

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

Highlights and Spotlights

Winter 2019

Brian Haas, Executive Director



Pictured:

Members of Abby Kelley's Mini Bears Cheerleading Program
under the director of Coach Hampton

In addition to the monthly newsletter families receive from their student's principal, here are some highlights from each of our schools;

Elementary School:

- Channel 5 Weather Presentation for our third grade students with a taping of a Wake Up Call which will air on February 25th.
- Art to Remember, where students designs are put on items for families to purchase, selected one of our student's artwork for marketing purposes.
- i-Ready Assessments have begun with an anticipated finish in early February.
- Instrument lessons with Mr. Daugherty have begun for Third grade students.

Middle School:

- As part of the Worcester Historical Museum's Martin Luther King Jr. art contest, a Sixth grade student here at Abby Kelley had their work included in the exhibit.
- The 5th annual Geography Bee was held after the Holiday Break. Our school level winner will compete to attend the state level bee.
- Our Fifth graders once again participated in the Worcester Historical Museum's Annual Valentines contest. Eleven schools across the City participated and it was one of our students who won for [Fifth Grade entries](#).

High School and International Baccalaureate (IB)

- [IB students](#) begin their exams this week.
- High School Mid-Term Exams were completed and we transitioned to the second semester of school.
- IB Information night was Thursday, Feb 7th in High School Auditorium. This same day students received applications to apply for the Full Diploma program for the 2019/2020 school year.
- National Honor Society invites will be sent to students who met the Society's criteria on February 15th.

- One of our graduating Seniors received a full [POSSE Scholarship](#) to Bucknell University.
- We hosted our 6th Annual Career Day on Friday, January 25. Over 30 individual from the Worcester Area joined us to share their career advice with our students.

SPOTLIGHT →Mr. Briggs, Eighth Grade History, is involved with a cross district mapping group working on the new history standards. His participation allows Abby Kelley access to the material as it is being developed, allowing our staff and students the opportunity to better prepare for the adoption of the state's new History Curriculum standards.

RESCHEDULED

As part of our continued efforts to ensure safety and emergency preparedness, Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School has established **ALICE** Training for our faculty, staff and in the coming weeks, our students.

I invite you to join me and local law enforcement officers on **Tuesday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium*** to learn more about the **ALICE** Training our faculty and staff has completed and our plans to educate our students. Our faculty and staff, your student's teachers, will conduct the training across all grades and are prepared with age-appropriate, kid-friendly language at the elementary school and an age-appropriate approach for our middle/high school students as well. At the Middle/High School local law enforcement may also participate.

Please make an effort to attend this important meeting; as our students' safety is job one and your participation is appreciated.

What: ALICE Training Parent Information Meeting

When: Tuesday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Abby Kelley Foster High School Auditorium

* High School students will be on hand to watch younger students in the High School Cafeteria.

Professional Development

Ms. Siby Adina (Elementary School Curriculum Coordinator)

With the transition to the 2017 ELA and Math standards and Next Generation MCAS, internal Professional Development for most staff has been about understanding the shifts and changes we need to make: balanced literacy blocks, understanding grade level writing expectations and exploring possible school-wide graphic organizers, and creating effective learning targets based on standards.

In math, we have been focusing on standards that need clarification, rigorous tasks, using graphic organizers, using i-Ready data and online resources, and planning for the transition to 2018 History and Social Science standards next year.

Ms. Jess Regan (Middle School Curriculum Coordinator)

The literacy focus in the Middle School is focused on Keys to Literacy, with a shifting our focus to vocabulary acquisition and instruction. The vocabulary focus was selected with English Learners in mind, but all students will benefit from an increase in direct vocabulary instruction.

The math focus is on using our work with Lesley University's Center for Mathematics Achievement to provide professional development and coaching to Middle School math teachers. Staff has looked at Webb's Depth of Knowledge and examined portions of lessons to identify what level they fall in. Work was also done to revise lessons to increase their rigor.

Mr. Rob Kerr (High School Curriculum Coordinator)

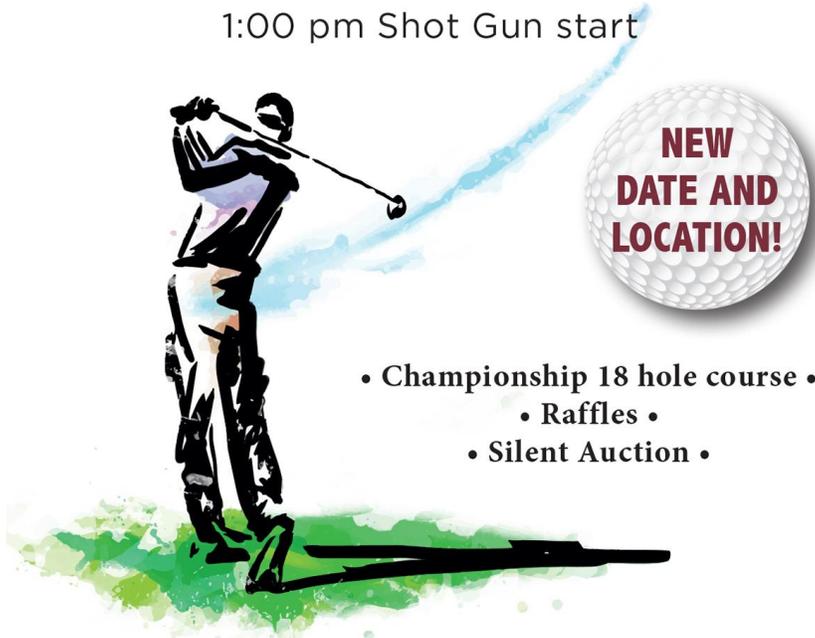
At the High School our staff is working to enhance the use of Technology in the classrooms. The staff are making curriculum updates especially in IB courses with new standards and new history standards within these courses.

SAVE THE DATE

**6th Annual Abby Kelley Foster
Educational Foundation
Golf Tournament at
Highfields Golf & Country Club
Grafton, MA**

Saturday, May 4, 2019

1:00 pm Shot Gun start



- Championship 18 hole course •
- Raffles •
- Silent Auction •