



# Bowers Bugle

Bowers Elementary School  
141 Princeton Street  
Manchester, CT 06042

[www.mpspride.org](http://www.mpspride.org)

September 2016

## Principals' Message

With many thanks to our amazing staff, incredible families and excited students, we are off to a great start! We look forward to getting to know our new students and their families and continuing our partnerships with our returning students and their families. We believe that children grow as learners, through success and failure, when we share responsibility with families. As your child's first teacher, we know that our strong partnership with you will maximize learning for your child this year! We also know that the best learning happens when there are supportive relationships that make learning challenging, engaging and meaningful! Please work with your child's teacher to make this happen and do not ever hesitate to contact either of us with your questions or suggestions to make our great school even better!

Sincerely

*Mary Lou Ruggiero, Principal*

*Anthony Brooks, Assistant Principal*

**We look forward to seeing you at Open House on Thurs., Sept. 15, 5:30-7:30 pm!**

**Download the New Free MPS App Today!  
Go to the App Store**

Download the official Manchester Public Schools app today for access to Bowers School's news, calendars, push notifications, and much more!...(PDF)(iPhone)(Android)

**Would you also like a paper copy of this newsletter each month?**

The Bugle is emailed to all families on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. **If you wish to receive a paper copy, please contact the school office at 860-647-3313 or complete the related form & return to school.**

## New Staff at Bowers

**Anthony Brooks**, Assistant Principal. Mr. Brooks is excited to join Dr. Ruggiero and the entire Bowers School community to continue to provide an outstanding education and experience for all of our children.

**Joan Corwin** - Learning Center Teacher

**Robert Faber** - Behavior Technician

**Emily Ferguson** - Grade 3 Teacher

**Michelle Hills** - Cafeteria

**Kristen Kowalski** - Literacy Coach

**Paige Montanaro** - MELC Program Manager

**Maria Papapanos** - Behavior Technician

**Karyn Porter** - Secretary

**Josue Rodriguez** - Paraprofessional

**RJ Toner** - Behavior Technician

**WELCOME TO ALL!**

## September Calendar of Events

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
Letters indicate specials rotation			A 1 First Day of School!	B 2 Spirit Day
5 No School Labor Day	C 6	A 7	B 8 PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm	C 9
A 12 First Responder Pledge, 9:05 am	B 13	C 14	A 15 Open House 5:30-7:30	B 16
C 18	A 20	B 21 Early Dismissal 1:17 pm	C 22 BBQ/Ice Cream Social 5:30-7:30	A 23
B 26	C 27	A 28	B 29 MPS Back to School Bash Center Mem Park	C 30



The Bowers School community gathers on the first day of school for the Pledge to our flag led by two of our fantastic 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, Chloe and Evan. Special thanks to Evan's dad for providing the microphone!



Singer/songwriter, Les Julian, performs at our annual Back-to-School Assembly on Friday, September 2. His performance began with our school song, **We've Got the Power at Bowers**, followed by inspirational songs, which encouraged us to be kind to one another!

## Positive School Climate and Strong Family Partnerships

We at Bowers School commit every day to create an enjoyable environment that fully supports learning. We do this by building relationships with our students, and teaching them our expectations for positive behavior. Positive behaviors help students connect and feel successful. They extend throughout all areas of our school. For this reason, all staff at Bowers School are teaching positive behavior expectations to our students. Whether in the classroom, cafeteria, playground, hallway, bathroom or bus, Bowers School Bulldogs will:

**Be Respectful      Be Responsible      Be Safe**

Students who show responsibility by behaving positively can earn Bowers Power Points toward certificates, announcements over the building speaker, prizes from the Principals' Prize box, and hopefully, their pictures on the Behavior Wall of Fame. We will also continue to teach the importance of our expectations through our social thinking curriculum, making positive behavior expectations and interactions intrinsic for each child.

**Our ultimate behavioral goals are that our students are engaged learners, and safe and responsible in their words and actions.**

Bowers School also believes that children grow, through success and failure, when we share responsibility with families. To strengthen our partnership, we will communicate what your child should know and be able to do at the end of the school year, how well your child is doing, how you can support your child's learning & development and how to take action in support of your child's growth, achievement and well-being.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we strive to maintain our wonderfully safe and respectful climate at Bowers School!

