

“The man who has no imagination has no wings.”

Muhammad Ali

Grey Matters

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I hope everyone enjoyed the lovely weekend weather. As you look ahead this week, please be sure that the RJG Back to School Night is highlighted on your calendars. We are looking forward to seeing you on Thursday, September 25, at 7:00PM.

Specific information regarding the evening is as follows:

At 6:30 PM, Bob Specian will meet with parents of Chorus students to review the RJG Choral program.

At 6:45PM, I will be meeting with 7th grade parents in the Blanchard Gym to talk about the philosophy of our school, general communication practices, and the developmental, academic, and social needs of our students. I hope this presentation will provide you with some important information as to how the RJG is designed to meet the needs of young adolescents and how we can work together and support one another during this important time.

From 7 to 9:00 PM, parents and guardians are invited to follow their child's schedule and meet their child's teachers. In each class, parents will listen to a brief presentation by the teacher regarding classroom practices and the curriculum being covered for the year. During this evening, teachers are not available to answer specific questions about individual children. Should you have questions and/or concerns, please schedule a separate time when both you and the teacher can meet to address them. They will be happy to do this.

During Back to School Night, the 7-Red Team will be selling AB sweatshirts, T-Shirts, and flannel boxer shorts. Proceeds will be used to benefit local and international hunger relief efforts. Sweatshirts are \$25, T-Shirts are \$10, and the boxer shorts are \$15. Checks should be made payable to "RJ Grey Junior High School" and cash will be accepted throughout the evening. If the merchandise runs out, orders will be taken. Thanks for your support!

As part of the Back to School Night program, we did want to remind you to park only in designated parking spaces. The Acton Police Departments works very hard to insure our safety and will be vigilant to ensure clear emergency access to our building and the campus at large. To avoid being ticketed or towed, please be sure to find a designated parking space in one of the following parking lots:

- The RJG Parking Lot – *adjacent to Charter Rd (west side)*
- The Parker-Damon Parking Lot - *adjacent to Charter Rd (east side)*

- The High School – *north of RJG at bottom of Charter Rd*
- Kmart – *across route 111*

While I will be sure to mention this at Back to School Night, I do want to highlight that getting students involved in one or more of our after school activities and programs is a great way to make new friends and become an active part of the RJG culture. Please encourage your child to participate as we have a wealth of teams, clubs, and activities to consider. That said, there are only so many days in a week and as a result, students often have to make choices. Parents and guardians, please be aware that students are not required to attend every meeting of any given club thus providing them with the opportunity to participate in multiple activities. Please get involved!

On the topic of wellness, it would be wonderful if all our students remained healthy all year and never missed a day of school. Unfortunately, this is simply not realistic and we recognize that students will miss a day or two for the various bugs that go around. When this happens, students should see their teachers for missed work as they will be given an appropriate amount of time to get caught up. Should your son/daughter be out of school for more than three days, we would appreciate you contacting the Main Office (ext. 3303) or the Counseling Department (ext. 3330) to provide us with more information and to discuss additional ways of supporting your child with missed classwork.

A number of parents have asked me if there is a method to prepay for school lunch. The answer is “yes”. Parents interested in this program should send a check with their child in even increments of \$2.00. Please be aware that these funds can only be used for a \$2.00 lunch. Students will not be able to prepay for salads, snacks, or any other a la-carte items which will require cash. Checks should be written to the *Acton Boxborough Regional School Lunch Program* and brought to Kitchen Manager Elaine Livermore in the Food Services office (across from the kitchen entrance) between 7:15AM-7:30AM.

Have a good week.