

# Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education Update

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Superintendent of Schools

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Information regarding the current status of the Mansfield Public Schools: items, issues, challenges, and opportunities district staff addressed during the month, as well as upcoming district and school events.

## Enrollment

Gr.	GW		SE		VN		MMS		Total
		+/-*		+/-*		+/-*		+/-*	
PK	29	3/0	28	0/2	32	1/0			89
K	31	0/0	30	3/1	54	1/0			115
1	36	0/0	43	0/0	33	0/0			112
2	34	0/0	41	0/0	54	0/0			129
3	32	0/0	48	0/2	51	1/0			129
4	34	0/0	48	0/0	49	0/0	1		131
PK-4									705
5							134	0/1	135
6							146	0/1	146
7							143	0/0	143
8							139	0/0	139
# Boys	109		122		144		291		666
# Girls	87		116		129		272		604
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>3/0</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>3/5</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>3/0</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>0/2</b>	<b>1270</b>

\*Entries/Withdrawals

- Homeschool year to date total: 5 families with 9 students.

	GW	SE	VN	MMS	District
<b>Immigrant Children*</b>	5	3	2	3	13
<b>ELL**</b>	2	3	3	10	18

\*Eligible immigrant children are defined as a) ages 3-21 enrolled full-time in school, b) not born in any state, c) have not been attending 1 or more schools in 1 or more states for more than 3 full academic years.

\*\*English Language Learners

## Connecticut Mastery Test – Fourth Generation Results

#/% of students at/above goal – March 2009

Grade	Math	Writing	Reading	Science
3 – 133	113/85.0%	86/72.2%	98/73.7%	-----
4 – 124	100/83.3%	92/74.2%	91/75.8%	-----
5 – 137	97/71.3%	99/72.3%	101/73.7%	110/80.3%
6 – 141	113/80.1%	109/77.9%	120/85.7%	-----
7 – 136	105/78.4%	110/80.9%	116/87.2%	-----
8 – 160	131/81.9%	139/86.9%	138/86.8%	142/88.8%

- Students not reaching goal in one or more areas: (2009-2010 grade)

Gr. 4 – 47/35.3%	Gr. 7 – 44/31.2%
Gr. 5 – 49/39.5%	Gr. 8 – 40/29.2%
Gr. 6 – 63/46.0%	Gr. 9 – 42/26.0%

## Budget

- Food Service Comparison:

September 2008		September 2009	
Paid Meals	Total Meals	Paid Meals	Total Meals
12,987	17,872	13,492	17,915

## Personnel

	Certified	Non-Certified
<b>Retirements</b>	0	0
<b>Resignations</b>	0	1
<b>Requests for Leave</b>	0	0
<b>New Hires</b>	0	2
<b>Reduction in Force</b>	0	0

- Met with CIRMA risk management representative.

## District: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

### Including Instructional Technology Applications

- Conducted two administrative council meetings.
- Continued Study Island software program for all district grade 3 and 4 students to use both at school and at home.
- Facilitated a year two implementation plan for *Bridges in Mathematics*.
- Facilitated the plan for implementing Houghton Mifflin: *Legacy of Literacy*.
- Reviewed summer curriculum work to be completed by teachers during initial Curriculum Council meetings.
- Developed and disseminated a plan for in-class preschool music.
- Initiated district review and use of CBAS (CT Benchmark Assessment System) for grades 3-8 in Math & Reading.

## Policies

- Revised MBOE Policies reflecting recent changes in legislature drafted by Shipman & Goodwin were adopted by the Board.

## Building and Grounds

- Reviewed maintenance work order system and facilitated the development of an alternative.
- Implemented initial and planned secondary remedy for Vinton playscape, as well as follow-up remediation as needed.
- Attended MMS Fuel Conversion weekly meetings regarding project implementation, including successful testing of computerized gas burner.
- Facilitated efforts to resolve water issues at MMS.
- Continued safety inspection of Adventure Learning sites at all schools and addition of indoor/outdoor elements at MMS.
- Distributed Custodian/Maintenance Manual.
- Reviewed options to address Southeast floor tile issue.

## Programs

### Liberty Bank Grant – Study Island Through September 26, 2009

Grade 3				Grade 4			
Math		Reading		Math		Reading	
Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct	Q*	% Correct
0	n/a	0	n/a	59	96	51	64.7

\*Number of questions attempted on grade level

## Security

- Facilitated installation for second Security Grant for all four schools.
- Facilitated the implementation of new required crisis prevention drills for all schools with emergency management officials. Sent home a letter of explanation to parents.

