



ALLEN SCHOOL'S E-NEWSLETTER

MAY 2009



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VOLUME 5, NUMBER 9

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Principal's Message

As the end of this wonderful year rapidly approaches, the Allen School calendar is filled with so many special events for our students and their families! I encourage you to continue to check your calendars and e-mails; Allen School continues to be a very busy place!

Our first order of business will be our New Jersey ASK testing for students in third, fourth and fifth grades. Third and fourth graders will test the week of May 4th. During the week of May 11th fifth graders will test along with the make-up testing for third and fourth graders. Fifth grade NJASK make-up testing will take place during the week of May 18th. We encourage our students to get plenty of rest and to eat a good breakfast, especially on their testing days.

We enjoyed the fourth and fifth grade chorus performance at our recent choral concert. It was quite clear that the students' hard work, dedication, time, and efforts really paid off. Cinemagic was outstanding, our staff, students, parents and other honored guests were all wowed by our talented singers and dancers! Bravo to all of our performers and to Mrs. Gontowicz for a job well done! [If you missed the performance, check out the short video and pictures on the Music website.](#)

The Allen School Art Show, under the direction of Ms. Oliva, will be held on May 14th at 7:00p.m. Our halls are already beginning to fill with students' work; we hope you will join us for our evening Art Show as we celebrate our talented artists.

We will finish our celebration of the arts with our band concert on June 1st. Mr. Bell will hold a concert for our students at 2:00 and then an evening performance at 7:30p.m. for parents and other special guests.

Our Volunteer Tea is set for May 28th in our Media Center. We are so appreciative of the time and dedication our volunteers demonstrate, and how much it enhances what we are able to do on a daily basis for the Allen School students. With Media Center volunteers, volunteers for our Recess Running Program, Art in Action volunteers, classroom parties and all of our school events, we just could not do what we do for the students without your help. Our Volunteer Tea is our way of honoring all of our volunteers, providing us with the opportunity to say thank you. Your support, your time, and your commitment to our students is deeply appreciated by the entire Allen School family.

Our fifth graders will continue with their orientation to the Haines Sixth Grade Center with their visitation day on June 2nd. The fifth grade parents are busy preparing for all of their end of the year celebrations and activities. The Fifth Grade Dance is May 28th, and the Fifth Grade Picnic is June 12th. Fifth grade students also have the STRONG (formerly known as DARE) Picnic to look forward to on June 5th.

We are so proud of our fifth grade class and all they have

Contact Information:

Mrs. Jane Hower
Principal

Mrs. Susan Troy
Secretary

Mrs. Kathy Gigantiello
Nurse

Mrs. Valerie Meslin
Guidance

School Phone:
609-654-4203

If you know your party's ext.	Press 1
Office	Press 2
Nurse	Press 3
Guidance	Press 4
Media Ctr.	Press 5
Absence Line	Press 6
Allen Info.	Press 7
District Office	609-654-6416

Emergency Closing Number:
668

[click here for 2 hr. delay info.](#)



Q is for Questions

Find out what is on your child's mind by asking questions.

-Ask specific questions.
Your child is more likely to have an answer to *Who did you play with at recess?* than *How was your day?*

-Ask open-ended questions.
How did you do that? Or *What would happen if..?* questions will yield more information than questions that can be answered in a word or two.

-Help your child develop critical thinking skills by responding to his or her questions with questions.

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accomplished this year! Their behavior has been exceptional; they have been wonderful role models and excellent student leaders in our building. The [fifth graders are certainly prepared and ready for this next exciting step](#) in their school careers and we are confident they will thrive and love their new school. We are experiencing some twinges of sadness, realizing that time just moves too quickly. We will truly miss our fifth graders; we certainly wish them all the best and hope that they will look back fondly on their days at Allen School.

Through the efforts of our Allen School staff and students we were able to purchase four bricks to support the Medford Playground Project in their efforts to make the playground accessible to all children, we thank you for supporting our efforts.

I would also like to express our appreciation to both our Allen School families for supporting our Pretzels for Promethean Fundraiser, and the Medford Home and School Association. Through our fundraising efforts and a generous donation by the Medford HSA, in April, additional Promethean Boards were installed in two third grade classrooms, thank you!

