

"If I knew it was worth that much after I missed it, I would've run after it."
William Joseph Buckner

Grey Matters

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There are those times where I frighten myself. One of the highlights of this weekend was the delivery of a new washer and dryer. Perhaps it speaks to the lack of excitement in suburbia, or maybe my decaying brain, but I am having a ball playing with the buttons and watching the clothes spin. Yes, I know that this is sad. It is, however, true. As I sit and write this article, I am waiting with baited breath for the "Beep" which tells me I can switch another load. The other thrilling part of the weekend, a much more socially acceptable event, was the celebration of my daughter Maya's 10th birthday. In addition to the gifts and such, we went out to dinner at her favorite fancy restaurant, TGI Fridays. How can you go wrong with a double order of Mac n' Cheese, balloons, and the singing wait staff? Fun times were had by all. Oh yeah. Did you happen to notice that some Midwest baseball team of baby bears was unable to win a wild card and will have to settle for the National League Central Division Championship?

Last Thursday evening was the RJG grade 7 Back-To-School Night and I was delighted by the event. I got the opportunity to walk around and listen to our teachers give their presentations to the parents. Their professionalism was only overshadowed by their love for kids. This observation was shared by the multiple parents who stopped me in the hall to tell me how impressed they were with the teachers and the educational programs offered at RJG. It was a job well done! I also want to thank the members of the PTSO who volunteered their time Thursday evening to offer snacks, provide information and to run the School Council elections.

Parents of grade 8 students: your Back-To-School night is Wednesday, October 8. Don't miss this opportunity to see the many wonders of RJG. Even if you have had other children come through the school, there is always more to learn.

Recently, the MCAS scores were published in the Boston Globe. While many have significant reservations regarding the value of these tests, Acton Boxborough should be proud of the fact that we had best MCAS scores in the state (85 median % proficient and advanced). This clearly speaks to the high caliber of students and staff as well as the commitment of the community. With that said, there are still students who could be doing better, be it on the MCAS or in their classes. One of our objectives this year is to look at all of our data (MCAS, grades, attendance, homework completion, etc.) to see if we can isolate those areas which are interfering with the success of some of our students. As this information is consolidated, I will report back.

Other events this week include the Problem Solving contest on Thursday after school and the 8th grade dance Friday night. Be sure to check the daily announcements for details.

Have a great week.