
Highlights Week of: April 23, 2018

Tobin K-8 School

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Welcome back Tobin Tigers!!

We hope everyone enjoyed a safe and healthy Spring recess. We are excited to return to our school for a full week of planning, teaching and learning across classrooms.

As we begin the week, let us remember the values, attitudes and beliefs we embrace that reflect a shared commitment to learning and growing together. Let us say aloud the Tobin Way with energy and walk the words we profess.

As we transition through the hours and days ahead, may we showcase our guiding values that include empathy, kindness, hard-work, self-regulation, humility, compassion, tolerance, respect and grace. These values are like gems on a necklace we share together.

Let us curate and wear these gems in our words, choices, and deeds in hallways, common areas, play-yards and across classrooms. Let us continue to sustain a foundation of respect, tolerance and understanding in our diverse community. We are Team Tobin!!



Upcoming Dates:

- **April 23, 2018**

Grade 2 Fire Prevention Workshop, 9:45am

- **April 24, 2018**

MCAS "Office Hours" Session: CBT Tasks to Complete After Testing (Mr. Holly), 10:00-11:30am

- **April 25, 2018**

Team PD, 8am

- **April 25, 2018**

Term 3 Middle School Report Card Window closes today

- **April 26, 2018**

City-Year/Tobin K-8 Before-school program Talent Show, 8:00-9:15am

- **April 26, 2018**

ForsythKids Visit, K-8

BPS PD Opportunities:

- **April 26, 2018**

Free training for the Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Endorsement is being offered by the Office of English Learners which principals/assistant principals and supervisors/directors who supervise or evaluate such teachers must obtain as a licensure requirement. Go to MyLearningPlan

Contact: Adeleine Celestin

• Grade 2 Fire Prevention Workshop, Monday, April 23 @ 9:45am:

Ms. Hall, Ms. McNamara, Ms. McKendall, Ms. Verdu will transition with students to the auditorium at 9:40am sharp to participate in the Fire Prevention Workshop. The workshop is sponsored by the BPS and the Boston Fire Department. Our contact person is Michelle, McCourt, Education Coordinator
617-343-3337 michelle.mccourt@boston.gov

• Mid-Year Warning Notices Due Monday, April 30, 2018 (Extension):

We printed, distributed and emailed Mid-Year notices for Grade K and Grade 1-5 on Tuesday, April 24th. Notices also posted on the Tobin Handbook <http://tobink8.org/handbook.html> | Progress/Report Cards Tab in English and Spanish. **The deadline for completing Mid-Year Warning Notices is Monday, April 30, 2018.**

In accordance with *BPS Promotional Policy*, pp.13-15 (see attached), students must fulfill several requirements to be promoted to the next grade. BPS Educators must complete a Mid-Year Warning Notice for students who do not meet BPS Promotional Policy requirements. Those requirements include: ASPEN Grade Reports, Performance assessments in ELA, Math and Attendance.

As with past practice, students will not be considered for retention and/or summer school without a Mid-Year Warning Notice on file. In addition, a record of communication is also required. Communication includes: phone calls, letters, progress reports, mid-term warning notices and other forms of communication. Please let us know if you have any questions.

• BPS Summer Programs Information Kiosk, 2018

Summer is right around the corner, and the Office of Expanded Learning Time is happy to announce that BPS will offer 50+ Summer student programs in the 5th Quarter Portfolio! Please click on the planning documents below for information about K-12 programming options, registration, and a general FAQ!

- BPS Summer Learning Memo_For School Leaders 4.13.18

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YwpnnEFrM_ArbXm09kqffKmQ2atTgmeSZ3PrckHa1s4/edit

- BPS Summer Learning FAQ_School Leaders, 2018

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_7vQTYWEERr1vYwkMzCLnNs8TNjwniy3Qq6MGIONOIY/edit

- BPS Summer Learning Program Offerings, 2018

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wl1LkGkd16a6CkaV8PLB2Tz4xR52Khpuj_dGZCGyDc/edit

- BPS Summer Program 5th Quarter Details for School Staff, 2018

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17FVe6nxQAEdAA_kvKlg9dJgOr2gZxypKTO5mymR2pRA/edit-gid=0

- How to Register a Student for Summer School on ASPEN, 2018

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lcKaiTJtmh0cbYta7gnb4E7c7mvFE1FxoZ12waKlo4/edit>

BPS Summer Learning Team Contacts:

summerlearning@bostonpublicschools.org

Stephanie Philippe

sphilippe@bostonpublicschools.org

Lauren Barry

lbarry@bostonpublicschools.org

• NC List for Term 3 Middle School:

Reminder, the term 3 grading window for students in grades 6-8 is open from April 5th to April 25, 2018. Attached please find the NC lists for Term 3.

