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Link-22

RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444 Fall 2017

RSU 22 developing plans to replace artificial turf at Hampden Academy

The 14-year-old multi-purpose field at Hampden Academy, otherwise known as “the turf,” is in need of replacement. While the typical lifespan of athletic turf is 8 to 10 years, Hampden Academy’s athletic turf has surpassed this expectancy due to the maintenance regimen that the surface has received over the years. Reasons for the needed replacement include visible wear patterns, degradation of fibers, and the diminishing returns on safety due to the wear on the field.

For the last several years, the turf has been noted as a future facilities improvement project and has been identified as one of the capital improvements in the RSU #22 Strategic Plan (Goal 2.5). In preparation for this needed replacement, RSU #22 established a Field Maintenance Reserve account in 2009, which has been acted upon yearly at the district budget meeting. The fund

was established to provide for financing some of the improvements to, planning for, and replacement of the turf field. The Field Maintenance Reserve account has been funded with an annual approximate share of \$10,000 (50% of the gate receipts collected at athletic events). The field reserve account has amassed a balance of \$100,334 since 2009. Additional financing for the athletic turf will be sought through an athletic venue sponsorship and signage campaign and the public referendum process.

The multipurpose field serves four high school sports each year—field hockey, football, soccer, and softball. In addition, middle school football is played on the turf, along with many youth programs for both football and soccer. Physical education classes routinely utilize the turf, as do
(Please turn to page 2)

Kelly O’Brien Weaver named School Counselor of the Year

Kelly O’Brien Weaver, School Counselor at George B. Weatherbee School since 2013, has been named School Counselor of the Year by the Maine School Counselor Association (MESCA).

The award, which recognizes creative school counseling innovations, effective school counseling programs, and leadership skills, was presented at the association’s annual



Kelly O’Brien Weaver

conference November 9 at the Haraskeet Inn in Freeport.

The Maine School Counselor Association describes the award as honoring the best of the best—counselors who are running top-notch, comprehensive school counseling programs at either the elementary, middle, or high school level. MESCA members make nominations throughout the year and the winner is announced at MESCA’s annual conference each fall.

Mrs. O’Brien Weaver was nominated by a colleague, and her application for the award was accompanied by three letters of
(Please turn to page 2)

Wagner Christmas Festival Dec. 9

The Wagner Middle School Pride Pack is getting ready for its second annual Christmas Festival, which will be held on Saturday, December 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the cafeteria, gym, and main hallway.

The Festival will feature a variety of activities for people of all ages, including:

- A Christmas tree raffle, where businesses and organizations sponsor a tree, decorating it and adding presents.
- A craft fair with more than 30 vendors.
- Food sales, including a bake sale, crock pots filled with your favorite comfort food, and a variety of

breakfast and lunch items.

- A take-your-own photo booth, complete with Santa.

Pride Pack leader Jen Dudley said last year’s Christmas Festival raised \$4,300, which was used to fund a student pantry for Wagner students and their families. She’s hoping that this year’s festival will do even better.

Last year, 14 Christmas trees were raffled off, raising about \$3,000. So far this year, 10 businesses and organizations have agreed to sponsor Christmas trees, and there’s room for more.

“Last year, everything was in the cafeteria, which was quite congested,” Jen said. “This year, we’re going
(Please turn to page 11)



Clisham Construction Co. donated this tree to the Christmas Festival last year; they will be donating another tree this year.



The cast of “In the Heights” rehearses the opening number.

Drama Club bringing ‘In the Heights’ to PAC stage Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2

A large, enthusiastic, hard-working cast will bring Hampden Academy’s fall musical, *In the Heights*, to the Performing Arts Center stage for three performances, November 30 and December 1 and 2.

The show will start at 7 p.m. all three nights. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students.

“It’s an enormous show musi-

cally,” says director Jenn Guare. “It has 24 songs, many of them involving the full cast and six of them fully choreographed.”

The cast features 28 actors, including 12 with speaking and singing roles and 16 in the ensemble.

“It’s a large undertaking,” Ms. Guare says. “It’s brought our group together in a new way, because it’s such an enormous chal-

lenge that we’re all taking on together. We’re really excited about where we’re going from here. The show is really coming together.”

Technical director Rob Kissinger adds that he has a large crew working backstage, as well.

“It’s one of the biggest sets we’ve ever built,” he says.

The choreography is being done by a local woman, Aimee Gerow,

who has an extensive background in theater and musical theater. In addition to studying and working in New York, she has been involved with productions by the Penobscot Theatre Company in Bangor, the Ten Bucks Theatre Company in Brewer, and True North in Orono.

The show will feature a live pit
(Please turn to page 5)

Community Public Forum on Dec. 4

By Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 22

One of our goals for the coming year is to make it easier and more convenient for us to talk with each other.

With that in mind, Regan Nickels, the assistant superintendent, and I are planning a series of “Community Public Forums,” starting early next month.

We would like to invite community members to join us on Monday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m. at Hampden Academy for coffee, light refreshments, and a hour and a half of conversation with the superintendent and assistant superintendent.

We would like to reach out to the community, talk about our strategic plan, share what we’re working on in terms of goals for the current year and the coming year—and also invite the community to ask questions and express your opinions.

One subject that is likely to come up is our plan to replace the turf field at Hampden Academy—why it needs to be done, how much it is likely to cost, and what the alternatives are. Another subject is what RSU 22 is doing about proficiency-based education, and how we are responding to

the current requirement that students who graduate in 2020 and beyond have a proficiency-based diploma.

Our goal is to have these community conversations once a quarter, so that we can keep you informed about what we’re doing and what’s happening in the world of education, and so you can ask questions and tell us your concerns.

So please join us at 6:30 p.m. on December 4, and look for a second Community Public Forum to be scheduled early in March.

RSU 22 developing plans to replace artificial turf at Hampden Academy

(Continued from page 1)

elementary schools for such events as field days and cross-country skiing. Hampden Academy’s turf has long been a destination field for high school championship play. The Maine Principals Association and various leagues request the field for end-of-season games, due to its playing surface, atmosphere, seating, and central location within the state. Since 2011, RSU #22 has hosted 44 state or regional playoff games for soccer and field hockey on the turf. However, in recent talks, the MPA sports com-

mittees have expressed concern that the turf may no longer meet their expectations for high caliber athletic contests due to its age and wear.

The benefits of turf in the northern Maine climate are many. The surface is ready for play earlier than most grass fields, and the drainage is excellent, allowing for play when many fields encounter rain-out conditions that require waiting periods. Safety on the surface is improved in wet conditions, compared to grass fields. Maintenance costs are lower on athletic turf fields, a savings that can

offset some of the installation costs.

