

NEW YEAR GREETINGS! FROM GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 2009

As January 2010 approaches, we thank the Greenfield community for supporting success of our schools and students. Together we have made enormous improvements this past year. With your support, the year ahead will be another banner year for Greenfield's school system.

Our Good News:

At the Elementary level, Four Corners has re-opened and taken flight with butterflies and gardens. We now offer the choice of 3 distinct elementary schools, each with a special focus – and each with a new science discovery center. All of our children are exposed to music, art, physical education, and technology. More students are advancing each year.

At the Middle School, the expanded day schedule gives students a wonderful variety of opportunities. The TV studio, woodworking shop, band and world language program, and technology career center are in full swing. Consultants are working with staff to focus on results.

At the High School, the Grade 8 Academy is a big success, with 30% of 8th graders accelerating and taking 9th-grade courses. The new science research lab is swimming and jumping with colorful fish and rare frogs. Students are eating up Chef Jeff's classes in the renovated cooking lab. Film studies, textile arts, college-partnering for wood and metal courses, and a new lecture series are now available. Plans are taking shape for a major school renovation.

Systemwide, we now have SMART boards to offer enhanced technology. A volunteer program is being launched.

You Can Help:

Our Annual Fund supports students. This year's goal is \$10,000.

Your gift is a sound investment and supports school innovation and student success, as follows:

1. To continue purchasing musical instruments until all students who want to can play,
2. To support sustainability initiatives like compost bins, recycling, and student gardens,
3. To revive and update the TV broadcasting studio at the Greenfield High School,
4. To begin a junior honor society and expand civic education projects,
5. To support our world language and swim/safety programs at the middle school.

Your gift of any size really helps. Gifts of volunteer time, musical instruments, or other materials are also appreciated. Your donation may be in honor of your child, a teacher, or in memory of a loved one. Donations can be made by check to Greenfield Public Schools, 141 Davis St, Greenfield, MA 01301, or given online through a secure PayPal account via the GPS web site: www.gpsk12.org. All gifts to public schools can be tax deductions.

Thank you in advance for supporting Greenfield's schools and children

Sincerely,
Susan Hollins, Ph.D.,
Interim Superintendent