- HR 203 - 1 student
- HR 204 - 4 students (see attached)
- HR 205 - No students on NC List
- HR 207 - 6 students (see attached)

Reminder, please communicate with colleagues including ARTS/Specialty educators if/when ANY students are removed from the NC list. As previously announced, BPS policy states that a student with more than three (middle and high school) or four (elementary school) unexcused absences in a marking term, or more than 12 unexcused absences for the year, will receive a grade of NC (no credit) if the student otherwise earned a passing grade. If the student has not earned a passing grade, he or she will receive an “F” or a “1” (fail).

• Tobin K-8 | MCAS Spring 2018 Support and Planning Page:

The MCAS page <http://www.tobink8.org/mcas.html> is designed for Tobin/BPS educators to utilize information from DESE to support forward planning for Spring 2018 MCAS assessments. The MCAS page features a drop down menu for Test administrator training and a set of planning tools for ELA, Math and Science. DESE Blueprints for the MCAS assessments reference the number of MCAS test sessions, question type descriptors, points per question/category and other helpful information within each menu.

We support the ongoing use of MCAS **ELA** Graphic organizers, Bilingual Word-to-Word Dictionaries, **Math** Reference Sheets, **Math** and **Science** Equation Editor Guides and Symbol keys AND the sustained use of MCAS Student tutorials and MCAS Practice tests for Spring 2018. Let’s continue...



1. Go to Tobin/MCAS Support Page <http://tobink8.org/mcas.html> to access the Tobin Training Modules 1-7, and the **ELA**, **Math** and **Science** drop down resources menus for planning and student preparation for Spring 2018

2. Access MCAS Student Tutorial and Practice Tests Updated for Spring 2018 <http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/student>

3. Access Paper-based Practice Tests for additional practice (PBT – Grade 3/6) <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/testadmin/practice/pbt.html>

• MCAS Equation Editor for Mathematics and Science, Spring 2018:

In preparation for Spring 2018 MCAS assessments we recommend educators in grade 3-8 share the tips for using the Math equation editor with a review of the symbols for students. As a result, students will be equipped to use the Equation Editor (EE) tool embedded in CBT Mathematics and STE MCAS Tests to illustrate thinking and approach to math items. To access the guides and keys go to: <http://tobink8.org/mcas.html> and click the Math or Science drop down menus.

Equation Editor Guide for Grades 3-5

<http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/resources/student/EquationEditorGuideforGrades3-5.pdf>

Equation Editor Symbols for Grades 3-5

<http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/resources/student/EquationEditorSymbolsKeyforGrades3-5.pdf>

Equation Editor Guide for Grades 6-8

<http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/resources/student/EquationEditorGuideforGrades6-8.pdf>

Equation Editor Symbols for Grades 6-8

<http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/resources/student/EquationEditorSymbolsKeyforGrades6-8.pdf>

• MCAS Graphic Organizers, Checklists, and Supplemental Reference Sheets, Spring 2018:

To access the Spring 2018 approved graphic organizers, checklists, and supplemental reference sheets go to <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/accessibility/organizers/> The approved graphic organizers, checklists, and supplemental reference sheets listed in the table below (see inset) are for use by students with disabilities in grades 3–8 who have this MCAS accommodation (A9 from the Accessibility and Accommodations Manual for the Spring 2018 MCAS Grades 3–8 Tests) listed in their IEPs or 504 plans.

Tobin School leadership and the DESE encourages schools to familiarize students with these tools, since students should be comfortable using their graphic organizer or reference sheet during MCAS testing.

Approved ELA Graphic Organizers	Approved Supplemental Mathematics Reference Sheets	Sample STE Reference Sheets
W MCAS Grades 3 and 4: Short Response	W MCAS Grade 3	W MCAS Grade 5
W MCAS Grades 3-5: Essay	W MCAS Grade 4	W MCAS Grade 8
W MCAS Grades 3-5: Narrative	W MCAS Grade 5	W Approval Cover Sheet for STE
W MCAS Grades 6-8: Essay	W MCAS Grade 6	
W MCAS Grades 6-8: Narrative	W MCAS Grade 7	
	W MCAS Grade 8	

• Spring 2018 MATH MCAS Test Designs (MATH):

The DESE/BPS released the Spring 2018 **Math** MCAS Test designs for Grade 3-8 to support instructional planning and preparation for students. Click on the link below to access:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wnfdsh8DRAu16kmeIxD747srkR6wTXvC/view>

The **Math** MCAS Test design for Spring 2018 documents reference Standards assessed, number of sessions, calculator use, question types e.g. *(MC, MS, TE, SA/FIB, CR), total points per question type, grade levels and other information related to the Math MCAS assessment.