RSU #22’s Athletic Committee is recommending replacement of the Hampden Academy athletic turf as early as 2018. Preliminary quotes for turf replacement include a range of up to \$850,000 depending on the selection of turf fiber, shock absorbent padding and field attributes. A discussion of replacement lighting for the field is also underway, considering that LED lighting conversion is a cost-efficient measure, and the lighting on the turf is encountering needs for updating, adjust-

ment, and maintenance. Estimates for lighting replacement are currently being investigated.

The recommended turf replacement will be one of the topics discussed at the upcoming Community Public Forum on Monday evening, December 4, which will be hosted by Superintendent Richard Lyons, Assistant Superintendent Regan Nickels, and various Board and Subcommittee members. Information about the need for turf replacement, the referendum process, and the timeline and budget will be discussed.

Kelly O’Brien Weaver named School Counselor of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

recommendation—one from her building principal, one from a teacher, and one from a parent—along with a video highlighting her role as school counselor to more than 300 students in third, fourth, and fifth grades.

Christine Boone, Principal at Weatherbee last spring, said students “LOVE Kelly [emphasis Mrs. Boone’s] for her ability to see the humor in everyday life, for her understanding and recollection of what it feels like to be eight (or nine, or ten, or eleven) years old, and for her ability to connect with them about what means something to them.”

She also said Kelly collaborated with others to establish a ‘back-pack’ program to address food shortage issues in students’ homes, and Kelly’s efforts to work with students were successful in decreasing the number referrals to the principal’s office for behavior problems.

Angela Pratt, a third grade teacher at Weatherbee, said students have access to Mrs. O’Brien Weaver in many ways throughout the day.

“She is one of the first people they see

as they arrive to school and the last person they see as they leave for the day,” Ms. Pratt said. “She stands in a pivotal place in the hall, one that all students must walk by on their way into and out of the building, and greets each child in the morning and says her good-byes to them as they leave. This allows Kelly the opportunity to intervene quickly when a student is struggling upon arrival or when leaving.”

Ms. Pratt adds that Mrs. O’Brien Weaver does frequent check-ins with children who she knows are having struggles. “These quick check-ins make such a difference in the child’s level of success as it adds another layer of support and comfort,” she says.

One of Mrs. O’Brien Weaver’s signature projects has been to host a series of “Coffee Talks with Your School Counselor” to address such topics as Anxiety in Children, Changing Friendships, the Comprehensive School Counseling Model, and Increasing Student Success.

For the session on Anxiety in Children, she discussed 10 children’s books that deal with anxiety and created a list called “Ms. O’Brien’s Top-Ten Tips for Dealing with Anxiety in Children.” The par-

ticipants discussed the tips, which became concrete ways for parents and community members to help a child facing adversity with anxiety.

Mrs. O’Brien Weaver is currently in her 12th year as an educator. Before coming to Weatherbee, she taught world languages at Leonard Middle School in Old Town for six years and Spanish at Dirigo High School in Dixfield.

A native of Hampden, she graduated from Hampden Academy and Mt. Allison University in Sackville, NB. In the summer of 2013, she spent seven weeks in China as a Fulbright Scholar, visiting schools in Beijing, Xi’an, Chongqing, and Shanghai with a dozen other teachers. She has also been on study tours to Japan, Korea, and Turkey. Kelly received her Master’s degree and C.A.S. in School Counseling,

both at the University of Maine. She recently married her husband, Scott Weaver, an Air Traffic Controller at Bangor Tower, in May 2017. They live in Orono. Kelly is currently working on a RAMP application, if successful, this year long program could recognize Weatherbee School for its data-driven, comprehensive school counseling program. She is also working toward national board certification.

Mrs. O’Brien Weaver is the fourth RSU 22 staff member to receive statewide recognition as the best in their respective fields in the last four years. In 2015, Emil Genest was named Assistant Superintendent of the Year, and in 2013, Mary Giard was named Curriculum Leader of the Year and Barb Parent was named School Nurse of the Year.

Trish Hayes is new district accountant

Trish Hayes has joined the staff of RSU 22 as the new district accountant, effective October 30.

Previously, she was business manager of RSU 19 in Newport for the past three years.

She also served as business manager for SAD 41 in Milo for 10 years and at the United Technologies Center (UTC) in Bangor. For five years, she was business manager for the University of Maine Alumni Association.

A native of Manchester, CT, she attended Beal College as a non-traditional student and then received

her B.S. degree in accounting from Husson.

Ms. Hayes said she moved to Maine after her parents took early retirement and decided to relocate to her father’s log-cabin hunting camp in Orneville, near Milo.

“I lived in Connecticut on my own for a little while but then moved to Maine to be closer to my family,” she said. “My brother and sister-in-law also lived in the Milo area. I’m glad I was close-by and had the opportunity to spend time with my parents as they aged.”

Ms. Hayes lives in Bangor. She enjoys kayaking, snowshoeing, coloring, and walking several miles a day with her dog, Stella, a beagle-border collie mix.

She also teaches hula-hooping to adults and children.

“Hooping is a fun way to exercise and I love to see the smiles on my students’ faces when it ‘clicks,’” she says.



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Richard A. Lyons, Superintendent of Schools

David C. Wollstadt, Editor (www.SchoolNewsletters.net)

Maine Regional School Unit No. 22

24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

207-862-3255

www.rsu22.us



Trish Hayes

Curriculum Office Update

By Mary Giard, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, RSU 22

Greetings from the curriculum, instruction and assessment office! As always, there are many topics to discuss regarding our students and their learning.

Community Relations Survey Results

Thank you to the many people who completed and returned our Back-to-School Community Survey. We received responses from members of our four district towns as well from families who send their students to RSU 22 schools from five other nearby communities.

Our first question was: What are you interested in knowing about our RSU 22 school district? Answers were tabulated for each category and the following results were reported in order of interest: 1) Academic Programming, 2) Curriculum, 3) Reasons for Decision-Making, 4) Parenting Support, 5) Budget, 6) Personnel, and 7) Governance.

Our second question sought to learn how families liked to receive information from the RSU 22 School District. Number one on the list was email (electronic mail), followed by 2) print media (*Link-22* and newsletters), 3) social media (Facebook), 4) the websites, 5) texts, 6) public forums and 7) Instagram. Since the tabulation of survey results was completed, families have attended open houses, curriculum nights and other school events.

Throughout the year, information will continue to be provided to our community members.



Mary Giard

K-5 Math

RSU 22 K-5 Parent Informational Sheet – Math Program EnVision2.0, Fall 2017

We are enjoying our new math program, EnVision 2.0! Now RSU 22 students are using the same math resources in grades K-8 all across the district. It is a rigorous program.

Math Homework:

- Our teachers are committed to helping children become stronger mathematicians.
- This program has more embedded parent support than the math resources we have used in the past.
- K-5 students will have some form of work to do at home each week.
- Your child's teacher may send work home with your child in a paper/pencil format.
- With our new program, homework and homework help may be accessed through the Pearson Realize (the software system where EnVision 2.0 is located) site.
- RSU 22 believes that elementary school homework practice should be kept to a reasonable amount of time each week.
- If your child is struggling with homework, please stop the work, attach a note and send it back to school.

