

# Peabody Public Schools

## “TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD”

Peabody Public Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff & Community Members:

It is a privilege for me to introduce our 1st Edition of the district newsletter “TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD!”

The 2021-2022 school year is well underway and teachers, staff and administrators are working hard toward the success of every student, every day.

We have many new professionals in our district this year – administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff. From the person who serves your child lunch to the Superintendent, we are all devoted to making this year a success for all students.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Peabody Public Schools, I want to thank the residents of the great City of Peabody for your support of the public schools and our efforts to educate your children.

Dr. Josh Vadala,  
Superintendent of Schools



### BROWN

#### BROWN SCHOOL BITS & PIECES:

Principal, Assistant Principal, and Secretary of the Day

3 students won the chance to be the Principal, Assistant Principal, and Secretary of the day on Friday, October 29, 2021. They spent the day doing learning walks, making safety checks of the playground, reading stories to kindergarten and first grade, and giving the school extra recess.

### PEABODY PREP

#### Suit Up! Competition with Cyberseason.

Three teams of students from Peabody PREP competed in a recent online event with coaches from Cybereason, a marketing firm in Boston. The students were “CEOs” and the coaches assisted them in creating a video sales pitch for the next new product for Nike.

Corporate leaders and shareholders from Cybereason were brought in to judge the videos and Briana Marie Tejada and Riley Johnston were on the winning team. They earned Amazon gift cards for their idea—a new App for Nike!

Peabody PREP Wakelet shared at Open House by Keynote Speaker:

At our virtual Open House, keynote speaker Erika Sandstrom, reminded our students and families about the importance of maintaining social-emotional health while learning online. During her presentation, she shared with our learning community a Wakelet filled with wonderful ideas that build social-emotional health while learning online.

[Peabody PREP Wakelet Link](#)