## Energy

- Implemented school building energy committees.
- Implemented new guidelines for after school building use in an effort to reduce energy consumption.
- Reduced hall lighting in hallways in all 4 schools and some classrooms at MMS.
- Monitored use of energy efficient refrigerators to replace classroom use of small refrigerators.
- Attended energy grant meeting held with the town manager, finance director, and director of maintenance.

## Communication

- Directed district response and dissemination of H1N1 virus information to appropriate staff.
- Distributed survey via “kid-mail” regarding H1N1 vaccination clinics at schools.
- Books on Bus program report to the Board.
- *Mansfield’s Plan for Young Children* was presented to the Board.
- Conducted monthly meetings with bargaining unit leaders.
- Attended Open House at all four schools.
- Attended initial meetings of PTO/PTA/MMSA.
- Facilitated district Technology Committee meeting via video conference.

## Professional Development

- Conducted follow-up training and support AESOP attendance system.
- Notified that Sergeant Kodzis is unable to arrange for an officer to be trained in radKIDS.
- Attended RTI/SRBI training for pk-4 certified staff at all three schools.
- Facilitated Adventure Learning Training for staff.
- Facilitated Literacy How training for K-2 teachers and support services staff.
- Facilitated Language Arts professional development for K-1 classroom teachers.
- Facilitated Writing Prompt Scoring for K-3 classroom teachers.
- Facilitated district Professional Development Committee meeting.

## Technology Administrative Applications

- Continued implementation of HealthOffice Software.
- Continued implementation of automated system for recording substitutes.
- Continued spread sheet submission of language arts assessments.
- Continued review of Horizon library system software.
- Supported training and development of PowerSchool software at MMS and Filemaker Pro/EASTCONN RTI software.
- Implemented new PowerSchol cafeteria software in all four schools.
- Initiated implementation of MyRTI software program.
- Revised procedures for Free/Reduced lunch registration.
- Facilitated the development of a new maintenance request system.

## Other

- Revised bus routes to reflect current enrollment.
- Attended MAC (Mansfield Advocates for Children) meeting.
- Attended State of CT H1N1 Conference.
- Attended CCM *Proven Arbitration Strategies and Building Green Workshops*.
- Attended SDE *Complying with Healthy Food Certification* and Special Education Back to School meetings.
- Attended CAPSS Annual Fall Convocation.
- Attended EASTCONN Staff Development Council.
- Attended NEASS Annual Conference, *Regionalization: Consolidation, Cooperation and Collaboration*.
- Attended URSA and Hockanum Superintendents’ meetings.
- Attended CAPSS Technology Committee meeting.
- Attended SDE Faith Families and Schools Conference.
- Attended SDE/RESC Teaching and Learning in Future Tense workshop.
- Attended CAPSS Legislative Committee meeting.
- Attended CT Commission on Children workshop.

Additional information will be provided upon request by calling 429.3350 or by emailing [mboesupt@mansfieldct.org](mailto:mboesupt@mansfieldct.org).

# Mansfield Public Schools Monthly Memorable Moments

## Goodwin School

- At our September Town Meeting, students received an update on their efforts to supply books to an Afghan school from Doffie Rotter and Ian Pounds. Mr. Pounds has just returned from Afghanistan where he lived at the school for several months. Fourth graders at Goodwin are developing a leadership project to continue support this charitable effort. For more information visit: <http://afceco.org/>.
- Second graders built rockets using soda bottles, streamers, paper, and tape to explore the concepts of friction and air pressure. The culminating “blast off” was a huge success!
- Mrs. Geary and Mrs. Pagoni have been invited by Dr. Doug Kaufman from the University of Connecticut to present at the National Council of Teachers of English. Mrs. Geary and Mrs. Pagoni are working with the University to explore the impact of teacher writing on student writing achievement. They will share their observations and insights at the conference in Philadelphia this November.