Online Support at www.pearsonrealize.com:

Your Login ID is your last name, your first name, then r22, all lower-case with no spaces. For example, the Login ID for Amanda Hay (a teacher in RSU 22) is: *hayamandar22* (hay+amanda+r22 with no spaces).

The Password: Student22

Once you log in, click on the red rectangle labeled "classes". Here you will see assigned activities, where you can get more practice with the skills we are learning in class. Once an activity is completed, it will disappear from your assigned list and move to completed tasks. You can always redo an activity if you would like to try again. You may access this page at any time, wherever you have an internet connection. These assigned activities are only used for extra support and practice (they are not required); they will not be used as a grade on your report card. If an assigned activity will be used towards a grade, it will be completed in school.

Bounce App

Pearson's EnVision 2.0 math program comes with a great application that can help you help your child. It is called the Bounce App.

1. Bounce Pages App: a free download for smartphones and devices. It allows parents and students to scan the "Another Look" section and brings up a video tutorial for homework help.

2. Practice Buddy: adaptive, walks students through how to solve a problem. Based on the number of correct or incorrect guesses, intervenes with support. (This is for grades 3-5 only)

You can access a video demonstrating how to download and use the Bounce App by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nt8ljAl270k>

Soon, your child's teacher will send math vocabulary cards home. The math vocabulary cards will provide students and parents with current math vocabulary and definitions we are using in our classrooms.

As always, if you have questions, contact your child's teacher

Spring State Test Results Released Fall 2017

Results include: EMPOWERME for ELA and Math grades 3-8, MEA Science grades 5, 8, 11 and SAT Results English & Math

McGraw School:

Because McGraw School is the only school not participating in state testing, we have included information from the NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) Measures of Academic Progress assessment for grade 2. Results were measured from the fall of 2016 to the spring of 2017.

English Language Arts: Students in the average and higher categories increased from fall to spring. Overall, 90 out of 97 students made growth from their fall score to the spring score.

Mathematics: Overall, 90 of 97 students made growth in the area of math. As the benchmark became higher, some subgroups struggled to meet the benchmark. This will be addressed during the 2017-2018 year.

Plans to address the results include: After analyzing the results, math did not show the expected growth we had desired. McGraw teachers are addressing this by teaching a new math program across regular education and special education. Staff is receiving training in order to implement the program with fidelity.

Smith School

Grade 2 NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) Measures of Academic Progress assessment was also used for grade 2. Results were measured from the fall of 2016 to the spring of 2017.

English Language Arts: Second graders made nice growth over the year. More students were at or above standard than they were in the fall of 2016. The same held true for mathematics.

EMPOWER ME – Maine's State Test for grades 3 and 4 at Smith

ELA and Math: During the 2016-2017 school year, more students performed at the expected level or above than they had in 2015-2016. The same statistics were seen in math.

Plans to address the results include: All students will be working in the EnVision 2.0 math program during the 2017-2018 school year. The new math materials were selected to assist in moving our students to higher levels of rigor. Smith School has additional Title I (federally funded positions) support for both reading and math. A math coach-in-training is working with the school's teaching staff. Two state programs are also supporting the Leroy Smith School teachers and their students. One is a Focus School designation and the other is a Literacy pilot program. Both programs offer professional development and materials.

Weatherbee School

EMPOWERME – Maine's State Test for grades 3, 4 and 5 at Weatherbee

ELA - In literacy, 66% of our student body met or exceeded state expectations. Weatherbee reduced the substantially below state expectations from 14% last year (2015-2016) to 12% this year (2016-2017).

Math – 55% met or exceeded state expectations. In math, the number of students meeting or exceeding state expectations in math increased 1% from last year. Positive progress was made in the reducing the number of students who scored in the below expectations by 1%. Teachers' powerful work in the classroom, on data teams, and (Fast Track) interventions are paying off!

Grade 5 Science: In science we outperformed the state with 82% of our students who met/exceeded state expectations. Our fifth graders performed better in 2015-2016. Here were some of the changes:

Plans to address the results include:

- A Team initiative: Discuss every student's attendance, social/emotional and academic and progress monitor throughout the year.
- Fully implement the new math program - EnVision 2.0.
- Continue (Fast Track) interventions before school.
- Encourage specialists to both push into the classroom as well as provide discreet instruction when students are pulled out of the classroom.

Wagner Middle School

EMPOWERME – Maine's State Test for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 at Wagner

ELA: In 2016-17 approximately 50% of our students met or exceeded state expectations in ELA

Math: In 2016-17 approximately 28.5% of our students met or exceeded state expectations in mathematics

Science (Grades 5 and 8): In 2016-17 approximately 67.2% of our students met or exceeded state expectations in science

Plans to address the results include:

- We will reconfigure grade level teams and teaching assignment to strengthen teaching and learning opportunities for students
- We will see full implementation of EnVision Math Curriculum (Grades 5-8)
- We are adding a math coach (in training) to support implementation of best instructional practices
- Title I support in place to provide math tutoring services for struggling learners
- We will realign Special Education services in our school
- We will participate in NEASC (New England Association of Schools

(Continued on next page)

November is 'Aspire Higher' month at Hampden Academy

November is Aspire Higher Month at Hampden Academy.

Principal Bill Tracy says the goal of Aspire Higher Month is to make it a priority to provide more options to students who are getting ready to make post-secondary plans.

At a minimum, he says, Hampden Academy wants students to start thinking about what they want to do after graduation in June.

Even better, Mr. Tracy would like to encourage activities that allow students to take positive steps towards their post-secondary future, whether it be college, the military, technical training, or a job.

On Aspire Higher Fridays in November, HA staff members are being asked to wear clothing related to their alma mater, military branch, or career field.

"We want teachers to show the students what college they attended or what military branch they served in, so students can thing along those lines," says Mr. Tracy.

Another Aspire Higher Month activity along those same lines is the door decorating contest, in which the academic advisories are asked to have the students decorate the advisors' doors based on their educational background.

Mr. Tracy says one of the most attractive parts of Aspire Higher Month is the opportunity for "on the spot" college admissions.

He says admissions officers from the University of Maine, the University of Maine at Augusta, Eastern Maine Community College, and Husson University have agreed to visit Hampden Academy and offer "on the spot" admissions decisions to students who qualify.

Students can make arrangements with the Guidance Department to meet with an admissions officer from one of those colleges, and if a student's application, transcript, essay, and other materials meet the applicable standards, the admissions officer can say, "Yes, we'll take you" on the spot.

"We're trying to get students to think beyond the here and now," Mr. Tracy says. "Being able to get an immediate decision on college admissions is a huge advantage."

Of course, the admissions officer may not be able to say yes to a specific candidate, but in those cases, the officer's response is likely to include advice as to where the student needs to improve, or what he has to do to qualify for admission.

