

Dear Bulldog Community,

Congratulations to the Music Express team on their recent Grand Champion first place finish at the Walsh Jesuit Great Lakes Invitational recently. In addition to the strong team performance, many individual and specialty honors were given to the Garfield Heights squad...including top male vocalist honors for Ben Glowik and best costume awards. The community should please tune into GHTV in the very near future, or visit the district website to watch an exclusive interview with Mr. Pernod, Ms. Carey and Mr. Glowik to learn more about the successes of Music Express.

Next, the Garfield Heights City Schools will be hosting its LITTLE BULLDOG, Kindergarten Registration event on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. in the High School cafeteria. This event has become a great yearly tradition, where parents of students who turn five years old on or before September 30, 2017, should attend to begin the registration process. There, parents can obtain the proper forms, meet some of the kindergarten teachers, have some food, take bus rides and learn more about our summer pre-kindergarten program called Kinderbound. If you have a son or daughter, or know someone who turns five years old on or before September 30, 2017... then this event is for you. Hope to see you there.

Formal kindergarten registration begins in our district at the Central Office on Monday, April 10, 2017 through Thursday, April 13, 2017... and again on Monday, April 24 and runs through Thursday, April 27. Please call the Central Office for an appointment at 216-475-8100. More information will be forthcoming about the kindergarten registration process in the near future.

I'm happy to report that Ms. Briana Cates has already hit-the-ground-running in her capacity as Nutritionist as she has made her way to all of the buildings multiple times to observe the eating tendencies of our students. She's already presented the administration with a report of "plate waste" and is in the process of compiling more findings to help improve the student menu. We should continue to learn more as the rest of the year progresses. Nice work, Ms. Cates.

Finally, all of the buildings will soon be gearing up for test-taking season, and I want to remind everyone that there are some sound reminders about what parents can do to help prepare their students on the home front. Those include:

- Speak openly with your children about testing and explain to your child that tests are coming in the next few months.
- Stay positive and encouraging by praising your child for his or her positive accomplishments.
- When testing week arrives, please do all that you can to make sure your son or daughter is healthy and at school.
- Communicate with your child's teachers to discuss your son or daughter's progress.
- Provide a quiet learning environment for school work at home. When studying at home in a quiet, comfortable place is provided, overall learning performance can be achieved.

- Provide a variety of new reading materials at home. Books and magazines provide the opportunity for your student to learn new words that might appear on tests.
- Finally, Despite all of these items above, refrain from placing TOO MUCH emphasis on your child's test score. Too much pressure could adversely affect his or her performance.

Thank you to the parents, as you begin to prepare your son or daughter for testing.

GO BULLDOGS!

Terry Olszewski

Superintendent of Schools