



April 2024



Spring Events Summary

- [Books for Bingo Event](#): Join Principal Leavitt for a family bingo night on Thursday, April 4 at 6:00pm.
 - [School Play](#): Come see Bancroft's production of Willy Wonka (Wednesday, April 10 in school, students only, and Thursday, April 11 at 6:30pm).
 - [Parents' "Walk & Talk" Event](#): Join fellow Bancroft parents for a fun springtime stroll downtown on Friday, April 26 at 9:30am.
 - [Spring Book Fair](#): Student shopping will take place during school hours the week of April 29. Parent shopping night on Friday, May 3.
 - [Spring Fling](#): Save the date for this fun school dance on Friday, May 3 from 6:00-8:00pm.
 - [Staff Appreciation Week](#): We'll celebrate Bancroft staff the week of May 6. Sign up now to help out!
 - [Ceramics Paint Night](#): Join us for this fun event on Thursday, May 16 at 6:00pm.
 - [Progressive Dinner](#): Dinner and dessert host houses still needed! Save the date for this popular event, held on Saturday, May 18.
 - [Spiritwear](#): Gear up for spring with Bancroft Spiritwear.
 - [Talent Show](#), [Flower Arranging Parents Night Out](#), and [Community Read Along](#) Recaps: See photos from these fun March events!
 - Ongoing: [Library](#) and [Cultural Arts](#) volunteers needed, [CORI reminders](#), and [PTO Volunteer Cancellation Policy](#).
 - [Community Events](#): Annual Town Meeting, Earth Day events, Crafts in the Park, Step Up for Colleen Walk/Run, Sidney's Rainbow Runners Spring Sessions, AHS Marching Band Bottle Drive, and more.
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Books for Bingo Event



Please join Principal Leavitt for Bancroft's annual Books for Bingo event on **Thursday, April 4 at 6:00pm** in the Bancroft cafeteria. For every round of bingo won, participants get to take home a free book.

Register to attend the event by clicking the button below. Please consider bringing a non-perishable food item for the Ballardvale Food Pantry.

[Register to Attend Books for Bingo](#)

Bancroft Presents... Willy Wonka!



We are so excited for Bancroft's production of **Willy Wonka!** The play will be put on by students in grades 3-5 at Bancroft. The kids have been working hard and are gearing up for the in-school performance on **Wednesday, April 10** (day, students only) and evening performance on **Thursday, April 11** (evening at

6:30pm). There is no charge for tickets, click the button below to reserve your seats today, space is limited!

Please reach out to communications@bancroftpto.org with any questions. Break a leg!

Notes: Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka KIDS is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY (212) 541-4684 mtishows.com. The play is based on the book Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl.

[Reserve Your Show Seats Today!](#)

Join Us for Our First Ever "Walk & Talk" Event



Step into spring with our first ever Parents' "Walk & Talk" event on **Friday, April 26 at 9:30am**. We'll meet at Ultimate Perk and will take a 3-mile (or so) stroll around downtown. Feel free to bring younger siblings in strollers.

So we can have an approximate headcount and reach out if we need to reschedule due to weather, please click the button below to register. See you there!

[Register for the "Walk & Talk" Event](#)

Spring Book Fair



For the Bookworm in All of Us!

Mark your calendars, Bancroft families! Our much-anticipated Spring Book Fair is happening the week of April 29!

We're thrilled to announce that this year we're partnering with Fantastic Book Fairs for an unforgettable literary experience. Fantastic Book Fairs is a collaboration between two independent bookstores, The Book Oasis and The Book Rack. They are dedicated to delivering hassle-free, high-quality book fairs to schools.

Please note that this will be a cash-only event, so we're asking parents to preview the available books with their child and send in cash in a bag/envelope labeled with their name. Be advised that sales tax will be charged so please include an extra dollar for every ten dollars you give your child.

We will also have a parent shopping night on Friday, May 3 during the Spring Fling. A [preview catalog can be viewed here](#) to help plan/budget. Stay tuned for more information from teachers about when your child(ren)'s class will be shopping.