"The admissions officers may say no, but they'll look at application and essay and offer some pointers," Mr. Tracy says. "It's never a categorical no—rather, they'll say if you can show me this, or if your essay were stronger, then you'd be more likely to be accepted. They give the student immediate feedback, which is extremely relevant."

HAMPDEN ACADEMY

Bill Tracy, Principal
862-3791



NEW STAFF AT HAMPDEN ACADEMY

Jennifer Norwood, Spanish

Jennifer Norwood, whose teaching career "started" when she was a junior at Bucksport High School, is a new half-time Spanish teacher at Hampden Academy.

Mrs. Norwood comes to HA from Searsport District High School, where she taught Spanish and history for two years. Previously, she served as an Ed Tech III in RSU 20 (Belfast/Searsport).



Jennifer Norwood

She graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington in 2011 with a B.S. in Secondary Education/Social Studies with an emphasis in history.

Mrs. Norwood grew up in Bucksport and met her husband on the school bus when she was eight years old. The bus driver was a minister who married them 13 years later.

Mrs. Norwood said she started teaching Spanish when she was a junior in high school. She was a teacher's assistant in her Spanish class when her teacher came down with appendicitis. The school couldn't find a substitute Spanish teacher, so they hired a substitute to monitor the class while Jen taught the lessons.

"I knew where we were, and I knew the content," she said. "I also knew some of her teaching methods. It was fun, and the experience inspired me to become a teacher."

Mrs. Norwood enjoys spending time with her family and their rescue cats. She also enjoys reading and says her favorite book is *Pride and Prejudice*.

Dan Schaeffer, Health

Dan Schaeffer has joined the staff of Hampden Academy, teaching health and anatomy and physiology.

A graduate of Hampden Academy, Mr. Schaeffer received his B.S. degree in Kinesiology and Physical Education from the University of Maine. He worked as an Ed Tech at Leroy H. Smith



Dan Schaeffer

School for three years and in the Public Works Department of the Town of Hampden for one year before being hired at HA.

He was born in Baltimore but his family moved to Winterport when he was in third grade.

Mr. Schaeffer loves basketball and currently serves as the freshman boys basketball coach at HA. He also enjoys the outdoors, including hiking, ATV'ing, and hunting for deer, turkey, birds, and bear. He's hoping to get a moose permit.

He adds that "any time I can

spend with my wife Chloe is always great, as we have a lot of similar interests." They were married on October 7, 2017.

Amanda Tilton, Special Ed

Amanda Tilton has joined the staff of Hampden Academy as a special education teacher.

Before coming to HA, she spent 10 years in the special education department at Mattanawcook Academy in Lincoln—five years as an ed tech and five years as a teacher.



Amanda Tilton

Before that, she held a series of jobs in the Lincoln area—teller at the Credit Union, cashier at Rite Aid, and waitress at Pat's Pizza. She also worked at KFI and ran a day care center at home for a year.

She currently lives in Lincoln with her husband, but they're looking to relocate. They have two daughters—a freshman at Boston College who is studying biology and a freshman at Hampden Academy.

Ms. Tilton was born in Rhode Island, moved to Lincoln when she was in 8th grade, and graduated from Mattanawcook Academy in 1996. She has a B.S. degree in Information and Library Science from the University of Maine at Augusta.

She enjoys the beach, walking, hiking, reading occasionally if there's time, and spending time with family and friends.

Heidi Harris, Social Studies

Heidi Harris, who taught middle school social studies at Mattanawcook Academy for the past 13 years, has joined the Social Studies department at Hampden Academy.

A native of Howland, she attended Penobscot Valley High School and graduated from the University of Maine in 2004. She and her husband live in Howland with their two boys, Jackson, 7, and Beckett, 1.

In addition to her family, Mrs. Harris enjoys movies, books, and being outside.



Heidi Harris

Katie Thibodeau, Speech Language Therapist

Katie Thibodeau, who was a full-time speech language therapist at Reeds Brook last year, is a speech language therapist at Hampden Academy two days a week this year.

She grew up in Winterport, graduated from Hampden Academy in 1997, and received her Master's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders in 2004. She lives in Bangor with her husband and daughter.

Curriculum Office Update

(Continued from preceding page)

and Colleges) Recertification focusing improvement efforts on teaching and learning

Reeds Brook

EMPOWERME – Maine's State Test for grades 6, 7 and 8 at Reeds Brook

ELA: In ELA 66% of our students met or exceeded state expectations

Math: In Math 52% of our students met or exceeded state expectations

Science (grade 8): In Science 73% of our students met or exceeded state expectations

Plans to address the results include:

—Full implementation of EnVision 2.0 Math Curriculum (Grades K-8)

—Review the EnVision 2.0 program and sequence certain units to align with state expectations

—Review state data to identify specific gaps by subgroups

—Look at Study Hall/Academic Extension time for how it is being used in regards to the RTI (Response to Intervention) process for both remediation and acceleration

—Use the NWEA scores, specifically individual RIT (Rausch Unit) scores, to tailor instruction for the RTI process along with the use of teacher made assessments

—Conduct data meetings by content to review teachers' use of formative assessments and the effectiveness of their instruction as demonstrated by the data

—Participate in NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) Recertification focusing improvement efforts on teaching and learning

Hampden Academy

SAT Scores for Students in Grade 11 and Maine Educational Assessment for Science (also in grade 11)

ELA: 65% of our students met or exceeded state expectations

Math: 38% of our students met or exceeded state expectations

Science: 61% of our students met or exceeded state expectations

Plans to address the results include:

—We will be working as Department and Cross Curricular teams to analyze our last 2 years of Data. Once we have our top 2 - 3 takeaways, we will develop a plan to address the decline in scores and narrow down the causes. This may mean an adjustment in our course alignment, standards, required courses, classroom methods and/or approach

—We will need to look, vertically, in math especially, to be sure our curriculum is aligned and providing the students with the right skills prior to taking the SAT. This work will happen in Faculty Meetings, Professional Development Days and other provided times

Internships could help students learn about career interests

Hampden Academy Principal Bill Tracy says students have a lot of great electives and other opportunities to develop an academic schedule that meets their needs and helps them plan for the future.

But he'd like to expand those opportunities to include internships with local businesses and organizations.

"This is something we need to start exploring," he says. "We want to provide opportunities for students that are really relevant to them."

He said he recently met with a student who is currently attending Hampden Academy part-time because she doesn't need many credits to graduate.

"She doesn't know what she wants to do after graduation," Mr. Tracy said. "But if she could find a place in the community where she could work at an internship or volunteer for two to four hours a week, it could be an eye-opening experience."

Mr. Tracy says an internship can help students learn more about a career that interests them and provide them with real-world work experience.

On the other hand, a student

might learn that a career field that they thought was interesting isn't for them, after all.

He recalled a student at his former school, Bucksport High School, who interned at a local veterinarian's office.

