiences and develops deeper thinkers and strong communicators. The curriculum is fully aligned to the Massachusetts 2018 History and Social Science Frameworks and prepares students to become "active citizens locally and globally in an ever-changing world through reading, writing, and conversation". Students are given multiple opportunities to "explore the meaning of citizenship" as they become "informed and engaged citizens by using critical thinking skills".

Social Studies teachers in grades 6 and 7 are piloting newly customized programs: *World Geography and Ancient Civilizations I* focusing on Africa, South West Asia and the Americas, and *World Geography and Ancient Civilizations II* focusing on Asia, Europe and Oceania. The new social studies curriculum in grade 8, offers students the opportunity to learn about *United States & Massachusetts Government and Civic Life*. Our partnership with McGraw-Hill provides teachers with ongoing professional development in learning the new curriculum as well as supporting them throughout the implementation.



**Wicked Tulips in Johnston, RI donated 100 Bulbs that were planted around Webster Middle School flag pole in Memory of Guidance Counselor Kori Olson. We Can't wait to see them bloom in the Spring!**



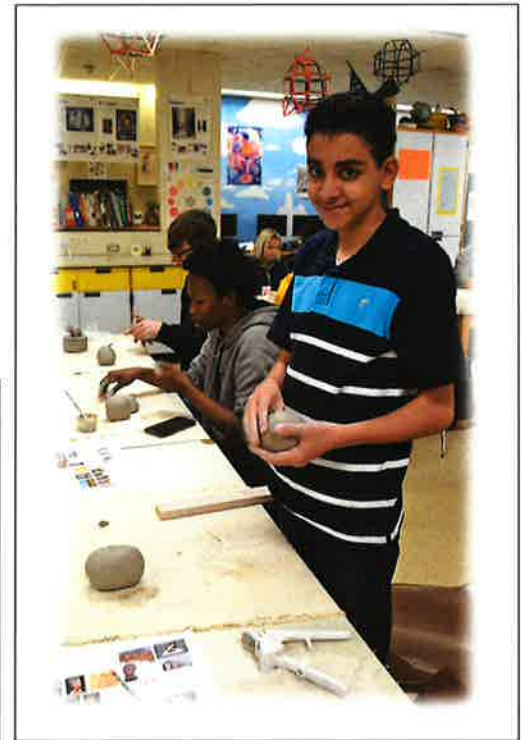
### Clay's The Way!

Bartlett students enjoy creating 3-D projects with clay.

Creativity comes through ACTION! Don't just sit and wait for an idea to come, get started creating something and ideas will flow.

Students learn so much from using their hands. Through trial and error they improve their problem solving skills. Repetition improves their fine motor skills, and confidence in their ability to create fine works of art. When students create 3-D artworks they gain an understanding of structural engineering and the limitations that gravity has on forms.

Intro 3-D Art students create three clay projects. The first is a pinch pot with an interlocking lid and a sculptural handle. They learn the pinch pot method, the slab method, and the coil method. They also learn how to join clay together and how to glaze their pottery. For the second they create a 3-D portrait bust where they learn human proportions and how to capture the likeness of a person while using the same methods learned in the pinch pot project.. The final clay project is all about being original and creative, students are asked to invent and develop a character for an imaginary movie. They brainstorm ideas through sketches and build their complete 3-D character in clay. Students are asked to explain their character and their imaginary movie plot in a written movie pitch.



Kind Regards,  
Ruthann Petruno-Goguen, Ed.D



# Webster Public Schools

## School Closing and Delay Information



### Schools Closed/Delayed Opening/Early Release

The decision to close schools or delay opening is typically made by 5:00 a.m. and posted by 5:30 a.m. A voice alert message is sent to all parent and school staff at 6:00 a.m. School closing notices are also posted at the following locations.

- Webster Public Schools Website: [www.webster-schools.org](http://www.webster-schools.org)
- TV Stations:
  - WBZ Channel 4 <http://boston.cbslocal.com/closings/>
  - WCVB Channel 5 <http://www.wcvb.com/weather/closings>
  - WHDH Channel 7 <http://whdh.com/school-closings/>
  - FOX Channel 25 <http://www.fox25boston.com/weather/schoolclosings>
  - NECN Channel 77 <http://www.necn.com/weather/school-closings/>

You can sign up to receive an e-mail and/or a text message from these sources when school closings or delays are issued for your area.