## Southeast School

- Opening Day Ceremony – An opening day celebration to welcome our students and their families on the first day of school. We celebrated the first day of school by raising the flag, singing songs and presenting a skit that focused on this year’s schoolwide theme – Together Everyone Achieves More (T.E.A.M.).
- Character Education Assembly – Southeast staff helped school mascot Ethan Eagle cross the two line bridge by introducing the character words (Honesty, Attitude, Responsibility, Actions, Caring, Tolerance, Empathy and Respect) we will learn about this year. Together our school celebrated Ethan’s success and each grade received the word or words they will focus on this school year.
- Children Helping Children Presentation by Doffie Rotter, Professor Emeritus at UConn and Andeisha Farid, Executive Director of the orphanages in Afghanistan –Doffie and Andeisha talked to our 3rd and 4th graders about the orphanages and children in Afghanistan, raising awareness and promoting the understanding of this country which is so much in the news, but little understood by outsiders.

## Vinton School

- Students are preparing symbolic Monarchs made of paper and symmetrical designs that include messages of cooperation, conservation and caring for the Monarch Butterfly. Grade 2, Enrichment and Spanish are working together on this project which has all messages written in Spanish.
- Grade 3 is working on a unit on animal adaptations. Dr. Margaret Rubega, our guest ornithologist, has been in the classrooms teaching the students about the physicality of owls as well as teaching the students to dissect owl pellets.
- Vinton’s kindergarten students are working together with all Vinton students to collect and recycle several different types of containers. A company called TerraCycle collects these empty packages and recycles them to make new products or uses them for new purposes. Each item collected will earn money for the school. The kindergarten classes will vote at the end of the year to decide whether the money collected will go toward books or to beautify the school.

## Mansfield Middle School

- Bi-annual, three-week exchange visit by 21 students and two teachers from our German partner school – Gymnasium Sarstedt. Shared experiences included an overnight trip to Cape Cod and a day in New York City, as well as many adventures with host families.
- On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, we had beautiful weather and excellent attendance at Grade 6 Team’s Welcome Back Potluck Supper for sixth grade families.
- The new MMS Writing Center is underway offering classroom support for writers not at goal, as well as pen-pal and student magazine activities after school and at X-Block.
- Twenty After-School Activities are underway with 449 enrollments for the first quarter.
- Local resident Doffie Rotter and her guest, an administrator at three private orphanages in Kabul, spoke to Student Council members and the whole seventh grade about an orphanage to which MMS has made significant donations of books and funds to support their new school library.
- Former MMS student Nathaniel Picard-Busky won a Best in Show blue ribbon at the Woodstock Fair for the electric guitar he made as an eighth grade project in Technology Education.

## Upcoming Events in October:

*Please join us at any/all of these events*

GW	SE	VN
Fire Prevention/School Safety Day 10/7/09	Buell's Orchard FT Gr. 1 10/1/09	Fire Prevention/School Safety Day 10/5/09
Walk to School Day 10/7/09	Pequot Museum FT Gr. 4 10/2/09	Roger Williams Zoo FT Gr. 3 10/15/09
Parents' Math Night 10/7/09 6:30pm	Parents' Hour/PTO Meeting 10/5/09 6:00pm	PTA Family Dance Night 10/16 or 10/23/09 6:30pm
Mashamoquet Brook Park FT Gr. 3 10/9/09	Fire Prevention/School Safety Day 10/8/09	PTA Meeting 10/19/09 7:00pm
Playground Social 10/14/09 5:30pm	PTO Ice Cream Social 10/9/09 5:00pm	Hurst Farm FT Kindergarten 10/26/09
Buell's Orchard FT Gr. 1 10/15/09	Character Assembly w/ C. Poulos 10/14/09 2:00pm	
Town Meeting 10/20/09 1:15pm	Family Math Night 10/27/09 3:30pm	
PTO Meeting 10/21/09 6:30pm		
Playground Social 10/27/09 5:30pm		
MMS		
German Exchange 9/13-10/3/09	MMSA Meeting 10/6/09 7:00pm	Boston FT – Gr. 8 10/16/09
Fall Country Dance 10/20/09 7:00pm	Book Fair w/o 10/19.09	Middle School Education Week w/o 10/19/09
Smoke House Fire - Gr. 5 10/23/09	Halloween Window Painting 10/24/09	Red Ribbon Week w/o 10/26/09
Trust Me! Assembly 10/30/09 2:00pm		
District		
MBOE Meeting 10/8/09 7:30pm	Columbus Day Holiday 10/12/09	Professional Development Day 10/13/09
MBOE Meeting Teacher of Year Celebration 10/22/09 7:30pm	Mobile Dentist 10/30/09	