



# Mountview Middle School

Newsletter— February 2012

Web Site: <http://www.wrsd.net/mountview>

Brian McCarthy, Assistant Principal  
[Brian\\_McCarthy@wrsd.net](mailto:Brian_McCarthy@wrsd.net)

C. Erik Githmark, Principal  
[Erik\\_Githmark@wrsd.net](mailto:Erik_Githmark@wrsd.net)

Karen L. Hughes, Assistant Principal  
[Karen\\_Hughes@wrsd.net](mailto:Karen_Hughes@wrsd.net)

## Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we have passed the halfway point in the year already! We have had a quiet winter so far but I am most certain that putting these words in writing will mean that February and March will not be the same!

I hope, by now, that you have a clear picture of your child's complete experience at school including academic achievement, social interaction and over-all behavior. Our use of PowerSchool, Connect-Ed, Teacher WebPages, progress report and report cards should be providing you with a strong understanding of what is going on at Mountview. Please utilize this information to remain involved in your child's life. Although the message you may be getting at home from your son or daughter may be to pull away, it is more important than ever to maintain close ties with them, and us, during the middle school years. If you ever have questions or concerns, please contact your child's teachers. A staff email directory can be found on our school website. If you have a concern or suggestion for me, I can be reached by email at [Erik\\_Githmark@wrsd.net](mailto:Erik_Githmark@wrsd.net) or by telephone at 508-829-5577. I truly value the feedback that you provide to me!

Superintendent Pandiscio held a State of the District meeting in early January. In that meeting Dr. Pandiscio spoke of the efforts that the District is taking to adopt 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning into our classrooms. He also spoke of his desire for the District to utilize electronic means of communication with families on a more frequent basis. In support of that goal, **we will no longer be distributing hard copies of our monthly newsletter.** Beginning in March, our newsletter will be posted to the school website or will be available upon request to families on an individual basis. We will also keep a small set of paper copies of our newsletter in the office area. This change alone will save us several **boxes** of paper over the course of the year! To further support that goal, I am asking that parents check with our office to be sure that we have your most updated email address so that we can be confident that important messages that are sent to families electronically are getting through.

In a recent Connect-Ed call, I asked parents to contact the office to ensure that we have your most updated email address so that you can be sure to keep updated with important news and event reminders. If you have not had a chance to do that yet, please contact Carleen or Beth at the main office.

Have a great February! In the month ahead my Principal's Coffee and Chat is scheduled on Friday, February 17 at 9:00 AM in the Cafeteria. Our schools will be closed for February recess the week of the 20th and will reopen on Monday, February 27th. Join the PTA for their monthly meeting on February 16 at 7:00PM in the Library. They have been a tremendous asset to our school this year and I am deeply appreciative of the help that they are always so willing to give to us!

### ***From the cafeteria staff.....***

We have seen many students using their lunch money for snacks instead of buying lunch. Since all snack food must be paid in cash, prepaying lunch prevents students from spending their lunch money on snacks. Prepaid money can only be used for lunch or milk. Checks should be made out to Mountview Cafeteria or prepaid lunch can be paid in cash. And as always, forms for free and reduced lunch are available in the office or the cafeteria.



## *Mountview Artists Receive Awards in Boston!*

This year two Mountview students' artworks were selected to participate in the 62nd Scholastic Art Awards. The awards are national in scope and administered by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. The process begins across the country as young artists and writers submit creative works of art and writing to a network of affiliate programs of the Alliance who share the Alliance's vision to inspire the next generation of artists and writers.

We would like to recognize and congratulate the following students for representing Mountview in Boston at the regional level for art in 2012:

**Julia Lucchesi** (Coil Fiber Basket Weaving) Gold Key Award

**Isabel Polletta** (Charcoal Still Life) Honorable Mention Award

The artwork was juried by several professional artists, educators, and critics from all around New England. Jurors look for works that best exemplify originality, technical proficiency and the emergence of an authentic voice and vision.



*Charcoal Still Life*  
By: Isabel Polletta



*Coil Fiber Basket Weaving*  
By: Julia Lucchesi

**Gold and Silver Key Award winning work from the region will be on exhibit at the State Transportation Building in Boston from February 13<sup>th</sup> 2012-April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012.**

**It is a wonderful, inspiring exhibit to see and it is free and open to the public Mon-Fri 9am-5pm and Sat-Sun 12-4pm.**

**Congratulations Girls!  
Go Mountview Artists!**

## February 2012 Important Dates

February 1st	Monty Tech VIP Last Art Club – pictures and party	2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Quabbin Music Festival	1:50 p.m.
February 6 <sup>th</sup>	Gr. 8 Foreign Language Placement Test	Class Period
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Faculty Meeting – Grade Alike <b>No Extra Help!!!</b> Grade 6 Blue Band Night Grade 6 Gold Band Night Gr. 8 Foreign Language Placement Test	7:10 a.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Class Period
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monty Tech VIP Girls/Boys Basketball Playoffs TBD Snow Date For Grade 6 Band Concerts Gr. 8 Foreign Language Placement Test	2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. Class Period
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Quabbin Music Festival Gr. 8 Foreign Language Placement Test Make up	1:50 p.m. Class Period
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 8 Semi-Formal Gr. 8 Foreign Language Placement Test Make up	7:00 p.m. Class Period
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Quabbin Valley rehearsal/concert	9:00 p.m.
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SIMCO Meeting</b>	5:30 p.m.
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Girls/Boys Basketball Semi-Finals TBD	4:00 p.m.
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Half – Day for students Monty Tech VIP	11:35 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Girls/Boys Basketball Championship at WRHS <b>PTA Meeting</b>	4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Principal's Coffee and Chat</b>	9:00 a.m.
<b>February 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>February Break No School!!!</b>	
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Faculty Meeting – Subject Alike <b>No Extra Help!!!</b>	7:10 a.m.