



March 2023



March Events and Information

A Note from the Bancroft PTO

Spring is a busy time at Bancroft! This newsletter is jam-packed with important dates and calls for volunteers to help make our amazing events successful. Here's a quick preview of the spring events that currently need volunteers:

- March 31: Community Read Along
- April 26: Variety Show (*rehearsal on April 25*)
- May 6: Progressive Dinner
- June: 5th Grade Graduation (*date to be determined after snow days*)

Please read through the newsletter in its entirety to find out how you can get involved in each event. Please note that this is not inclusive of ALL of the wonderful events we have planned for the remainder of the year, just the ones we need volunteers for at this time. As always, we thank you in advance for your support. Parent volunteers make all of these events possible!

Attend the Bancroft Science Fair



Please join us as we welcome back the annual Bancroft Science Fair on **Wednesday, March 8 from 6:00-7:00pm** in the Bancroft Cafeteria. By attending this free event, you will be supporting Bancroft students as they showcase their unique, innovative, and creative science projects, experiments, and inventions.

If your student is signed-up to participate in the Science Fair, they should arrive at 5:45pm to set-up their table with their poster board as well as any other exhibits they'd like to display. T-shirts were delivered to the participants' classrooms on Friday, March 3 - we encourage kids to wear them to school tomorrow!

Please contact Justin Baker at jbaker618@gmail.com with any questions.

Next PTO Meeting is March 14

Please join us for our next PTO meeting on **Tuesday, March 14 at 7:00pm**. We will meet in-person in the Bancroft Media Center as well as virtually. Meeting info can be found on our website calendar and will also be posted in advance of the meeting on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#)).

In addition to our regular agenda, we will be joined by retired Bancroft teacher Dianne Caraviello who will share important information about Family to Family, including how to get involved. Family to Family is a group of community volunteers working together to help all Andover students and families access school and community opportunities through communication, transportation, and funding.

Save the Date for the Bancroft Play



Mark your calendars for **Friday, March 24** to experience Wizard of Oz, Bancroft style! The play will be put on by students in Grades 3-5 at Bancroft. All Bancroft students will have the opportunity to see the play during school hours that day. Details for the evening performance will be coming soon.

Please reach out to communications@bancroftpto.org with any other questions about the Bancroft play. We're excited to bring back this wonderful tradition!

Community Read Along

The annual Bancroft Community Read Along will take place at Bancroft School on **Friday, March 31**. Nearly 30 town officials, community leaders, retired teachers, and other community members will visit Andover classrooms to share their love of reading. Parent volunteers are needed to donate refreshments for the reader reception and/or greet readers (1:45pm arrival).

Click here to signup to donate or volunteer for the event

Bancroft's Variety Show



Bancroft students are invited to bring their best talents and perform on stage at the Collins Center! The auditorium is always packed for this popular spring event. Save the date for this year's **Variety Show: Bancroft's Got Talent** on **Wednesday, April 26!** Rehearsals will take place on Tuesday, April 25.

More details and performance signups coming soon!

It's Back: Progressive Dinner!



The Progressive Dinner is a fantastic night of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert hosted by our Bancroft family volunteers. This year the event takes place on **Saturday, May 6.**

The evening will kick off with all attendees meeting at a single location for appetizers and cocktails. Guests are then split into small groups for dinner prepared in the homes of our dinner hosts. The night ends as all guests reunite for dessert at a third location.

Before we open up the signups (and we'll be sure to give you a heads up when they're coming, they fill up quickly!), we are looking for volunteers to be hosts for the evening. **Please reach out to Danielle Solari (danpaw23@yahoo.com) and Christine Genaitis (genaitis@aol.com) to volunteer as a host house or for more information.**

Attention 5th Grade Parents!

It's hard to believe, but 5th Grade Graduation will be here before we

know it! The graduation celebration will be the second to the last day of school (currently set for Friday, June 16). Therefore, if we don't have additional snow days, 5th Grade Graduation will be held the afternoon of **Thursday, June 15**.

Plans are already underway to ensure we give our 5th graders a memorable graduation experience, but we need your help! We are currently seeking venue suggestions that can accommodate 100 students for this fun-filled event. Please let us know if you have a venue to offer or know of one that we should research. We would greatly appreciate suggestions by **Friday, March 17**. Please send your recommendations to communications@banroftpto.org.

Additional details will come as graduation gets closer!

Art to Remember



Our school is participating in a creative fundraiser with Art to Remember that allows you to purchase keepsake products customized with your child's art. There are over 60 products and many are less than \$15. These make great gifts and a percentage of every purchase goes right back to our school. Click on the link below and enter your child's name. Then, have fun shopping! The deadline to purchase items is **Friday, April 14**.

