

THE TIGER TALE



News from Dexter Middle School May, 2008 Edition

MEMORIAL DAY - NO SCHOOL

The Memorial Day holiday will be observed on Monday, May 26th. There is no school this day, and classes will resume on Tuesday, May 27th.



PROGRESS REPORTS GO HOME

Grades close for Progress Reports on Friday, May 2nd. This will be the last check of grades before final report cards go home at the end of the school year. Progress Reports will go home with students on Friday, May 9th. Warning letters have been sent home to parents of students who may not achieve a final grade point average of 70 or above and may not pass for the year.

SCHOOL BOARD NOTES

School Board Meeting - Wednesday, May 7th, 2008, 7:00 PM, Dexter Regional High School ATM Room.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Pending anymore snow days (we hope not!!!), the last day of the current school year is Friday, June 13th.

ABBOTT HILL RAMBLERS TO PERFORM WITH FRANKLIN COUNTY FIDDLERS

On Friday, May 2nd, the Abbott Hill Ramblers, SAD #46's popular youth Bluegrass and American Roots ensemble, will host 26 Franklin County Fiddlers from Farmington High School. The public is cordially invited to an evening show at Dexter Regional High School beginning at 7:00 PM. Admission is free (though donations would be gladly accepted). That concert will wrap up a day that will include assemblies at the middle and high schools. The Ramblers and Fiddlers first hooked up last spring when both groups performed a series of school shows with the world renowned Kruger Brothers. That "educational outreach" was sponsored by the Bangor Symphony Orchestra. The Franklin County Fiddlers feature some eighteen fiddles, five cellos, guitar, bass, percussion, and piano. They are led by Maine's 2007 Music Educator of the Year, Steve Muise, a seasoned performer himself. Says Ramblers' mentor, Chris Prickitt, "They're amazing! You won't believe the sound!" The concert is an exchange, as the Ramblers will travel to Farmington on May 12th to perform several shows, again with the Fiddlers.

BAND AND CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

The annual Middle School Spring Band and Chorus Concert will be held on Tuesday, May 13th, beginning at 6:30 PM. The Middle School Band and Chorus will perform several selections here in the Middle School gym. Please join us that evening as our talented Middle Schoolers perform their music.

NWEA TESTING TO BEGIN

The Northwest Educational Assessment tests will be administered to middle school students beginning on Monday, May 5th. These tests are given to all middle school students and are unique in that they test all aspects of each core subject. For example, if a student struggles in a certain area of math, then the test will reveal this. The teacher may then concentrate on that area with the individual student. The tests are administered by computer so that results are forthcoming almost immediately after the test is taken. NWEA tests will continue until the last day on Friday, May 23rd.



YEARBOOKS TO BE SOLD

We continue to sell Dexter Middle School Yearbooks here in the main office. Yearbooks are \$10.00 each, and if you are paying by check, they must be made out to Dexter Middle School. Students may buy a yearbook at any time up until the time they arrive near the end of the school year. If there are any extra yearbooks left, they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

5TH AND 6TH GRADE ACADEMIC AWARDS

The Academic Awards ceremony for students in grades 5 and 6 will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd, at 6:00 PM. Invitations will go home in the mail to students who made the honor roll or had perfect attendance during the first three quarters of the school year, and to students who have been selected by their teachers for a Citizenship Award. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

7TH GRADE STUDIES NATIVE AMERICANS

On Thursday, May 22nd, 7th grade students will be visited by former Governor of the Penobscot Nation, Barry Dana. Mr. Dana will be giving a presentation on Native Americans, including demonstrations of a wigwam and a birch bark canoe. The presentation was arranged by 7th grade Social Studies teacher, Mrs. Sue Killam.

For homework assignments, remember to call the Dexter Middle School Homework Hotline

924-7663

7TH AND 8TH GRADE ACADEMIC AWARDS, 8TH GRADE FINAL ASSEMBLY, AND SPRING DANCE

Plans are being finalized for the 7th and 8th grade activities which will be held on Friday, June 6th, beginning at 6:00 PM in the middle school gym. Invitations for 7th and 8th grade Academic Awards will go home in the mail to students who are being honored with an award. Certificates will be presented to all 8th graders, and a dance for all students in grades 7 and 8 will end the evening. Dress for the dance is a short, semi-formal dress for girls and a nice shirt and pants for boys - no jeans or t-shirts on this night only, please. Please be sure to make hair appointments and schedule shopping times for after school hours. This kind of absence is not an excused absence, and work cannot be made up if missed for these reasons.

