

*Well we got no choice, All the girls and boys
Makin all that noise, 'Cause they found new toys
Well we can't salute ya , Can't find a flag
If that don't suit ya
That's a drag*

School's out for summer
Alice Cooper

Grey Matters

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What a gorgeous weekend. My daughters “helped” me install a new screen/storm door, we went swimming at a friend’s pool, and we watched my oldest daughter play softball in the playoffs. I hope you all got out in the sun and had some fun!

Last Friday night was the 8th Grade Graduation Dance and it was spectacular! The students looked wonderful and everyone had a great time. I think having the festivities in the café and asking all the students to get dressed up made it a very special end of the year event. Another component of this event that made it so special was all the support and assistance we received from the parents. I would like to thank the following parents who helped with decorations: Dee Crofton MacDonald, Robin Coughlin, Amy Huang, Patty Gayowski, Laurie Keith, Sally Bond, Kay Hartung, Clare Harlow, Lakshmi Annavajhala, Kathy Saunders, Tanya Giovacchini, and Sharon Ayoub, all of whose outstanding work was coordinated by Carla Bacharach and Jan Peterson Pszenny. Parents who donated food, drink, and paper products included: Debby Foley, Linda McCann, Marianne Cesare, Jeanine Joyce, Joanie Holmes, Kathy Simpson, Cyndi King, Laurie Keith, Allison Nicole, Mark Thompson, Beth Labossiere, Yu-chen Lu, Sally Bond, Kay Hartung, Kerry Soroka, Julie Liu, Luanne Flood, Janice Schlegel, Clare Harlow, Carolyn Benjamin, Tammie Burns, Trish Conway, Deb Simes, Mary Ann Ashton, Harriet Dean, Val Robinson, Katie Paikin, Patty Gayowski, Susan Zhang, Gloria Hum, Julie McCall, Sheila Alsen, Linda Subsick, Christine Dexter, Kathy Saunders, Pat Schwartz, Mary Allard, Tanya Giovacchini, Terry Copp, Nancy Eisenberg, Kathy Chappell, Marilyn Leeds, Nancee Buckle, Karen Voellmann, Sandy Roschelle, Donna Madden, Sharon Ayoub, Sarah Hyland, Sheila Hanrahan, Jo-Anne Wiggins, Cindy Warwick, Marie Nitzke, Linda Subsick, Regina Buckley, Martha Rounds, Ann Shaw, and Karen Kinnear. Lest you think that the students ended the dance early to clean up after themselves, I want to thank Julia Hutton, Julie Liu, Susila Kastthurirangan, and Caroline Crosby for spending the later part of Friday evening helping return the café to its normal persona. Thanks also to the members of the RJG staff who chaperoned this event: Ms. Berberian, Ms. Fahey, Ms. Vacca, Mr. Nolan, Ms. Doiron, Ms. Greene, Mr. Patuto, Mr. Warner, Ms. Tessier, Ms. Higgins, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Rodero, Mr. Edmonds, Ms. Probolus, Ms. Mohn, Ms. Hadden, Ms. Weeks and Ms. O’Brien.

I would be remiss not to give a very special thank you to Beth Petr. This, the 2003-04 school year, is Beth's last term as the PTSO Co-Chair for RJG. She has served as President for the past three years and has dedicated untold hours to supporting RJG and the Acton-Boxborough District. Whether helping to plan Project Wellness, finding chaperones for school events, creating an email list to improve the communication between home and school, or simply rallying groups of parents on a moments notice to come to school to stuff envelopes, Beth has proven to be one of our greatest assets. RJG's loss, however, will be the high school's gain since she will continue her work with the PTSI to support the school system at the high school.

If you get a chance, visit the RJG website where you will find a copy of the curriculum documents for the 7th grade Social Studies program. By early fall, we intend to post the curriculum documents for 8th grade Social Studies, as well as for the 7th and 8th grade Art, Science, English, and Math programs.

I can't believe that this year is about to end. It seems like just yesterday that the 7th graders were new to the school and the whole year was before us. Now we are ready to say goodbye to the Class of 2008 and welcome the Class of 2010. I am amazed at how quickly the year flew by. With only one week of school left, I can honestly say that RJG is by far one of the best schools in the Commonwealth. It has a very supportive community, a very mature and impressive student body, and an outstanding staff.

Let me close by reiterating that my main goal for this year was to establish clear lines of communication between home and school. I hope you, the families of RJG, have been able to stay informed as to the progress of your child's education, as well as the events and exciting day-to-day activities of the school. Communication will continue to be a major focus in the future. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students, and families of RJG for welcoming me into the Acton-Boxborough community. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year and look forward to many great years to come. Have a wonderful and exciting summer. I can't wait to get started in September!