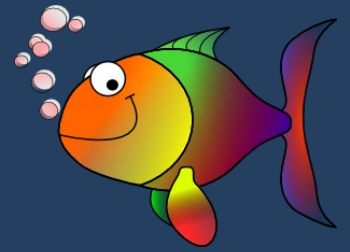


MSMHS FISH TALES



...that are true from the desk of Dr. Spera

Week of February 13, 2017

WHEN AND WHERE IS GRADUATION 2017?!?



GROTON, CT - The questions becomes almost ceremoniously to my inbox each year: "When and where is graduation?" "I need to know when graduation is for the graduation party." "I have family flying in and they want to book their flight today." All great and understandable questions, however, there is one major issue: we live in New England!

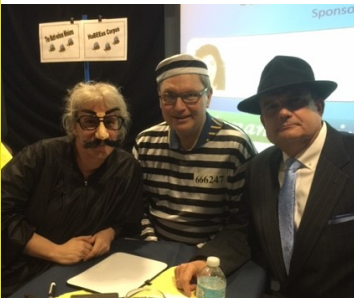
In Connecticut, high schools must announce the 'set in stone' graduation date by April 1st of the school year. Moreover, schools must complete 180 scheduled school days for graduation. With 180 school days set in the school calendar, each snow day means that we add an additional school day onto the end of the school year. Our first two snow days from last week move the end of school date from Thursday, June 8th to Monday, June 12th. Thus, the current graduation date is set for Monday, June 12th

at 6 pm on the campus of UConn Avery Point. As we have in the past, inclement weather on graduation day will move the MSMHS Commencement Ceremony to Leamy Hall on the campus of the United States Coast Guard Academy.

If it was only that easy! With more snow in the forecast this week, here is the another wrinkle to the scenario. If we have four more snow days and the last day of school is on Friday, June 16th, graduation will not take place that Friday. Since our graduation is at one of the most desired locations for weddings in Connecticut, we will never have our graduation on a Friday - big wedding day. Therefore, if the last day of school falls on a Friday, graduation will be the day before on Thursday.

So in summary to the questions that I receive, we really don't know when graduation is until it stops snowing!

Parents: We Need You to Form Teams!



Last year our PTO raised over \$12,500 at our PTO Spelling Bee. This year we are hoping to do the same, however, **we need our parents to form teams for the upcoming PTO Spelling Bee.**

For \$120, (\$40 a person) you and two others can dress up and participate with other parent teams for the *Battle of the Parents on Friday, April 28th at*

7 pm. **You do not have to be a great speller to win** (or find just 1 good speller for the group). **The key is finding two other people who want to have fun and get dressed up in a funny costume.**

Awards for the event are given for funniest parent team, best team name, best costume, most spirit, and best speller.

Here is how the Spelling Bee works:

- In teams of three, the emcee for the event says a word to eight teams competing against one another in the round.
- Working together, the teams have 30 seconds to write the word on a whiteboard.
- After time is up, each team holds the whiteboard up for the judges to find out if they spelled the word correctly (*above*)
- If a team misspells the word, they can use up to two 'lifesavers' (\$25 each) and stay in the round. Top two teams in each round advance to the Championship.

Please sign up today!! It is all about having fun and raising money for our amazing PTO! Your participation in this event allows our school to fund several important programs and provide resources for our students and school. If you have any questions, please contact our PTO President Jennifer Dipasquale at jdipasquale@learn.k12.ct.us.



UPCOMING EVENTS/PROGRAMS

A/B SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13th

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
A Day	B Day/ Advisory	A Day	B Day	A Day/ Advisory

NEXT PTO MEETING

TBA in Early March 2017

Upcoming Varsity MSMHS Fencing Meets

Saturday, February 25 - AWAY vs LOL & Bloomfield

Friday, February 27 - HOME vs North Haven

MSMHS PROM

Friday, May 26, 2017

Water's Edge Resort - Westbrook, CT

Tickets Sales will begin next week - Price TBA

GATOR'S GOT TALENT—NEW DATE

Friday, March 24th at 6 pm

Tryouts Friday, February 24th, Afterschool