



ABINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL FRIDAY NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 8 & 9 AMS Gr. 5 & 6 ELA MCAS

APRIL 8 AMS PTO Meeting @ 7:00pm in the AMS Cafeteria

APRIL 10 Gr. 8 Parent Puerto Rico information meeting at AHS

APRIL 10 AMS Yearbook Meeting

APRIL 10 & 11 AMS Gr. 7 & 8 ELA MCAS

APRIL 11 AMS Grs. 5 & 6 Student Council Meeting

SPIRIT WEEK 4/8 - 4/12

APRIL 8 - Monday: USA Day

APRIL 9 - Tuesday: Twin Day

APRIL 10 - Wednesday: Color Day (Colors to wear pulled from a hat)

5th - **White**

6th - **Black**

7th - **Red**

8th - **Green**

APRIL 11 - Thursday: AMS Green Wave Pride Day

APRIL 12 - Friday: Pajama Day

APRIL 15-19 Spring Vacation

APRIL 24 AMS Yearbook Meeting

APRIL 24 Rotary Club saplings being sent home with 5th graders for planting

APRIL 30 AMS Gr. 5 & 6 MATH MCAS

APRIL 30 AMS Mid-Trimester

MESSAGE FROM MR. MACCARTAIN

Good afternoon,

Next week, on Friday, April 12, 2024, AMS will be conducting a safety drill in order to practice the skills learned during ALICE training. This drill will be coordinated with AHS, AEEP and our School Resource Officers. Prior to the drill, an alert (announcement over the PA) will be made presenting the scenario of a dangerous individual within the building at a specific location. Students and staff will be prepared to respond to the alert using ALICE response options.

Following the drill tomorrow, teachers will spend time debriefing with students and answering any questions they may have. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Have a restful weekend.

Mr. MacCurtain
Principal

SOLAR ECLIPSE SAFETY INFORMATION

Eclipses are awe-inspiring celestial events, but looking directly at the sun, even during an eclipse, can be dangerous. Below are some tips to safely enjoy the eclipse and protect your eyes.

The Golden Rule: Never Look Directly at the Sun!

Even a partially eclipsed sun emits harmful ultraviolet rays that can damage your eyesight permanently. Here's how to view the eclipse safely:

- **Special Solar Filters are Your Best Bet:** Invest in eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer. These filters block harmful radiation, allowing you to view the eclipse directly.
- **Beware of Imitations:** Not all sunglasses or filters are created equal. Regular sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for eclipse viewing. Only use certified eclipse glasses!
- **Thanks to Abington Middle School PTO and the Abington School District,** all students will be provided with a pair of Eclipse glasses.
- **Even with Eclipse glasses,** it is only safe to view the Eclipse for **LESS** than 3 minutes at a time!
- **Inspect Before You Use:** Before using your eclipse glasses or viewer, check for scratches, cracks, or damage. Discard any compromised filters.
- **Safety First, Fun Second:** Always put on your eclipse glasses or viewer **before** looking at the sun. Never remove them while looking directly at the eclipse.

Grade 7 & 8 Math Course Placement 2024-2025

Abington Middle School has two grade level mathematics courses in grades 7 & 8. Those are Math 7, Accelerated Math 7, Math 8 and Accelerated Math 8. The majority of students will be placed into the grade level Math course, either Math 7 or Math 8.

In alignment with the Massachusetts Curriculum Standards, a group of students will be placed into Accelerated Math courses. Grade 7 placement into Accelerated Math is based on statewide assessments, a math common assessment in grade 6 and teacher recommendation. The grade 6 common assessment that will be used to assist in placement have already been taken by students during the week of March

11th. Grade 6 parents/guardians will be notified of placement decisions via mail in mid-April.

Grade 8 placement into Accelerated Math is based on statewide assessments, mathematics classroom achievement in grade 7 and teacher recommendation or can be initiated through parents/guardians request. Grade 7 families will only be notified if there is a recommendation for change of placement. This notification will take place closer to the end of the school year.

