

“When you get right down to it, what we all need is a place to go... A place where we can escape the noise of our lives and just relax.”

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Grey Matters

Volume 4

June 18 – 20, 2007

Number 38

A belated Happy Father’s Day to all our A-B dads. Whether you spent the day with family and friends, on the golf course, the beach or in front of the barbecue grill, I hope you enjoyed your special day.

Last Friday night about 400 eighth 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 2011 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 Decorations Chair was Renee Robinson and following parents were extremely helpful with the setup and breakdown of the event: Bonnie Masserang, Marcy Hoban, Peggy Barach, Sue Peterman, Janet Weisenberger, Mong-Yu Blancha, Pricilla Dallmus, Cheryl Stockman, Dane Ferguson, Diane Cooke and Heather Woodring, Beth LaBossierre, Monique Gross, Connie Miller, Jonathan Chinitz, Debra Cryer, Cynthia Pierce and Hongyi Zhou. Last but not least, my sincere thanks go to the RJG staff who chaperoned this event: Gabrielle Berberian, Vanessa Banyas, Ben DeMott, Liza Huber, Mary-Fran Doiron, John Edmonds, Susan Heartlein, Pat Higgins, Tim Nolan, Susan Probolus, Denise Roadman, Brandy Schmirer, Allen Warner and Jennifer Vacca.

We are all looking forward to the end of year trips tomorrow, June 19th. On Tuesday, the 7th graders will go on a class trip to Kimball’s while the 8th graders head off to Canobie Lake Park. Below is a copy of the information shared with the students this morning:

7th Graders - Kimball Farm

- lunch is provided at no additional cost
- there will be a DJ playing
- You will not be allowed to leave items on the bus or leave items with the chaperones so we strongly recommend that you do not bring any valuables.
- Normal school dress code applies (i.e. not bathing suits, exposed midriffs or exposed underwear, etc.)

- Students will return to school in time for our normal 2:06PM dismissal.

8th Graders - Canobie Lake Park

- There are a limited number of coin lockers available. As you may not leave items on the bus or leave items with the chaperones, we strongly recommend that you do not bring any valuables.
- Students are not allowed to use the swimming pool.
- There are many water rides and you are likely to get wet. Please dress appropriately.
- Lunch is available at the park (average meal \$10-15). You may bring a lunch if you wish.
- Be sure to stay with other students. No groups should be smaller than two students.
- You must check in with your team teachers near the Merry-Go-Round between Noon and 1:00 pm.
- You must gather near the Merry-Go-Round to go home at 2:45 PM.
- You will arrive back at school at around 4:15 PM.
- If you have any problems, please go to the benches near the Merry-Go-Round. There will always be an RJG staff member there.
- School buses will be here to take students home on their normal routes at 4:15PM.
- Students that do not ride the bus, need to be sure to arrange for a ride home.

On Wednesday, the entire school will go to the high school for our end of year assembly, Students will be dismissed directly from the high school at 10:45. Those who ride the bus will load at the high school. Parent pick-up will be at the high school back circle driveway (just off Hayward Road).

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 Thursday, June 21, and donating the items to charity.

For many, this coming year is a time of transition. Our 8th graders are moving on to the high school and a new wave of 7th graders will be joining the RJG community in the fall. Another transition I must share with you is that Assistant Principal, Ms. Megan Hatt, has been offered and has accepted the position of Assistant Principal of the Kennedy Middle School in Natick Massachusetts, effective July 1, 2006.

Ms. Hatt has served the RJG community for the last 2 years as my Assistant Principal. Mrs. Hatt has been an excellent member of our school community and an outstanding support to the students and families. While we will all miss her character, organizational skills, and wit and I wish her success.

While Mrs. Hatt's departure to become an Assistant Principal in Natick leaves large shoes to fill, I am pleased to announce that Ms. Allison Warren has been appointed to take the Assistant Principal position, starting on July 1, 2007

It is the end of a wonderful school year, and I wanted to take a moment to express my appreciation. To parents and guardians, let me take this opportunity to thank you for all of the support you have given our school throughout the year. Working together as a team, we have created a web of support within which our students have learned essential skills and met personal and academic goals. Your participation in the educational experience of the school has been an essential part of our success.

I also want to express my gratitude and admiration for the teachers at RJ Grey. Their ongoing commitment to our students as well as their encouragement and support is unsurpassed. They have provided a curriculum that has promoted a comprehensive academic foundation, critical thinking skills, and personal achievement.

As our students move ahead to their next set of challenges, I wish them continued energy and motivation to persist and achieve. On behalf of the RJ Grey faculty, it has been an honor to be part of the lives of our young adults, to watch them take risks, grow and succeed.

Have a wonderful summer.