



## LUTHER BURBANK MIDDLE SCHOOL

### BURBANK BULLETIN

October 31, 2016

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

While I can't believe that two months of school have already gone by, the signs that November is upon us are abundantly clear. The weather is brisk (a.k.a. cold – especially at recess -please remind your child to bring those sweatshirts and jackets!), the mornings are dark (alarm clocks are in full operation in the Friend household), and daylight savings is coming to a close next weekend. As I look ahead at the calendar, time seems to be speeding ahead. November is looking like a “short” month for us at Luther Burbank, so we are making every day count. Not that we don't always make *every* day count, but please take note of the dates for the month ahead: It's going to be one busy month!

November 4, No School – Full Day, Parent Teacher Conferences

November 7, Early Release 11:30 am – Early Release, Afternoon and Evening Parent Teacher Conferences

November 8, No School – Election Day

November 11, No School – Veteran's Day

November 18 – Picture Retakes

November 23, Early Release 10:40 am – Thanksgiving Holiday

November 24-25, No School – Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2 – Trimester 1 Grades Close

Warm Regards,

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### 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 4<sup>th</sup> and the afternoon and evening of November 7<sup>th</sup>. We will utilize an internet-based appointment booking system to schedule conferences again this year called Pick-A-Time. 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.

**Laura Friend**  
Principal

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

**Judy Ursuliak**  
Administrative Assistant

## LBMS Cross-Country Recap and Update

Our boys and girls cross-country teams had a tremendous fall season, showing great camaraderie and athletic prowess. By season end, most of our athletes had either run their best race of the season or had come just within a few seconds of their personal best. The season concluded with a great showing at our annual tri-town meet. The girls' team placed second with Natasha Ramos leading the Lancer ladies with a third place finish. The boys came in third with Alex Allison leading the Lancer men with his 17th place finish. Congratulations to all of the runners on this year's team!

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

On Tuesday, November 15<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.

## A Note About Bus Slips

Please be reminded of our procedures related to the changing of bus assignments and the request for bus slips. Many of our buses are at capacity or reaching capacity. For safety reasons, as well as for equity, students are not allowed to change their bus assignments or bus stop for the purpose of visiting friends or relatives unless for childcare purposes. Students may be granted special permission by the principal to temporarily change their bus or bus stop under unique circumstances. Parents should contact Mrs. Friend to discuss such situations. Please see our [LBMS Student Handbook](#) for more information related to bus riding expectations and safety (pg. 25-26).

## School Council Update -Homework

Last spring, our School Council generated a survey for families to solicit feedback regarding homework experiences from the perspective of the home front. The survey was well-received and the Council received a generous amount of respondents. Speaking on behalf of the Council, we were – are - very grateful for this feedback and appreciate the constructive responses that we received. At this time, both the Council and our LBMS staff are in the process of reviewing and discussing the results.

## 2017 Lancaster PTO Auction – Help Needed from 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents/Guardians

We are looking forward to another successful Lancaster PTO Auction this spring. This event is a highly successful fund-raising event and a great opportunity to come together as a Lancaster community. Our last auction raised nearly \$60,000, and we are looking forward to raising even more funds to support our schools with the 2017 auction event this spring.

We need your help! We have received parent volunteers for grades 6 and 8. We are in need of help from a parent or guardian from grade 7. Please consider helping us out! Parent volunteers are needed to facilitate class projects. We have some ideas already and are excited to get going. Please email Laura Pagington, [lpagington@nrsd.net](mailto:lpagington@nrsd.net), if you are willing and available to lend a hand. Thank you!

## Luther Burbank Drama – About to Begin!

This is a reminder that we will be holding a LBMS Drama meeting for parents and students on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, in the Mary Rowlandson library, 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. Folks who cannot attend the meeting but are interested in auditioning should contact the director at [lbmsdramaclub@gmail.com](mailto:lbmsdramaclub@gmail.com).

An optional audition lesson will be held on Thurs, Nov. 3, 2016, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and auditions will be on Tues, November 15, and Thurs, November 17, 2016, between 6 and 8 p.m. Students will need to attend both audition dates, unless they've made alternate arrangements ahead of time with the director. Rehearsals will begin on Tues, November 29, and will run every Tuesday and Thursday through the performances on Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1.

All events will be held in the auditorium. Questions before November 1, 2016 may be sent to Paula Castner at [lbmsdramaclub@gmail.com](mailto:lbmsdramaclub@gmail.com).

## **FROM THE NURSE, MRS. PERKINS**

Have you gotten your seasonal flu shot yet? While it is best to get it by the end of October (according to CDC guidelines), it is never too late! Influenza is a serious illness that can require hospitalization and even cause death. Each year a new flu vaccine is formulated to protect against the viruses that are expected to be most prevalent during the upcoming flu season. It is the best way to protect you and your family. Children over 6 months can be immunized. Today, it is easier than ever to get a flu shot. They are available at your primary care provider. But, they are also available where you shop. Many grocery stores and pharmacies have medical staff available to administer flu shots to anyone over 18 months of age free of charge with your insurance information. Have questions about the flu vaccine? Go to [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov) for the answers to all of your questions.

## **PICTURES OF THE WEEK**



Our staff and students supported efforts of our local Rotary Club by recognizing Purple Pinkie Day on October 24. 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.