

Dates to Remember

Monday, January 18	<u>NO SCHOOL- MLK Holiday</u>
Tuesday, January 19	<u>Superintendent's Parent Meeting</u> Middle Grades-6:00 p.m., City Hall
Wednesday, January 20	<u>K.O. School Council Meeting</u> 6:30-8:30 p.m., Topic: Budget
Thursday, January 21	<u>MCAS Parent Information Night</u> <u>King Open, 6:00-7:30 p.m.</u>
Fri, Sat, Sun, January 22-24	<u>Presentations of</u> <u>"The Phantom Tollboth"</u>
Wednesday, January 27	<u>Parent Coffee with Principal Tim</u> 8:45-9:45 a.m., Teacher's Lounge
Thursday, January 28	<u>Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday</u> <u>Assembly at 1:00 PM, Auditorium</u>
Friday, January 29	<u>KOED Family Night, 4:30-6:30 PM</u>
Saturday, January 30	<u>Parent/Staff Night Out</u> 7PM-12AM, Ryles Night Club
Thursday, February 4	<u>Room 214 Play, 6 – 8 p.m.</u> "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
Friday, February 5	<u>Carnaval</u>

Title I Presents **MCAS Parent Information Session**

When: Thursday, January 21st

Where: King Open School

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

- Receive handouts to see what previous tests looked like.
- See test result samples that show what is considered "in need of improvement", "proficient", or "failing".
- Learn what you can do to help you child.

All Cambridge Public Schools parents are invited to attend!

You can register by:

- **Calling 617-349-6492 (Title I office) or by**
- **Emailing msavilonis@cpsd.us**

Pizza provided 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.

KO School Council Meeting

Please join the KO School Council Jan. 20 from 6:30-8:30 in the music room. The main topic will be an introduction to the budget process (with follow-up planned for Feb.). Other topics will include hearing from the family engagement committee, thinking about wellness at KO, and school council representation.

Change in Time for Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Assembly

Thursday, January 28, 1:00 p.m.

Note: Assembly will be videotaped and shown on Cambridge Cable TV. We'll let families know when the celebration will be broadcast. Thanks to teachers Ada Riggins and Kathleen Kolman for organizing practices for this year's Staff/Student Chorus for the Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday assembly. Practices will begin this coming Tuesday, 8-8:30am, and will continue each Tuesday and Friday at this time leading up to our Thursday, Jan. 28 Assembly. Families, please encourage your children to join these rehearsals and sing in this chorus for the assembly.

Tim

The Phantom Tollbooth

Many of our students, grades 3 and older, have been preparing all year for upcoming performances of "The Phantom Tollbooth." We are very excited to see this play in our auditorium.

Friday, January 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 24th at 3:00 p.m.

A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL TIM

Dear King Open Families,

Each year at this time the nation celebrates the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. At King Open we are especially aware of the opportunities and responsibilities of being named for Dr. King. We need to examine how we are learning about and taking up the struggle for civil rights that Dr. King was such an important part of.

Every year we hold a Birthday Assembly with and of our students. Staff and students come up with ideas of what it means today, in our school and in our larger world, to become part of the struggle for social justice and civil rights. This year we are arranging for CCTV, the Cambridge Cable TV Channel, to videotape and broadcast this assembly. We hope that you will be able to watch the assembly on cable with your children. We'll let you know as soon as we do when it will be broadcast.

Welcome back to school for 2010! I hope that you as families have had welcome, supportive time to spend together and with friends. At King Open, we look forward to this new year together.

-- Principal Tim

The following is a message from Jeff Young, Superintendent of the Cambridge Public Schools.

Dear Cantabridgian,
As we hope you are aware, the Cambridge School Committee and I are now in the process of examining best practices for educating children in our "middle grades" programs to determine what, if any, improvements might be made. We want and need your input. **On January 19th, at 6 p.m. at City Hall,** we will hold a public hearing intended to provide you with the opportunity to voice your opinion on the future of middle grades education in Cambridge. I urge you to attend the meeting and share your thoughts and suggestions with us as we collaboratively make this most important decision. Over the past three years, the Cambridge School Committee, school administrators, principals, teachers, parents, and others, have been working to improve upon our school system's middle grades education. This work has included, but has not been limited to, the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Middle Grades Education, and the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Middle School Youth. Detailed information about both of these Middle Grades Programs is available on the web at www.cpsd.us/cpsdir/blueribbon.cfm. Most recently, we have collected and tabulated and disaggregated data from a December survey of families, community, and educators on the current condition of middle grades education. The most useful information came from 55 pages of comments from parents, students, and staff on how best to improve middle grades programming. All of the reports and the results of the survey are available at www.cpsd.us. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, email us at info@cpsd.us

NOTE ABOUT THE SCHOOL BUS

The Cambridge School Committee has asked that each school remind families of students arriving at school and riding the school bus home from school.

Each student below grade 3 requires an adult or older sibling to meet him/her at the bus stop in the afternoon.

Each elementary school principal is responsible for the safety and supervision of all bus students in the morning before bus drop-off and the beginning of school classes.

Please be sure to let Regina, Roxie or Tim know if you have concerns about the safety and supervision of your children during their processes of arriving at or coming home from school. Thank you.

THE KING OPEN PARENT STAFF NIGHT OUT IS COMING SOON...

For a date night, it's hard to find better! Dinner, dancing, and no mac&cheese in sight!! Make sure to round up some friends to join you in chasing away the cold---

THE DATE: Saturday, January 30th, 2010, 7pm-midnight, at Ryles Jazz Club

HOW TO GET TIX NOW:

Via snail-mail: Megan DeMott-Quigley
45 Fenno St. 02138

Please make checks out to **Friends of King Open**

Tix are \$16 per person

ALL-CITY CHORUS! DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

The All-City Chorus is looking for new members. Sign up now! Sing with students from around the district. Meet new people and try new things!

Where: The Chorus room at CRLS

When: 3:15- 4:30 on Thursdays, starting on January 14th!

Questions: Call the VPA office at 617-349-6788

Do you need a ride to CRLS?

You can grab a ride on the school bus! Just have your parents/guardians let them know in the office that you are going to All-City Chorus. **Getting home:** Your parents are responsible for how you get home from CRLS at 4:30. Carpools are a great idea!

MCAS PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wednesday, January 13th - 6:00-7:30 p.m., Peabody School

January 26th - 6:00-7:30 p.m., Fletcher/Maynard Academy

All Cambridge Public School parents are invited to attend!

For more information please call the Title I office at 617-349-6492.

Pizza provided 5:30-6:00 p.m.

7/8 Students

Hi. This is a notice to inform you that some of the 7/8 students will be posting a weekly bulletin board in the lobby called, "What's Poppin' " KO?" We will be featuring different grades every week or so to show parents, guardians, teachers and students what's happening in classes. We hope that you will come by and take a look!

Thank you.

The Bulletin Board Committee

Khadeja, Kevin, Joseph, Brian, Zohra, and Tessa