

November 14, 2017

#PublicSchoolsforAll

American Education Week



November 13-17, 2017

American Education Week is always celebrated the week prior to Thanksgiving.

What is American Education Week?

The National Education Association was one of the creators and original sponsors of American Education Week and provide us with a brief history of the establishment of this week:

"Distressed that 25 percent of the country's World War I draftees were illiterate and 9 percent were physically unfit, representatives of the NEA and the American Legion met in 1919 to seek ways to generate public support for education.

The conventions of both organizations subsequently adopted resolutions of support for a national effort to raise public awareness of the importance of education. In 1921, the NEA Representative Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa, called for designation of one week each year to spotlight education. In its resolution, the NEA called for: "An educational week ... observed in all communities annually for the purpose of informing the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools and to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting those needs."

The first observance of American Education Week occurred December 4-10, 1921, with the NEA and American Legion as the cosponsors. A year later, the then U.S. Office of Education joined the effort as a cosponsor, and the PTA followed in 1938."

At the Bresnahan School we are proud to highlight our accomplishments as a public school that supports all learners and families. Students and families come to us with a variety of needs and circumstances and we are always working to enhance our programs to meet their needs.

Did you know that our Integrated Preschool Program is one of the most vast in the area with a multitude of offerings that have grown tremendously in the past 7 years? All of our preschool classroom teachers are dually-licensed in both early childhood and special education and related service providers work alongside classroom teachers to provide both in class support and out of class therapies in areas such as occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech and language. Our programs are designed to meet the needs of all learners and their families. We have half day, extended day and full day offerings which provide for a smooth transition to kindergarten and the early elementary years.

We are fortunate to have a facility that is fully ADA compliant and outfitted with technologies needed to support diverse student needs. Each of our classrooms are equipped with sound systems to help amplify instruction for not only students who may be hard of hearing but also for students that may need that little extra boost for their focus and attention. Some students use assistive technology as part of their individualized programming and some students access personnel who help with their socio-emotional growth such as our school adjustment counselors, behaviorists, and special educators.

As a public school we adjust and refine our offerings to ensure that all of our students have access to 21st century learning. Did you know that our library media center now has two 3-D printers and uses resources such as our Bee-Bots to teach coding from a very young age?

We are also fortunate to be a teaching school and every year are actively sought out by local colleges such as Endicott College, Merrimack College, Salem State University and Lesley University as one of the premier schools in the region to train aspiring educators.

We are so very thankful that the Bresnahan is a thriving and active public school for all. Please add to the national hashtag **#PublicSchoolsforAll** this week on the [Francis T. Bresnahan Facebook Page](#) or the [Bres Twitter Handle](#) and let us know what you are thankful for as parents at the Bresnahan School.



Thankfully Yours,

Amy Sullivan, Principal of PK/K

Kristina Davis, Principal of Grades 1-3

Karina Mascia, Assistant Principal of Grades 1-3