Thurston Middle School Update

Aim High ♦ Work Hard ♦ Help Someone Else ♦ Do the Right Thing

March 5, 2010

Dear Thurston Parents/Guardians,

It has been a very difficult week for so many members of the Westwood community. I want to thank Thurston's crisis team—Rich Bernazzani, Terri Sweeney, Sandra Raymond, Susanne Toomajian , Deena Frio and Austin Bushey—for their outstanding work. In addition, I want to let Thurston parents know how lucky we at the middle school are to be working with your children. I saw many wonderful displays of kindness and generosity this week from thoughtful and concerned students.

Our guidance counselors will continue to check in with students and be available to those who need extra support in the weeks ahead. If you are concerned about your child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Allison Borchers, Principal
Thurston Middle School
(781) 326-7500 x2398

School Announcements

Westwood Youth and Family Services

The staff at Westwood Youth and Family Services are available to all Westwood families and children in need. WYFS provides free, confidential counseling services. Please call their main office at (781) 320-1006 for more information.

PTO Providence Bruins—Last Chance for Tickets!

Save the date for the upcoming **Thurston PTO Night at the Providence Bruins.** Thurston teachers, students and their families will have the chance to watch the Providence Bruins take on the Portland Pirates on **Friday, March 26.** Tickets are $13 each, and every student will receive a free P-Bruins hat at the game. To purchase your tickets, please use the attached order form. The order form isposted on the website under "Forms and Publications." For more information, please contact Archana Sharma at aprasher_2000@yahoo.com.

PTO General Meeting

On **March 24th,**, there will be a **PTO General Meeting** in the **Thurston Cafeteria Annex** from **7:00 to 8:00 PM**. Please join Thurston's PTO board members and committee chairs for some important updates about key PTO initiatives, along with a teacher presentation and an update from the administrative team.

Westwood Summer Enrichment Program

The Westwood Summer Enrichment Program is pleased to announce the 2010 summer program. We will not be sending out brochures this year – all the information is on the web! The Westwood Summer Enrichment Program offers many opportunities for students entering grades K – 8 to have fun while expanding their educational and personal horizons for up to four weeks from June 28 – July 23. Please visit us on the web at http://summerenrichment.westwood.wikispaces.net/ for more information, classes and registration forms. This site can also be found under "Quick Links" on the Westwood Schools home page. Questions may be directed to Susan Costanza at scostanza@westwood.k12.ma.us .

Thurston Yearbook Sale

The **2010 Yearbook Sale** is running through April 1. Don't miss out--order yours today! The yearbook is still only $25 and can be purchased with cash or check made out to Thurston Middle School and returned with the attached form. Credit card purchases can be made online at: http://www.jostensyearbooks.com

Westwood Chinese Cultural Night

March is quickly approaching, and it is once again time for the **Westwood Chinese Cultural Night!** The 4th Annual WCCN will be held on **March 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm** in the **WHS auditorium.**

Flash Drive Update

I have an important **technology update** for all parents, but particularly 6th grade parents. I have asked all Thurston teachers to **restrict students from using USB drives** (AKA "flash drives") and other portable media to transport documents to and from home and school computers. This step is in order to ensure that computer viruses and malware are not transmitted via these portable devices. Our Information Technology department is in the process of upgrading the protection on all student-accessible computers at Thurston as well as looking into alternative methods for transporting documents and files. I will keep you posted regarding their progress.

Calendar of Events

Important dates and upcoming events:

Mon	**3/8**	2:30—WOSC Meeting
Wed	**3/10**	1:10 Early Dismissal
Thu	**3/11**	Pi Day
		9:00 PTO Board Meeting
		7:30 PM School Committee Meeting (WHS Little Theatre)

Thurston Middle School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or sexual orientation.