

*“Obstacles don’t have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don’t turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.”*

**Michael Jordan**

# Grey Matters

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Did you know that basketball is the most popular indoor sport in the world today? Having experienced the first annual RJG Staff vs. Student basketball game, played last Friday afternoon, I would certainly agree! Over 200 students, parents, and teachers cheered from the sidelines as teams of students and staff faced off for a thrilling and awe inspiring game. Who will forget Mr. Shen’s “alley-oop dunk”? Who will smile every time we think of Mr. Warner’s rebounds! It was a wonderful afternoon.

Congratulations to RJG’s Kate Murray for envisioning and executing this wonderful fund raiser for Project Wellness. In addition to raising \$1300.00, teamwork and camaraderie were the successful outcomes, and we look forward to many more games in the future. I would like to thank the following parents for donating food and time for this event: Jodi Phelan, Yaso Aravinthan, Mary Ann Ashton, Mong-Yu Blancha, Pam Cardarelli, Kathy Cullen, Erin Cashman, Lynne Densen, Lisa DiBartolomeo, Michelle Ellicks, Melissa Grigsby, Lisa Gundlach, Caroline Sharma, Chris Renzi, Elaina Kourepenos, Pam Rogers, and Diann Euele. A special thank you goes to Cathleen Griffin for organizing this wonderful parent participation.

Please join me in thanking John Edmonds, Andrew Shen, Laura Sikalis, Phil Stameris, Matt Driscoll, Allen Warner, Kerry Byrne, Joyce Kelly, Denis Reedy, Mike Balulescu, Jon Duclos, and Kate Murray for sharing their athletic talents on the court. With that said, the real congratulations go the students and coaches of the RJG 7th and 8th grade teams. In honor of all our players, I thought everyone might enjoy a few more famous, inspirational, and funny basketball quotes from personalities who made the sport what it is today:

*“It’s what you get from games you lose that is extremely important.”*

--Pat Riley

*“There may be people that have more talent than you, but there’s no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do.”*

--Derek Jeter

*~“We have a great bunch of outside shooters.~ Unfortunately, all our games are played indoors.”~*

--Weldon Drew

*~“Me shooting 40% at the foul line is just God’s way to say nobody’s perfect.”*

--Shaquille O’Neal

Now that March is here and Spring is around the corner (notice how I haven't mentioned snow?), a number of important events are on the horizon:

- March 13<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social 2:30-4:30PM
- March 18<sup>th</sup> Project Wellness Merrimack College
- March 20<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Jr. High Musical Alice in Wonderland
- March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 2 MCAS ELA Reading Comprehension & ELA Composition

Thinking far ahead, I know it may seem a bit premature to talk about the 8th Grade Graduation Dance, scheduled for June 12. With that said, many of our young adults are already planning for this special evening so I am sharing some important information.

**Please remember that this dance is not a formal event, nor is it even a “semi-formal.”** We ask you not to indulge in fancy clothes, hairdos, and certainly no limos! At the same time, to give this event a special feel, we ask the students to avoid wearing jeans; girls are invited to come nicely dressed (no gowns!) and boys are asked to wear collared shirts. Ties and jackets are not necessary. We also encourage students to come without a date. As always, *this dance is for R.J. Grey students only* and we appreciate your cooperation.

Have a good week.