



## LUTHER BURBANK MIDDLE SCHOOL

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### BURBANK BULLETIN

October 30, 2017

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week, you will be receiving your child's 2017 MCAS Parent/Guardian report. As you are aware, the MCAS assessment is designed to measure student performance based on the Massachusetts curriculum standards and to report the performance of individual students, schools, and districts. It is important to remember that MCAS is only one measure of student performance. As a school and as a district, we recognize the critical role that MCAS assessment data plays in informing our progress towards continual academic growth for all learners. We also recognize that MCAS is a singular means of assessment which serves as a complement to our broader school and district assessment system, one that includes multiple measures of formal and informal assessments such as classroom work and performance and teacher feedback.

As I mentioned in our last Burbank Bulletin, last spring marked the first year of administration of the next generation assessment. This new assessment has brought more rigorous and complex questions and question types as well as new scoring categories. School achievement percentiles (1-99) compare each group's average scaled score to the average scaled scores of the same group from all public schools across the state. Our school achievement percentile for mathematics was 95% and 91% for English language arts. As a school, we are very proud of these results. We are also fully committed to continual growth and achievement for all of our students, and we look forward to working with you in partnership to make our proficiency goals for all students a reality.

More information about our school's performance can be found on the state's [School and District Profile Page](#).

Additionally, the Massachusetts Department of Secondary and Elementary Education (DESE) has created an MCAS resource page for parents and guardians. You may find the resources provided on this page helpful in increasing your understanding of both the new assessment and the new reporting categories. [MCAS Resource Page for Parents and Guardians](#).

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura J. Friend".

Laura Friend  
Principal

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Administrative Assistant

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Dates to Remember

November 6, No School – Full Day, Parent Teacher Conferences  
November 9, Early Release – Early Release, Afternoon and Evening Parent Teacher Conferences  
November 10, No School – Veteran’s Day observed  
November 14 – Picture Retakes  
November 22-24, No School – Thanksgiving Holiday  
December 1 – Trimester 1 Grades Close

### Parent Teacher Conferences- Right Around the Corner

Parent Teacher Conferences are an optimal way for parents and teachers to come together to discuss student’s strengths and areas for further growth. As such, our fall conferences are goal setting in nature. Conferences will be held on the full day of November 6<sup>th</sup> and the afternoon and evening of November 9<sup>th</sup>. Registration is currently underway. If you haven’t already signed up for a conference and would like to, please click [here](#) for more information. We look forward to seeing you.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Interested in Minuteman Regional High School

On Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in attending Minuteman Regional High School are invited to tour the school. Students will spend time in two programs of identified interest. Interested students must return their permission slip to Ms. Karlin or to the office at their earliest convenience and no later than November 14<sup>th</sup>. Transportation will be provided by Minuteman and Luther Burbank faculty will be in attendance for supervision purposes.

### SEPAC Presentation on Co-Teaching in the Middle School Mathematics Classroom \*\*New Date

On Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, two of our very own Burbank teachers, Mrs. Cauley and Mrs. Alberts, will speak about co-teaching in the middle school mathematics classroom during this month’s SEPAC meeting. The meeting will be held at Luther Burbank at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

### The Luther Burbank Drama Year is About to Begin!

**A meeting for parents and students will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, in the Mary Rowlandson auditorium, beginning promptly at 6:30 PM.** All interested students should have representation at the meeting of a parent or guardian. Information about the drama club, auditions, and director will be given as well as an opportunity to ask questions.

The LBMS Drama Club provides an opportunity for LBMS students to be a part of a musical production in the spring. No previous drama experience is necessary. There are opportunities for onstage roles or helping with backstage crew. Students interested in helping with lights and sounds should consider joining the AV club and express an interest to Mr. Newton about helping with drama. LBMS Drama is open to all LBMS students. Auditions are required for role decisions for any students wishing to perform onstage.

Auditions will be on Tuesday, November 14, and Thursday, November 16, 2017, between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. Students will need to attend both audition dates if they would like to be considered for all roles, unless they've made alternate arrangements ahead of time with the director.

Rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, November 28, and will run every Tuesday and Thursday through the performances on Friday, March 9, and Saturday, March 10, 2018. All events will be held in the auditorium.

Questions before November 7, 2017 may be emailed to Paula Castner at [lbmsdramaclub@gmail.com](mailto:lbmsdramaclub@gmail.com).

### Picture of the Week



Our staff and students supported efforts of our local Rotary Club by recognizing Purple Pinkie Day on October 26. Students and staff wore purple and donated \$1.00 to help raise money for Polio Plus, an organization dedicated to eradicating polio in all parts of the world.