



## LUTHER BURBANK MIDDLE SCHOOL

1 Hollywood Drive Lancaster, MA 01523  
Phone (978) 365-4558 Fax (978) 365-6882

October 1, 2018

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week, you will be receiving your child's 2018 MCAS Parent/Guardian report. As you are aware, 2018 marked the second 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. Last spring, our current 6th and 8th graders took the assessment online. As we look ahead to this spring, all students across the Commonwealth in grades 3-10 will take the assessment online. The new more rigorous assessment, coupled with the online format of the assessment, mark significant changes for our students and teachers.

While MCAS is only one measure of student performance, results from MCAS do provide us with information about student performance based on our curriculum as well as information about how our school is performing aside other schools in the district and across the state. Last week, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) released accountability status to the public. This year, Luther Burbank Middle School earned an accountability rating of "Meeting Targets".

For a group to be considered to be meeting targets, it must have a criterion-referenced target percentage of 75% or higher. For Luther Burbank, the criterion-referenced target percentage combines information about achievement, growth, and chronic absenteeism into a single number between 0 and 100 for "All students" and for our "Subgroups". Our overall criterion-referenced target percentage was 89%.

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 88% and 93% for English language arts. As a school, we are extremely proud of our results. We are also fully committed to high levels of achievement for all of our students and look forward to continued growth in the year ahead. 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](#).

Best Regards,

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

Laura Friend  
Principal

Steven Grant  
Assistant Principal

Judy Ursuliak  
Administrative Assistant

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

October 2: Luther Burbank School Council, 3:00 PM

October 2: [SEPAC](#) – “Meet the Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Joan DeAngelis”, 7:00 PM, Florence Sawyer Media Center

October 4: Drama Workshop, 2:20-3:00 PM, MRE Auditorium

October 8: Columbus Day, No School

October 10: Walk/Bike to School Day

October 19: Early Release, 11:30 AM Dismissal

October 22-30: Scholastic Book Fair

October 24: Purple Pinkie Day

October 26: No School, Full Day Parent Teacher Conferences (more info to follow)

October 30: [SEPAC](#) - “An IEP for My Child”, TBA

November 5: Early Release, Afternoon and Evening Parent Teacher Conferences

November 6: Election Day, No School

November 12: Veterans Day, No School

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Luther Burbank Apparel and Other Items! Last Chance!

Store closing on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in ordering items from our official Luther Burbank online store, click [here](#). Items will be delivered to Luther Burbank and distributed from there. The store will be closing this week, so now is the time to SHOP! Check out the new fall items and catch some school spirit!

### Nashoba Chieftain Home Football Games

Support for our Nashoba Chieftain football team is high and school spirit is strong. This school spirit makes us very proud of Nashoba. Many of our district middle school students attend our home football games to share in this spirit and join the fun. Most recently, it has come to my attention that while attending home football games, some of our district middle school students, who have attended unaccompanied by an adult, have been leaving the bleacher area for a period of time and then reentering the game or watching the game from an alternate location outside of the bleacher area. The high school grounds and facility are large and there are a many number of spectators in attendance. The high school has administrative staff and police officers who monitor the bleacher area and area immediate adjacent to the bleachers, but anything outside of the gated area is not actively monitored. Next Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, marks our next home game. Should your middle school child be attending this game unaccompanied by an adult, please have a conversation with him/her about safety and the importance of staying within the gated areas during the game. Thank you, in advance, for your timely support with this matter.

### Cross Country – Off to a Strong Start

The Cross Country teams are 2 meets into their season having run against Groton/Dunstable and Trottier Middle Schools. There are 5 girls competing for Burbank this year with Paulie Michel leading the team with 2 second place finishes thus far. Hazel Hughes running in her second season of XC is working hard to keep in the top ten with each race. The boys have 21 runners on the Burbank team. Silas Khan and Chase McClintock lead the boys with top 5 finishes in the first 2 races with Jack Crocker and Jacob Hourahan close behind.

Next week the team travels to Templeton for a tri-meet with Narragansett and Fitchburg. On October 17<sup>th</sup> they host Oak Middle School from Shrewsbury. Please come out and cheer the runners on. Meets start at 3:30.

### LBMS Intramurals to Begin this Week

The LBMS intramural program is open to all students in grades 6-8. It is a supervised after school athletic activity that promotes fair play and physical fitness, free of charge to LBMS students. All sessions begin at 2:15 and end at 3:05. Any student wishing to take part in any of the activities must submit an Emergency Contact/Parent Consent form which may be downloaded from this [link](#).

