

FRANCIS WYMAN SCHOOL

The year 1999 passed in a buzz of excitement and activities at the Francis Wyman School. Our Artist in Residence program focused on the “Bicentennial Celebration”. This year we had a “Burlington Birthday Party”, the school and the P.T.O. sponsored a float in the Bicentennial Parade and every classroom created an original quilt. The quilts were displayed on Arts Night and everyone was impressed with the quality of the work. A special thank you to Mrs. DeAngelis, Mrs. York and their parent volunteers for their efforts producing our wonderful quilts.

Nineteen ninety-nine brought with it the usual staff changes in a faculty of this size. Miss Brenda Vinecomb retired after many years of teaching in Burlington, Mrs. Lisa Screnci-Hughes, Mrs. Donna York and Mrs. Doreen Began are presently out on maternity leave. Mrs. Carrie Fortunato has replaced Ms. Vinecomb and the above staff, on maternity leaves, have been temporarily replaced.

Nineteen ninety-nine was the record year of the M.C.A.S. testing. The tests were once again very long and very difficult. The preparation for the test and the testing itself went very smoothly. The students at the Francis Wyman showed progress in most areas, notably the percentage of students moving from the Needs Improvement Category to the Proficient Category. The educational program at the Francis Wyman is under constant reevaluation and our most recent adjustments in the writing and language area are directed at improving our performance in the upcoming M.C.A.S. testing.

The P.T.O. and the parents have once again risen to the occasion, their tireless efforts on their children’s’ behalf are inspirational to us all.

We look forward to the year two thousand with great hope and anticipation. We look forward to, we hope, improved M.C.A.S. scores, a resident sculptor, the completed wiring of the building for Technology and, last and foremost, maintaining the warm and nurturing atmosphere that makes the Francis Wyman School an exciting place to be.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Cabral
Principal

MEMORIAL SCHOOL

The past twelve months at Memorial School have brought a new dimension to the work we are doing. The Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks along with MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System) require a new approach to addressing the traditional focus areas of an effective school. No longer are we operating within the confines of our individual buildings or districts. Today, everything we do has a direct relationship to the expectations, standards, and values of a common plan designed to provide all students in Massachusetts with a quality education. The key words and concepts in today’s schools are high standards, systematic approaches, consistency, and common language. At Memorial School and throughout the district, teachers and administrators are working hard to align curricula with the Massachusetts Frameworks. At the same time, we are designing systems for teaching and learning that are consistently applied throughout the grades and across the disciplines. To support these systems and promote success, every student and teacher must have equal access to the highest quality programs, materials, and techniques. *Providing people with a safe and pleasant environment is still at the top of the list. Treating each other with dignity and respect will always be at the heart of our quest for excellence. However, the bottom line is preparing people, students and teachers, to be academically and professionally successful.* With these three goals in mind as they relate to Massachusetts Education Reform, let me review our progress in the three major areas of the Memorial School Improvement Plan:

- *Building and Grounds* - Regular care and maintenance are priorities at Memorial. School. As a result, the building is safe, clean, and comfortable. Since my last report, we have installed ADA compliant hardware on our doors, purchased new furniture for two classrooms, replaced water coolers and installed water filters, serviced and replaced bathroom fixtures and plumbing, updated and added some air conditioning, improved the kitchen, and replaced four exterior doors. Outside, portions of the building were painted and additional landscaping was completed. Thanks to the hard work of our custodians and the support of both the school and recreation departments, the building and grounds are in good shape.
- *Computers and Technology* - In addition to our computer lab, all classrooms, offices, and the library have at least one computer while some classrooms have as many as