

*One day I was studying with Schoenberg, he pointed out the eraser on his pencil and said, 'This end is more important than the other.' ”*

**John Cage**

# Grey Matters

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Last Friday was our last afternoon 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social of the year. On the bright side, the social was well attended with over 270 well behaved students in attendance. Of some concern, however, was a slight scheduling error that led to both the social and middle school hours at Danny’s Place taking place at the same time. As a result, many of our students found themselves wanting to be in two places at once. I believe that with a little more collaboration and communication, we can make sure that such a scheduling conflict does not occur again in the future.

As always, the social could not have gotten off the ground without the incredible efforts of Student Council Advisors Gabrielle Berberian and Kellie Carter, as well as the help of chaperones: Maryfran Doiron, Pat Garrison, Liza Huber, Ri Harrington, Judy McKendry, Chris Mohn, Caroline O’Brien, Heather Pochatek, Heidi Porten, Annelyse Roach, and Ron Vogel, and parents: Peggy Barach, Jean Doelp, Gladys Edwards, and Bonnie Maserang.

As you are already aware, today is the beginning of “MCAS Season!” 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders across the state will take the English Language Arts portions of the exam this week and the Math, Science, and Social Studies sections in May. While we all recognize the importance of these tests, it is also imperative that we do not take them more seriously than necessary. Our students are best served by remembering to relax and not to worry.

If all this information isn’t exciting enough, Tuesday is Election Day. Representatives from Acton town hall, police, fire, and school are all working together to ensure both a smooth election process and a quiet day of school. Parents and guardians, you can assist in this process by adhering to all posted traffic signs. For example, please do not enter the school campus by the Blanchard entrance off Rt. 111 as that will be reserved for election parking only. Student drop off should only occur at the steps in the lower parking lot which should be accessed from Charter Rd. Your cooperation will help alleviate avoidable traffic issues and make for a successful day for all.

Finally, we are gearing up for the 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade transition. On March 16<sup>th</sup>, students received the high school’s Program of Studies. Last week, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders attended a presentation at the high school where they learned about their scheduling process. During this coming week, the Pupil Course Request Forms (PCR forms) will be distributed to our 8<sup>th</sup> graders. 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will make their recommendations and a copy of the PCR form will be sent home for parent/guardian review. The “official” computer generated Pupil Course Request form (generated at the high school) will be

sent home later in April. Please feel free to contact your child's counselor if you have any questions about this process.

While this will likely be a busy week, the weather is finally warming up and spring appears to finally have arrived. Enjoy!

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<http://ab.mec.edu/rjweb/index.html>