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## Notes From the Office

### Looking ahead:

Monday, October 9th - NO School - Columbus Day

Wednesday, October 18th - Early Release Day at 12:15pm

### School Council Candidates

Any parent interested in running for school council is asked to please email [Rose McDermott](#) and include 3-4 sentences with some information about you and why you'd like to be part of the council. Electronic voting will occur once all candidates are selected.

### Morning Drop Off:

We ask that you please say your good byes outside prior to students entering the building. Please do not walk your child to their class.

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## Lilja PTO



### News & Events Snapshot

Keep up with all the PTO news that's fit to print. Learn about upcoming events and other happenings around the Lilja and Natick community.

[Click Here to Catch Up](#)

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## Note from our Principal

Dear Lilja Families,

It was wonderful to have some time for conversations at the two coffees last week. Others of you sent me your thoughts through our survey. Thank you! If you didn't get a chance to come or to write, we'll have more opportunities to connect over the year!

One of the things we talked about was the new structure (on the playground). I am in the process of meeting with all 3rd and 4th graders to get their opinions, and then we will see if we can make some changes (raising

the bars on some equipment, for example). I have met with the PTO, and we are exploring possibilities for the money generously donated to supplement the playground options, and we are thinking about where to place the bricks that were part of that fundraising campaign. I will let you know concrete details as soon as they are finalized. As I mentioned in my last message, we were opening the structure more slowly with Kindergarten students, but the whole structure is now open to all students, including K and preschool.

Another thing that came up in the coffees was communication. There is always room for improvement here, as it is hard to find the perfect methods. Firstly, I would ask that you come to me directly if you have questions about Lilja. I am always happy to clarify (and it can be helpful to have accurate information out in the world). In general, though, if you have any questions, thoughts, compliments or concerns regarding your child, you should contact your child's teacher. Teachers are happy to clarify, and will get back to you within a few days at the latest. If you have questions or information of a social or emotional or family systems nature, please feel free to contact Mrs. Simoni (school counselor) or Ms. Rutfield (school psychologist) directly. Rose McDermott and Peg Haswell in the office are also available during the day to answer questions about Lilja logistics.

We also push out regular updates through our weekly Lilja eblast. This is how you will find out the latest information at the school level. (If you haven't signed up, please do so on the website!) Lilja's Virtual Backpack is also accessible by clicking on the backpack logo above! There you will find information regarding events and programs at Lilja and around town (such as BOKS, instrument lessons, etc.). The PTO also has an eblast; again, sign up to receive their weekly update. Teachers use a variety of communication tools; I am sure they updated you at Curriculum Night, but feel free to ask them if you aren't sure. Finally, our website has a wealth of information – check it out, especially the “Parent Resources” drop-down menu!

All the best, Anne Carothers

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## Spark Kindness

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Register now! By Popular Demand: **2 SHOWINGS** of this Important Movie!

### **Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age**

**TODAY!!!**

**Wednesday, October 4 from 7-9 pm at Natick High School**

*- For Parents/Caregivers and Students (Middle and High School)*

This documentary film reveals how tech time impacts a child's development and offers solutions on how to empower children to best navigate the digital world and find balance. The movie will be followed by a panel including school leaders, educators and internet safety expert, Lynette Owens.

- To Register for the **SEPTEMBER 27** program [go HERE](#)
- To Register for the **OCTOBER 4** program [go HERE](#)

— *Lead Sponsors: Natick Education Foundation, MutualOne Charitable Foundation, Metrowest Regional Coalition for Suicide Prevention, Natick Public Schools, Christa McAuliffe Charter School and SPARK Kindness*

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## Notes from Nursing

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The Natick Public Schools and the Natick Board of Health are working collaboratively to provide your family the opportunity to come together to receive your flu vaccine. This vaccine will protect against all four influenza strains that are expected to circulate this year. We will hold vaccination clinics this fall on Thursday October 26, 2017 from 3:30 to 6:30 PM in Room 103 at Natick High School.

There will be no cost to you for this vaccine. We ask that you bring your health insurance card and policy number so that we can bill your insurance company, but there is no direct cost to you!

*For this influenza season, only the Flu Shot will be available.*

For more information on the Flu Vaccine please click [here](#). Flu consent form, please bring with you on the day of the clinic, please click [here](#).

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## Tilly's Pumpkin Festival

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### 17th Annual Pumpkins for our Schools Festival

Proceeds from the pumpkin sales at our festival will be donated to the Natick school of your choice! Please click [here](#) for the flyer.



## Toiletry Collection Drive

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**TOILETRY COLLECTION DRIVE:** *We are collecting everyday essentials for homeless and low-income teens, families and individuals in and around Greater Boston.*

Project Giving Kids, a nonprofit that connects kids to causes and community service opportunities, is preparing for their 2nd annual "Create The Change Day" on October 8<sup>th</sup>. This fun-filled event will provide numerous hands-on activities for kids and families to volunteer together and will feature the growing PGK network of nonprofit partners in and around Boston.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!! We will be collecting new, unopened toiletries from now until Oct. 6 to help support these efforts.** All items donated will be used at the "Create The Change Day" event. Please see the attached for specific item requests and other ways to get involved. A collection box will be placed in the front lobby.

Please click [here](#) for the flyer.

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# Kennedy Building Project Forum

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JOIN US for the third Kennedy Building Project forum on October 11th at 7pm in the KMS auditorium. This forum will provide community members an opportunity to give input and feedback about the building project, as well as hear updates from the project manager and architect.

Please [click here](#) to read more about it!

If you're unable to attend, we will be broadcasting on Facebook live, visit the [facebook.com/natickps](https://facebook.com/natickps) to tune in!

For more information: [bit.ly/kennedynps](https://bit.ly/kennedynps)

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## Office of Pupil Services

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If your child has an IEP/504 please consider volunteering for Natick SEPAC! We are seeking volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year. More info can be found at [www.sepacnatick.org](http://www.sepacnatick.org). If you have questions or would like to volunteer please email [naticksepac@gmail.com](mailto:naticksepac@gmail.com) by Oct 1.

### School Liaison

A great way to connect with and support the SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council) community is as a School Liaison. Natick SEPAC works to help answer questions and a majority of communication is done via email or phone. You don't need to know all the answers, just be willing to ask questions. Time commitment is based on your availability. As a SEPAC School Liaison you will:

- Act as liaison between your child's school and Natick SEPAC
  - Connect with your school's PTO and share SEPAC information
  - Build awareness about Natick SEPAC at your child's school
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STAY CONNECTED