"The student came back to guidance and said, 'No way. I can do this stuff to people but not to animals,'" he said.

But the experience wasn't wasted. "At least she had the opportunity to make her own decision. She wound up deciding to go to EMCC and study nursing."

Mr. Tracy says he has been working with Curriculum Coordinator and the Education Committee for the last three months to look at HA's internship proposal forms.

"Students who have an idea what they want to do can get an internship proposal form," he said. "Guidance is on board with an internship being another opportunity for students to look at if they're trying to fill their schedule."

The current guidelines say an internship has to be at least once a

week and should last a full semester. Beyond that, it's a question of balancing the needs of the internship with the student's academic schedule.

"There may be a situation where a student has the first 80 minutes of every day available, so an every-day internship isn't ruled out," Mr. Tracy says. "If a student wants to do an internship only one or two days a week, they could schedule study halls on the days they're not interning."

Transportation to and from an internship is the responsibility of the student (or parents). Students could drive themselves, walk (if the internship was nearby), or have their parents drive them.

Mr. Tracy says the idea for internships at HA is relatively new, so he doesn't envision a flood of applications, at least immediately.

He thinks between 15 and 20% of juniors and seniors might be in a position to take advantage of an internship.

"It won't be a huge number because of scheduling requirements that are already in place at HA," he says. "But this could be a great op-

portunity for some students."

Mr. Tracy says the next step is to talk to local businesses and organizations about internships.

"An internship could be a great opportunity for a business as well as the student," he says. "I'd love to have anyone interested having an HA student as an intern call me at 862-3791 or email me at btracy@rsu22.us."

He said Hampden Academy would like to start generating internships at businesses in the four RSU 22 communities—Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport, and Frankfort.

"We'd like to stay close at first, but we would consider expanding it especially if we have family members who are working in certain fields," he says. "We'd like to be able to tap into our community resources, whether that's within the boundaries of our four towns with parents who are working close by."

He's also thinking about setting up a booth at the RSU22 Education Foundation's "Keep In Local" Business and Community Expo March 24 at the HA gym.

Pick a mitten from the HA 'Giving Tree' and help someone at Christmas

For the past five years, the Guidance Department at Hampden Academy has sponsored a Giving Tree that's designed to help parents who are having difficulty buying Christmas presents for their children.

The department sends a letter to families of HA students to let them know that help is available.

The letter includes a form that parents can fill out for their children, listing the age of the child and

both wants and needs that the child might have for holiday gifts.

When the forms are returned, guidance secretary Dawn Huston cuts out cardboard mittens, which are hung on a purple and white Giving Tree, listing each child's number and the desired gifts (no names are used).

The tree is set up in the main office at HA, and students and staff are invited to select one or more mittens, buy the gifts and wrap them, and then

bring them into the Guidance Department for distribution to the families.

"We've been doing this for five years, and each year we have more mittens on the tree," says HA school nurse Barb Parent. "Last year, we had mittens for 27 children. With three gifts per child, the tree had a total of 81 mittens."

Mrs. Parent says she's impressed by how many students take mittens from the tree—and how some of them are

open about the fact that they're using their own money to buy the presents.

She says the parents usually pick up the presents for their children at the Guidance office, but if they can't come in, someone will drive the gifts to their house.

The Giving Tree isn't limited to Hampden Academy students and staff. Members of the public are welcome to come in and take a mitten from the tree.

'In the Heights' coming to Performing Arts Center Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2

(Continued from page 1)
orchestra with both students and professional musicians.

The cast, in order of appearance, includes Jack Burrige as Graffiti Pete; Aidan Babbitt as Usnavi de la Vega; Shelby Deron as the Piraguera; Jaden Clewley as Abuela Claudia; Jeremiah Sloan as Kevin Rosario; Sydnie Phillips as Camila Rosario; Abby Thompson as Daniela; Mikayla Patel as Carla; Nathan Manaker as Sonny de la Vega; Nick Parker as Benny; Alexandra Buzzini as Vanessa; and Josie Lawrence as Nina Rosario. Elise Dudley and Emily Gonthier are the dance captains.

The ensemble features Andraya Clewley, Maggie Collins, Elise Dudley, Olivia Ferriter, Emily Gonthier, Josie Guzman, LillyAnne Keeley, Kaylie LePage, Grayson Koelbl, Chloe Lawrence, Eliza Parker, Caroline Pickering, Natalie Sicard, Amelia Verhar, Emiline Verhar, and Matt Yost.

The lighting will be designed and operated by junior Andrew Tilley. Junior Eleanor Prescott will head the backstage operations. The Introduction to the Performing Arts Center class, under the direction of Rob Kissinger, has been hard at work constructing the set.

The pit band includes Dana Ross on piano, Patrick Michaud on trumpet, Matthew Madore on auxiliary percussion, Hampden Academy graduates Alex Batey on saxophone and clarinet and Olivia Duron on bass guitar, and current HA students Zoe Ellingwood on flute, Audrie French on trombone, and Zach Scott on drums.



The ensemble of "In the Heights" rehearses with the choreographer, Aimee Gerow.



Josie Lawrence (Nina Rosario) and Nick Parker (Benny) rehearse a scene from "In the Heights."

Mikayla Patel, a senior who plays Carla, says *In the Heights* is different from anything the Drama Club has ever done. "It's forcing us to grow as actors," she said. "This show involves a lot of careful character development and learning about a community outside our own. We're doing more research as actors than we've ever done before!"

Nick Parker, a senior who plays Benny, agrees that the play has been a challenge, but says the cast is some extra motivation to succeed. "We are all really big fans of the show, which will definitely help us give great performances. The audience will be able to see how much we love this play!"

Alexandra Buzzini, a senior who plays Vanessa, says the play has required cast members to step outside their comfort zones. "Many of the themes are things we're already familiar with and thinking about, like

family relationships and growing up, but we're expressing them in a new way," she says.

Nathan Manaker, a junior who plays Sonny, and Sydnie Phillips, a senior who plays Camila, agree.

"It's really interesting to learn about cultures outside of our own and to get to play the role of someone who has had such different experiences than ours," says Nathan.

"Even though we're telling a story that's set in a place that's really different than Hampden, we're playing people that you can find anywhere and everywhere," adds Sydnie.

Aidan Babbitt, a junior who plays Usnavi, says he's enjoying the challenge. "It's been really fun to play a role that I've listened to so many times, but to be able to put my own spin on it," he says.

Aimee Gerow, the choreographer, says the cast has been working very

hard and making great progress. "Considering the level of difficulty of this musical, the work ethic and talent of the cast has been phenomenal, especially for such a young ensemble," she said.

Dance captain Emily Gonthier, a senior, agrees. "Everyone's doing a really good job putting in their best effort to learn the dances," she says. "We're learning quickly and it's looking really good!"

