

November 24, 2019

Dear Oak Hill families,

I hope you all are excited for this coming Thanksgiving weekend. A few reminders for the next two weeks ahead:

**Early Release Days Coming November 27 (and December 4):**

Dismissal for both days will be at 11:30am. There will be NO after-school activities. The school will be closed immediately following student dismissal. Please make sure that all students are picked up promptly and/or take the bus home.

**Trimester 1 Closing Next Tuesday, December 3:**

Trimester 1 ends the Tuesday after Thanksgiving! Please take 10 minutes to sit down with your child to review Schoology and/or email teachers to get updates to make sure that your child has turned in their most essential projects and completed all major assessments. If you have any questions, please email your child's teachers - they want to help! You can also reach out to your child's guidance counselor if you have any questions or concerns:

Gr. 6

Jennifer Ames - [jennifer\\_ames@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:jennifer_ames@newton.k12.ma.us)

Amanda Brooks - [amanda\\_brooks@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:amanda_brooks@newton.k12.ma.us)

Gr. 7 Ariel Bernstein - [ariel\\_bernstein@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:ariel_bernstein@newton.k12.ma.us)

Gr. 8 Katy Oliver - [katy\\_oliver@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:katy_oliver@newton.k12.ma.us)

METCO Counselor - All Grades - Daniel Arroyo - [daniel\\_arroyo@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:daniel_arroyo@newton.k12.ma.us)

**Oak Hill Gift Card Drive:**

The Oak Hill Guidance department is still collecting gift cards and money for families in need during the holiday season. We have some families with a very strong need for support this year, and your small donation could make a huge difference! We are looking for gift cards from supermarkets (Stop and Shop, Wegmans, Star Market), drug stores (CVS, Walgreens) or big box stores (Target, Amazon) but you can also make a monetary contribution with a check made out to the Oak Hill PTO. There will be a collection box in the main office where you (your child) can drop off the cards and checks or you can mail them to Oak Hill, Holiday Drive, 130 Wheeler Rd, Newton 02459. We are happy to provide a letter documenting your donation for your taxes. If you want a letter, just contact us at school, or email [info@oakhillpto.org](mailto:info@oakhillpto.org). Thank you for your help and happy holidays! Katy, Jennifer, Ariel, Daniel, Kristen & Amanda

**Concert Season is Here!** Please join our choir director Mr. Cutler and band director Ms. Kleyensteuber and join us for a **choir concert on Tuesday, December 10** and a **bands concert on Thursday, December 12**. Concerts begin at 7pm!

### **Building Operations Update:**

As part of our on-going work with addressing and improving the safety and security for all students, the NPS Facilities/Operations team has begun the work of installing cameras around different points in the building. The cameras will be installed over the next couple of weeks and should be operational for when we return from winter break. Cameras are already installed in the two high schools and one middle school and they will be installed across the other middle schools during this month.

The purpose of the cameras is "to monitor public areas to provide a safe and secure environment for all students, staff and visitors. The cameras shall not be placed in areas where there may be a reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g. rest rooms, locker rooms, private offices, department offices, conference rooms, staff lounges)." ([Protocol for Security Camera Visually Recorded Data](#)) The viewing of the video captured from the cameras is "will occur only when a suspected crime or NPS Rights & Responsibilities Handbook violation is committed inside or outside the building (e.g. vandalism, graffiti, etc.), or there is a claim of an injury or an incident that raises safety or security concerns." ([Protocol for Security Camera Visually Recorded Data](#))

If you wish for more detailed information about the guidelines for camera use please click here to review NPS' [Security Camera Protocol](#). If you have questions, please come to see me.

### **Building Expansion Project:**

Dr. Fleishman presented to School Committee on October 7 about the increasing enrollment numbers over the next several years at Oak Hill. In brief, Oak Hill enrollment numbers will be increasing over the next several years including a projection from a current 632 now to 675 in fall of 2020 to upwards of 700 in 2021. [Click here to view David Fleishman's PPT](#). In response to this enrollment increase, I am forming a small working group made up of teachers & custodian, administrators, parents, City Council and School Committee members to help me collaborate with the public buildings department in designing a solution that provides the essential space needed for the general enrollment growth and the growth in the Language Based program in special education.

### **Parent Conferences Reminder: This Tuesday, November 26**

There will be parent conference meetings this Tuesday for families who have signed up ahead of time. Questions? Please email Assistant Principal, Dr. Bercaw [jamin\\_bercaw@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:jamin_bercaw@newton.k12.ma.us)  
[Parent Conference Info for 6-1, 6-3, 7-1, 7-2, 8-1, 8-2](#)  
[Parent Conference Info for 6-2](#)

**Our annual Oak Hill Food and Coat Drive is in full swing!**



Please keep the cans and coats coming! Our drive continues through **December 12**.  
[Click here for how you can support our Can and Coat Drive 2019!](#)

**Congratulations to the students and Ms. Colella, Mr. Bueno and Mr. Cutler** for all their work for the *A Lighter Shade of Noir* (and a special thank you to Ms. Sack for her help with the set design!) Everyone enjoyed many laughs!

[A Lighter Shade of Noir: cast / crew list](#)

