



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

April 5, 2012

### Town Meeting – This Saturday at 9:00 AM!

We hope you will take part in this important annual meeting that exemplifies the true nature of democracy for our town. There are many important referendums to vote on this year along with decisions about the funding of education in Blue Hill. Please come to be a part of the vote. Voting for town officials will be held on Friday (tomorrow) from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Please join us around noon for the 7<sup>th</sup> graders' **Town Meeting Turkey Dinner**. It's a traditional feast, and it is guaranteed to be some of the best food in town.

One of the articles that has been requested for inclusion in the town Warrant this year by the community group, **Blue Hill Friends and Neighbors**, is **Article 18 on the warrant which states: "to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into an agreement to design and construct the High Street Bridge and to secure financing not to exceed \$200,000 to fund the construction."** For those of you who make the trip to school across this narrow bridge, every day as I do, you understand how dangerous it is for cars and students who use it. It is also very unsightly. As Principal at BHCS, I want to add my endorsement of this article to improve the condition of this bridge over the Mill Stream.

~Della Martin

### ART SHOW

There is an artist reception for BHCS students Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30-6:00 PM. There will be food, of course, and live music provided by the BHCS jazz musicians! Student work will be on display at the Blue Hill Public Library for the month of April.

### PTF

\*A BIG thank you goes to everyone who stuffed and hid 1500 Easter eggs (especially Sarah Emerton!). The Easter Egg Hunt was a lot of fun and we're already beginning to plan for next year! We need a lot of plastic eggs, so we will gladly accept any donations after Easter is over. You can drop them off in the library.

\*On Saturday the PTF will hold a refreshment and bake sale during Town Meeting. We need lots of baked goods, fruit and snack items. You can drop them off at school on Friday or bring them with you

to Town Meeting on Saturday. Maybe a birthday cake or cupcakes for Blue Hill (for our 250th) or Easter treats, since Easter is Sunday...

\*We are still looking for a parent interested in being PTF Co-Chair with Heather Nelson next year. It's not a huge job -- we are planning to have only 4 major meetings next year. If interested, let Heather Nelson know.

\*Mark your calendars for the following (more details after vacation):

+April 30-May 4: TV Turn-off Week -- events scheduled all week (book club, a hike, crafts, sports and more!)

+Friday, May 4: Family Potluck and Variety Show. Any interested performers should contact Mrs. Means or Mr. Schubeck to sign up.

+Wednesday, May 9, 6:30 PM: May PTF Meeting

+Saturday, May 19: PTF Indoor Yard Sale. You can rent a space or donate items to the PTF tables.

### April Is Autism Awareness Month

Again this year we are fortunate to be able to present information to our students about autism. The most recent statistics on autism are concerning and it is important to educate others about this condition and to let help them understand what life is like if you are autistic. Mrs. Danielson, Mrs. Wessel, and Mrs. Ricker have teamed up this year with help from Making Strides, to raise awareness here at school. They have met with each class to show an informational video and to have kids participate in simulation activities that "put kids in the shoes" of kids with autism and related conditions. They have also distributed blue wristbands that students are trying to remember to wear daily as a symbol of their respect and awareness that this is an important social concern.

### Third Farm Team Coach Needed

Several kids have signed up to play Farm Team baseball. Rick Sawyer and Melissa Emerton are both returning to coach these teams, but there are enough kids signed up for a third team. Please contact Rick Sawyer at 374-5784 if you are interested in coaching at the Farm Team level.

### New Sports Season Begins

Baseball and Softball Practice

Baseball and Softball practices have started!

Students who are involved in the play should attend play practices, NOT the sport practices. Students not

Della L. Martin, Principal • Loretta Smith, Secretary • Beth Jackson, Librarian • Matt Jurick, Technology Specialist

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involved in the play should be using these practices to get ready for a big season. The tryouts for both baseball and softball are being held April 12 and 13.

**Tryouts** - The Baseball tryouts will be at the AA field; the softball tryouts will be at the BHCS field. Both tryouts are right after school on those days. Students need to attend tryouts to be considered for the team.

