

Positive School News – December 2021

BOWDOINHAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL

As a way to share joy and connect with our community this month, Bowdoinham students and staff will be decorating the outside windows of their classrooms for winter. We will invite our families and community members to tour the outside of the school building over the Winter Break and see the various designs.

The Student of the Week program has also continued at the school. Each week a student from each class is nominated for exemplifying one element of the school's Code of Cooperation: Caring, Responsibility, and Focus. Students get a certificate, a letter to their families, and a special lunch with the Principal.

BOWDOIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

On Monday, November 29th, two Bowdoin Central School teachers were recognized by the Merrymeeting Retired Educators Association for their work and dedication to children by having their teacher grants funded by the group. Christine Egan, a fourth grade teacher, and Shannon Baker, a kindergarten teacher, were each awarded a \$200 grant to support the purchase of a video microscope head and a geology learning kit, respectively. Thank you, Merrymeeting Retired Educators Association; and great work, Christine and Shannon.

WILLIAMS-CONE SCHOOL

Friends of Williams-Cone School (FOWC) is a parent partnership group that provides tremendous support to the Williams-Cone School community throughout the school year. This group is holding a live on-line basket-auction fundraiser via Zoom on Tuesday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m. Each grade level is sponsoring a basket with a variety of items donated by Williams-Cone School families. Basket themes include Made in Maine, Disney and Marvel, Legos, Camping, and Family Fun Night. All proceeds from the basket auction will benefit special activities, programs and materials for Williams-Cone School classrooms.

WOODSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Recently, fifth grade students at Woodside have been learning about both the organization of newspapers and the practice of news-gathering and reporting. While conducting interviews about school-based interest stories, students have been practicing the tried and true tools of the trade, such as keeping a reporter's notebook and learning about the "W's" of a story: Who, What, Where, Why and When. Recently Principal Dedek was interviewed about the history of Woodside, as well as the origin of the Woodside Elementary School mascot, "Wolfie the Wolf." The first issue is slated to come out just before Winter Break One and will include both written articles and a comics section to include students who are interested in story telling through the visual medium.

HARPSWELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

The Harpswell Community School PTO will be co-sponsoring a Harpswell Heritage Land Trust Winter Solstice celebration on December 21st. Fourth and fifth graders at Harpswell Community School will be making lanterns to light a path for a self-guided short, easy hike along trails in Harpswell. This is a free family-friendly event to celebrate the beginning of lengthening days and will include a bonfire, songs, hot cocoa and treats.

MT. ARARAT HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations are extended to the cast and crew of ***Puffs*** for a fantastic run from December 3rd through December 5th at the Orion Performing Arts Center, as well as to the Mt. Ararat High School bands for their performance at the Orion on December 7th – their first concert in two years! We are looking forward to the January Chorus concert! In addition, Mt. Ararat High School is excited to be restarting Sources of Strength, a school-wide approach to mental and emotional health across the school. Nearly 70 of our students participated in the Sources of Strength training on December 8th, and we look forward to sponsoring school-wide initiatives of peer support in the months to come.

MT. ARARAT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Team Merrymeeting seventh graders surprised Mt. Ararat Middle School Guidance Counselors Mary Ellen Lagasse and Maura Bannon and Principal Megan Hayes Teague with a \$400 donation towards helping Mt. Ararat Middle School families in need this holiday season. Team Merrymeeting students decided they would give 10% of their fundraising from their Walk-A-Thon fundraiser a few weeks back to this cause. Team Merrymeeting worked hard to raise about \$4,000 in their fundraiser. The Merrymeeting House of Representatives President Will Agius and Vice-President Madelyn Sweet gladly presented the funds to the Guidance Department.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Throughout the District, I want to thank our staff, students, administrators, families and the School Board for the many positive contributions all of you make to the M.S.A.D.75 community every day. I am grateful and appreciative for your efforts and support.

