

Watch Out For School Buses!

AE/MS Bus Driver Teri Lee asks everyone to remember these important safety rules:

Stop For School Buses!

School bus yellow caution lights come on at least 100 feet before a planned stop. Watch out for students who may cross the street before the red lights start flashing.

School bus red lights mean *traffic in both directions must stop!*
Never pass a stopped school bus on the right!

Violations Can Be Costly

Being convicted of ignoring a school bus' flashing red lights can mean up to \$1,000 in fines and suspension of your license for 30 days.

Being convicted of passing a stopped school bus on the right can cost you up to \$1,200 and up to a 120-day suspension.

And who knows how much it will cost you in increased auto insurance premiums, and for how long!



HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!

Mrs. Parenteau has returned to AE/MS after a short medical leave. Students, parents, faculty, and staff are all happy that she has returned.

Mrs. Braley did a commendable job filling Mrs. Parenteau's big shoes while she was out. Although, Mrs. Braley is also glad to have Mrs. Parenteau back so she can return to her permanent substitute role.

Mrs. Slayton reports that starting the school year without Mrs. Parenteau in the main office just doesn't feel right.

Ernie, the Andover Eagle, is much happier with Mrs. Parenteau back in the AE/MS nest! (L-r) Eli Shedd, Mrs. Parenteau, Nicholas Barton, Olivia Blodgett, Daisy Elwell, and Shannon Haley. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

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In fact, the Traveling Team's motto is "Education through Commitment and Travel." So what does that really mean for a family? The riders commit to learning the routines and riding a unicycle to music for two to three miles, non-stop, for an hour or more at a time. They do this at least once a month on uneven surfaces, often in oppressive summer heat, while smiling.

They commit to representing their community in a dignified manner while away from home and to being responsible for themselves and their teammates.

They commit to being a role model in school and maintaining good grades.

They commit to having a good attitude and getting along with their teammates under some tough conditions.

In return, they earn a multi-day overnight trip to some interesting place with some educational value. They have a whole lot of fun sharing this experience with a group of close friends. Most go places they have never been before, and some will never have a chance to go to those places again.

The family of a Traveling Team member commits to sending their rider to up to 15 parades or performances a year, depending on what venues the coach and director select. Near-perfect attendance is important because the team is paid to do most performances. Parade organizers tend to frown upon signing up a team of 18 and showing up with only 9 riders, so being a part-time Traveling Team member is strongly discouraged.

Family members are welcome and encouraged to attend wherever the team travels. There is usually room for everyone to ride on the bus, and family mem-

bers pay their own way on big trips. Parents walk the parade route with the riders, except in their first summer, to help define the riding area. They lend a hand-up for the newest riders, pass out water, or man the spray bottles. Finally, the family is expected to help with fundraising because the riders themselves "travel free."

I fully admit, we do a lot of fund raising. It takes a minimum of \$500 per student to go on a multi-day trip and have the students see and learn anything significant. The team receives very few outright cash donations. Much of the money is raised by the students themselves by riding in parades and participating in a two hour ride-a-thon, where the majority complete at least 225 laps around the school gym.

They also help at family-run car washes, raffles, bake sales, dinners, the Easter Breakfast, the Halloween Party, and the Fourth of July food booths. Their participation gives them a great sense of pride knowing that they earned their own trip.

On average, between parades and fundraising, you could count on a family being involved with AOW an average of twice a month spread out over a year. I believe this compares nearly equally with the time involved in sports like basketball and softball, which have a shorter season but more frequent games and activities.

After six years of my family's participation with this organization, I know that the sense of self-confidence, pride, and poise my daughters and their friends have gained while on the team has been worth every minute we invested. The laughs and experiences shared with their teammates will last them a lifetime.

Math Night And Book Fair At AE/MS On The 23rd

By Michelle Keezer
Math Teacher, AE/MS

Leonardo Fibonacci, Pythagoras of Samos, Blaise Pascal, Archimedes of Syracuse, and Albert Einstein – what two things do they all have in common, you might ask?

- 1) They are all mathematicians, and
- 2) None of them will be at the Math Night and Book Fair (except in spirit) at the Andover Elementary/Middle School on Thursday, October 23, from 6:30 PM to 8 PM.

Math is a dynamic tool that we use without recognition in much of our everyday life, but it doesn't have to be tucked away in our subconscious. Math Night is an opportunity for students to

come in with their parents and enjoy a multitude of math-enriched games that make them think and make them smile!

There will be many stations to test your knowledge while having fun at the same time. There will be door prizes and a little something for each student to take home when they leave.

We will be having a contest during the night, too. The classroom with the best percentage of attendance will be awarded an ice cream party!

So mark your calendars for Thursday, October 23. How can you beat having a night of fun, with prizes and games, and also the opportunity to check out our school Book Fair?



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Sunday, October 19th. 11-3

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Apple Pie Contest

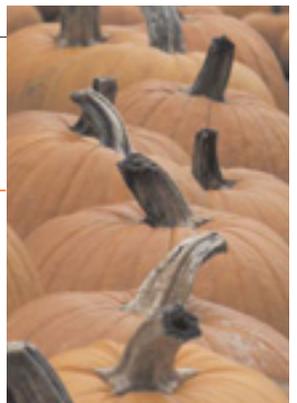
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