

“The ability to form friendships, to make people believe in you and trust you is one of the few absolutely fundamental qualities of success. Selling, buying, and negotiating are so much smoother and easier when the parties enjoy each other’s confidence. The young man who can make friends quickly will find that he will glide, instead of stumble, through life...”

John J. McGuirk

Grey Matters

Volume 2

April 11 – 15, 2005

Number 30

Last Wednesday, students in grades seven and eight across the Commonwealth completed the first session of the 2005 Spring MCAS. At RJG, the day went off without a hitch. The staff was well prepared and the students arrived on time and ready to work. I wish to thank everyone for your part in making it a successful day.

In the fall of 2003, Deputy Superintendent George Frost, Assistant Superintendent Jonathan Landman, Facilities Director Steve Desy, Community Education Director Linda Mathinos, and I worked together to create a “teen center” type opportunity for RJG students. The goal, of what became known as “Activity Night,” was to create a non-structured, supervised environment where RJG students could play foosball, ping pong, or air hockey, watch movies, and/or just hang out.

Unfortunately, Activity Night did not capture enough student attention. While the first few nights were well attended, student interest quickly dwindled. Even significant Student Council effort to advertise and talk up the event didn’t capture student excitement. So, while I still believe it was a good idea, it is clear that RJG’s Activity Night is not a viable program and the remaining scheduled nights are canceled.

I would like to thank Ms. Jennifer Shotkin for her time and energy in organizing the evenings, PTSO reps Jan Couch and Beth Petr for their help with advertising and coordinating parental volunteers, as well as all the parents themselves who donated their time to come in and sell tickets.

My next drop-in hour is tomorrow evening, Tuesday April 12, from 6-7PM. Feel free to stop by to ask a question, share a concern, or simply to discuss Tiger Wood's victory at the Masters.