**Sport Yard Sale!** - At the tryouts, there will be some vintage baseball pants that no longer make the cut for uniforms available for purchase - \$5 each. These would make great pants for practice and show off your child's keen sense of fashion trends - vintage is back. All proceeds from the sale will be used for the end of season celebrations.

**Parent Meeting** - There is a preseason parent meeting for baseball and softball families on April 23rd at 5 PM in the gym. It is important for families to attend this meeting, so they understand their responsibilities in order to provide informed consent for their child to participate.

**Schedules and Uniforms** - The schedule for the season is posted on the website, [bhcs.org](http://bhcs.org) and available by selecting "Athletics" in the menu bar. Schedules will be printed for players that make the team and passed out after April vacation at the preseason parent meeting. Uniforms will also be passed out at this time, so that parents can assist with the fitting.

**Umpires Needed** - We use an assigner to find umpires for our softball team, but rely on local talent for our baseball team umpires. If you are interested in serving as an umpire for our 5 home games, please let Tara McKechnie, AD know. We do pay a small fee for this service.

**Blue Hill School Committee Meeting Agenda  
April 11, 2012 – 5:00 PM**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Flag Salute
- \*Election of a Chair \*
- C. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meetings
  - 1. March 14, 2012 (Enc)
- D. Approval of the Agenda
- E. Communications
- F. Comments and/or Questions from the Public
- G. Reports
  - 1. GSA Report (Enc)
  - 2. Principal's Report
  - 3. Superintendent's Report
  - 4. PTF Report
  - 5. Building and Grounds Committee Report
    - a. Jeff Clark from Honeywell
  - 6. Other Reports
- H. Old Business
  - 1. Board Goals 2011-2012 (Enc)
  - 2. Use of Time Report Follow Up
- I. New Business
  - 1. Sports Policy Discussion
  - 2. Math Program Approval

3. To See If the Board Wishes to Delegate Their Votes for the Union 93 Joint School Committee

Meeting Coming Up on April 30, 2012 at the Penobscot School beginning at 5:30 p.m.

- 4. Continuing Contract Teachers for 2012-2013
- 5. Summary of Accounts
- 6. Executive Session per 1 MRSA § 405 (6)(D) Legal Rights and Duties of the School System
- J. Items for Next Month's Agenda
- K. Signing of Vouchers
- L. Adjournment

**Reminder to Parents**

Please do not go to classrooms during the school day to drop off homework, lunches, or to have conversations with teachers. Staff in the office will make sure to get items to the children if you drop them off there. Classrooms are busy places and interruptions create more confusion. If you need to talk to a teacher, please make an appointment with the teacher for a convenient time. Also, please try to have your child at school on time in the morning. It is difficult for all students when someone enters while class is in progress, and it is hard to be the student who comes in late, after things have begun. Thanks for your understanding.

**Dates to Remember**

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|-------------------------|--|
| Fri., April 6           | Voting at the Town Hall  |
| Sat., April 7           | TOWN MEETING<br>with Grade 7 luncheon,<br>student art, and other<br>displays and performances                |
| Mon., April 9           | 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders at MMA   |
| Tues. /Wed, April 10-11 | Willy Wonka and the<br>Chocolate Factory<br>performances, 7 PM<br>Student/Seniors \$3.00<br>Adults \$5.00    |
| Wed., April 11          | School Board, 5 PM   |
| Thurs., April 12        | Project Citizen<br>Showcase,<br>BHCS Cafe, 6:00 PM   |
| Fri., April 13          | Student Art Show<br>Reception/Student,<br>4:30-6:00 PM<br>Musicians at the Blue Hill<br>Public Library       |
| April 16-20             | SPRING VACATION  |
| Thurs., April 26        | Maine Student Book<br>Award Celebration for<br>grades 5-6 with area schools.                                 |
| Tues., May 1            | <i>SPRING FLING, 5-7:30<br/>PM, with "JUMP ROPE<br/>FOR HEART HEALTH"</i><br>and the BIG TOP<br>CIRCUS EVENT |
| Wed., June 13           | Graduation for Grade 8,<br>7:00 PM   |
| Fri., June 15           | Last Student Day<br>(predicted)  |