

*“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain
a thought without accepting it.”*

Aristotle

Grey Matters

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Last Monday, the eight Student Council finalists gave their candidacy speeches in front of the entire 7th grade, followed by the election. Please join me in congratulating our new Student Council Officers: Xenia Jarostchuk (President), Nathalie Gruet (Vice President), Jack Kelly (Treasurer), and Kristen Gargiulo (Secretary).

Last Wednesday evening, we held our 6th Grade Social where incoming 7th graders and their parents/guardians from each of the six sending schools came to RJG to learn more about the school. The students enjoyed the opportunity to get to know each other while a DJ played music and led a number of fun activities. Concurrently, the parents/guardians listened to a panel of staff, students, parents, and members of the AB community talk about the 6th – 7th grade transition and the support services available in the school and in the community. As always, it was a well attended event. I hope everyone who joined us found it informative. Thanks to panel members Ian Whatcott, Emma Gatley, Linda Minkoff, Kellie Carter, Celeste Margolius, Jon Duclos, and Jan Couch for their great presentations. I'd also like to thank chaperones and parent helpers Pam Rogers, Jodi Schroll, Catherine Coleman, Cyndy Overgaag, Bonnie Maserang, Laura Sikalis, Mike Mosca, Jo-Ann Berry, Helen Ronan, Wei Li, Lisa Wolf, Hongfeng Deng, Cathy Loeb, Cynthia Atadja, JoEllen Baird for making this evening so successful. If anyone has any follow-up questions, please feel free to send me an email and I will get back to you or forward it to the appropriate person.

Last Friday night about 350 8th graders participated in the 8th Grade Graduation Dance and it was a marvelous success. I continue to be amazed at how mature the students look when they get dressed up for this special occasion and how much everyone has grown up over the last two years. This dance is a wonderful way for the class of 2010 to come together to put closure on their time at RJG and to look towards their future high school experience.

As always, we have a great deal of assistance and support from parents and staff and our 8th grade dance was no exception. The planning committee included: Renee Robinson, Bettina Abe, Kim Kembel, Loretta Mosca, Linda Chapin, Cynthia Atadja and Bonnie Maserang. The following parents were extremely helpful with the setup and breakdown of the event: Carmen Taglienti, Barbara Epstein, Beverly Donahue, Bobbie Chiauuzzi, Christina Chaing, Gail Gimbel, Jane Ceraso, Jo-Ann Berry, Michele Pruett, Patty Higgins, Peter Tseng, Kim Tseng, Suzanne Flannery, and David Wilson. Last but not

least, my sincere thanks go to the RJG staff who chaperoned this event: Ms. Berberian, Mike Balulescu, Laurie Corron, Ben DeMott, Mary-Fran Doiron, Liza Huber, Audra Kaplan, Maureen Lin, Tim Nolan, Dave Palmer, Susan Probolus, Denise Roadman, Brandy Schmirer, Jen Vacca, and Allen Warner.

On Tuesday, June 13, from 6:00 – 7:00 PM, I will be holding my last official “drop-in” hour of the year. As always, feel free to ask a question, share a comment, or explain to me why millions of people voluntarily choose to live in Seattle where our recent weeks of rain is normal!

We are all looking forward to the end of year trips on Friday, June 16th. I am confident the 8th graders will love their time at Canobie Lake Park and the 7th graders will have a ball on their harbor cruise. Rain or shine, it will be a great day!

With the final days of school dwindling, the items in our lost and found are growing. Please make sure students check to see if their items are still in the school building before it is too late. We will be emptying the lost and found on Tuesday, June 20, and donating the items to charity.

Have a great week.