To make this event a success, we're calling for parent volunteers to assist with setup and classroom buying times. Your involvement will make a world of difference! Please sign up by clicking the button below.

[Volunteer at the Spring Book Fair](#)

[Save the Date: Spring Fling!](#)

SPRING FLING: OUT OF THIS WORLD

Friday, May 3 6-8pm
SAVE THE DATE



Planning is already underway for this year's Spring Fling, which will take place **Friday, May 3 from 6:00-8:00pm** in the Bancroft Cafeteria. We will blast off into outer space with dancing, music, pizza dinner, and lots of fun!

This event wouldn't be possible without parent volunteers and we are still seeking some additional help to make the evening a success. Specifically, are seeking contributions of themed gift baskets, which will be raffled off at the end of the dance (always a HUGE hit with the kids). We also need help decorating the cafeteria, selling raffle tickets during the event, and cleaning up afterwards.

More information coming soon about how to volunteer and purchase tickets, so stay tuned! It's sure to be out of this world!

Staff Appreciation Week



This year, we're helping to shower our teachers and staff with love each day of Staff Appreciation Week (**the week of May 6**) and we need your help. Rather than having families do small things throughout the week that don't necessarily benefit all 125 of our teachers and staff, we are asking parents and groups to help us centralize the activities. We have a variety of things planned, including student appreciation artwork, breakfast, treats, and more!

If you can help make this week a success, please sign up to donate any of the requested items listed on the SignUpGenius form linked to in the button below.

Stand by for another sign up coming soon to help with the staff luncheon being held on **Thursday, May 9**. Thank you in advance for your help! Our teachers and staff deserve it!

[Click Here to Volunteer for Staff Appreciation Week](#)

[Save the Date: Ceramics Painting Night](#)



Join us for a fun evening of arts and crafts! Children are invited to paint ceramics on **Thursday, May 16 at 6:00pm** in the Bancroft Cafeteria. More details and a signup coming soon!

[The Progressive Dinner is Back!](#)



The PTO is excited to be bringing back the Progressive Dinner!

What is The Progressive Dinner? A fun PARENTS ONLY social event for parents of current Bancroft students to mingle and meet each other.

When: Saturday, May 18

Cost: \$75 per person (ALL proceeds go to the Bancroft PTO)

As always, financial support for this event will be available for any parent(s) that needs it and this can be arranged by reaching out to communications@bancroftpto.org.

How it works:

1. Everyone starts at the "Appetizer House" to kick the night off with light apps and drinks. When you arrive you will find out where your next stop will be for the dinner portion of the night!
2. From the Appetizer House you will head to your assigned host's home for the dinner portion of the evening. Each "Dinner House" will have multiple other Bancroft parents to get to know each other and enjoy dinner. We will do our best to match parents that have children in the same grade(s).
3. After dinner, the night will then move on to the "Dessert House" where everyone will reconvene to continue the party!

In order to make this fun night happen we need to have 8-10 volunteers sign up to be a Dinner Host. We are also looking for a host for the Dessert House. The first FIVE volunteers that sign up to host will receive flowers for your dinner!

FAQs

- Hosts can sign up with another Bancroft family so you can host the dinner together!

- Hosts will need to cover the cost of the dinner but your Progressive Dinner registration cost will be waived.
- Dinner does not need to be fancy! You can cook, grill, cater, whatever you prefer! The purpose of the night is really to socialize and enjoy your time with other parents and not stress about hosting!

For questions or to sign up to be a host, please contact denise.h.baur@gmail.com.

Gear up for Spring with Bancroft Spiritwear



Spring into the warmer weather with a Bancroft Spiritwear refresh! Our Zazzle store is full of unique Bancroft designs for t-shirts, sweatshirts, socks, and more. Order online and have shipped directly to you! Need something last minute or you're hooked on our iconic Spiritwear we've all come to know and love? Have no fear, they're still here! Order today and one of our wonderful volunteers will reach out to coordinate getting those over to you.