*Multiple Choice, Multiple Select, Technology Enhanced, Short Answer (or Fill in the blank) and Narrative and Constructed Response. Please review p.2-3 of the Test design for specific information regarding common questions, Reporting Category percentages by grade and matrix question overview.

Reminder, The Tobin/MCAS support page <http://tobink8.org/mcas.html> is designed for Tobin/BPS educators to utilize information from DESE to support forward planning for Spring 2018 MCAS assessments. The MCAS page features a drop down menu for Test administrator training and a set of planning tools for **ELA**, **Math** and **Science**. As referenced above, the DESE Design for the MCAS assessments reference the number of MCAS test sessions, question type descriptors, points per question/category and other helpful information within each menu.

• **Spring 2018 SCIENCE MCAS Test Designs (SCIENCE):**

The DESE/BPS released the Spring 2018 **Science** MCAS Test design blueprint for Grade 5 and 8 to support instructional planning and preparation for students. Click on the link below to access: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/tdd/sci.html?section=testdesign>

The 2018 **STE** MCAS test for grade 5 & grade 8 will be based on "overlapping" standards from the 2001/06 & 2016 STE curriculum frameworks.

- Grade 5 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bwn5Gk-vXP98eUJYalRpSIYxVFk/view>
- Grade 8 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bwn5Gk-vXP98dTdtMk1SOV9LRjA/view>

The Science MCAS Test design blueprint for Spring 2018 documents reference the number of multiple choice and open response items for common and matrix form questions as well as point totals. In addition, the test design blueprint illustrates the reporting category, distribution and total points by grade level.

PD/Workshops Corner:

• **Teacher Led Professional Learning (BPS Essentials for Instructional Equity)**

This opportunity is sponsored by T+ and BPS Would you like to join a network of BPS teachers in unpacking what instructional equity looks like in the classroom? Are you interested in tapping into your own expertise as a classroom teacher to collaboratively test and develop practices & techniques that can support all BPS teachers in ensuring instructional equity for their students? This is an opportunity for BPS teachers experienced in the Essentials to leverage their expertise to co-design resources that will be featured on the **Essentials for Instructional Equity website**. Registration is now open for BPS Essentials for Instructional Equity Practice Networks. [Learn more and register now](#) **Contact:** [Melissa Grubbs](#)

• **New ESE Resource: Free Online Courses on Inclusive Practice:**

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) continues to sponsor two free online courses, Foundations for Inclusive Practice: Educator and Foundations for Inclusive Practice: Administrator, to help educators and school leaders be more effective in inclusive settings. Educators can register at the [Guidebook for Inclusive Practice website](#). These courses are self-paced and are one way to earn the 15 professional development points in "effective schooling for students with disabilities and instruction of students with diverse learning styles" that are required to [renew a professional license](#).

• **DIY Coaching Application open through May 4th**

DIY Coaching 1.0 application for SY2018-19 is open! DIY Coaching brings together **K-12 math and science teachers** in the Boston area to engage in self and peer-to-peer coaching rooted in classroom video. In addition to being a fantastic professional learning opportunity, this also comes with **3 free graduate credits for participants!** Applications will be accepted through **Friday, May 4th**, at tinyurl.com/DIYapp18-19. The main page of the application has a brief video of teacher testimonials, our mission and vision statements, and details of the DIY Coaching 1.0 experience. **Contact:** diycoachingboston@gmail.com

• **The Teacher Leadership Fund: What challenge do you want to solve?**

The Teacher Leadership Fund, a new feature of the BTU contract, puts resources directly in the hands of BTU educators to address the challenges they see in their classrooms and schools and across the district. Grants of up to \$15,000 are available for teams of educators who want to create and share solutions to improve student learning and well-being. [See complete information about the program](#), including application and guidelines. **The application deadline is May 7.** *Note: This replaces the Lead Teacher program. There will be no centrally funded stipends for a lead teacher in each school next year.* **Contact:** [Paul Tritter](#) and [Shakera Ford Walker](#)

Teacher Summer Institute (2018)

Join us for the 2nd Annual Teacher Summer Institute August 20-22. ALL EDUCATORS are invited to come learn about the Essentials from fellow educators. To register, [click here!](#) If you would like to present a session at TSI 2018, please review the [Call for Session Proposals](#).



PD/Workshops: