



LUTHER BURBANK MIDDLE SCHOOL

BURBANK BULLETIN

March 26, 2018

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Beginning next week, our students will commence state testing with the Next Generation MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System). The Next-Generation MCAS test builds upon aspects of prior MCAS assessments, incorporating more rigorous and complex questions and question types compared to years prior. If you are interested in reviewing a sample ELA, math, or STE practice test for your child's grade level, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has posted tutorials [here](#). The practice tests provide a glimpse into this year's assessment and are informative in providing insight into what, and how, your child will be assessed. This year, 7th and 8th grade students will take their MCAS test on the computer, while 6th grade students will take the paper-based version of MCAS. Next year, all students will take MCAS on the computer.

All in all, the MCAS is designed to measure student performance based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework learning standards and to provide information on the performance of individual students, schools, and districts. MCAS offers us an excellent opportunity for our students to show just how capable they are by demonstrating all that they have learned throughout the school year.

As parents/guardians, you can help!

- Ensure that your child attends school promptly on the scheduled testing day(s) for his/her grade level;
- Be sure that your child has had lots of rest prior to each test. A good night's sleep does wonders for the brain;
- Provide your child with a well-balanced, protein-packed breakfast on the morning of each test. We will not be providing a morning snack this year, so a healthy and hearty breakfast is especially key;
- Send your child to school with a bottle of water to stay hydrated;
- Ensure that your child leaves his/her eReader and wearable technology (eg., Smartwatch) at home. They will not be allowed in the classroom during MCAS;
- Continue your normal daily routine at home by ensuring a stress-free environment filled with lots of positive encouragement.
- Our testing schedule for April and May is listed below.
- ALL TESTING SESSIONS WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 8:00 a.m.

MCAS MCAS Testing Dates

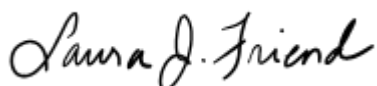
	ELA	MATH	STE
Grade 6	April 3, 5	May 8, 10	N/A
Grade 7	April 4, 10	May 9, 11	N/A
Grade 8	April 11, 12	May 15, 16	May 17, 18

The last day for ELA make-up exams for any student, regardless of grade, is May 3. The last day for mathematics and STE make up exams is May 24.

The MCAS are extremely important and teachers have worked hard to ensure that our students are well prepared. I ask all parents to make a special effort to ensure that students are in attendance on test days and that students arrive to school on time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 28 – Second Annual District Jazz Concert, NRHS, 6:30 PM

March 29 – Trimester 2 Honor Roll Breakfast, 7:00 AM

March 30 – Chorus sings National Anthem @ Worcester Railers, 7:00 PM

April 3 – Spring MCAS Testing Window Opens

April 3 - Track and Field meeting, 6:00 PM, LBMS Cafeteria

April 5 - LBMS Spring Concert, 6:30 PM

April 6 – Early Release, Professional Development, 11:30 AM (dismissal)

April 14 – PTO Cultural Enrichment, “Justice at War,” Grade 8

April 16-20 – Patriot’s Day, April Vacation

Seven Bridge Poetry Contest

April is National Poetry month! To celebrate, the Seven Bridge Writer’s Collaborative and Thayer Memorial Library are holding their 4th annual student poetry contest. Submissions must be received no later than Friday, March 30th. All submissions must include: name, grade, best email and phone number. For more specifics, please see the community section attached to this week’s Bulletin.

Annual Volleyball Tournament to Support Relay for Life

Our annual LBMS Volleyball Tournament to raise funds for Relay for Life will be Thursday, March 29th. Please come on out and support a great annual event and an even better cause! The event will be held in the Luther Burbank gymnasium at 2:15 PM.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



Hands-on learning in 7th grade science

Body Systems