

*“The phone rings in the middle of the night
My father yells what you gonna do with your life
Oh daddy dear you know you're still number one
But girls they want to have fun
Oh girls just want to have”*

“Girls Just Want to Have fun” **Cyndi Lauper** – 1985

Grey Matters

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Last Friday night, the student council held its second annual “Blast From The Past” dance. With a nice turnout of 8th graders, students wore costumes from the 70’s and 80’s. Clearly everyone had a great time, but I got historical whiplash as the DJ went from “You Down with OPP” to “Wake Me Up Before You Go Go” to the current line dance, “Cotton Eye Joe.” My sanity might have been lost were it not for the help of chaperones Allen Warner, Tim Nolan, Larry Fliegelman, and Student Council Advisor, Maureen Lin. I’d also like to give special thanks to parents Bonnie Maserang and Peggy Barach for their assistance at this dance (and numerous other events as well).

Over the last few years, Acton and Boxborough students have participated in the Massachusetts Youth Risk Behavior Survey. The purpose of this survey, taken by 6th, 8th, 9th, and 10th graders, is to look at the choices our children are making. Topics range from getting enough sleep and maintaining a healthy diet to experiences pertaining to bullying, teasing and substance abuse. As a parent I can understand the desire to say, “not my child,” but as an educator I know that our children are faced with serious decisions at younger and younger ages. No one’s child is exempt.

The results of the 2006 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, completed last spring, will be presented on Wednesday, February 7th, at 7PM in the RJG auditorium and will be available on-line shortly thereafter. Because the best advocate for child safety is an informed parent and guardian, I urge you to attend.

Have a good week.

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