



# Newsletter

<https://sites.google.com/a/northampton-k12.us/nps/our-schools/jackson-street-school>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northampton-Public-Schools-Massachusetts/179921372117715>

<https://www.facebook.com/jacksonstreetpto> <http://www.jspspto.org/>

You may also connect with us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/NPSDistrict>

Ms. Allessi's website: <https://sites.google.com/northampton-k12.us/mindfulnessatjss>

JSS Office 587-1510

Volume 24 No. 11

November 8, 2019

If you wish to have a copy of this letter written in Spanish, French or Arabic, please contact the school department at 587-1315. Si le gustaria esta carta en Espanol, es posible. Llama 413-587-1315. Si vous voulez une copie de cette lettre en Français, veuillez contacter le Département de l'École 587-1315. إذا في 587-1315 سردم لادرادب لاصت الال اى جري، في برعل الال لاللاب ةبوت كم ةلالرللا هذه نم ةغسن لىل لوصرح الال في بغرت تنك اذا.

## MESSAGE FROM MS. AGNA

**The WALKING SCHOOL BUS is taking its winter break – see you in the spring!**

### ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY

MANY thanks again to **Jacki Emond**, Abigail and Ben's mom, for arranging the assembly presenters, Jessica, Patrick and Rescue the dog last Monday, November 4 – it was one of our very best assemblies and the experience still reverberates throughout the school. And a BIG THANK YOU to Rescue, Jessica and Patrick – cards, letters and pictures will be on their way from our school!

If you are interested, here is a link to a wonderful video on Rescue: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEK3XpSW\\_ko](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AEK3XpSW_ko)

### TCB – Taking Care of Business

- Please be aware that the entrance to the 2nd parking lot/basketball court needs to be open and not blocked by parked cars. We need this as a parking lot during the school day (it turns back into a basketball court after school) so please either continue on into this lot or park elsewhere in the main lot.
- GATES! The school dept. installed gates at our bus loop entry to the back as well as on the driveway where the early childhood playground is – for safety. We have tried “policing” the back blacktop area to prevent students from getting hurt but it hasn't worked. Thank you for parking in our parking lot and walking to the playground/back doors.
- COLD WEATHER GEAR & SHOES – It appears that winter weather is upon us – at least for the next few days. We go outside for recess and breaks every day UNLESS it is raining or the temperature/windchill is below 15 degrees Fahrenheit. That means that student must come dressed for outdoor play in the cold – winter jackets, mittens, hat, scarves, boots and snow pants (if there's snow!). We have coats to lend/giveaway. If it is below freezing/32 degrees, students must wear jackets/coats – if they haven't brought one to school, they can borrow. It is a school rule – for safety. In the summer, we ask that students not wear flip flops – for safety. In the cold weather, we ask that they not wear crocs/slides when playing sports – again this is for safety.

THANK YOU for your attention, understanding and cooperation!

### CHANGES TO VISITING DAY POLICY

Visiting Days (which start in January) will only be for incoming KDG families, not caregivers in grades 1-5. This is a departure from what has been the practice and it is based on feedback from school personnel at all levels. I will speak to this change at upcoming Coffee Hours, PTO meetings and Council meetings and happy to discuss in person.

**NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY – in observance of Veterans Day. Have a safe and peaceful weekend.**



*Yours gratefully and respectfully,*

*Gwen Agna*  
Gwen Agna

# JSS PRINCIPAL SEARCH

## Monday, November 18th - Save the Date!

More information and times will follow. As soon as we know the number of finalists, a schedule will be shared.

### General Information:

JSS Principal Finalists Forums

Many forums will run simultaneously, and each candidate will meet separately in each forum:

Faculty/Staff (with facilitator)

PTO/School Council

SEPAC/REAL

ALT-Administrators

Caregiver/Community members (with facilitator)

A questionnaire will be available and collected at all forums so participants can share their thoughts with Superintendent Provost.

Childcare will be provided by NHS students at the Caregiver/Community Forum.

Submitted by Tracy Harrity, Executive Secretary to Superintendent John Provost

## JSS Art Corner

### For this month I want to highlight the Third Graders.

Over the past couple of months they have been working hard on their drawing skills. The first lesson focused on art history, and introducing them to Vincent van Gogh. Over the summer I went to the Springfield Art Museum and saw an amazing hands on exhibit featuring van Gogh. His Room in Arles was an actual room you could walk in and sit on his bed. This was my inspiration for the third graders to create their own room on paper. They created their furniture first, then drew the room lines to look 3-D. Their next project was choosing a photograph of an animal, drawing it larger onto their paper and coloring them using texture with colored pencils. The fun part was painting their frames for their portraits using Liquid Metal. This metallic paint made their frames look golden and beautiful! When they cut out the center of the frames the leftover paper was made into their own Art Journals. You may have seen your child drawing in their journals. The framed animals will be hanging in the hallways soon.