[Click Here to Purchase Spiritwear](#)

Event Recap: Bancroft's Talent Show



There's no denying it... Bancroft's Got Talent! Our Bancroft community is full of incredible singers, dancers, musicians, gymnasts, and so much more! A huge THANK YOU to all of the creative students who showcased their incredible talents last month. What a special night!

Click the button below to view photos from the Talent Show. Video coming soon!

[Click Here to View Talent Show Performances](#)

[Event Recap: Community Read Along](#)



The annual Bancroft Community Read Along was held on **Friday, March 22**. Twenty-five town officials, emergency responders, retired teachers, and other community members visited Andover classrooms to share their love of reading. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the day a success!

Event Recap: Parents Night Out



A group of Bancroft parents gathered at Konjoian's Greenhouses last week to design spring floral arrangements. This is just the first of many parent social events designed to foster deeper connections with our amazing Bancroft community. A special shout out to the parent volunteers who helped plan and organize this fun night out!

Library Volunteers Needed



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 the buttons below to sign up. Library volunteers are in particular demand and can come in at any time that's convenient for them, not just during their child's appointed classroom time.

[Click Here to Volunteer in the Library](#)

Cultural Arts Volunteers Needed

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!

McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center - Concord, MA

TOP SECRET
Science & Math
Amazing Hands. On Education.

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, particularly for these upcoming events:

- **Friday, April 12:** West African Bamidele (Grade K-5)
- **Tuesday, April 23:** Mass Audubon (Grade K)
- **Thursday, May 2:** Techsploration (Grade 5)
- **Tuesday, May 21:** Sheryl Faye Presents Abigail Adams (Grade 3)

- **Thursday, May 30:** Touch Tank (Grade 1)

To learn more about the opportunities available and to volunteer, click the button below.

[Volunteer at a Cultural Arts Event](#)

PTO Volunteer Cancellation Policy

We couldn't accomplish a fraction of what we do without the amazing support of our families and the volunteers who help make each and every event a success. We understand that life is unpredictable and sometimes our volunteers have to cancel at the last minute. But we ask that if you have to cancel within 48 hours of a scheduled event, including library volunteers, please reach out to us directly at communications@bancroftpto.org and let us know. Please don't just delete the signup entry, as we may not see that in time to make other arrangements. We also ask that you make an attempt whenever possible to find someone to take your spot. Many thanks for your understanding and continued commitment to our students.

Important Reminders: CORI

Andover Public Schools require a new Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check every 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 2023-2024 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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Town Meeting

Andover's 2024 Annual Town Meeting will begin on **Monday, April 29 at 7:00pm** at the Collins Center for the Performing Arts at Andover High School. Andover voters will have the opportunity to weigh in on the FY2025 budget, adoption of a new Town Seal, how the town is governed in the future, and a host of other important topics.

A Special Town Meeting will be held beginning on **Tuesday, April 30 at 7:00pm** to consider adoption of Multifamily Overlay District to achieve compliance with the MBTA Communities zoning law.

The full warrants for Annual Town Meeting and the Special Town Meeting can be viewed online at: andoverma.gov/townmeeting.



Sidney's Rainbow Runners Spring Sessions



Sidney's Rainbow Runners

Sidney's Rainbow Runners, inspired by Sidney Olson's love of running and the outdoors, is offering both **spring and summer sessions**.

The group's goal is to inspire a love of running in all elementary age children. The program focuses on making running fun, using games and active play to build strength, speed, and mobility in an enjoyable low-key atmosphere, working

as a team to make progress together.

The spring session will be at SHED Children's Campus in Andover and will run from **April 24-June 12 on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30-5:30pm** (8 weeks total). Sign up for the spring session [here](#).

The summer session of Sidney's Rainbow Runners will be **July 8- August 16**, running three mornings per week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00-9:00am. Runners can join for all six weeks or opt for any two-week sessions starting July 8, July 22, or August 5. Summer session takes place at the Greater Lawrence Technical School track. Register for the summer sessions [here](#).

