

## Mary Rowlandson Elementary School

### Update

December 7, 2017

<http://rowlandson.nrsd.net/> (Mary Rowlandson website)

Twitter [@MREschool](#)

### **Enrichment**

Please consider helping out with our MRE Enrichment program. We are looking for a few parents to run some enrichment activities. Click the link below to sign up.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFfwVhn\\_zlwZakkNegcxnaab5R0KSI2Sd3y0xVjxV-0FVuUw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFfwVhn_zlwZakkNegcxnaab5R0KSI2Sd3y0xVjxV-0FVuUw/viewform)

### **Students and Electronic Devices**

More and more students are arriving at school wearing “smart” watches. Smartwatches include fitness trackers; game based watches, and watches that track a child’s location. Some watches can make direct phone calls from the watch itself without a phone. It seems like there are new watches for children coming on the market daily. While the current policy does not specify smartwatches, the intent of the policy is to minimize distractions and disruptions to the classroom and student learning from electronic devices. Watches that receive messages during the day or that have games on them are similar to cell phones in their distractibility to students. If the watch cannot be left at home, it should be turned off and remain in the student’s backpack during class time. There are even a few watches that have the capability of being activated remotely without the wearer knowing. This could be a breach of privacy and again, these types of watches should remain off and in a backpack during the school day. The School Council is currently reviewing the policy in light of the rapid advances in technology.

Current policy

### **Cell Phones, Messaging Devices, Radios, Other Electronic Devices, Etc.**

Students may not bring cell phones, messaging devices, portable radios, CD players, MP3 players, iPod’s, or other devices using headphones, or similar items to school because they disrupt the educational process. Exceptions to the rule are those items which have been brought in adherence with the Nashoba Regional School District BYOD Protocol. Cell phones may be an exception if specified by parents upon approval of the principal. Laser pointers are not allowed at school and will be confiscated. Inappropriate use of laser pointers will be considered a violation of the weapons policy.

Full Handbook link below

[http://rowlandson.nrsd.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_1160714/Image/MRE%20Handbook%2016%20-%2017.pdf](http://rowlandson.nrsd.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1160714/Image/MRE%20Handbook%2016%20-%2017.pdf)

School Cancellations:

With winter no here, the possibility of snow is upon us. This is just a reminder of the process of delaying or cancelling school. The Superintendent works really hard to get every snow call right. On the evening before, and the early morning of, an expected snowfall, she is in contact with other Superintendents as well as Rob Frieswick, our Director of Facilities, and Bolton DPW Superintendent and his counterparts in Lancaster and Stow. Ultimately, she makes the call based on how safely we can get students and staff to and from school safely and whether we can operate safely.

If there is a two hour delayed start for school, there is no half-day preschool or kindergarten classes.

School cancellations will be aired beginning at approximately 5:30 a.m. on local television stations: WHDH–TV 7, WBZ–TV 4, and WCVB–TV 5. Cancellations will also be aired on radio stations: WRKO-AM 680 and WBZ-AM 1030 or can be found on the Internet at [cancellations.com](http://cancellations.com) and the Nashoba Regional School District website ([www.nrsd.net](http://www.nrsd.net)). A district-wide message through School Messenger is also sent to all families and staff.

#### **Early Dismissal during the school day due to weather or other circumstances**

If it is necessary to release the students early when a serious storm is predicted or unexpected emergencies occur, the announcement will be made as soon as possible on the above-listed media sources. Please be sure to make arrangements to have someone meet your child at the bus stop or at your home if you are unable to be there. An Ed Connect call will go out if an emergency dismissal is necessary. **All children should have a plan in place for knowing what to do if they should ever arrive home and no adult is there.**

#### **Winter Attire Reminder**

One of the characteristics of living in New England is the varied weather. As the old saying goes, “If you don’t like the weather, just wait a minute.” With such variability in the weather, students do not always come to school with the proper outerwear. Please help your child have all the necessary clothing for the cold and snowy weather. We try to send the students outside as much as possible. As a guideline, MRE will have indoor recess if the temperature is below 20 degrees or if there is heavy precipitation. Please make sure student have boots, a coat, gloves or mittens, snow pants and a hat for this winter. **Students are not allowed to play in the snow without boots and snow pants.** As students get older, they like to wear sweatshirts instead of jackets. With wind and snow, this is not considered a jacket.

Please talk with your child daily about what is appropriate to wear to school. Take into consideration that the predicted temperature is not assured and that the wind chill often drops that temperature by five to ten degrees. It does get particularly windy on the playground with very little to break the wind coming across the fields. With a 10 mph wind, a 45-degree day quickly becomes 33 degrees just above freezing. Many students want to wear shorts to express their independence and individuality. Please have thoughtful conversations with them each morning about what the wear. If the temperature is near 45 degrees and windy, let your child know that they may be asked to wear pants and a warm jacket out to recess. (If you recognize this, it is from last year’s winter update.)

## Community Announcements

### Holiday Concert

On Friday, December 15 at 7:00 PM, the Nashoba Music Department will present a combined band and choir holiday concert. Pieces that will be performed include such classics as Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Carol of the Bells, a Hanukkah Festival, and Mary Did You Know. At the end of the performance, all ensembles will join together for three knock-out combined numbers including An Irving Berlin Christmas, Peace, and Sleigh Ride. At the end of the performance, please join us for a short reception to celebrate this exciting event. Admission is \$5 and free for students and seniors

### Blood Drive

My name is McKenna Hannigan, I am a senior at the high school, and I am also president of our school's Best Buddies chapter. Each year as an organization, we set out to complete a community service project, and this year we decided to host a blood drive sponsored by Boston Children's Hospital. The blood drive itself is on December 16th, from 9am-3pm at Nashoba, and I hope you can all attend! Apart from that, we will also be collecting holiday cards, for children at Boston Children's, which a group of officers, including myself, will be delivering to the children personally [Best Buddies Blood drive flyer.pdf](#) [2017 NYLL spring flyer.pdf](#)

### Nashoba Lacrosse Registration

<http://nashobalacrosse.org/>

See attached flyer