

**UPPER DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY BULLETIN
OCTOBER 2016**

Mon., 10/3	PTO Meeting – 7PM Respect Week begins and ends Oct. 6
Thurs., 10/6	Mid Marking Period 1 Pre k Trip to Creamy Acres
Fri., 10/7	SCHOOL CLOSED – STAFF IN SERVICE
Mon., 10/10	SCHOOL CLOSED – COLUMBUS DAY
Wed., 10/12	Family Night – No Homework Grades 1 & 2 Trip to Lavoy Theater
Fri., 10/14	Rowdy Relays – 7PM
Sat., 10/15	Anti- Bullying Walk: 9AM – 11AM at the Woodruff School – Rain or Shine
Mon., 10/17 thru 10/21	Violence and Vandalism Awareness Week
Wed., 10/19	PTO Fall Fundraiser Pick Up at Seabrook School from 2:30 – 6:00
Fri., 10/21	Blue & Gold Day Kindergarten Trip to Duffield's
Mon., 10/24 thru 10/31	Red Ribbon Week
Tues., 10/25	Board of Education Meeting – Woodruff School Library at 7:00
Thurs., 10/27	Seabrook School Fall Pictures Grade 5 Trip to Hagley Museum
Fri., 10/28	PTO Halloween Dance – 7 PM Woodruff School (for students in Grades 6 – 8)
Mon., 10/31	HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Safety Matters: Parents are reminded to adhere to the drop off and pick up zones at times of arrival (7:40 – 8:00) and dismissal (2:15).

PARKING LOT SAFETY: PLEASE adhere to the one lane drop off in the morning and parking areas for the afternoon pick up of children. It has been brought to the attention of administration that vehicles are moving around other vehicles; creating a second lane; and blocking the traffic. We ask that you follow the line and drop off your child(ren) and continue moving in the morning and park your car in the afternoon. Doing otherwise creates a safety issue and could result in a violation in accordance with traffic regulations pertaining to school zone safety. While you may be running behind schedule, the failure to comply with the safety and traffic regulations could result in a more serious matter that affects our students, staff, and parents. This is something which can be avoided by exhibiting patience and respect for others.

Bus Safety:

- All students who ride the bus, as required by law, are to remain seated at all times with their seatbelts on. There are no exceptions and students who do not adhere to the bus rules and bus safety will be subject to disciplinary action which can include a loss of bus riding privileges.
- Students are reminded to arrive at their assigned bus stop and wait for the bus in an orderly manner. Running, pushing, playing games or doing something to put yourself or others in danger is prohibited and students violating this code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.
- For safety reasons, it is necessary for bus students to adhere to being picked up and dropped off at their regularly scheduled stop. If it is necessary for a change, the school office must be notified. No student or parent should make arrangements with the bus driver to change a stop. If the office is not notified of a change or the change is unable to be accommodated due to a late notice, students will be dropped off at their assigned stop.

Respect Week, Violence Awareness Week and Red Ribbon Week: From October 3 through October 6 our schools will be observing Respect Week with activities promoting respect. The week of October 17 through October 21 our schools will be observing Violence Awareness Week with activities promoting anti-violence activities. From October 24 through October 31, we will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week – a week that serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of our children through a commitment to drug prevention.

Fall Sports: The Woodruff School Soccer and Field Hockey teams are getting set for the Fall sports season. Check the website for game times and directions to away games so you can support our teams!

Anti-Bullying Walk: On Saturday, October 15 the fourth annual Anti-Bullying Walk will be held in the Woodruff School. This event is part of our ongoing efforts to prevent bullying. This event will begin at 8:30am and conclude at 12:00pm. There will be activities in conjunction with the walk and everyone is encouraged to support this effort to combat bullying.

Rowdy Relays: The Woodruff School will once again be hosting the annual “Rowdy Relays” event on Friday, October 14 at 7:00pm. Please be sure to mark this on your calendar for an eventful and fun filled evening.

School Closing: On Friday, October 7, schools will be closed for teacher in-service. In observance of Columbus Day on Monday, October 10 schools will be closed to observe this legal holiday.

