



## Newsletter – April 2014



March has flown by coming in like a lion and hopefully ending like a lamb. Blizzard bag day was very successful. Great comments made by parents during a survey will help us improve the content for next year. Even though blizzard bag number 2 was passed out, we certainly are wishing that spring is coming soon and it won't be needed.

This has been a busy month with Jump Rope Club. It was noisy but lots of fun for 150 students. Not only were the children jumping rope but lots of dancing also took place. Climbing Wall Club begins the first week of April which is exciting as children in small groups learn to scale to the top. What a terrific feat! I'm still trying to get off the mat so I'm amazed at their skill and patience. Fifth Graders are busy finishing up their D.A.R.E. essays in anticipation of the final presentation on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm at the PAC. Officer Nate Lyons has been a wonderful role model for these students and is looking forward to attending the end of the year field trips and activities. The last Lip Syncs were held and a big thank you to the Night Owls for organizing these events for our students. Everyone had a chance to plan and orchestrate their ideas and song renditions on stage.

Reminder again that school begins at 8:30 am. Students should be in their classroom ready to go by this time. Bringing your child in late disrupts their schedule. If you have received a letter from me recently, please try to get your child to school on time or I will have no recourse but to follow policy, JH which is attached.

Kudos to Jordyn Friel, a second grade student in Mrs. Spires room. Jordyn won the State Garden Club Award for the Smokey the Bear Poster. She will be honored at the New Hampshire State House and by Governor Maggie Hassam in a ceremony on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are so proud of her accomplishment!

Mr. Blay is hosting an after school math and science club with a grant obtained by Skelley Motors. The grant is part of an Educational Alliance Award given to Steven Murphy from Exxon Mobil to be used to increase interest in math and science.

In this week's shuttle, the district outlined a new lunch policy that will be beginning on April 14<sup>th</sup>. I will be making calls in the weeks to come to try to recover the large sums of money due to the Academy from unpaid lunch balances. We are more than willing to accept cash or a check to pay the balance. If you need a free and reduced form, please don't hesitate to call me or e-mail me so it can be filled out.



On Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, the Atkinson Academy in partnership with the Atkinson Lions Club is sponsoring a pancake breakfast. We are fortunate to be offered to share the profits. The money we receive will benefit our staff member, Leanne Perron, who was diagnosed in January with stage two lymphoma. She has been unable to work since December. As you can imagine, it has been an emotional time for both Leanne and the staff. After several weeks of tests, Leanne learned her prognosis for a full recovery is excellent but it involves treatments every two weeks until June so she is unable to return to school this year. She continues to be upbeat with the wonderful support of family and our terrific staff. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

A group of PTA members enjoyed a painting night on Friday. What great masterpieces resulted under the watchful eye of artist, Mary Preble. Special thanks to PTA Vice-President, Kathleen Friel for offering her home for this event.

PTA was excited to be able to offer Red Sox tickets to parents and students at a discounted rate for the May 30<sup>th</sup> game. About 200 tickets were sold so it should be a great night of fun for all. The Atkinson Academy PTA has a facebook page so don't hesitate to become friends to see all the great events that are taken place.

With spring just around the corner, take time for your family to stop and watch the flowers bloom!

Sincerely,

Kathie Dayotis



**Upcoming Events:**

*April 23 - D.A.R.E. Graduation at PAC, 6:30pm*

*April 25 - Early Release Day, 1:00pm*

*April 28-May 2 - Vacation*

*May 12-May 16 - Staff Appreciation Week (May 13 Luncheon; May 16 Breakfast)*

*May 13-May 15 - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science NECAP Testing*

*May 14 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Freedom Trail*

*May 15 - PTA Voting, Main Office*

*May 22 - Enrichment Day*

*May 23 - Early Release Day, 1:00pm*

*May 26 - NO School, Memorial Day*

*May 28 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Information Night at Middle School, 6:30pm*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Christa McAuliffe*

*June 12 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Play at the PAC, 6:00pm*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mt. Major Hike*

*June 16 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Museum of Science*

*June 17 - Field Day*

*June 18 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration, Gym, 6:30pm*

*June 20 - Last Day of School*

<b>Timberlane Regional School District</b>	<b>Policy Code: JH</b>
<b>Adopted: 07-99</b> <b>Revised: 01-08-09</b> <b>Revised: 09-02-10</b> <b>Revised: 01-09-14</b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b>

## STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Students between the ages stated in RSA 193:1 are required to maintain regular and punctual patterns of attendance. Each building principal is responsible for overseeing attendance procedures and for ensuring that:

1. Attendance is accurately checked, recorded, and reported to the school office each day for each class.
2. All student absences are recorded.
3. All permanent records of student attendance are maintained at either the school district or SAU central office.
4. Students experiencing multiple absences will be referred to the appropriate school team and the Dean of Attendance for resolution.

An unauthorized absence (as defined in RSA 189:35-a) is considered truancy and will be treated as such. Truant students may be subject to school disciplinary measures in line with applicable Board policies and school procedures.

Students identified as being truant will be contacted by either a school official or truant officer and brought to school. The school administration will send a letter to parents/guardian of the truant student. If the truancy problem continues, the school administrator will send by registered mail, a letter to the parents of the truant student, indicating the nature and seriousness of the problem and enclose a copy of RSA 193:1. Procedures that strictly enforce this policy are found in each school's parent/student handbook.

Parents are required to notify the school either by note the day before or by phone on the morning of the absence. Absences of more than five (5) consecutive days require a note from a licensed medical professional. If a child is absent or dismissed for illness, he/she may not attend a school function and the day/evening of the absence/dismissal.

If a day of instruction has been called per the Superintendent as part of the Online Learning/Blizzard Bag option, and a student fails to complete the work, the student will be marked as absent for that day.

**Legal References:**

- RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil*
- RSA 193:7 Penalty*
- RSA 193:8 Notice Requirements*
- RSA 193:16 Bylaws of Nonattendance*
- RSA 189:35-a Truancy Defined*
- NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section ED 306.04(a)(1) Attendance and Absenteeism*
- NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section ED 306.04(c) Policy Relative to Attendance and Absenteeism*

**JH - STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES**