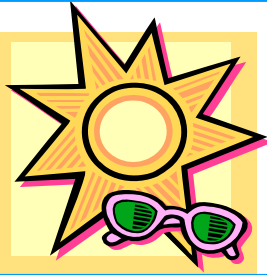


GALVIN-AT-A-GLANCE

Volume 8

June 2011



From The Principal *Thomas LaLiberte*

End of Year Report

Each year I have used the June *Galvin -at-a -Glance* as a report card to parents and the public about accomplishments during the year at GMS.

One goal this year was to increase the importance of academic rigor in all of our classes. Following the School Improvement Plan, based on a public meeting about academic rigor last year, each teacher defined high standards and excellence in each classroom. Additionally teachers helped students develop personal goals towards excellence each term to assist students focus on their work. Pursuit of academic rigor will continue at GMS so that all students feel adequately challenged by instruction.

In mathematics, we implemented two new highly rigorous math programs. We utilized new technologies to provide immediate feedback to students and parents. With two new computer stations and a CAPE grant, we also employed Math Extensions and Dimension M software in our teaching of math.

This year we were pleased with the results of our focus on one English/Language Arts unit, in conjunction with the library and technology departments, successfully launching an 8th grade research project, and the integration of Gale databases into the curriculum. Students were required to use Gale Opposing Viewpoints in Context and other reliable online resources instead of Googling for this project. Students were also introduced to Gale Student Resources in Context, Kids InfoBits, Health Wellness Resource Center and Gale Biography in Context in the course of the year during classes in the library.

All of these resources and more are available for free from a link on the GMS library home page. <http://www.cantonma.org/galvin/library/>

GMS gained recognition at the state level for the third year in a row in the Massachusetts School Library Association's Bookmark Contest with Isabella Scott's Special Recognition Award. Her bookmark entry was judged by local author's and illustrators. Isabella attended an awards ceremony at the State House where she was given commendations by both of her representatives and dined in the Hall of Flags with Representative William Galvin, her Reading Teacher Marilyn Capone, her Library Teacher Nancy Stockwell-Alpert and members of her family. Ms. Stockwell-Alpert was acknowledged as a 2011 Bookmark Contest Librarian for exemplifying a school library program where students "think, create, share and grow."

English Language Learner students performed a moving Reader's Theater presentation on Martin Luther King and the struggle for integration. Particularly memorable about this performance was the serious subject matter that they took on, their understanding of it, the research they did to provide relevant pictorial settings for the events and their spirited performance. The play was directed by ELL Teacher Jasminka Friedman, coached and narrated by Library Teacher Nancy Stockwell-Alpert.

The science department utilized new Flip-cameras (another CAPE grant) to assist students with enhanced review of science concepts. This department also continued its work with developing common assessments to insure continuity of instruction and the measurement of students learning. Technology, taught by Steve Bauer, is part of the science curriculum. Steve continued to develop student awareness of engineering and design with his creative and hands-on instruction.

June



Continued from page 1

Foreign language used increased technology in classes with new technology and computers donated by the Canton Alliance of Business and Industries.

Social studies continued to develop common assessments and thanks to Elaine McCarthy, presented moving assemblies to recognize Martin Luther King and Memorial Day.

Our fine arts departments continued to develop excellence with our new strings program showing increased growth in numbers and quality. Our band and chorus groups continue to grow, again, in numbers and excellence in performance.

The wellness department worked to implement the new anti-bullying law and expected curriculum in various classes. Wellness also brought a health, anti-smoking, assembly to our students.

Library Books Due

All library books were due on **Monday, May 23rd**. Preliminary notices were sent home last week reminding students of which titles they still had checked out. Hopefully your student will locate all of their overdue or missing books, but if the dog ate it you will be receiving a notice requesting the replacement cost. Please encourage your student to search for their books – they often find them in their locker, their backpack, on a reading classroom bookshelf, or somewhere between the car and home. If your student receives a notice and they think they have already returned the book, they need to see Ms. Stockwell-Alpert in the library to resolve the discrepancy.



Grade 8 June Activities

- Tuesday, May 31—Friday, June 3
New York/Philadelphia Trip

- Friday, June 10
Grade 8 Dance

- Friday, June 17
Yearbooks distributed

- Tuesday, June 21
Canobie Lake

- Thursday, June 23
Promotional Ceremony

Return Text Books

It is important that ALL text books are returned at the end of the school year. Lost books are expensive. If your student misplaced a book you will receive a bill for the replacement.

