
MAPLE AVENUE MIDDLE SCHOOL
515 Maple Avenue
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866
518-587-4551

Stuart F. Byrne
Principal

Robert Loggins
Assistant Principal
Columbian Springs

Gerald Leger
Assistant Principal
Hathorn Springs

Susan Kichton
Assistant Principal
Excelsior Springs

Roseann Jackling
Assistant Principal
Red Springs

December 18, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is hard to believe that 2008 is almost over. We have been very busy at Maple Avenue Middle School, and I would like to compliment your children on their conduct and their attention to schoolwork.

Now that Winter is here, it is extremely important for parents dropping off or picking up students at Maple Avenue to follow the building's guidelines for doing this. Please be prepared to drop off your child between Points A and B in the drop-off zone, standing in line, continuing around the loop to exit the campus. Also, if you are picking your child up after an afterschool activity, please note that pick up should be no later than 3:20 p.m. for activities dismissed at 3:10 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and no later than 4:00 p.m. for activities dismissed at 3:50 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Each of our departments has been actively involved in identifying 21st Century Skills that our students will need to be successful. Some of the skills include: Global Awareness, Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy, Civic Literacy and Health Literacy, to name a few. These skills and activities will be incorporated in our district's curricula.

I would like to compliment our music students on the wonderful series of concerts that they have prepared for and performed in at the Middle School during December.

Our students will be taking the New York State English/Language Arts Assessment on January 21st – January 23rd. Some things to help your child perform as well as they can are to make sure they have both a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast.

Members of the English, Social Studies and Special Education Departments are joining together to promote literacy at Maple Avenue Middle School. During the week of January 20th, students will read an assortment of books that portray moments in Black History. They will compose original poems, stories, and essays to reflect their learning experiences. Letter writing and multi-media projects will also be explored. The Presidential Inauguration will be viewed throughout the building as a closure activity to our building's mock election and as a tie in to the before-mentioned activities.

On February 6th, the Maple Avenue sixth grade is the guest of the U.S. Olympic Luge Association at Lake Placid for World Cup Luge Competition. This is part of the curriculum dealing with contributions from the Greeks and Romans and the instilling of the Olympic spirit into the world and our culture.

February 7th marks the premiere of the musical “*Seussical*” being performed by a cast of Maple Avenue students. Performances will be on Saturday, February 7th at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and on Sunday, February 8th at 1:00 p.m.

The Salvation Army is conducting a free program for afterschool homework help at their Woodlawn Avenue location. Please visit the Maple Avenue Middle School Edline page for more information.

Below is a list of events scheduled to occur at Maple Avenue from now until the February break:

January 5	Classes Resume
January 14	PTSO Meeting, 7pm
January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – School Recess
January 21-23	Grade 6-8 ELA Testing
January 30	Second Quarter ends
February 7-8	<i>Seussical</i>
February 9	Report Cards Issued
February 11	PTSO Meeting, 7pm

Maple Avenue Middle School, although very busy, always has its focus on helping our students succeed to their greatest potential.

Wishing you Happy Holidays,

Sincerely,

Stuart F. Byrne
Principal

SFB/jec