



# Hanlon School Newsletters

March 2021

From the Desk of Mrs. Cronin:

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March 30, 2021

Dear Hanlon Families,

Congratulations to Rose Donnelly, Hanlon 5th grader! Rose was one of several 5th graders who chose to enter the SIFMA InvestWrite essay competition. She wrote about how challenges can create opportunities in business and in life. She earned 8th place nationally, and 1st place in Massachusetts. Kudos to Mr. Goguen and Ms. Pestana for arranging the surprise prize patrol event at Rose's house, and arranging to have . It no small feat: Rose was surprised during one of her at-home days. A caravan of WPS staff snuck out of Hanlon to surprise her at her house, Liz Reidel from SIFMA presented the awards virtually, and the 5th and 4th grade classes watched it on Zoom! We are so proud of Rose, and of all the 5th graders who submitted essays.



We are looking forward to welcoming students for full in-person learning on Monday, April 5th.

Here are a few things to keep in mind:

### **School Hours will change**

Morning Arrival 8:30-8:45 every day

Monday 8:45-2:30

Tuesday 8:45-2:30

Wednesday 8:45-12:45

Thursday 8:45-2:30

Friday 8:45-2:30

### **Lunch/Snack**

Lunch and snack will be eaten outside most days. During inclement weather, students will eat in classrooms or other indoor spaces where there is 6ft of distancing. Due to physical distancing requirements and the fact that children will take their masks off to eat, it is very important that children are able to open all snack containers and food items without assistance. Parents, please test this out with your child to confirm that they can open every container, yogurt tube, juice pouch, etc. independently.

Students should bring their own water bottle, as water fountains are not in use. We have two filtered water bottle fillers that children may use to refill their water. Families may pre-order lunches on the [district website](#). A bagged lunch may be pre-ordered to take home on Wednesdays.

### **Devices**

Students in grades K-3 will keep their iPads and Chromebooks in school beginning on April 5th.

**All devices and charging cords for students in K-3 should be returned to Hanlon this week on Thursday, April 1st.** Students in grades 4 and 5 will continue bringing their devices back and forth to school, thus their charging cords should remain at home until the last week of school.

### **School Supplies**

Students who have been fully remote should bring their school issued materials and supplies back to school on Monday, April 5th. This includes whiteboards, pencil cases, etc. The remote learning take-home kits that were sent home in January may be sent back to school in June.

### **Arrival and Dismissal**

We anticipate approximately 20 additional students in the building when our learning model changes on April 5th. Thus there should be minimal impact to arrival and dismissal. We appreciate that parents and caregivers have been modeling health and safety protocols by wearing masks on school property. School staff have asked me to remind parents and caregivers to maintain a 6 foot distance from non-family members, particularly at dismissal. Please do not walk within 6ft of a class that has gathered for dismissal outside. Instead, stand just outside of that distance 'bubble' and wait for the child to come to you. In the morning, parents should not enter the fenced-in area by the playground/hard top unless their child is having a hard time separating. Thank you for your help with this. If your child arrives after 8:45, they should enter school through the main entrance, as the classroom doors close at 8:45. If you used the carpool option, please pull all the way forward so we can prevent cars from backing up onto Gay Street.

### **Yearbook**

The Hanlon Yearbook Committee is still seeking photos (including remote learning) for the 2020-2021 yearbook. Email your pictures to [Hanlonyearbook2021@gmail.com](mailto:Hanlonyearbook2021@gmail.com) before April 1.

### **PTO Storywalk and Fun Run**

Congratulations to all the participants in the Fun Run benefiting the Westwood Food Pantry. Have you visited the Hanlon PTO StoryWalk? [Maddie's Fridge](#) is a storybook that addresses socio-economic diversity. Pages will be displayed on the trail from February 28th - April 11th.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Mark your calendars: Wednesday, April 28th will be a no-school day for students. Parent Teacher conferences will be scheduled that day and evening. Homeroom teachers will reach out to schedule them in the next few weeks.

### **MCAS Testing in Grades 3-5**

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is requiring schools to administer MCAS testing this year to students in grades 3, 4 and 5. However, they have reduced the number of test sessions. Students will have one session each of English Language Arts and Math. Fifth graders will also take one session of Science, Technology and Engineering. MCAS testing will take place in May. Planning is underway, and when the schedule and plan for remote students is established, I will communicate those details.

### **Reporting Absences and Changes to Dismissal**

Please notify the office of any absences or dismissal changes by entering them into School Dismissal Manager. School Dismissal Manager is an online system used by WPS to streamline attendance and dismissal reporting. Each student's parent or guardian was sent a School Dismissal Manager welcome email containing instructions on how to set up their SDM account when we introduced the program to Hanlon in October. If you no longer have access to this email, you can simply visit [www.schooldismissalmanager.com](http://www.schooldismissalmanager.com) and click the 'forgot password' link to set up your account. Please contact Annie Staulo at [astaulo@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:astaulo@westwood.k12.ma.us) with any questions!

### **Hanlon School on Twitter**

Follow @HanlonSchool\_ps to see photos of our #HappyatHanlon kids!

### **School Committee**

Did you know that Amanda Phillips is Hanlon's School Committee Representative? If you have questions, contact Ms. Phillips at [aphillips-sc@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:aphillips-sc@westwood.k12.ma.us)

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Sarah Cronin, Principal**

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