[PURCHASE ART](#)

Bancroft's Spark Night!

WORKOUT *with* BANCROFT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Join us for a Bancroft Night out at:



SPARK
FITNESS AND TENNIS CLUB



Wednesday March 29, 2023 | 6:30PM-8:00PM

Who: Bancroft Families & Faculty

What: Spin, Strength, & Stretch class (20 min. of each.)

Where: Spark Fitness and Tennis Club (Upstairs in Studio 01)

Cost: Free! (Just bring water, and sneakers.)

Sign up here: www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0549adaa2ba3fe3-workout1#/
or scan the QR Code above!

Why: To kick off Spring with good habits, good friends and some Bancroft cheer!

PTO sponsored drinks & apps to follow! 🍷

Congrats to Bancroft's Chess Team!



Students from Bancroft's chess team recently participated in a tournament with North Andover elementary schools. The tournament was held at Franklin Elementary School in North Andover on Friday, February 10. Bancroft emerged victorious in the beginner section of the tournament and performed admirably in the advanced section. The tournament was also covered by the [Andover Townsman](#). Members of the team met with Principal Leavitt this week to celebrate. Congratulations to all who participated!

Environmental Update



Bancroft is getting greener! Andover sustainability coordinator, Dr. Joyce Losick-Yang is leading the initiative for solar panel installation at Bancroft School and West El/Shawsheen Preschool. The project has been approved to move forward and four articles related to selecting a solar power purchasing agreement and the leasing of the rooftops will be voted on at the **Monday, May 1 [Andover Town Meeting](#)**. The power generated from the panels will offset energy use at Bancroft by an average of 51% and will free up funds that can be rerouted to other school programs. Read more in the [Andover Townsman](#).

Dr. Joyce Losick-Yang is also working with the Bancroft PTO to bring back the "Green Team" for the 2023-2024 school year, with some initiatives starting this Spring. The [Green Team](#) is an interactive educational program in the state of Massachusetts that empowers students and teachers to help the environment through waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, energy conservation and pollution prevention. Stay tuned for updates!

For questions or to get involved, please reach out to Caroline Hughes Wilder carolinehugheswilder@gmail.com.

Cultural Arts Volunteers



Cultural Arts Volunteers Needed!

Come give us a helping hand and get a front row seat to the amazing programs your kids get to take part in!

Want to see the planets up close, touch a wild animal, or learn a cool science experiment? The PTO is in need of volunteers to work with the great performers and educators coming to school this year. The cultural arts committee has booked great in-school events for every grade level, including a traveling planetarium, the Discovery Museum, authors, and scientists.

We need a few people to serve as liaisons between our guests and the school for the following upcoming events (and more):

- **Thursday, March 9:** Sheryl Faye Presents, Grades 2 & 4
- **Thursday, May 4:** Techsploration: Electricity, Grade 5

To learn more about the opportunities available, see a complete list of events, and to volunteer please sign up, click the button below:

[VOLUNTEER](#)

Your PTO Funds Hard at Work



Last week, the PTO purchased 80 boxes of Kleenex and 80 containers of Clorox wipes for Bancroft's teachers. Donations like these are made possible by your Bancroft Bucks donations, so THANK YOU!

Library Volunteers

Are you interested in volunteering in the library this year? If you already have an approved CORI (see below under Important Reminders) and are able to help please click [here](#) to sign up.

If you have not completed a CORI yet and would like to volunteer this school year, [please complete one as soon as possible](#) (see the Important Reminders section at the end of this email for more information).



Upcoming Community Events

Andover High School Building Update



Please join the Andover High School Building Committee and project team on **Thursday, March 9 at 7:00pm** in the Memorial Hall Library for our next community forum. Additional details can be found [here](#).

Also, the project committee is currently seeking public opinion via an online survey. All residents are invited to share their priorities for the new high school via [this link](#). Survey closes **Wednesday, March 15**.

For additional information about the project and to receive future project updates, please visit <https://andoverhighbuildingproject.org/>.

AHS Cheerleading Clinic

What better to do on a half day of school?

Come learn the basics of cheer: stunting, jumps, motion and tumbling!

Date: Friday, March 10
Time: 12:30 – 3:30 pm
Location: AHS Field House

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/CF8Uyj9iyk3CL46g7>
(or send participant name, grade, age and emergency contact name/# to Kirsten Ahearn)
Fee: \$60/athlete, please bring cash/check (to AHSVC) to clinic
Questions: kirsten.ahearn@gmail.com



Destination Imagination Tournament

The DI tournament is open to the public this year! If you have ever been curious about what Destination ImagiNation is, this is the event to see. Come support Andover's 21 teams on **Sunday, March 12** at Beverly Middle School and experience what makes DI such a wonderful program for kids to take part in.



