

All Around AES

The (mostly) weekly newsletter from AES

Our mission: Exceptional instruction without exception

September 16, 2015

Calendar

PICTURE DAY IS TOMORROW Thursday September 17

Sept 23 PTO meeting at CES 6:30

Sept 25 PTO Ice Cream Social 6:00 – 8:00 pm at CES

Principally Speaking

A clarification: Yesterday the Amesbury teachers spent the day reviewing our current School Achievement Plans and beginning the process of updating them. This is important work and is one of the engines that drive our schools and our district forward. That being said, we would have much preferred to have had your kids in school with us yesterday.

When the calendar was being put together last winter, it was unclear if the City was going to need to hold preliminary elections at the High School. As it turns out, once the papers were all filed, only one district needed the preliminary vote (Thurs Sept 17 at City Hall). The School Committee had no way of knowing that at the time so we had to be prepared to use the High School for voting. This will happen again on November 3 for the Citywide elections and on March 1 for the Massachusetts Presidential Primaries.

In the News

The AES Garden is proving to be bountiful, both in the harvest being enjoyed and in the educational benefits to all the students who now learn and explore in it. Re-imagined over the summer by a team of teachers led by Marianne Dower, she and her students are having the most spectacular Pre-k moments in the garden! The children are identifying plants, weeds, vegetables and picked tomatoes, beans and a green pepper to cut up and taste. Many other classrooms have ventured out into the new learning space to see the eggplants, squash, and pumpkins growing and enjoying the harvest!

The first through fourth grade classrooms have begun their fall cycle of MAP testing. MAP stands for Measured Academic Progress, a digital assessment that we administer through the year. Sessions will happen mid-winter and again in the spring, providing vital, individual instructional information for classroom teachers. Parents with questions about MAP are asked to contact Mr. Helliesen

