

J. M. S. News. . . by Donald F. Gately

January 26, 2009

Quote of the Week:

"There is so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it behooves all of us not to talk about the rest of us."

- Robert Louis Stevenson,
Writer



Sweet Relief!

OK . . . that loud noise you heard coming from the middle school last Friday was the collective sigh of relief from students and staff who are happy to have completed the New York State Assessments in English Language Arts.

Everyone at the middle school worked extremely hard to prepare for these exams. Mrs. Bany, Mrs. McDonnell, and Mr. Salzman toiled long hours to create a schedule for the tests that would be minimally disruptive to the overall school program and allow our students the opportunity to do their personal best. The entire staff demonstrated professionalism and effort above and beyond the call of duty. Our students approached the tests with seriousness and a sincere desire to do their best.

Our S.E.L. theme for the month of January is Cooperation. This theme was most evident in the building during this challenging week. To the entire middle school family, I want to say "thank you" and congratulations on a job well done!

Parent Survey

Does your child participate in after school clubs?

<http://www.tigersurvey.com/survey.php?survey=9180>

Click on the above link to vote! Results to follow next week!

(SEE THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR LAST WEEK'S SURVEY RESULTS)



6th and 7th Grade Trip

Jericho Middle School is organizing a 6th & 7th Grade Trip to a L.I. Ducks Baseball game in June of this year. The Ducks stadium is a friendly and cozy venue, and the Ducks' organization and players make it a memorable event for the crowd. Please click on the following link for additional information: <W:\Parent Letters\LIDucksGame2009.pdf>

Jericho Middle School Parents Survey
"Results from last week's poll"

Choice	Total	Percent
Does your child eat breakfast before going to school?		
Yes	56	67%
No	27	33%
<u>Total Number of Responses</u>		83

Incoming 9th Grade Parents Meeting

Jericho High School would like to invite our current 8th grade parents to their **Incoming 9th Grade Parents Meeting** being held on **Thursday, February 5th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium**. Discussions from parents, students and guidance counselors' perspective will be provided. Students are encouraged to attend.

High School Course Information Night/Community Service Fair

Jericho High School would also like to invite current 8th grade parents to attend Course Information Night/Community Service Fair following the Incoming 9th Grade Parents Meeting later that evening which will take place from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Sam Springer Gymnasium. Course Information Night gives students and parents an opportunity to meet with staff and to gather information on course offerings prior to making course requests for next year.

In conjunction with Course Information Night is the Community Service Fair. Representatives from a variety of local organizations and agencies that serve the less fortunate have been invited to answer your questions and provide information to students and parents who are interested in making community service a meaningful part of their lives.

Staff Members of the Week:



Ms. Araceli Vidal - Spanish Teacher

This is Señorita Vidal's fifth year at Jericho Middle School and her seventh year teaching Spanish. She loves being here because the students are very nice and are excited to learn new things. You will hear her class singing Spanish songs or you can find her teaching the hip-hop dance intramurals or leading the Spanish club. In her spare time, Ms. Vidal loves to spend time with her friends and family, snowboard, exercise and travel! Every summer, she goes to Spain to work with a study-abroad program and to vacation.

Mrs. Cheryl Vallejo - Learning Center Instructor

Mrs. Vallejo has been a Learning Center Instructor at Jericho Middle School for 5-1/2 years. She loves working with the 7th grade students and teachers. She enjoys when current students and past students stop by and visit her in room 108. When she is not at school, she is home enjoying her family. Mrs. Vallejo is the proud mother of three children Salvador, 5, Nicolas, 4, and Sofia, 5 months old. Together, as a family they enjoy vacationing, going to the beach, and spending time with friends and family.



DATES TO REMEMBER

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| January 28 | Middle School Orientation - Incoming Grade 6 Parents Meeting - Auditorium - 7:00 p.m. |
| January 30 | Middle School Second Marking Period Ends |
| February 10 | Middle School POPS Concert - Auditorium - 7:30 p.m. |
| February 11 | Board of Education Meeting - Middle School Library - 7:30 p.m. |
| February 24 | Sixth, Seventh & Eighth Grade Guidance Evening Hours, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. |
- Recognizing that other commitments often make it impossible for parents to find time to meet with counselors during the regular school day, we will continue a program of evening meetings this year. If you would like to meet with your youngster's counselor but are unable to do so during the school day, please call the counselor in order to schedule an evening appointment.