# BROWN SCHOOL

SCIENCE FOR SCIENTISTS  
GRADES 4 & 5

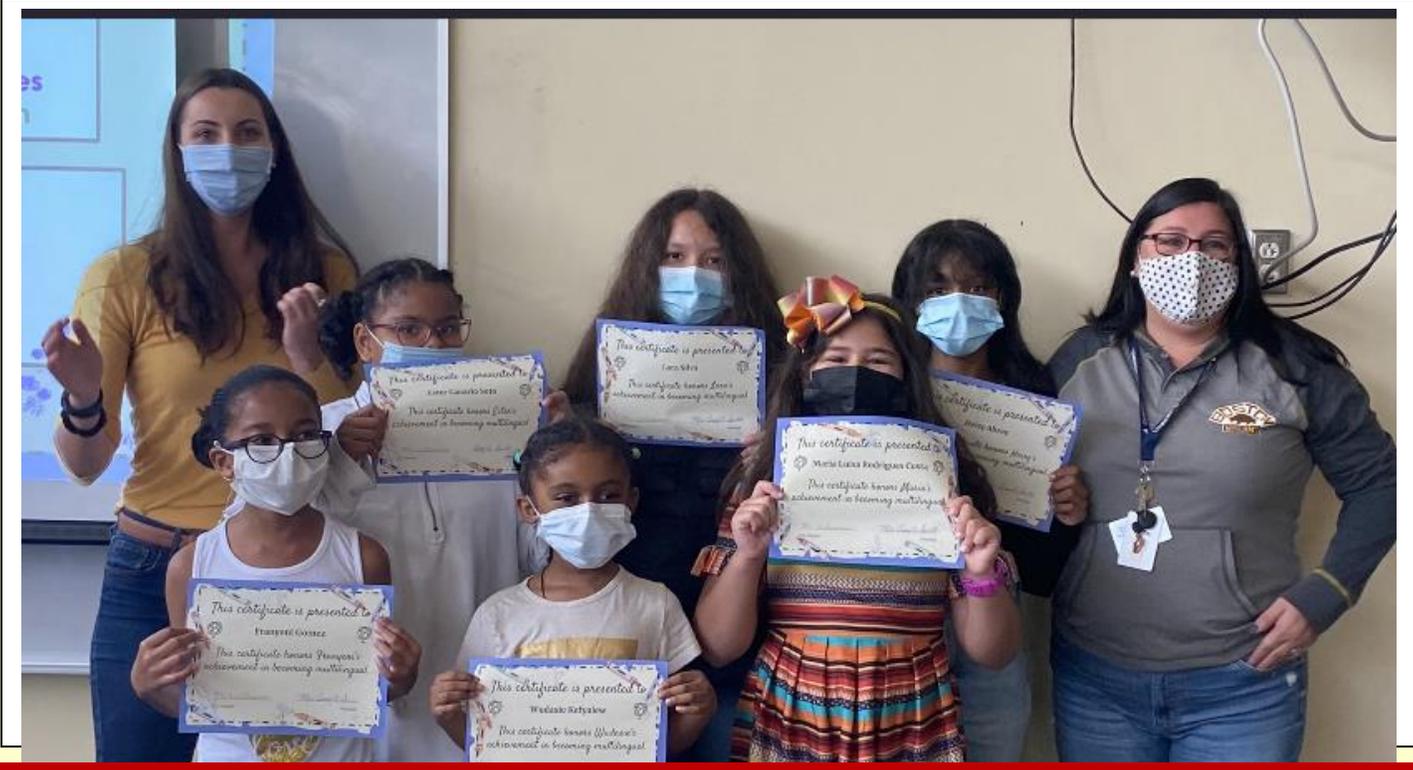


COSTUME PARADE  
KINDERGARTEN & GRADE 1



# CARROLL SCHOOL

The Carroll School had their multicultural family coffee. It was a great success with over 20 families attending. Some of the English Language Learners presented some of the academic areas they are focusing on in school.



## HIGGINS MIDDLE SCHOOL

### HAWK NEWS

Peer Mentoring Kicks Off Its 13<sup>th</sup> Year!

A select group of eighth grade students meet with small groups of sixth graders once or twice per month. The "Higgins Helping Hawks" peer mentoring program fosters peer positive peer relationships through role modeling and positive communication. Students engage in activities and discuss topics that are relevant to middle schoolers today.

#### Hawk of the Day

Each day one Higgins Middle School student is selected as our "Hawk of the Day" for good deeds, random acts of kindness, or other positive contributions to our school community. Hawks of the Day receive an HMS pencil, a "Hawk of the Day" sticker, and custom made "Hawk of the Day" M&Ms



Hawk of the Day for the week of October 25 were:

Marques Pirrotta  
Gia DiChiara  
Aubrey Eng  
Anna Luiza Dos Santos  
David Gomes

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## CENTER SCHOOL

### CYCLONE NEWS!

The Center School will have two 4th grade Destination Imagination Teams competing in the 2022 DI Competition this year:

1. For the Future: Service Learning Challenge run by Mrs. Eugenio. Team Members: Evelyn Bamford, Alexis Prifti, Brielle DeCastro, Thanvisree Karthigeyan Shalini, Olivia Palmieri and Tessa O'Brien.
2. Tricky Tales: Fine Arts Challenge run by Ms. Marsden. Team Members: Murilo Dos Santos Souza, Nathan Gordon, Liam Hartford, Sophia Rodriguez, Beatrice Ezeadichie. The Service Learning Challenge is designed to engage students in public service that addresses real-life community issues. The Fine Arts Challenge helps students develop acting and creative skills through artistic media, theater arts, scriptwriting, and prop design.



## WELCH SCHOOL



## WELCH SCHOOL

To celebrate **Read for the Record Day**, members of the student body from the Peabody Learning Academy (former Welch Wildcats), along with our reading specialists (Mrs. Waite and Mrs. Kelly), visited classrooms to read Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon. Students then imagined and created their own dragon based on the story. What a wonderful way to celebrate the importance of reading and a great book to add to our school library!



## MCCARTHY SCHOOL

### GENEROUS DONATION

Burlington Stores and Adopt-A-Classroom made a generous donation to the McCarthy School. Their \$5,000 donation will go to classroom teachers to further our students' education. The staff and the students are so appreciative!



### FIRE SAFETY @ MCCARTHY PRE-SCHOOL

The Peabody Fire Department has made a commitment to support and educate the community around fire safety measures. The McCarthy Preschool had a visit from the Peabody Fire Department who gave the kids some great fire safety tips.



## PASSOS AVANTE

The Passos Avante Preschool at the South School has been busy learning about Community Helpers this past month. We had an informative and interactive dental visit from the high school students at Essex Technical School. With six different activity stations, they taught us all about brushing, flossing and healthy eating habits. We even had a visit from the Tooth Fairy!



Passos also had a **Fire SAFE** visit from the Peabody Firefighters. Lt. Gill and Firefighter Tardiff. Lt. Gill & Firefighter Tardiff taught us what to do in case of an emergency.