DISTRICT V ELEMENTARY HONORS FESTIVAL

Eleven 5th and 6th grade students will represent Dexter Middle School at the District V Elementary Honors Music Festival. The event will take place on Saturday, May 3rd, at Reedsbrook Middle School in Hampden. Mr. Ted Nokes, band director, nominated three students to represent the band and Chorus Director, Mrs. Deborah Fournier, nominated six students for chorus. Congratulations students!

ABBOTT HILL RAMBLERS AND WANDERERS BUSY IN MAY!

After a highly successful April, a month that included two concerts (Church Street Coffee House and the Gustin Family benefit at the high school), we're ready for an exciting month of May. In addition to the Ramblers scheduling two recording sessions with the goal of producing a fourth "project", we have some concerts to prepare for. Please mark your calendars. Hopefully, you can catch a show.

Friday, May 2nd - Ramblers host the mighty Franklin County Fiddlers from Farmington. Assemblies at the middle and high schools. Evening show at the high school (7:00 PM).

Monday, May 12 - Ramblers travel to Farmington to complete the exchange (school assemblies there).

Thursday, May 22nd - Annual Spring Concert (Abbott Hill Ramblers, Wanderers, and Meanderers) - Dexter Middle School Gym at 7:00 PM. Free admission and refreshments.

Friday, May 30th - Ramblers perform in Dover at the Buie School of Music Coffee House. Open mic begins at 7:00 PM, Ramblers concert at 8:00 PM.



6TH GRADE NEWS

The 6th grade Language Arts classes have concluded a poetry unit. Students wrote ten different types of poems and shared their work in a "poetry slam" on Thursday, April 17th. They also celebrated the first annual "Poem in Your Pocket Day". Language Arts teacher, Mrs. Carol Sherburne, gave each student a poem to carry with them and students read them during the day. Students are now beginning a class novel and reading "Number The Stars", by Lois Lowry.

DEXTER RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

Andy Conway, Rec. Director, has asked us to post the following sign up:

Gymnastics program - Begins on Saturday, May 10th, and runs until Saturday, May 31st, from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. The fee is \$10.00 and the program is for students in grades K-8.



PTO NEWS

The next meeting of the PTO will be on Wednesday, May 14th, at 6:00 PM, in the Middle School Art Room. Babysitting services will be provided by the Dexter Regional High School Kiwanis Club members.

To e-mail any staff member, go to msad46.org, click on the link "For Parents", and find e-mail addresses for any staff member.

MATH TEAM RESULTS

The Dexter Middle School Math Team competed in the final meet of the year - the Eastern Maine Math League Spring Meet. It was held on Wednesday, April 16th, at Eastern Maine Technical Center in Bangor. The Math Team was very successful competing against about 90 other students from schools such as Bangor, Orono, Hampden, and schools from the surrounding area. The results are as follows:

7th Grade
Top 10 -
3rd Individual -
3rd Place - Team #1 -

8th Grade
Top 10 -
3rd Place -
Team #1 - 2nd Place -

Overall results for the season - this is a combined total of all three meets:

7th Grade
2nd Place -
Team #1 -

8th Grade
Team #1 -

Our school took 3rd place overall!!!! Congratulations to everyone on a great year!



MARCH OF DIMES WALK

Again this year, Middle School students will participate in the March of Dimes Walk. It will be held on Tuesday, May 6th, the rain date will be Wednesday, the 7th. Students will walk the track at Dexter Regional High School. All students will be walking regardless of whether they are fundraising or not. Please remind students to wear comfortable walking shoes and clothes on that day.

SPRING FAIR AND FLEA MARKET AT HIGH SCHOOL

A Spring Fair and Flea Market will be held at Dexter Regional High School on Saturday, May 17th, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Tables may be purchased for \$12.00, and there will be face painting, pinatas, cake walks, a bouncy tent, cotton candy, grab bags, a bake sale, and tons of games and prizes - or take a swing at the junk car in the Bash for Cash. Admission is free. To reserve a table, call the high school at 924-5571 - tables are limited.

Log on to www.msad46.org for district information, including Dexter Middle School information.