"We're all really hard workers and each person brings their own special something to the show," adds Shelby Deron, a senior who plays the Piraguera. "That means that this version of *In the Heights* will be a lot different than what you might see professionally or at another school."

Abby Thompson, a senior who plays Daniela, sums up the cast's reaction when she says, "*In the Heights* pushes us to our creative boundaries!"

NEASC team visits Reeds Brook Oct. 1-4, say students love being in school

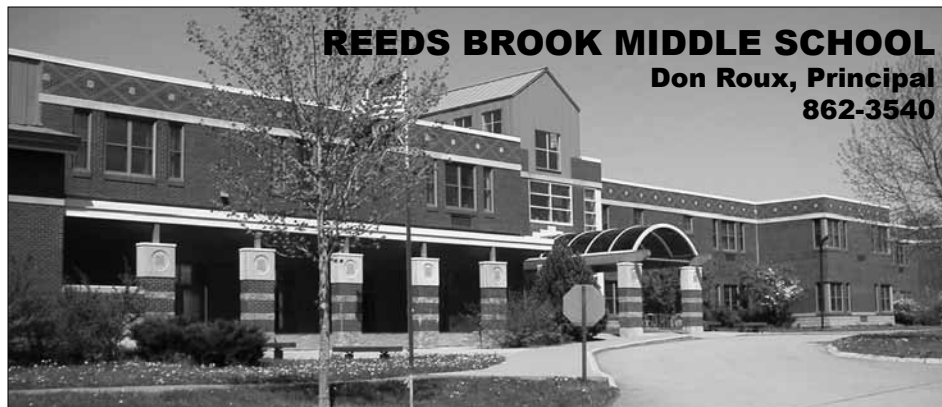
A team of educators that will recommend whether Reeds Brook Middle School should be reaccredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visited the school October 1-4.

Although the formal report isn't expected until March, the visiting team was clearly impressed by the students they saw at Reeds Brook.

"The NEASC team was absolutely blown away by the positivity that they saw at Reeds Brook," said Karyn Field, co-chair of the staff self-evaluation committee, along with Rachel Larrabee.

"They [the NEASC team] frequently commented how happy the students seem to be, and that we have a really positive culture in this building. They said the kids clearly love being in this school."

Ms. Field said the team's comments didn't apply just to the students they interviewed, but also



the students that they saw coming in the door and walking in the hallways.

"They said it was highly evident that we live our values, which are compassion, respect, responsibility, and honesty," Ms. Field said. "That was something they said over and over again."

The NEASC visit was the culmination of a process that started in the spring of 2016, which included a

lengthy self-evaluation that resulted in the identification of three critical strengths and needs.

Three NEASC educators made a preliminary visit to Reeds Brook last spring, which included interviews with the staff members who were organizing the self-study, as well as administrators, teachers, and students.

During the October 1-4 visit, the NEASC team interviewed adminis-

trators and teachers, visited classrooms and did classroom observations, and met with a group of parents. They also interviewed the superintendent, assistant superintendent, curriculum coordinator, health and wellness coordinator, and technology director of RSU 22, and the principals of Hampden Academy and Weatherbee School.

All of the teachers at Reeds Brook had to submit two pieces of work—an assignment, product, and rubric for assessment, including two pieces of evidence.

The RSU 22 middle schools—Reeds Brook and Wagner—are two of only four middle schools in Maine that are accredited by NEASC. The only other middle schools in Maine with NEASC accreditation are York Middle School (grades 5-8) and Fort Kent Elementary School (grades K-8).

'Rebels Got Talent' raises \$900 for cancer center, school greenhouse and garden

"Rebels Got Talent," the annual Reeds Brook Middle School talent show, was held on Tuesday, October 17, at the Hampden Academy Performing Arts Center.

The show was a big success, raising about \$900 which will be split between the Raish Peavey Haskell Children's Cancer and Treatment Center (EMCC) in Brewer and the Reeds Brook Greenhouse and Garden.

"We had a really good turnout," said director Jen Bowman. "We had 19 acts that included students in grades 6 through 12."

Each year, the Reeds Brook students are joined by students at Hampden Academy.

This year's performers and their acts were (in order of appearance):

- Ian Eskesen—Drone Video
- Aurora Thompson—Singing "Titanium" as group karaoke
- Colby Gott and Peter Verhar—Magic Calendar
- Kaitlyn Libby—Piano, "Linus and Lucy"
- Hannah Orr, Natalie Hanscom, and Fiona Brickel—Singing "Counting Stars"
- Maddie Ivers—Singing "Rolling In The Deep"
- Alexis Scott and Mr. Bob Donnelly—Guitar and Singing duet, "Safe and Sound"



Talent Show rehearsal—Alexis Scott with guitar and Sadie Ivers singing.

- Sophie Kahn—Violin
- Sophia Pilgreen—Singing "Don't Stop Believing"
- Mya Theriault—Singing "Fly"
- Lily Woodside—Singing "True Colors"
- Josie Guzman and Julia Hammond—Piano and Singing, "Lay Me Down"
- Thomas Runco—Magic
- Ian Pinkham—Singing "Hope-



- ful"
 - Grace Pelletier—Singing "Hallelujah"
 - Roza Parker—Singing "King"
 - Elizabeth Bates—Singing "Running Home To You"
 - Sadie Ivers—Singing "Make You Feel My Love"
- The Emcee was Harrison Bailey. Ms. Bowman said this was the first year the show had been held at

the Performing Arts Center.

"That was really nice, because we actually had a stage crew," she said.

She offered special thanks to Rob Kissinger, English teacher at Hampden Academy who oversees the Performing Arts Center; Isaac Anderson, a Hampden Academy junior who helped with the sound and other technical aspects of the production; and other members of the Hampden Academy stage crew.

She said Isaac has been working on the talent show since he was a 6th grader at Reeds Brook.

A number of local businesses assisted in the fundraising effort by donating gift cards to the talent show raffle basket. They included Erickson's Hardware, Kosta's Restaurant, Pizza Gourmet, Dunkin Donuts, Jen's Baked Goodness, and Noni's Fancies Jewelry. The raffle winners were the Airey family from Hampden.

The talent show program included a "thank you" list of the following supporters: Principal Tracy, Principal Roux, Isaac Anderson, Mr. Kissinger, Mrs. Maietta, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Lee, Ms. Giggie, Harrison Bailey, Mrs. Gott, Mrs. Verhar, Mrs. Piette, Mrs. Woodside, Mrs. Scott, Ellie Prescott, and Grayson Koehl.

Reeds Brook students respond to Spanish Dept. request, fill 14 boxes with toiletries, other items for Hurricane Maria victims in Arecibo, Puerto Rico

Students at Reeds Brook Middle School have responded to a request by the Spanish department—Francisca Smith and Sue McCollum—to collect toiletries and other products for victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

In all, the two Spanish teachers ended up with 305 pounds worth of items in 14 boxes that they shipped to a church in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, via Federal Express.