**All returning families to Bowers should be sure to go online to verify registration; updating all pertinent emergency information.**

The link is found on the district home web page, [www.mpspride.org](http://www.mpspride.org). Click on registration tab at the top and then go to [Returning Student Enrollment Verification](#)

Call the school office, 860-647-3313, if you do not have your snapcode or if you have any questions. Thanks.

### Bowers School Climate and Safety Committee

The Bowers School Climate and Safety Committee meets monthly to monitor the safe and positive school climate at Bowers School. Our committee members include the following staff and parent rep: Anthony Brooks, Sara Cleveland, Meg Clough, Lydia Cocchiola, Peri Comollo, Kendra Dubiel, Martha DiGiovanni, Steve Elliott, Caitlin Gallagher, Jean Galper, Heather Garcia, Greg Kapa, Beth Lauer, Colleen Litwin, Christina Magnotta, Linda Mason, Karyn Porter, Geraldine Reyes (parent rep), Mary Lou Ruggiero, Candy Sendrak, Sara Suitor, Leigha Then, Donna Trares and Latasha Turnquest. Staff members may be contacted via their email address found on the school website or by calling the school office phone number at (860) 647-3313. Parent Rep, Geraldine Reyes, may be contacted by email at [geraldinereyes1@gmail.com](mailto:geraldinereyes1@gmail.com). Mr. Steve Elliott, school social worker, is our Safe School Climate Specialist and may be contacted by email at [b32selli@mpspride.org](mailto:b32selli@mpspride.org) or by phone at 860-647-3329.



# The PTA Pipeline

**WELCOME** to our new Bowers families and **WELCOME BACK** to our returning families. We are thrilled to be starting a new school year. We have big plans for our PTA this year. **All that is missing is YOU!!** Please come to **the first meeting, Thursday, September 8, 2016**, at 6:30pm in the Bowers School library. We will be discussing the proposed budget and the planned events and fundraisers for the year. Additionally, at **each meeting**, the floor is opened to the general membership to hear **YOUR IDEAS!** We welcome your thoughts, suggestions, and feedback.

Our new Executive Board members are: Amy Newman, President; Stacey Orlowski, Vice-President; Trisha Oliver, Secretary; Heidi Kay, Treasurer. Between us, we have students in K, 1, 2, 4, and 5. We have been working hard this summer to prepare for the 2016-2017 school year. You can reach us at [bowersschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:bowersschoolpta@gmail.com). Also, like us on Facebook for photos and the most up-to-date information.

Our first event, the Kindergarten Kick-Off, was a great success. The majority of our Kindergarten families were able to join us. Students had a chance to meet their teachers and new classmates. They practiced going through the lunch line for a snack. While parents had the chance to chat with PTA Board members and one another, the children completed a fun Fall craft. We enjoyed getting to know all of our new little friends AND their families!

Our three major goals this year are:

1. **Create a “Welcome to Bowers” packet for new Bowers families.** Kindergarten families received these at the Kick-Off. New families with students in the older grades will receive their packets this week.
2. **To achieve at least a 20% increase in PTA memberships and also in monthly meeting attendance.** Membership alone, without ever coming to an event, allows PTA on a local, state, and national level to have a larger, louder, and more powerful voice to advocate on behalf of your student. Participation in Bowers PTA meetings and events allows for you to have a more active role in the social, emotional, and academic education of your student.
3. **To raise enough to purchase and install at least one piece of new playground equipment this year.** The Playground Building Project is well under way. We want to raise enough this year to install a piece of equipment on the lower playground. More information about the playground project will be forthcoming as the year goes on.

**We cannot accomplish these goals alone. We need your help.  
YOUR CHILD NEEDS YOU!**

## **BE A HERO. JOIN THE PTA.**

~Amy Newman, Bowers School PTA President



## **Bowers Bugle**

The Bowers Bugle, our monthly school newsletter, will be emailed to all families on the first Tuesday of each month.

If you would prefer a paper copy, please complete the information below and return to your child's teacher.

Thank you!

Please send a paper copy of the Bowers Bugle home with:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_