



## West Bridgewater Public Schools

Howard School  
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*Mark Bodwell*  
*Principal*

Welcome back,

It was wonderful to greet all of the students out next to Friendship Park yesterday. They all seemed excited and ready to start school. We had a wonderful opening day. I had a chance to meet with each of the grades and speak to them about our expectations here at the Howard School. It was also exciting to get back into the classrooms to see them bustling with activity. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year please do not hesitate to call, email or stop in to talk.

Every other Thursday, I will be sending home a Howard School News in the Thursday envelope. These newsletters have information about the school in general, updates and reminders, curriculum that is being covered in the classroom and other topics as well. I hope that you find them informative and interesting. The teachers do a great job in providing me with what is going on in their classrooms. We do have a data base of emails and I will be sending some update information home via email. I hope your child has a wonderful year here at the Howard School.

Sincerely,

Mark Bodwell

**Morning Drop Off** – In the morning it is important when dropping off your child to pull as far forward as possible in front of the school. This allows the traffic to flow better and people can get in and out without waiting too long. It was great to see the students here and on time. School starts at 8:00 am so please arrive a little before that so they will be in the classroom on time.

**Half Day** – A reminder that tomorrow (Friday September 7<sup>th</sup>) is a half day of school. Dismissal is at 11:30 and lunch will not be served.

**New Teachers** – We are excited to have 4 new teachers on staff for the 2007-2008 school year. They are wonderful additions to our school. Mrs. Jo Enke is our music teacher. Mrs. Anna Mills is our 6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies teacher. Ms. Jessica Williams is our new 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. Mr. Eric LeMarier is our new instrumental band teacher.

**Picture Day** – A reminder that Lifetouch will be here on Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> for school pictures. Please bring in picture money envelope on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Salad Bar** – The cafeteria will offer the salad bar starting on Monday. The cost is \$1.50, the same as a regular lunch.

**Congratulations** – To the West Bridgewater 10-year old All-Stars (members of our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade) for winning the 2007 West Bridgewater Invitational Tournament. It was their first tournament win in 42 years. Great job by all of the players and coaches!

**Buses in the Afternoon** – For the first week or so you can expect that the buses may run a little later than normal. Please be patient during this time.

**Nature's Classroom** – In April (the 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>) the 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be going to Nature's Classroom in Groton, Massachusetts. This is a wonderful trip that we hope all the students can attend. We will also be looking for parent volunteers to chaperone for the week.

**Open House Schedule** – The 6<sup>th</sup> grade Open House will be on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. The Open House for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

**CORI Forms** – If you are planning on doing any volunteering or going on any field trips this year you must have an up to date CORI form on file at the Superintendent's Office. The CORI is good for 3 years from the date it has been approved. Along with the form you must also submit a photocopy of your driver's license. It can take up to 10-14 days to get a form back from the state. If you need a form please have your child pick one up from the office.

**Surround Care** – We offer surround care at the Howard School from 7:00 am to 7:45 am every morning. The cost is \$1 for every 15 minutes. There is still surround care at the Rose L. MacDonald School in the afternoons. There are forms available in the office. Please return all forms to the office when completed.

**Visitors or Volunteers** - All volunteers and visitors must sign in at the office. They will also be given a visitors badge on a lanyard to wear while in the school.

**Forms** – It is important to return all forms as soon as possible to your child's teacher.

**PTO Magazine Fundraiser** – The PTO will have its annual magazine fundraiser drive later this month. This fundraiser is how the PTO is raising a lot of money to support all of the wonderful programs it offers the schools. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated parents who volunteer to run the PTO and support the great programs. Thank you to all who have assisted!

**School Website** – The school website is [www.howardschoolwb.com](http://www.howardschoolwb.com). Please check it out. There is also a calendar which will let you know of upcoming events.

**Instrumental Music** – Mr. LeMarier will be doing an instrumental demo for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. If students need to rent an instrument there will be a rental night on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. More information will be provided later. If any other students (especially grade 4 students) are interested in playing an instrument in the band please come to the office.

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Park Day Celebration** – Will be on this Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the War Memorial Park in West Bridgewater. The rain date is Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Connect Ed** – We are in the process of updating your information in our Connect Ed system. If you have any changes in phone numbers please let us know.