### Student Starting Times for Schools during delay

School	1 Hour Delay	2 Hour Delay
Bartlett High School	8:25 AM	9:25 AM
Webster Middle School	8:35 AM	9:35 AM
Park Ave Elementary School	9:35 AM	10:35 AM

All decisions are made based on road conditions, accumulation of snow and/or ice, duration of precipitation, and school building and parking lot conditions. Also, we consult with other local school district superintendents as well as the Webster DPW and/or Webster Police Departments.

**Bartlett High School Drama**

**Presents...**



**The haunting but true story of the Salem Witch Trials**

# ***The Crucible***

*By Arthur Miller*

**Friday, November 22nd @ 7 PM**

**&**

**Saturday, November 23rd @ 5 PM**

**Pre-sale \$7.00**

**Admission @ Door \$10.00**

**Performed with permission from Dramatists Play Service, Inc.  
BHS' Jacqueline D. Puliafico Theater**



Dear Parents:

Webster Public Schools is committed to providing excellent special education services to our children. To help WPS achieve this goal, we are inviting parents to join the Webster Special Education Parents Advisory Council (WSEPAC).

**What is SEPAC?**

SEPAC is a group of parents and community members who provide advice to the district regarding its special education programs and policies. The SEPAC can meet with school officials to engage in meaningful conversations and activities that enables the SEPAC to participate in the planning, development and evaluation of the district's special education programs and policies.

**What are the benefits of joining SEPAC?**

SEPAC provides parents with a platform to exchange information, ideas, concerns and solutions. Getting involved presents a unique and stellar opportunity to:

- Make a positive impact on your child's learning environment
- Contribute to the success of the district's special education program
- Expand your network and meet parents who share the same goals

**What are the responsibilities of a SEPAC member?**

As a parent and member, you would lend your experience, insight and advice. You have intimate knowledge of how the special education programs and policies are impacting your child. This information is valuable and can provide the district with the feedback necessary to address concerns, develop strategies and improve the services provided to our children.

**Get involved!**

The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 6 p.m. followed by Basic Rights Training at 6:30. The meeting location is 77 Poland Street, Webster. The Basic Rights Training will help you understand your rights to more effectively advocate for your child. Light refreshments will be served.

Even if you are not interested in becoming a member, attend the meetings, provide your voice and inspire change. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Czernicki, 508-864-2853 or follow us on facebook @WebsterSEPAC.

Let's advocate for our children together!

With Anticipation,

Special Education Parents Advisory Council

Queridos padres:

Webster Public Schools se compromete a proporcionar excelentes servicios de educación especial a nuestros niños. Para ayudar a WPS a lograr este objetivo, estamos invitando a los padres a unirse al Consejo Asesor de Padres de Educación Especial de Webster (WSEPAC).

¿Qué es el SEPAC? SEPAC es un grupo de padres y miembros de la comunidad que brindan asesoramiento al distrito con respecto a sus programas y políticas de educación especial. El SEPAC puede reunirse con los funcionarios escolares para entablar conversaciones y actividades significativas que le permitan participar en la planificación, el desarrollo y la evaluación de los programas y políticas de educación especial del distrito.

¿Cuáles son los beneficios de unirse a SEPAC? SEPAC proporciona a los padres una plataforma para intercambiar información, ideas, preocupaciones y soluciones. Involucrarse presenta una oportunidad única y estelar para:

- Tener un impacto positivo en el entorno de aprendizaje de su hijo
- Contribuir al éxito del programa de educación especial del distrito
- Ampliar su red y conocer a los padres que comparten los mismos objetivos

¿Cuáles son las responsabilidades de un SEPAC? ¿miembro? Como padre y miembro, prestarías tu experiencia, conocimiento y consejos. Usted tiene un conocimiento profundo de cómo los programas y políticas de educación especial están impactando a su hijo. Esta información es valiosa y puede proporcionar al distrito la retroalimentación necesaria para abordar inquietudes, desarrollar estrategias y mejorar los servicios prestados a nuestros niños.

¡Involucrarse! La primera reunión se llevará a cabo el miércoles 20 de noviembre de 2019 a las 6 pm, seguida de la capacitación en derechos básicos a las 6:30. El lugar de la reunión es 77 Poland Street, Webster. La capacitación en derechos básicos lo ayudará a comprender sus derechos para abogar más eficazmente por su hijo. Se servirán refrescos ligeros.

Incluso si no está interesado en ser miembro, asista a las reuniones, brinde su voz e inspire el cambio. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con Bonnie Czernicki, 508-864-2853 o síganos en facebook @WebsterSEPAC. ¡Abogemos por nuestros hijos juntos!

Con anticipación,

Consejo Asesor de Padres de Educación Especial