

# Hope School



“Where Children Come First”  
September 2008 Family Newsletter

Ms. Janice L. Mowry  
Principal

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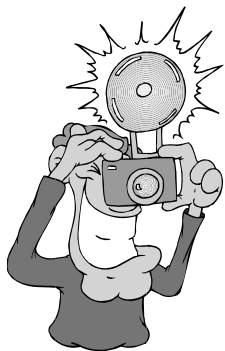
## Message from the Principal



I am very proud to have been selected as the new principal of Hope Elementary School! It was a pleasure to meet all the many parents and children that attended the “Meet the Principal” event. Thanks to all of you that have sent warm well wishes through email or a personal visit. I am having a wonderful time meeting all the students and observing in classrooms. Our school opened very smoothly because of all the help and cooperation I received from teachers, staff, and parents. Special thanks to our custodians Mr. Paul, Joshua, and Justin Homerston as well as Mrs. Briggs for working so hard this summer to clean our building. We are off to a great start for this new 2008-2009 school year and there are promises of terrific things yet to come! I look forward to seeing you again at Open House! Ms. Mowry

## Monthly Family Newsletters

This is the first issue of the Hope School Family Newsletter. Each month I will put together information that is important for families to know for the upcoming month. Please be sure to check your child's back pack during the first week of the month for this valuable piece of communication! If you would also like to receive a copy of the newsletter by way of email please send an email message to [jmowry@scituateri.net](mailto:jmowry@scituateri.net). I plan to create a parent email group to send newsletters and other important notices throughout the school year.



**SCHOOL PICTURE DAY**  
Wednesday  
September 17<sup>th</sup>

This year's Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. We will gather in the gymnasium for a short welcome and then parents will have an opportunity to visit with their child(ren)'s classroom. The PTA has generously agreed to provide refreshments.

**NO SCHOOL**  
~Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>~  
**PRIMARY DAY**

## School Improvement Team

Want to be involved in examining data and using it to problem solve? Then joining the School Improvement Team is just for you! We need the voices of our families as we work to develop plans that will improve teaching and learning at our school. Please let me know if you are interested by calling the school or dropping me a note.

## Internet Agreement

All new incoming students received the "Scituate Public Schools Elementary Student Internet Acceptable Use Agreement". Please review this document very carefully with your child and return the back page to school with the student's signature and parent or guardian's signature. Other parents are welcome to call the school if you would like another copy of these important guidelines.

## Communicating with the Principal

I know that it is critical to establish and maintain communication with the families of Hope School to ensure the success of all students. Don't feel that there needs to be a problem to have a conversation. Please come in before there is a problem! Call the office (821-3651) if you would like to schedule an appointment to meet with me. The best time to call or have a meeting is between 3:30 and 4:00. You may also email me at [jmowry@scituateri.net](mailto:jmowry@scituateri.net).

## Student Handbooks

Student Handbooks were distributed to all students on the first day of school. We would ask that you review the contents with your child and return the back page to school indicating that you have received the handbook. Rhode Island law requires that we have your acknowledgement on file for each school year.

## It's Your Turn!

I would like to know how you enjoyed this first family newsletter. Please let me know when you see me or give me a call (at 3:30 please!). If you have the time, write me a note to let me know what information was useful.

Thank You!  
Ms. Mowry

## PTA

Please be sure to stop by the PTA tables at Open House. All parents and staff members are encouraged to become members of this very important organization to enhance the learning experience of all our children at Hope School. Meetings are typically held the first Monday of the month. The first PTA meeting will be held on Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Parents enjoy PTA meetings because they get to know other parents and work together with teachers to plan fundraising and special events for the children at Hope School. All adult family members are welcome to join the group. See you there!

## New England Common Assessment Program



All students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be participating in our

State assessments beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>. Each child is expected to complete three sessions of reading and three sessions of mathematics. Fifth grade students will complete two sessions of writing as well during the following week. All students are encouraged to do their best and attend school each day, on time, after a healthy breakfast. We appreciate families scheduling doctor's appointments around these testing dates. If an appointment has been scheduled that cannot be changed please let us know the day before. If your child begins a test session and has to leave before finished, all incomplete responses will be scored as incorrect.

## Important Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, September 9**

~NO SCHOOL - PRIMARY DAY~



Tuesday, September 23 - Open House  
Hope School, 7:00 P.M.

Monday, September 29 - School Assembly  
"Marvin the Marvelous"  
sponsored by the PTA

## NECAP Testing

**Grades 3-5 Reading - Oct 1, 2, and 3**  
**Grades 3-5 Mathematics - Oct 7, 8, 9**  
**Grade 5 Writing - Oct 15 and 16**