Friday, June 24

Last Day of School

Early Release

Dates to Remember



Tues. May 31—Fri. June 3

Grade 8 Trip

Fri. June 10

Grade 8 dance

Tues. June 14—Wed. June 15

Grades 7 & 8 Math final

Fri. June 17

Yearbooks distributed

Tues. June 21

7Y Treasure Island Day

Canobie Lake Park gr. 8

Thurs. June 23

**Promotional ceremony
gr. 8 12:30 PM**

Friday, June 24

Last Day of School!

Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation.

Dr. C. Everett Koop (1916-)

Former U.S. Surgeon General

Private School

If your child has been accepted to a private school and will not be attending GMS or CHS next September, please contact Lynn Piana, guidance secretary at piana@cantonma.org and leave her a message with your child's **name/grade & private school** they will be attending.

From the Nurse

All prescription and over the counter medications that students have in the Health Office must be picked up by an adult by the last day of school. Any medication that is not picked up will be discarded. Epi Pens and inhalers are the **only** medications the student may take home. Students must come to the Health Office and pick up their inhalers and Epi Pens on their own. They will **not** be called down to get them. **No medications** will be stored in the Health Office over the summer.

Residency Certification

All grade 8 students entering Canton High School are required to complete the Certification of Residency form no later than **Monday, June 6**. All materials must be submitted to the Galvin in a sealed envelope. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE G.M.S. STUDENTS BEING PUBLISHED IN *FRESH INK!*

All published contributors and their families will be invited to a reception in

ARTWORK

Sung Ahn
Sarah Campbell
Tiana Chu
Nicole Conway
Melody DeMers
Anthony Fonin
Daniel Jankowski
Anne Malloy
Olivia Mulrey
Catherine O'Regan
Paige O'Riordan
Courtland Priest

PHOTOGRAPHY

Emily DeMaggio
By Julianna Howlett

FICTION

Dasol Lee
Erica Rosenthal

POETRY

Sung Ahn
Izabella Bankowski
Alexa Barrows
Taylor Carrington
Allison Cullen
Lilly Cushman
Donyka Dumornay
Sabrina Gates
David Holton
Lilly Johansen
Marissa Kleinbauer
Katie LeDonne
Anne Malloy
Nicole Mason
Veronica Palsgrove
Ellen Pariser
Elizabeth Pasquale
Katie Pineo
Meryl Prendergast
Courtland Priest
Nino Ruggeri
Joey Ryan
Abby Sockett
Akilah Waller
Isabelle Williams

Volunteers Need in the Library

The end of the year brings a host of book returns that need to be shelved. If you can spare an hour when you drop your student off in the morning, before you pick them up in the afternoon, or any-time in between, your help would be most welcome. Please call Nancy Stockwell-Alpert at 781 821-5070 x115 or email her at stockwelln@cantonma.org.



So many books returned at once! ...



and Ms. S-A shelving them

Books for Us, More Books for Charity

This year your students heard Ms. Stockwell-Alpert say, “May I keep the pennies for charity”? Scholastic runs a program called One for Books. Money is collected at the cash register, and the funds are used to purchase books for the school library. In addition, Scholastic donates a book to a national charity for each dollar collected, so, for example, if a student contributes \$1.00, a book is donated to charity. I advertised this collection as “Books for Us, More Books for Charity”. In addition to donating their pennies, many students reached deep into their piggy banks and donated dollar bills, and even one five dollar bill. We collected a grand total of \$62.20 – 62 books for charity! The money was used to purchase the newest Rick Riordan book, *The Throne of Fire*, in addition to many other titles. Once again the students of Galvin have demonstrated their spirit of generosity. Thank you!



GMS Solar Car Club Competes at MIT

On May 14th, students from the Galvin Middle School's "Solar Car Club" participated in the Junior Solar Sprint – a model solar car race held at MIT each year. This race calls upon middle school students from around the state to design and build a working model-sized solar-powered car using a small solar panel, motor, and their own imagination and ingenuity. A total of six Galvin students participated in this year's race and all performed very well:

Andrew Chung Matt Magann
Dasol Lee Gene Rodman
Matt Magann Joe Ryan
Angel Salcedo

Two students of these students – Gene Rodman and Angel Salcedo – earned First Place in the Craftsmanship category during the race and will be advancing to the Regional Finals held in Springfield on Sunday, June 12th.

All students in the school club will be competing in a local race held at the Galvin Middle School during the last week of school. We will announce date, time and place soon!

Steve Bauer
Greg Noble