



Blind Brook Middle School Principal's Corner

September 23, 2011

Dear Parents of Blind Brook Middle School Students,

I can't believe how quickly this week flew by! I was able to sneak into a few classrooms this week for what I call my "kid fix". There is no better "pick-me-up" than time spent marveling at how engaged and engaging our students can be. I wish you as parents could experience the wonder of 20+ tweens learning and growing together!

In another week you will have the opportunity to experience your child's daily routine as you join us at Open House (AKA) Back To School Night on Thursday, October 6th at 7:00 PM. We will meet in the auditorium at 7:00PM and then run through an abbreviated schedule that will permit you to meet your child(ren)'s teachers, and get a sense of what a typical day is like here in middle school. Student volunteers will distribute your child's schedule and serve as guides to help you navigate the building. Though not a time for individual parent-teacher conferences, the evening should give you a general idea of the programs and expectations we hold for our students. Parking will be tight and we have arranged for parking in the lots adjacent to the school in the Arbors. Shuttle buses will taxi you to and from the school. Arriving early and car pooling will do much to ensure an enjoyable evening.

Student Government is underway. Students were instructed in the procedures for seeking office and many students are engaged in obtaining the necessary student and teacher endorsements. Campaigns may begin as soon as students have satisfied all conditions and receive clearance from the advisors- Ms. Kapsiotis and Ms. Pylilo. We look forward to a spirited campaign season! Elections will take place on October 6th and the winners will be announced on October 7th.

New York state has once again moved the dates for the battery of state assessments. ELA testing begins on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 – just one day after our return from spring break. The two make-up dates don't offer much relief and fall on April 19-20. Math testing continues the following week on April 23rd and 24th. Our experience shows that students perform much better when tested under the normal circumstances of original test dates. We hope that you will be cognizant of these high-stakes performance assessments as you plan for your spring vacations.

The weather today made for a particularly "bad hair day" – most unfortunate as it was Picture Day! I assured many distraught young ladies that make-ups are always an option! It is a wonderful thing that there are still some "Do Overs" in life!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Respectfully,
Pat Lambert