Update Information: Please update your phone numbers and addresses with your respective school of attendance. This information is vital to our messaging system for school closures and emergencies.

Halloween Activities: Each year our primary buildings have activities for the students to celebrate Halloween. We ask that when you attend the activities you are mindful of our procedures and report to the main office. Also, please do not block any parked cars, fire lanes, or entrances with your vehicles in the event of an emergency.

PTO Halloween Dance: The PTO Halloween Dance will be held for grades 6, 7, and 8 on Friday October 28 from 7pm to 9pm in the Woodruff Gymnasium.

Woodruff School ACE Music: Our Woodruff School ACE Music was selected to premiere Disney's Aladdin Jr. this December. There will be shows on Thursday, December 15 and Friday, December 16 at 7:00pm and Saturday, December 17 at 2PM. Additional information will be available on the website and in the monthly bulletin.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT: The PTO sponsors many activities throughout the year. To continue with events such as Santa's Workshop, Talent Show and other events, we need volunteers to help chair or assist in the coordination of these events. Please contact the PTO if you are able to help as a chairperson or offer assistance to the chairperson for any PTO sponsored function.

PTO: The Upper Deerfield Township PTO meets the first Monday of each month in the Seabrook School Library/Media Center. These meetings begin at 7:00PM. All are welcome to attend and support the PTO in their mission to assist all our schools in the district. The month it will be held on October 3.

Board of Education: The Upper Deerfield Township Board of Education meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise noted, at 7:00 PM in the Woodruff School Library. The October 2016 meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to Mr. Greg Peterson, for his 30+ years of serving our students as both member and President. We wish you many years of health and happiness. We will miss you and your leadership!

Parent Portal: Parents can access their child's grades and missing assignments by way of the GENESIS Parent Portal. If you haven't received this information and need a password, please visit the website, download the form, complete it, and send it back to school with your child. You can view assignments on the website under each teacher's webpage.

Family Night: Upper Deerfield Township School District recognizes the importance of family and spending time together. This month we have designated Wednesday, October 12 as family night. No homework will be assigned in the district on this night.

Being at School: Regular attendance in school sets up a good pattern for your child's entire school career. Show him/her that school comes first by trying to only use days off for illnesses and family emergencies. Also, schedule routine doctor and dental appointments for after school or over school breaks.

School Breakfast: Each day breakfast is available for all our students in our schools. Please make sure your child starts the day with breakfast either at home or in the cafeterias of Seabrook School, Moore School and Woodruff School.

School District Website: www.udts.org Be sure to visit our website for important announcements and information. You can put money in your child's lunch account, review board meeting notes, visit a teacher webpage for information, and shortly you will be able to access your child's grades in the parent portal of the GENESIS program.

Academic Assistance: Academic Assistance will be starting shortly. This is an after school is available for students on designated dates from 2:15 – 3:15 PM under the direction of district teaching staff. This is an opportunity for the students to obtain additional assistance with their work. Transportation must be provided home from this activity. Stay tuned for more information on this program.

Progress Reporting: Eight times per year the district reports progress on each student. This is done at the mid-marking period and end of the marking period via the progress report and report card. Please review your child's progress at these intervals. If there are questions or concerns regarding the progress of your child, please contact the teacher as soon as possible for further assistance.

Student Dress Code: Please make sure your child is in compliance with our district dress code per the student handbook. One area of concern is with the pants not being worn properly. Boys in particular are wearing pants below the hip/buttock area exposing undergarments and skin. This is not only a dress code violation, but offensive as well and this could be cause for harassment.

Web Sites:

www.udts.org - School district website for calendars, events, portals, and other important information.

<http://www.engageny> – excellent site for common core resources

NetSmartzKids - Encourage your children to learn about Internet safety at this fun site: www.netsmartzkids.org

<http://www.wonderopolis.org/> Created by the National Center for Family Literacy, Wonderopolis focuses on subjects of which children are curious.

International Children's Library: <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

Quotes Worth Quoting:

"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people." **Eleanor Roosevelt**

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." **Thomas A. Edison**

"Others can stop for a moment; only you can stop yourself for good." **Hembrough and Sonnenberg**

"If you don't stand for something you will fall for anything." **Peter Hamilton**