



*The Bay Academy for the Arts & Sciences*  
*Intermediate School 98*  
*Maria Timo*  
*Principal*



*Weekly Intercom March 28, 2014*

1. **Family Science Night-** *There are no words to thoroughly express how fantastic last evenings' event was. The amount of people that attended was overwhelming, the science stations were interesting and fun and the record number of volunteers was incredible. A huge thank you to Caryn Dimari for working tirelessly to put this event together. Another thank you to Irina Johnson and Nick Auriti for their valuable assistance. Lastly to the science teachers for creating engaging, fun science activities for all to try. It was a great event year and I look forward to next year!*
2. **State Exams-** *Please prepare your classroom for the upcoming state ELA exam.*
3. **ELA State Exam-** *The ELA exam will take place April 1, 2 and 3, 2014. The testing schedule was distributed. If you have any questions or concerns about the schedule see Nick Auriti **ASAP**. Please inform all students of their designated testing rooms. Try to be encouraging to the students and help them to relax. Remind them that they are well prepared to take the exam and that they are going to do **GREAT!***
4. **State Exam Instructions-** *The ELA and Math state exam instructions were sent via email. Please familiarize yourself with these directions. **Do not wait until the morning of the exam to become familiar with the instructions.** If you have any questions please see Mr. Goldberg.*
5. **March Madness-** *Be a part of the exciting event. You do not have to play the game to be in this event. Show your school spirit by volunteering, attending, playing or cheering. See Mr. Sherman for details.*
6. **Many Thanks-** *A very huge thank you for helping to make my birthday extra special. The cake was delicious but more importantly the company was great!! Thank you.*

*Time has passed quickly this school year and the state exams are upon us. As educators who are committed individuals, we under a tremendous amount of stress. You have embedded substantial change in your teaching practice and you've done an admirable job. As I've said before, in theory, the Common Core is a much needed change but in practice it is challenging. You have succeeded in imparting to our students rigorous lessons, the expansion of vocabulary, using textual evidence to support writing, using multi-step strategies to solve mathematical problems, challenging the students to discuss and challenge beliefs and ensuring students are thinking and reading critically. You have given up your lunch periods, prep periods, worked early morning shifts and afternoon shifts as well to help our students. For all of these reasons it is my firm belief that if any school community is going to do well on the state exams, **it will be ours.** Thank you for your hard work and your commitment to our school.*

*Good Luck to All!*