## PTO Meeting: Wednesday, November 13th

Please join us at our monthly PTO meeting on Wednesday, November 13th from 6:30-8pm! Find out how you can get involved in upcoming school events, hear from special guest Northampton Education Foundation board member, Marty Wohl, and collaborate with other JSS caregivers. We look forward to seeing you! As always, childcare and snacks provided.

Check out our PTO website for last month's meeting minutes at [jsspto.org](http://jsspto.org). Contact us at [jacksonstreetpto@gmail.com](mailto:jacksonstreetpto@gmail.com)

-Alana, Ashley, Beth, Johanna, + Marta

JSS Leadership Team

## Bake Sale Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone who donated baked goods and / or volunteered for a shift during the Election Day Bake Sale. The sale raised \$483 that will benefit all JSS students and staff. Thank You!

## Lost & Found

The Lost & Found is overflowing with shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, water bottles and more! Please stop by to see if you recognize items that belong to your student.

## NEF "Small Change Leads to Big Change" Coin Drive

Northampton Education Foundation is in the home stretch of its Endowment campaign - we are working hard to raise \$1 million by the end of 2019 for bigger grants for all the schools!

In November NEF is doing a "Small Change Leads to Big Change" coin drive in all six Northampton public schools. All money raised will go directly to the NEF Endowment. NEF will announce the total and thank all NPS students publicly on Dec. 3 (Giving Tuesday). See the attached flyers for more information about how your family can help!

## JSS HARVEST FESTIVAL REPORT

Thank you so much to everyone who helped plan and attended the JSS Harvest Festival and Garden Work Day last Wednesday! We were able to spread wood chips, stain and repair many of the benches, clean the shed and greenhouse, and get the garden ready for winter. It was really lovely to have the garden so full of people working, eating, and celebrating together! There are a few more weeks of garden classes with Hope this fall and then we will be out in the greenhouse come March starting seeds for the spring. If you are interested in volunteering with the JSS Garden in the future please email garden coordinator Kat Walmsley ([kwalmsley@northampton-k12.us](mailto:kwalmsley@northampton-k12.us)) to get on the garden volunteer email list and find out more ways to get involved!

## IN THE NEWS

👩 Laura Fallon, 5th grader Rose's mom, was re-elected to the Northampton School Committee on Wednesday!

👨 Andrew Smith, 2nd grader Silas's dad, ran for City Council - thank you, Andrew, for running!

👨 Alan Wolf, 4th grader, Millicent's dad, has been appointed Mayor David Narkewicz's Chief of Staff!

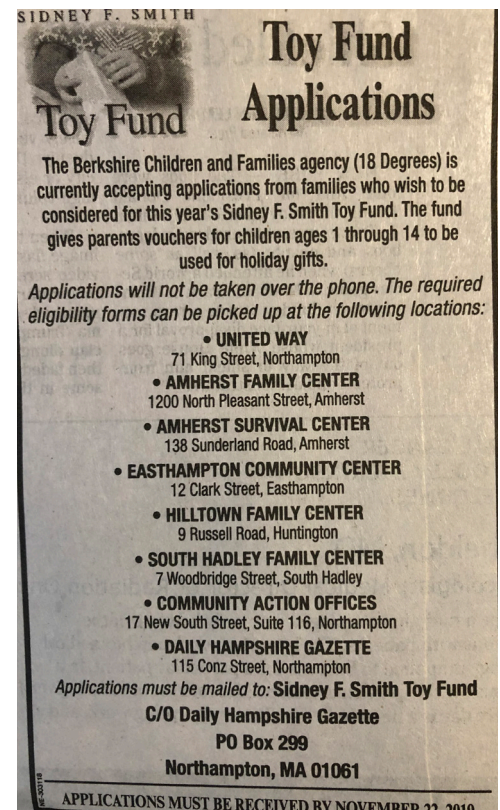
# MARK YOUR CALENDAR – We're always adding new dates so keep checking. PLEASE check the Northampton Public Schools website for district calendar updates.

Parents Hour in the Family Center the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, from 9-10AM, beginning Wed. Sept. 4. The JSS PTO meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

The Walking School Bus (Fall & Spring) – Ms. Agna alternates on Fridays around 8:10AM between the bike path (starting behind Stop and Shop) and Hampshire Heights, starting at the bottom of the hill near the CVS plaza.

