



# Mountview Middle School

Newsletter— February 2010

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

Brian McCarthy, Assistant Principal  
Brian\_McCarthy@wrsd.net

Preston A. Shaw, Principal  
Preston\_Shaw@wrsd.net

Karen L. Hughes, Assistant Principal  
Karen\_Hughes@wrsd.net

## Principal's Message

I am writing this piece on the last school day in January. This week we reached the 90<sup>th</sup> day of the school year, the half-way point. Report cards for the second quarter are going home this afternoon. By the time you read this, you will have received them.

Each month of the school year is important, but these next three--February, March, and April--can feel even more so as many things rush toward conclusion. There are seven weeks to go before the first round of MCAS testing. The week of March 22<sup>nd</sup> will have all students taking the English/language arts exams. This also includes the long composition for 7<sup>th</sup> graders. These next few weeks will also see the completion of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade registration for high school. Parents will be receiving information from the WRHS Guidance Department which will explain the process for our soon-to-be freshmen. In addition to WRHS, this is the week that all of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade applications for Monty Tech went into the mail.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Holden police officer, Rocky Himmer, for his *Not My Kid* presentation to parents on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Officer Himmer is the current School Resource Officer for Wachusett Regional High School and this was his first presentation following his training for this drug and alcohol program. He was informative and reinforced the message that all of us at the middle level give to parents. Stay involved with your youngster(s), know who their friends are, and don't be afraid to check on what they are doing on a regular basis. The pressures on our young people today are far more intense than those of previous generations. Today's fast-paced, high tech world is very, very different from what many of us experienced. Keep a line of communication open. You will never regret staying active in your children's lives. They need to know you are a constant presence.

A note about winter, if I may. This morning--January 29<sup>th</sup>--as I stood outside greeting buses in the 8° , -15° wind chill, I was amazed and concerned with the dress of many, many of our Mountview students. I would estimate that 15-20% of them wore no winter coats. Many of them were in only a sweatshirt or a fleece jacket. Several students were in long-sleeved T-shirts and one in a short-sleeved T. I observed very few hats, but there were a lot of hoods. I would guess that over 90% had no gloves visible. Perhaps they were in backpacks. Now I admit that I am old, but being out there for 10 minutes was unpleasant for me. I can only imagine what some of our students were experiencing at the bus stops. The hard part for you as parents is two-fold. Either you have already left for work before your child steps out the door, or, they pooh-pooh you if you should have the audacity to remind them to, "Dress warm this morning. It is really cold outside." I've been there and done that so I know all too well the reaction you get to such suggestions. My advice? Keep trying. This type of weather can be very dangerous.

Have a good February. Our schools will be closed for February recess the week of the 15<sup>th</sup> and will reopen on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **MONTY TECH NEWS – Mrs. Fredette**

Watch this space for information about Monty Tech. You can also visit Monty Tech on the web at [www.montytech.net](http://www.montytech.net).

The application process is underway for the 17 students who have submitted their paperwork. When Term 2 report cards have been issued, they will be printed and added to the packet for each applicant and sent to Monty Tech. Interviews will be scheduled for sometime in February. I will inform each student of the date and the time for their individual interview. This interview is for students only. We will hold transition meetings later in the year for those students with an IEP. It will be necessary for parents to attend this meeting as there will be paperwork to be signed.

The Vocational Interest Program (VIP) will begin in March for Mountview students. Seventh grade students who would like to explore the idea of vocational education are especially encouraged to attend this program. The program is also open to any eighth grade student who is interested. Permission slips will be sent home as soon as we receive them. These will need to be signed and returned to Mrs. Fredette in room 306.

Thank you 8th grade students for getting your paperwork in on time!!  
Questions? Contact Mrs. Fredette at (508) 829-5577

## **Dodge Ball Tournament for Haiti**



Mountview's Kids in the Community, Student Council, and NJHS worked together to devise a unique way to raise money for Haiti Relief; the result was Mountview's first school-wide Dodge Ball Tournament! The tournament will be held on February 12<sup>th</sup> from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.. Teams will consist of 10 members comprised of students, staff, and parents with each member contributing at least one dollar to the Haiti Relief Fund. Teams must sign up with Mrs. Eydenberg by Monday, February 8, and receive a list of rules. Participants are encouraged to create original names and wear appropriate team gear. Observers are welcome; there will be drinks and snacks sold throughout the game. This afternoon promises to be a fun kick off to February vacation! Hope to see you there!

## Important Dates

February 1st	Ski Club	3:00 p.m.
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Girls/Boys Basketball at Paxton Grade 6 (blue) Band Presentation	3:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Boys Basketball at Worc. East Middle Grade 6 (gold) Band Presentation	3:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
February 4 <sup>th</sup>	Girls/Boys Basketball (home) vs. Rutland	3:00 p.m.
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 8 Semi-Formal	7:00 p.m.
February 6 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Central District Auditions	9:45 a.m.
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Ski Club Mathletes at Chocksett	3:00 p.m. 3:30 p.m.
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	DWSC Meeting Girls/Boys Basketball Semi-Finals T.B.A. Grade 6 Band Presentation ( <b>Snow Date</b> )	9:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Middle School Basketball Championship T.B.A.	
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Dodge Ball Tournament	3:00 p.m.
February 15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>February Vacation No School!!!!</b>	
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ski Club	3:00 p.m.
February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Grade 8 Music Invitational at WRHS <b>SIMCO Meeting</b>	9:00 a.m. <b>5:00 p.m.</b>
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	Quabbin Valley Rehearsal <b>PTA Meeting</b>	3:00 p.m. <b>7:00 p.m.</b>
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Staff vs. Students Basketball Game	3:00 p.m.
February 27 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday)	Quabbin Valley Rehearsal	8:45 a.m.