AMS Yearbook News

To order a 23-24 yearbook, please click the link below ORDER DEADLINE is **Friday, May 3rd**

Click Here to Order AMS 23-24 Yearbook

Enter Abington Middle School's Yearbook ID Code **14383024**

AMS Yearbook Club

If you love art, photography, writing, or using your computer skills, then this is the club for you! This club is free and all students in grades 5 - 8 are welcome. Yearbook Club meets every other Wednesday. If you have any questions, please email Ms. Roach at samantharoach@abingtonps.org. Meetings are 2:30pm to 3:30pm. *Prompt pick-up please.*

- April 10th
- April 24th
- May 8th
- May 15th
- May 29th
- June 5th

CURRENT 8th GRADE STUDENTS/GRAND CLASSROOM TRAVEL

For any current 8th graders interested in travelling to Puerto Rico on April vacation of 2025, on Wednesday, April 10th there will be a parent meeting at the Abington High School in Room 1208 at 6:30 pm.

Information Regarding Student Identification Cards

Student ID cards have been distributed. Please make sure to have your students keep these cards in a safe place (backpacks, wallets, purse etc.) AMS students will be using these ID cards when arriving late to school or when being dismissed. This barcode technology enables quick and accurate recordings of arrival and dismissal times, eliminating the need for manual sign-in sheets. If a student has not yet received their identification card due to absence or retake, Lifetouch is working to provide AMS with them as soon as possible.

AMS Current Grades 7 - 10 PCC APPLICATION INFORMATION

PCC (Project Contemporary Competitiveness) is an Advanced Studies Program that will be held at Stonehill College during the summer of 2024. Applications will be accepted for CURRENT 7th, 8th, 9th or 10th grade students who are residents of Abington. This includes those students that attend private school. More information and an online application for PCC can be completed here at <https://pccasp.org>.

MCAS 2024 Testing Dates

APRIL 8 - 26 ELA MCAS

Grades 5 & 6 ELA MCAS - April 8th and April 9th

Grades 7 & 8 ELA MCAS - April 10th and April 11th

APRIL 30 - MAY 10 MATH & SCIENCE MCAS

Grades 5 & 6 MATH MCAS - April 30th and May 1st

Grades 7 & 8 MATH MCAS - May 2nd and May 3rd

Grades 5 & 8 SCIENCE MCAS - May 7th and May 8th

MAY 13 - 14 CIVICS MCAS

Grade 8 CIVICS MCAS - May 13th and May 14th

Please Return Your Overdue Library Books

Fall in love with a new book and return your old ones! Please return your overdue library books promptly to the AMS library.

Anonymous Reporting and Safety Link

Abington Middle School has an anonymous tip line to report any concerns about the school, typically used for reporting bullying, harassment, and/or discrimination. The link below allows people to submit reports and concerns that go directly to our administration. While this tip line is anonymous and available as needed, we also encourage you to contact us directly, as we seek to create and maintain a positive school culture and climate in partnerships with families and the community. **[Click Link](#)**

Grades 5 & 6 Student Council Meeting Schedule

April 11th- 2:30-3:00

May 9th- 2:30-3:00

June 5th- 2:30-3:15 (end of year party)

Attendance is expected. Students are reminded to email Ms. Regan if they are not able to attend a monthly meeting at lauraregan@abingtonps.org.