- Mon. Nov. 11 NO SCHOOL – Veterans Day (observed) Holiday
- Wed. Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Break begins at 12:20PM
- Thurs. & Fri. Nov. 28 & 29 NO SCHOOL
- Wed. Dec. 4 Staff/Faculty Work (Half) Day dismissal at 12:20PM
- Fri. Dec. 13 Grades 1-5 Progress Report Cards go home in backpacks/folders
- Fri. Dec. 20 1:30PM All- school Assembly: Winter Solstice Celebration
- Mon. Dec. 23 -Wed. Jan. 2 (first day back) NO SCHOOL – December Holiday Break
- Thurs. Jan. 16 2:15PM All-school Assembly: Honoring MLK, Jr.
- Fri. Jan. 17 NO SCHOOL for students – Staff/Faculty Work Day
- Mon. Jan. 20 NO SCHOOL – MLK, Jr. Day
- Fri. Jan. 31 KDG Progress Report Cards go home
- Fri. Feb. 7 9:10AM All-school assembly - TBA
- Mon. Feb. 17-Fri. Feb. 21 NO SCHOOL – WINTER RECESS
- Thurs. Mar. 6 9:50AM - TBA
- Fri. Mar. 13 Staff/Faculty Work (1/2) Day – dismissal at 12:20PM
- Fri. Mar. 20 Grade 1-5 Progress Report Cards go home
- Fri. Apr. -3 10:30AM All-school Assembly: JFK Jazz Band performance
- Mon. Apr. 20-Fri. Apr. 24 – NO SCHOOL – SPRING RECESS
- Fri. May 15 Staff/Faculty Work (1/2) Day – dismissal at 12:20PM
- Mon. May 25 NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day
- Thurs. May 28 2:00PM KDG students host our JSS Grads (tentative date)
- Fri. June 12 180th Day – potential last day of school unless there are no snow days to make up  
9:15AM All-school Assembly: Ms. Agna reads “A Fine Fine School”

**ALL GRADES PROGRESS REPORT CARDS GO HOME ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL**



**SIDNEY F. SMITH**

## Toy Fund Applications

The Berkshire Children and Families agency (18 Degrees) is currently accepting applications from families who wish to be considered for this year's Sidney F. Smith Toy Fund. The fund gives parents vouchers for children ages 1 through 14 to be used for holiday gifts.

*Applications will not be taken over the phone. The required eligibility forms can be picked up at the following locations:*

- UNITED WAY  
71 King Street, Northampton
- AMHERST FAMILY CENTER  
1200 North Pleasant Street, Amherst
- AMHERST SURVIVAL CENTER  
138 Sunderland Road, Amherst
- EASTHAMPTON COMMUNITY CENTER  
12 Clark Street, Easthampton
- HILLTOWN FAMILY CENTER  
9 Russell Road, Huntington
- SOUTH HADLEY FAMILY CENTER  
7 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley
- COMMUNITY ACTION OFFICES  
17 New South Street, Suite 116, Northampton
- DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE  
115 Conz Street, Northampton

*Applications must be mailed to: Sidney F. Smith Toy Fund*  
**C/O Daily Hampshire Gazette**  
PO Box 299  
Northampton, MA 01061

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 22, 2019



## **Small Change Leads to Big Change!** *Be Part of the Change*

**Your coins can make a *big* difference!**

From **November 1 to 22**, coins collected by students in the Northampton public schools will go to the **Northampton Education Foundation (NEF)** Endowment for amazing grants in all our schools!

NEF will collect all the coins donated in November as part of our campaign to raise \$1 million for the NEF Endowment. The money will be invested and grow, creating larger grants for projects in all the public schools, *forever*.

During November, **please bring in coins** and put them in the jars in your school office. Check your pockets, your couch, your backpack. Maybe your family has a jar of coins? Those coins can make a *big* difference for the future of our schools!

We will announce the total and thank all the students on our website, on Facebook and on Dec. 3 for Giving Tuesday.

Let's see how much students throughout Northampton can raise together!

**Here's to change!**



[www.northamptoneducation.org](http://www.northamptoneducation.org)



## Pequeño dinero suelto lleva cambio grande! Sea parte del cambio

**Su dinero suelto puede hacer una *gran* diferencia!**

¡Del **primero de noviembre hasta el 22**, las monedas recogidas por los estudiantes de las escuelas públicas de Northampton irán a la Fundación de la **Northampton Education Foundation (NEF)** para becas maravillosas en todas nuestras escuelas!

NEF va a cobrar todas las monedas donadas en noviembre como parte de nuestra campaña de recaudar \$1 millón para la Fundación de NEF. Se invertirá y se aumentará el dinero, lo que va a crear becas más grandes para proyectos en todas las escuelas públicas, *para siempre*.

Por el próximo mes, **favor de presentar monedas** y ponerlas en las jarras en la oficina de su escuela. Revisen sus bolsillos, su sofá, su mochila. ¿Puede ser que su familia tenga una jarra de monedas? ¡Estas monedas pueden hacer una diferencia *grande* para el futuro de nuestras escuelas!

Vamos a anunciar la suma y dar gracias a todos los estudiantes en nuestro sitio web, en Facebook y el 3 de diciembre para el Giving Tuesday.

¡Veamos cuánto pueden recoger los estudiantes juntos a lo largo de Northampton!

Muchas gracias!



[www.northamptoneducation.org](http://www.northamptoneducation.org)