Earth Day in Andover



Celebrate Earth Day 2024 with several fantastic events across Andover. A sampling of activities either led or supported by the Town is shown below. More programming is in the works and will be added to the new [Local Sustainability Programming webpage](#).



Public Works
Annual
Earth Day Cleanup Event
April 27, 8 AM

SUSTAINABILITY YOUTH FAIR

Join our community in celebrating youth contributions to climate action at the Youth Sustainability Fair!

Sustainable Activities
Climate Games
Art Showcase
Live Music
Food Truck

APRIL 27th
1:00 - 3:00
Andover Cormier Youth Center
14 WHITTIER CT

Additional Community Happenings

Doherty Drama Club
Production of

Book by DAVID SIMPATICO

Original Songs by
Matthew Gerrard & Robbie Nevil, David N. Lawrence & Faye Greenberg,
Randy Petersen & Kevin Quinn, Bryan Louiselle,
Jamie Houston, Andy Dodd & Adam Watts, Antonina Armato & Tim James

Music Adapted, Arranged and Produced by Bryan Louiselle

Based on a Disney Channel Original Movie Written by Peter Barsocchini

Friday, April 5th — 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 6th — 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 7th — 2:00 p.m.

West Middle School 70 Shawsheen Rd., Andover, MA
Tickets \$10.00

Tickets available in advance at Andover Bookstore or at the door
Disney's High School Musical 2 is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

ANDOVER COMMUNITY SERVICES PRESENTS

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEER FAIR

10AM-1PM
17 APR.

THE CORMIER YOUTH CENTER
40 WHITTIER CT. ANDOVER MA

Drop in to meet local non-profit organizations that need your help! Grab a snack, get information, and become a volunteer!

Volunteer Fair
April 17, 10:00am-1:00pm

CLOSET CLEANOUT
Run by the AHS Sophomore Board

Who?-Anyone with extra clothes!
What?-Donations of soft goods (clothes, shoes, stuffed animals blankets, pillows)
All donations are optional.

Where?-West Middle School
When?-April 27, 2024, 8:30-2:00
How?-Drop off goods to donate!



Step Up for Colleen 5k Walk/Run

May 5, 8:30am, Town Common

[Click here for more information.](#)

AHS Sophomore Board Closet Cleanout

April 27, 8:30am-2:00pm

[Click here to register.](#)



Crafts in the Park
May 11, 10:00am-4:00pm

[Click here for more information.](#)



AHS Band Bottle Drive
May 18, 9:00am-12:00pm

Upcoming Calendar Events

[Click here to access the full Bancroft PTO Calendar](#)

[Click here to view the full APS 2023/2024 calendar on the APS Website.](#)

- **April 4:** Family Bingo Night hosted by Principal Leavitt (6:00pm at Bancroft)
- **April 5:** Bancroft Spiritwear Day
- **April 10:** In-school performance of Willy Wonka
- **April 11:** Evening performance of Willy Wonka
- **April 12:** West Africa Bamidele (Grades K-5)
- **April 15-19:** NO SCHOOL - Patriot's Day & April Break
- **April 23:** Mass Audubon (Grade K)
- **April 25:** Family Board Game Night hosted by Principal Leavitt (6:00pm at Bancroft)
- **April 26:** "Walk & Talk" event (9:30am at Ultimate Perk)
- April 29-May 3: Spring Book Fair Student Shopping
- **May 3:** Spring Fling (6:00-8:00pm at Bancroft); Spring Book Fair Parent Shopping Night
- **May 6-10:** Staff Appreciation Week
- **May 7:** Last PTO Meeting of the year (7:00pm in the Media Center)
- **May 18:** Progressive Dinner
- **May 21:** Sheryl Faye Presents Abigail Adams (Grade 3)
- **May 29:** Windows on Wildlife Birds of Prey (Grade 4)
- **May 30:** Touch Tank (Grade 1)
- **May 31:** Museum of Science Field trip (Grade K)

- **June 7:** Ice Cream Social & Fun Run (4:30-6:30pm)
- **June 13:** 5th Grade Moving Up Party (11:30am)
- **TBD:** Staff End of Year Luncheon

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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