

JAMES F. DOUGHTY SCHOOL

TERRA NOVA

The 2008-09 school year marked a change in Bangor's use of a nationally normed measure of student achievement. The Terra Nova 3rd Edition replaced the MAT (Metropolitan Achievement Test) historically used in Bangor as an achievement measure. The MAT is no longer published.

Data generated from the Terra Nova, as was the data from the MAT, will inform Bangor's program evaluation, curriculum planning, student learning plans, and continuous school based improvement initiatives.

This year's administration of the Terra Nova is scheduled for March 29th through April 2nd. Certainly, it is important that students perform to the best of their abilities on the Terra Nova. Please make sure your child attends school during this testing period unless your child is ill.

Questions regarding Terra Nova testing may be directed to Guidance Counselor Cowie (941-6220).

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LAPTOPS AND INTERNET SAFETY

Laptops and other technology devices offer valuable resources to support teaching and learning. Laptops and computers used by students at JFD grades 6, 7 and 8 are protected with filtering software lessening the likelihood of students accessing sites which do not support classroom teaching and learning.

Of concern, however, are those instances when laptops are taken home by grade 7 and 8 students and the use of the laptop is not monitored by the parent/guardian. Without monitoring and/or supervision, students may stray, in many cases unintentionally, into sites potentially harmful and dangerous to them. Parents/guardians are asked to monitor their child's laptop use and to contact Mr. Goulette (941-6220) with questions and/or concerns regarding laptop use.

Noted below are websites providing safety tips for internet use. Parents are encouraged to review them and then to discuss safety on the internet with their child.

<http://www.netsmartz.org>

<http://www.safekids.com/child-safety-on-the-information-highway>

http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/net_safety.html#



TITLE I SCHOOL-PARENT AGREEMENT

The JFD Title I School-Parent Agreement a written, voluntary agreement between the school and the home of Title I students, is available for parents and citizens to view on-line at the JFD website.

Information regarding the JFD Title I program is available by contacting the school (941-6220) or by contacting Mr. Butler, the director of Title I services for the Bangor School Department (945-4400).



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HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Grade 8 students at J.F.D. began the high school course selection process Friday, February 5th as the Bangor High School guidance staff outlined requirements and offerings at BHS.

No later than Friday, March 19th, 2010 all grade 8 students at J.F.D. must submit to Mr. Cowie, guidance counselor at J.F.D., their registration card for next year signed by their parent or guardian. In the meantime, parents or students with questions about classes at BHS for grade 9 students are encouraged to contact Mr. Cowie to discuss registration.

Tuesday, March 23, 2010 BHS will hold its annual Showcase for parents and students. Each department at BHS displays projects and offers presentations and activities outlining opportunities available for students in the department. The Showcase begins at 6:30 with an orientation by BHS Principal Nickerson. Tours of the high school are available for interested students and parents.

BANGOR RAMS



EMERGENCY GUIDELINES

J.F.D. continues to make every reasonable effort to prepare for emergencies. Students and faculty practice fire drills, evacuations, and lockdowns. While no plan can prepare thoroughly for every eventuality, the safety of our students remains our priority.

Our safety plans have been developed in consultation with the Bangor Police Department, Bangor Fire Department, and members of the Bangor School Department leadership team.

Another measure in our school safety program has been implemented recently with the installation of security cameras and monitors.



ATTENDANCE

There are instances when absences from school can not be avoided. For example, when a child is ill home is the place to recover. Nevertheless, research indicates links between school attendance and academic achievement.

During the middle years of grades 6, 7, and 8, curriculum intensifies and expectations for performance increase. As a result, missed instruction can place students at a disadvantage in their learning. In instances where instruction is missed due to absences, parents are encouraged to have their child review with the teacher the instruction missed prior to attempting to complete the assignment.

When extended absences are unavoidable and parents/students request assignments, assignments will be available following the student's return to school providing an opportunity for the student to review with the teacher the missed instruction.

The Maine State Police provide a website <http://sor.informe.org/sor/> listing registered sex offenders. Parents are encouraged to monitor this site and to regularly discuss with their child safety precautions.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/teacher conferences are available to parents/guardians at any time during the school year. Conferences to review your child's learning and the quality of class work can be arranged by calling the school (941-6220).



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

J.F.D. maintains a database of student contact information including address, parent's name and residence, emergency contacts, cell phone, home and work numbers. From the database, mailing lists are generated as are other personal contacts. Obviously, in an emergency situation the data will be a primary source for contact. If any of your child's contact information has changed, please contact Mrs. Chaiken (941-6220) in the school office to update your child's directory information.

J.F.D. ANSWERING MACHINE

The main office at J.F.D. has an answering machine. Please leave a message on the J.F.D. answering machine informing the school of your child's absence or dismissal. A message may be left for a call from your child's teacher. The answering machine answers calls after 4 p.m. and before 7:30 a.m.

CAMP BANGOR

Entering the ninth and final season, Camp Bangor remains open to grade 6 students.

Camp Bangor extends \$500.00 scholarships to fourth, fifth, and sixth graders to attend any residential or day camp in Maine. The scholarships are made possible through the Libra Foundation.

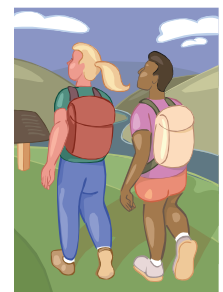
Parents with questions regarding Camp Bangor may contact the school or contact the Camp Bangor Director Sarah Yasner at the United Way of Eastern Maine (941-2800).

Applications are available from grade 6 teachers or from the school secretary.



STUDENT PARENT PLANS

Parents are encouraged to make plans ahead of time with their children regarding dismissals, after school care and/or activities, and arrangements for rides. Please leave messages in the office if there is an urgent need. Please arrange for routine communications before sending your children to school for the day. Thank you for your cooperation.



THEATRE AT J.F.D.



Book by Flip Kobler and Cindy Marcus

Music by Dennis Poore

Lyrics by Flip Kobler

Bangor schools have a rich tradition of providing opportunities for students to explore the arts. At J.F.D., students study both art and music for each of their 3 years at J.F.D. In addition to classroom study, students may elect to participate in one of the 3 performing musical groups and or elect to be active in the after-school art club.

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And, this year, Mrs. McPhee, and Mrs. Hanscom will be directing a student production of "Nottingham: A Totally Teen Musical".

Performances are scheduled for March 17th and 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the JFDS auditorium.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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- March 12th Fun Night 6:30-8:30
- March 17th School Play 6:30 JFDS Auditorium
- March 18th School Play 6:30 JFDS Auditorium
- March 19th No School In-Service
- March 23rd Showcase Bangor High School 6:30
- March 25th Spring Photos
- March 29th Terra Nova Testing Begins
- April 2nd Third Quarter Ranking Period Ends
- April 6th All City Band 7 p.m. Peakes Auditorium
- April 13th All City Orchestra 7 p.m. Peakes Auditorium
- April 19th-23rd Vacation