

March 2019

Dear Hiawatha Community,

March comes in like a lion. Hopefully, it will go out like a lamb! We have so many fantastic events as we Spring ahead – please check out our monthly BLT calendar and the PTA yearlong events calendars. <http://www.sachem.edu/schools/hiawatha> Hope to see you at Wingo on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.

The Sachem School District is taking proactive steps ahead of the 2019 New York State grades 3-8 test administration period. School districts are required to administer these assessments each year by the New York State Education Department. The test dates are as follows: Grades 3-8 English Language Arts April 2-3  
Grades 3-8 Mathematics\* May 1-2  
Grade 4 Science (Performance Exam between May 22-May 31, written is June 3)

Some parents may decide to have their children take these tests, others may decide differently. We respect the decisions parents make in this regard. To help us plan for both options, please submit written notification to me indicating which tests your child will not take by March 15th. Please contact me if you have any questions about the upcoming assessments.

Please follow us on Twitter and follow us @Hiawathahuskies @hiawathalibrary #weare sachem @sachemschools

Matthew Wells, Principal of Cayuga, will be presenting at our next PTA meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm on the important topic of I-Gen. This workshop will discuss the impacts of social media and offer excellent time to guard against negative influences (e.g. Momo challenge).

Hiawatha's second annual "One Book, One School" event was a great success. Thanks to our PTA for providing the books and to Ms. Walker and the teachers who volunteered.

The second trimester ended on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Elementary Report Cards will be available on the Parent Portal on March 22<sup>nd</sup> after 1:00 PM. Half day of school on March 26<sup>th</sup> is available for parent teacher conferences. If you have any questions or concerns, you can always request a conference with any staff member.

Adam Welcome joined our staff for an engaging session and he did a walk through at Hiawatha on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Check him out at #kidsdeserveit @mradamwelcome

Sincerely,  
*Kathleen O'Farrell*  
Kathleen O'Farrell,  
Principal