Have you ever been curious about **Destination ImagiNation**?

Come to our tournament on **Sunday, March 12th** to see what it's all about!

9:00AM – 4:00PM
Beverly Middle School
502 Cabot St. Beverly MA 01915
Enter through the gym doors

Questions? Reach out to us at andoverdikids@gmail.com or visit our website at challengemeinc.org.

Project351: Donations Request

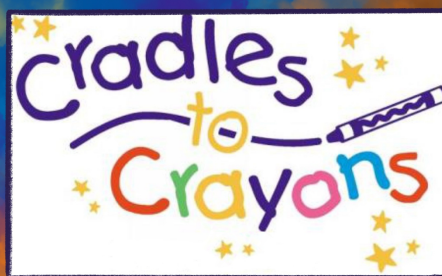


Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision, Project 351 is a nonprofit organization promoting youth led service. This year, a clothing drive is being held to help Cradles to Crayons!

Questions, contact 351andover2023@gmail.com

Donate your new or gently used clothes, ages 0 - 12 years

Between March 20th to March 30th!



Andover Soccer Association Spring Season



REGISTER TO PLAY TODAY!

Visit www.andoversoccer.org

- Players in grades K-4*
- No prior experience needed
- Spring season starts in April

**REGISTRATION
CLOSES MARCH
26th**

***Spring travel (grades 5-8) registration based upon availability.
Email travelregistrar@andoversoccer.org for inquiries.*

Kindergarten Kickers

Spring registration fees

- \$95 if registering after 2/28/23.



Grades 1 & 2

Spring registration fees

- \$140 if registering after 2/28/23.

Grades 3 & 4

Spring registration fees

- \$165 if registering after 2/28/23.

*Field Fund donation is not included in the registration fees.

Questions about intown registration,
email intownregistrar@andoversoccer.org.

Eligibility: Players must be residents of Andover, MA; attend school in Andover, MA; or parent teaches at Andover Public School in MA.



Be sure to follow us on
social media:

[ASA Facebook](#)

[ASA Instagram](#)

Town Elections on March 28

The town of Andover is holding elections on **Tuesday, March 28** for the following positions:

- Town Moderator
- Select Board Member
- School Committee Member
- Punchard Free School Trustees (two seats)

To find your polling location and learn more about how to participate in voting by mail, please visit: <https://andoverma.gov/348/Elections>.

Important Reminders

Andover Public Schools require a new Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check every school year for anyone who volunteers at a school or school event (i.e. field trip chaperones, volunteers for class parties, library duty, etc.). If you would like to volunteer during the 2022-2023 school year, please fill out the [APS CORI check form](#) and return it in person to a school administrator with an original government issued ID. Blank forms are also available at the front office. It can take 2-3 weeks for your application to process and you will not receive a notification once it's complete. You can confirm your status with the front office.

Upcoming Calendar Items

[Click here to access the full Bancroft PTO Calendar](#)
[Click here to view the full APS 2022/2023 calendar on the APS Website.](#)

March 8: Science Fair

March 9: Sheryl Faye Presents Ruth Bader Ginsberg, for Grades 2 & 4

- **March 10:** Early Release Day
- **March 13-23:** Bancroft Play Rehearsals
- **March 14:** Bruins Spirit Day (last day of the Pajama Drive)
- **March 14:** PTO Meeting (7:00pm at Bancroft)
- **March 17:** St. Patrick's Day/Bancroft Spiritwear Day (wear green), Brian Corcoran enrichment
- **March 20:** Bio Bio Bio Diversity, for Grade 2

- **March 21:** Strings concert (7:00pm at High School), for Grades 4-12
- **March 22:** Band concert (7:00pm at the High School), for Grades 4-12
- **March 24:** Bancroft Play Performances; Discovery Museum, Force & Motion, for Grade K
- **March 29:** Origamido, Origami Program, for Grade 4
- **March 31:** Bancroft Community Read Along
- **April 7:** Bancroft Spiritwear Day
- **April 14:** West Africa Bamidele, for Grades K-5
- **April 17-21:** NO SCHOOL (Patriot's Day and April Vacation)
- **Additional PTO Meeting Dates:** 5/9 (7:00pm at Bancroft)

HAVE NEWS TO SUBMIT TO THE BOBCAT? Email us at communications@bancroftpto.org. All submissions must be received by the end of the month to be included in the next monthly update.

Bancroft PTO

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