**BASKETBALL**  
Wednesday Mornings  
7:00 AM

**FITNESS ROOM**  
Thursday Mornings  
7:00 AM

**SPEEDBALL**  
Monday and Thursday Afternoons  
2:15-3:05 PM

**FLAG FOOTBALL & SOCCER**  
Tuesday and Wednesday Afternoons  
2:15-3:05

Walk and Bike to School Day – October 10<sup>th</sup> – Please Join Us!

This year, Mary Rowlandson and Luther Burbank will be joining together to celebrate Walk and Bike to School Day on October 10<sup>th</sup> as a K-8 community. We are excited about this collaborative venture and fully support the goal of the day which is to promote healthy and environmentally-friendly ways to get to school.

The Walk/Bike event will begin at the Town Green at 7:00 AM. For those participating, we will walk/bike to school from the Town Green together as a community. We have already reached out to our Main Street families, local law enforcement, and town officials. We are hoping for a good turnout!

We are hoping that Walk and Bike to School Day will become an annual event which helps celebrate healthy habits in a fun, community-building manner.

NRSD Enrichment Opportunities

NRSD is pleased to offer middle school students two enrichment offerings:

Certain Victory Martial Arts & Fitness. This American Freestyle Mixed Martial Arts Program teaches children how to develop vital life skills; Discipline, Motivation, Persistence, Building Confidence, Healthy Life Choices and Respect. Students will learn creative self-defense tactics with a variety of Martial Arts. This martial arts program is centered on power and control with a CAN DO attitude and consists of a mixed martial arts of Boxing, Kickboxing, Muay Thai, Taekwondo, Karate, Krav Maga, Jiu-Jitsu and Self-Defense. Price per 6 week session, \$115.00.

For more information and to register, click [here](#):

Location: Luther Burbank Middle School Cafeteria, Thursday Afternoons (October-November)

Registration deadline: Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.

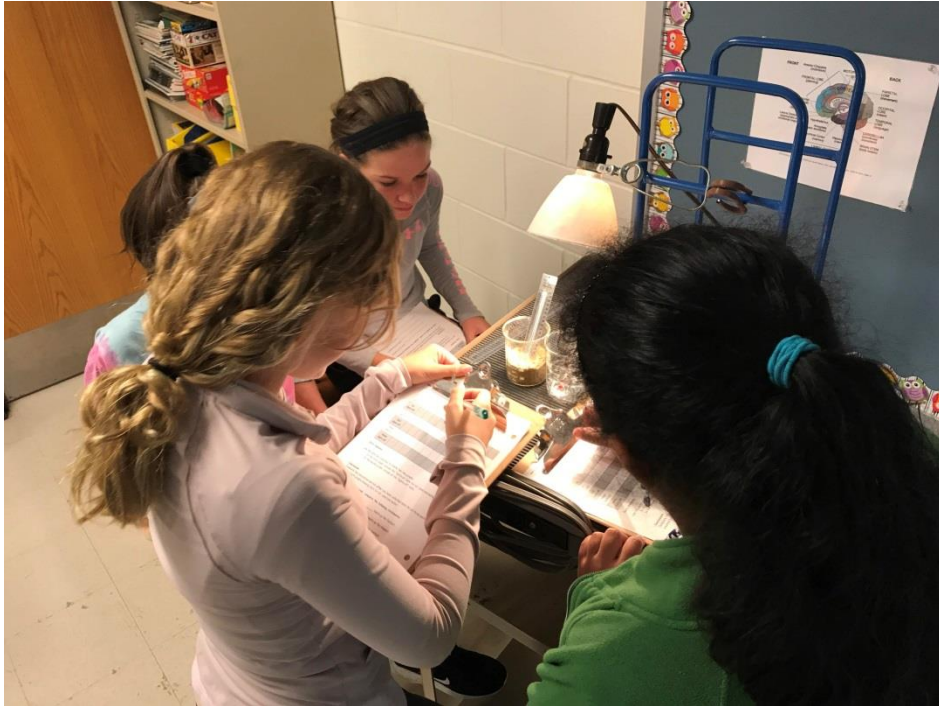
Come As You Are Yoga. This yoga program offers an inviting creative, positive & body aware experience for your middle schooler. Yoga is a powerful tool that helps children manage stress and enhance focus through use of breath. Most of all, yoga is fun when practiced in a supportive, encouraging environment where students decompress after a hard day's work! Price per 6 week session, \$70.00.

For more information and to register, click [here](#).

Location: Luther Burbank Middle School Cafeteria, Tuesday Afternoons (November-December)

Registration deadline: October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Picture of the Week



Future Scientists  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Observation & Data Collection