AMS AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Gr. 5 & 6 BAND CLUB - Mr. Leonelli – Mondays

Grs. 5–8 MINECRAFT CLUB – Mrs. Graham - Mondays

Grs. 5–8 DANCE CLUB – Ms. Gomes - Mondays
Gr. 5 & 6 CHESS CLUB - Mr. Perkins – Tuesdays
Gr. 7 & 8 CHESS CLUB – Mr. Perkins – Wednesdays
Grs. 5-8 DRAMA CLUB - Mr. Leonelli - Wednesdays
Grs. 5–8 HMWK & CRAFT CLUB–Mrs. Duquette - Thursdays
Grs. 5-8 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS – Mr. Elledge –Thursdays
Grs. 5-8 DRAMA CLUB - Mr. Leonelli - Fridays

School rules apply. Dates are subject to change (due to advisor illness, etc.) If a club is cancelled, it will be announced in school that day and club advisors will contact families directly using the email that was provided to AMS. Parents will need to provide transportation from the school. All clubs will run into the Spring.

IMPORTANT BUS INFORMATION REQUEST

If you received a bus tag for your child, but *do not* plan for them to take the bus this year, please email transportation@abingtonps.org and let them know so that they can be removed from the bus roster. Please include your child's name and school (AMS) in your email. You can also contact 781-982-2170 and let the office know. Thank you.

Nurse News

Please provide the school nurse with an updated physical and immunization form. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the nurse, Joan Smith at (781) 616-2951 or email joansmith@abingtonps.org. Please remember to contact the school if your child is going to be absent and also provide an absent note which is required when they return to school.

**Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing for the changes in temperature/weather. We strive to have PE and recess outside unless it is raining or the*

"Real Feel" temperature is 20 degrees or below.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Abington Middle School hours are 7:50 a.m. to 2:22 p.m. Students should be seated in their homerooms at that time, ready to start the day. Parents who are dropping off their students will use the entrance to the left of the school building at Door 10 and follow the designated drop-off procedures. If a student arrives late, they must sign in at the main office. *Students who arrive after 8:30 a.m. must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.* Students will be dismissed at 2:22 p.m. Parents who are picking up students should wait in the designated drop-off/pick-up area located to the left side of the building at Door 10 and follow the appropriate drop-off/pick-up procedures. Door 10 will be open between 7:20 a.m. and 7:50 a.m. for student drop-off. Students arriving after 7:50 a.m. should enter through the front door of the building and will be marked tardy.

NOTES FROM HOME

Parents must notify the school if your child is to be absent, tardy or dismissed. A *written* note must be submitted for each absence stating the date and reason for the absence. A note is also needed to *dismiss* your child from school or if your child will not be taking the bus home. Phone calls changing student dismissal plans can impact child safety. Thank you for cooperating with this important child safety issue.

LAPTOP REMINDER

Please have your student bring their charged laptop to school every day.

Also, please have them bring a water bottle to school every day. (Plastic water bottles please - no glass bottles).

HEALTHY ATTENDANCE PRACTICES



See You in Class!

- Have a runny nose or a little cough, **but no other symptoms**
- No fever-reducing medicine for 24-hours, and **no fever** (temp. of 100.4 or higher) during that time
- No throwing up or diarrhea for 24-hours

HEADING TO SCHOOL!

What should I know?

Missing just one day of school every two-weeks is equal to 20-days per year, which is 4-weeks per year, and would equal 1.5 years of missed learning from Kindergarten to grade 12.

A day of missed school is a lost opportunity for academic growth and social development. By coming to school **every day they're not sick**, your child is gaining the academic and social skills to be successful in life.



Best to Stay Home.

- Temperature higher than 100.4 (with or without medicine)
- Persistent cough
- Throwing up or diarrhea
- Eyes are pink and crusty
- Instructed by doctor to isolate from others

MY STUDENT IS STAYING HOME.

What should I do next?

- 1** Notify the school by phone as soon as possible (phone numbers and times noted below)
- 2** Repeat this checklist every morning. We hope to see your student back soon!

Please call the number below (before the time noted, if possible) to report your student's absence:

- AEEP - 781-982-2195 - Before 8:45am
- AMS - 781-982-2170 - Before 8:15am
- BBES - 781-982-2185 - Before 9:30am
- AHS - 781-982-2160 - Before 7:45am
- WES - 781-982-2180 - Before 9:15am

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