## South School



### **Pumpkin Palooza**

The 2nd grade team recently held a wonderful event for all of their families. This was a positive, student-centered learning experience. Each child decorated a pumpkin (amazing creativity), wrote a book report, and answered questions verbally. Strong family engagement - parents were required to visit at least 3 student projects and ask 4 specific questions (from the child's book report).



# BURKE SCHOOL



## VOCABULARY PARADE

On Friday, October 29th the Burke hosted our annual Spotlight on Vocabulary Parade. Each student selected a word and created an illustration of the word to be worn in our parade.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Burke School Kicked off their Community Food Drive for Thanksgiving. Each grade level is assigned a different item to bring in. We are excited to see our "table of giving" in the main lobby fill with food to create Thanksgiving meals for those in need for the upcoming holiday.



# WEST SCHOOL

## HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

We had a wonderful week full of Halloween crafts and activities. Each classroom decorated a pumpkin that was raffled off on Friday. We also had some amazing parent led activities in the classroom including slime making, foam pumpkins, Halloween bingo, and Candy Corn Cornhole.



Our 5th grade leadership team did a wonderful job in the month of October collecting Rock Star names, planning Neon Day, and collecting over a hundred Veterans Day letters from grades k-5 that will be distributed in November. Special thanks to Maxton Bua, Chloe Demissie, Zachary Falasca, Hailey LeBlanc and Emery Lomasney for demonstrating excellent leadership skill!



WEST SCHOOL  
5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE LEADERSHIP TEAM

## PEABODY VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations to all PVMHS sports teams and athletes for a successful fall season. PVMHS had a number of teams and individual athletes moving on for tournament play and state competitions. Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, and Girls Volleyball teams all earned playoff berths. Girls Volleyball won the Northeast Conference and Boys X-Country finished in a three-way tie for the NEC North title. Cheerleaders finished third at the NEC meet and are moving on to regionals.



# PEABODY LEARNING ACADEMY

On Thursday, October 28th, students from the Learning Academy visited all 8 elementary schools to participate in the Read of the Record Initiative. The Academy Students read the book "Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon" by Kat Zhang and completed an arts and crafts activity with all 1-4 grade students at each school. The Read for the Record initiative promotes literacy in schools and our activity also promotes student leadership and community involvement. It was a great trip for all of the students



# PEABODY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## ADMINISTRATION:

**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS:** Dr. Josh Vadala  
**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT:** Dr. Kelly Chase  
**EXEC. DIR. OF REMOTE LEARNING:** Dr. Chris Lord  
**HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR:** Stephen Farrell  
**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Carla Chioda  
**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Joe Scanlon

## PRINCIPALS:

**PVMHS:** Steven Magno  
**HIGGINS:** Todd Bucey  
**BROWN:** Lauren King  
**BURKE:** Lacey Becotte  
**CARROLL:** Tracy Smith  
**CENTER:** Jacqui Orphanos  
**MCCARTHY:** Michelle Zottoli  
**SOUTH:** Mark Higgins  
**WELCH:** Michelle Massa  
**WEST:** Julie Broughton

## FROM THE DESK OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, DR. KELLY CHASE:

### Professional Development

Educators from across the district continue to engage in professional learning focused on the themes of building a culture of collaboration, establishing a common understanding and vocabulary around effective instruction, and implementing a model of learning acceleration. A small sample of professional development includes:

- Learning Acceleration vs. Remediation
- A Focus on Literacy across the Content Areas.
- Training in ST Math, Renaissance, and Math in Focus
- Culture and Collaboration with Teachers21

### Leadership Development

Understanding that there is a tremendous amount of expertise within the district, we are working with a cohort of educators from across schools who serve as curriculum facilitators for the 2021-2022 school year. With training from our partners at the Great Schools organization, curriculum facilitators have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and support teaching and learning beyond their own classroom. Facilitators have hit the ground running - leading monthly meetings on timely topics such as using data to inform instruction, creating collaborative classroom environments, and looking at student work.

### High Quality Instructional Materials Committee

We are excited to begin our participation in DESE's High Quality Instructional Materials network. With over 20 teachers, specialists, and administrators from across the district representing grades K-5, we have begun to meet with a network of schools and DESE partners to learn about high quality instructional materials and their impact on student learning and growth. Following a yearlong timeline that includes valuable resources and professional learning, we will use our knowledge to inform future adoptions of high quality instructional materials that will have significant impact on teaching and learning.

**ONE OF THE BEST THINGS THAT YOU COULD DO FOR A CHILD IS ASK HOW THEIR DAY AT SCHOOL WAS!!**