Kindergarten Round-up will be held on June 3rd, we are excited to welcome our newest alligators to Allen School! Field Day is scheduled to May 22nd, and our last day of school will be Monday, June 22nd. Information about this year's Variety Show will be given to all students after the NJASK testing is completed.

On a personal note I would like to share my gratitude to everyone who has helped make this such a terrific year for me. Allen School is truly a joyful place, filled with learning, fun, and wonder! The Allen School staff is dedicated and professional, they work so hard and I assure you, they always have your children's best interests at heart. It has been a thrill to meet so many new families, everyone has made me feel so welcomed and truly at home. Your children are absolutely phenomenal, I enjoy the time I spend with them each and every day, they are amazing! They make us smile and warm our hearts. Thanks to all of you; the students, the staff, and the Allen School families, it has been an incredible year at Allen School!

Mrs. Jane Hower
Principal

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May Events

This year is packed full of great happenings at Allen! Here a just a few of the exciting events happening in March:

MONTHLY CORE VALUE:

HARD WORKING/INDUSTRIOUS

- **May 4-8: NJ ASK Testing for 3 and 4th Grade**
- **May 11-14: NJ ASK Testing for 5th Grade**
- **May 14: Art Show**
- **May 22: Field Day**
- **May 25: No School: Memorial Day**
- **May 28: 5th Grade Parent/Student Dance**
- **May 28: Volunteer Tea**

Upcoming June Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming exciting events!

[For more information and a complete list of ALL the 2008-2009 school year's events check out the online Allen School Calendar!](#)

- *June 1: Band Concert*
- *June 2: 5th Grade Haines School Visit*
- *June 3: Kindergarten Round up*
- *June 5: STRONG Picnic and 2nd Grade Play*
- *June 11: Talent Show and 1st Grade Portfolio Night*
- *June 12: 5th Grade Picnic*
- *June 19: Kindergarten End of Year Picnic*
- *June 22: Early Dismissal/Last Day of School/Move Up Day/Report Cards*

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What's New on Allen's Website?

The Allen School website changes often! Make sure you check it daily!
[Disclaimer](#)

- **[Flashback Day Pictures!](#)** *Check out the video of pictures*
- **[May's Lunch Menu](#)** *has been posted!*
- **[Principal Page:](#)** *new message from Mrs. Hower;*
- **[Guidance Page:](#)** *May's Character Education theme is Hard working/Industrious*
- **[Media Center:](#)** *NEW PODCAST! New Photos and Videos!*
- **[Music Page:](#)** *Pictures from Chorus Concert! Video of Chorus Concert and listen to some songs sang at the show!*
- **[Nurse's Page:](#)** *All About Dehydration; What is sweat?*
[May's Nutritional Nugget Newsletter](#)
- **[Art Room:](#)** *May's Artist of the Month Interview*
- **[5th Grade:](#)** *Movin' Up to Middle School Video and website for help in the transition*

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Learning Links for Kids:

Check out some of Mrs. Schoenberger's favorite new sites. Click on the links below! [Disclaimer](#)

- **[Happy Mother's Day, Dear Dragon:](#)** *(K-1) This is a great online audio story about Mother's Day from Starfall. Click*

on the print icon for a printable card for someone special!

- **[Zoopz \(Games that make you think\):](#) (1-5) *These games will definitely stimulate your brain! For each game there are several levels and each level gets harder and harder! Are you up for the challenge?***
- **[Invention at Play](#) (All Grades):** *"Explore the playful side of invention and the inventive side of play in Invention at Play, a national traveling exhibit. Learn how play-the ordinary and everyday 'work of childhood'-connects to the creative impulse of both historic and contemporary inventors." LOVE Invention Playhouse!! Check it out!*
- **[Up to Ten:](#) (K-3) *This website "builds prize winning early learning games and activities". Create animated cards, Do all kinds of online and printable coloring pages and activities, listen to songs, and play really great educational games!***

[For more fun links and resources click here!](#)

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