The drive started October 16 and was completed October 27.

Arecibo is a city of 95,000 people on the north coast of Puerto Rico, about 40 miles east of San Juan.

Mrs. Smith said it's far enough away from San Juan that its residents haven't received much in the

way of relief supplies since the hurricane hit in late September.

She said she learned about Arecibo from a nurse at Eastern Maine Medical Center, where she works as a translator. The nurse is from Arecibo.

"There's so much need," Mrs. Smith said.

The 14 boxes contained a variety of hygiene-related items, including toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, tissues, water purification tablets, diapers, hand sanitizer, shampoo, and Tylenol and other pain relievers.

Mrs. Smith said she was able to ship the boxes using discounted rates provide by a friend. She said the Reeds Brook Student Council agreed to help with the shipping costs.



QUE TENGAS UN EXCELENTE DÍA!—On October 30, Spanish teacher Francisca Smith took 50 Reeds Brook students to the Hudson Museum at the University of Maine to enjoy a presentation about "El Día de los Muertos" (the Day of the Dead). Students had the opportunity to learn more about this Mexican holiday, make some crafts, and enjoy some "Pan de Muerto," a special bread made only for this holiday.



The Reeds Brook boys cross country team celebrates their title.



The girls cross country team hoists their trophy in celebration.

NEW STAFF AT REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Olivia Comstock, Special Ed

Olivia Comstock, who taught special education and third grade in Nevada and Indiana, is now a special education teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School.



Olivia Comstock

Mrs. Comstock moved to Maine two years ago after teaching in Middlebury, IN, near South Bend, for six years. Last year, she worked at the Bangor Federal Credit Union.

Previously, she taught in Las Vegas, NV, for seven years.

Mrs. Comstock grew up in the Seattle area and graduated from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT, with a B.S. in Education.

She moved to Las Vegas to get her first teaching job and met her husband, Chad, who worked in the redi-mix concrete business. They moved to Indiana when Chad got a job offer in that state. Six years later, the Indiana company transferred Chad to the Boston area, and a few months after that, he accepted a position as general manager of redi-mix operations at Sargent Materials in Stillwater.

The Comstocks live in Bangor. They have three daughters, a senior and a sophomore at Bangor High School and a 7th grader at Cohen Middle School.

Mrs. Comstock says her family enjoys the outdoors and camping. She also enjoys reading—mystery novels, realistic fiction, and biographies—as well as scrapbooking and photography.

X-Country teams win league titles, Sportsmanship Award

The Reeds Brook Middle School boys and girls cross country teams both won their league championships, and together they received one of the league Sportsmanship Awards.

The two teams won the Inland Division championship of the Penobscot Valley Middle School Cross Country League on Thursday, Oct. 19, at the 1.9-mile Mattanawcook Junior High School course in Lincoln.

The Reeds Brook boys had 47 points, beating out second-place Cohen Middle School of Bangor and third-place Rige View Community School of Dexter.

The Reeds Brook girls team had 67 points, just edging out the Mattanawcook Junior High School girls who came in second.

The top finishers in the boy's race

were: Abbott Valentine (4th place); Kameron Hale (5th); Jackson Grover (9th); Adrian Webb (14th); and Brody Simons (15th).

For the girls, all five runners placed in the top 25 and included: Ezare Millett (7th place); Lily Geiser (10th); Maddie Steigert (11th); Emma Lowell (15th), and Kloie McLeod (24th).

The highlight of the afternoon was when both the Reeds Brook boys and girls were chosen as one of the two teams in the division to receive the Sportsmanship award. Each week during the regular season, coaches and the teams talk and rank each of the teams they competed with that week in terms of sportsmanship. The scores are compiled, and awards are presented

to the two highest-ranked schools.

Both the boys and girls teams are coached by Jason Kash and Georgiana Piette and together include fifty 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from the school.

Coach Kash pointed out that although the championship results are determined by the first five finishers, it's still very much a team effort.

"The support structure is very important for cross country runners," Coach Kash said. "They train with their teammates, they do their warm-ups together, and they encourage each other. Even if only five get to score, it's still very much a team effort. Those five top scorers wouldn't get to where they are without the support of their teammates."



Principal Don Roux with the owl mask, the Horta brothers, and a Margaritas representative.



A student models one of the masks that the Horta brothers brought with them.

Mexican wood carvers share mask-making craft at RB

The Spanish department at Reeds Brook Middle School, with an assist from Margaritas restaurants, invited a team of mask makers from Tócuaro, Mexico, to demonstrate their craft and share an element of Mexican culture with the student body.

The mask makers were Manuel Abeiro and Modesto Horta, two brothers who come from a long family tradition of mask making and wood carving.

They spent all day at Reeds Brook, giving a series of 45-minute

workshops so that the entire school could learn about mask-making.

The entire school takes Spanish, so the Horta brothers were invited to expose the student body to one aspect of Hispanic culture.

The masks are a part of the Mexican tradition of *El Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead), a time of prayer and remembrance for friends and family members who have died. People often use the masks when they dress in costume for the Day of the Dead.

When the Horta brothers visit a school, they normally do a mask that represents a school's mascot. Since Reeds Brook doesn't have a conventional mascot, the brothers did an owl mask, representing *sabiduría*, or knowledge.

The brothers started in the morning with a block of wood. As the day progressed, they carved into the block until the final wooden mask was completed and presented to Principal Don Roux.

Heidi Austin, Speech-Language Pathologist

Heidi Austin has joined the staff at Reeds Brook Middle School as the speech-language pathologist.



Heidi Austin

She graduated from the University of Maine in 2009 with her Bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders and received her Masters in Communication Sciences and Disorders in 2011.

For the past six years, she has worked as a speech language pathologist at Eastern Maine Medical Center.

She lives in Hampden with her husband and two small children.

A native of Farmingdale, she enjoys the outdoors and spending time with her family.

Substitute Teachers

All Schools

Application at www.rsu22.us

School Nutrition News

By Kathy Kittridge, RSU 22 School Nutrition Director

We have had busy start to the school year in the school cafeterias!

The following are a few of the things we have been doing in the School Nutrition Department this fall:

- More fresh veggies and fruits have been available on our salad bars.
- RSU 22 schools participated in School Harvest Week in September, featuring local potatoes, corn and apples. The students helped us with shucking the corn!
- Leroy H. Smith School had another successful Grandparent's Day, feeding over 550 for lunch!
- We have enjoyed the benefits from the school garden, utilizing green peppers, onion, tomatoes, potatoes and beets in the school lunches.
- Local purchases have included items from Mainely Apples in Dixmont, Community Harvest in Unity, Hillcrest Orchards in Winterport, Wyman's Blueberries, Backyard Farms, and Lakeside Farms.
- Presque Isle Regional Career and Technical Center has provided fresh apples and cider.
- We implemented some "Try it Tuesday" menus to introduce some new items.
- About 20 new menu items have been served throughout the district.

Some of the new recipes which have been well received are:

- Chipotle Style Chicken Bowls:** seasoned chicken served over brown rice with a variety of mexican toppings on the salad bar including black beans, cheese, tomatoes, jalapenos, lettuce and more.
- Homemade Crunchy Baked Chicken:** chicken marinated and dredged in panko bread crumbs and baked.
- Grilled Chicken Strips and Cinnamon Crisps:** toasted whole grain panini bread with a sprinkle of cinnamon sugar.
- Philly-Style Cheese "Steak" Sandwich:** lean beef, peppers & onions, cheese on a sub roll.

Although it's not new, we recently served homemade chicken noodle soup, which the kids loved!

- We will be coordinating with the school garden committee in order to implement more school garden items next school year.
- We have signed on to the 5-2-1-0 Smarter Lunchrooms Movement
- We continue to take free and reduced lunch applications throughout the year. If you have any questions or need assistance please contact Kathy Kittridge at 862-3543.



Abigail Gallant from Wagner Middle School is carrying her tray with Shepherd's pie and milk during the Fall Harvest Festival, which was organized by Wagner Kitchen manager Brenda White. The photo was taken for a story for National School Lunch Week featuring Maine school lunches. Abigail's comment about school lunches at Wagner: "There are so many different choices and good food"

Health and Wellness News

By Brittany Layman
RSU 22 Health and Wellness Coordinator

School Garden and Orchard

• Common Ground Fair Success!! This year we entered a few fruits and vegetables into the produce contest and we came home with ribbons. Pictured below are our Blue Ribbon strawberries. We also earned a ribbon for our beets! We were excited to enter our in the fair, and we discovered some stiff competition with the Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast. Oooooo gardening competition!

- Students at McGraw have been able to participate in many nutrition and agriculture lessons such as apples, pumpkins, blueberries.
- Mrs. Bowman (RBMS) has been taking her ELA students outside to explore the garden and they have been working hard putting the garden to bed. Special thanks to the those students who tugged out sunflower and tomato plants! When they are done working in the garden they write about their findings and experiences.



RSU 22's Blue Ribbon strawberries.

- Farm Day Success! We had another great Farm Day at Smith Elementary School, and I want to thank them for letting us shake up the day. Special thanks to all of the exhibitors who made the day special: Alex Layman (apple cider); Beth Haines and Fisher Farm (seeds, chickens, and organic farming); Heath and Heather Miller and the brand new calf Leroyah (dairy farming); Shear Thyme Farm (fiber art); Taylor Patterson and Maine Resource Recovery Association (trash sorting); Erika Verrier and Kelsey Fortin (Maine School Garden Network and Maine Ag in the Classroom), and Mary Giard and the students in the Alternative Education Program (RSU 22 Rocks!!!)

Drug Use Prevention Subcommittee

- The Yellow Tulip Project kicked off at Hampden Academy September 29th! The Yellow Tulip Project is a mechanism to bring awareness around mental health and suicide prevention. The students in the Alternative Education program, members of the PEACE and Diversity club, and Mr. Manhart's English class helped plant 150 yellow tulips and 100 yellow crocuses. The garden is located between the student and faculty parking lots. We hope this is the beginning of a great dialogue around a very important topic. Now we just need to keep the squirrels from eating all of the bulbs!!



Mrs. Layman presents a lesson on Pumpkin Pies in Mrs. Bailey's class.



Student picks apples in the RSU 22 Orchard.

HELP WANTED

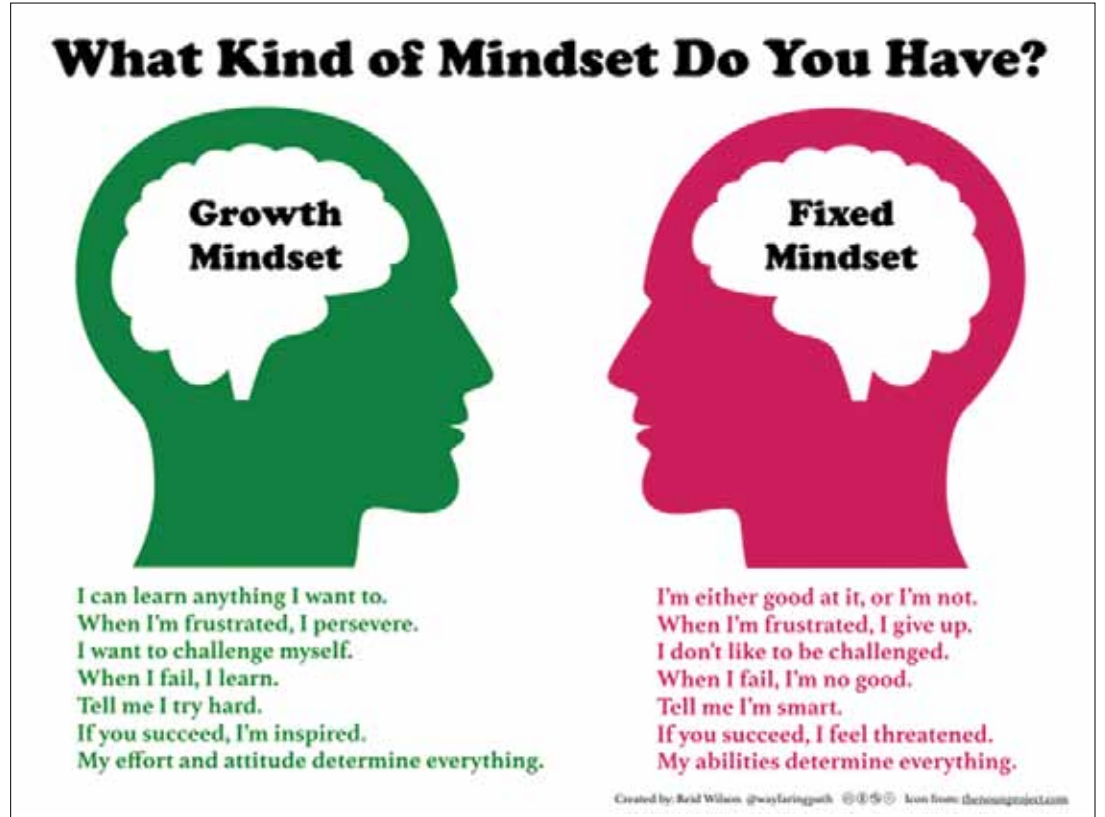
Cook/Cafeteria Worker - Hampden Academy

Experience in food service and large quantity food production, focus on using healthy cooking techniques & interest in implementing current food trends. Must be able to work independently and as part of a team in a fast paced work environment providing excellence in customer service. Part-time school-year position, approximately 27 hours per week.

Criminal History Records Check through the Dept. of Education required if employed. To apply, please complete our application for Non-Teaching found on www.rsu22.us.



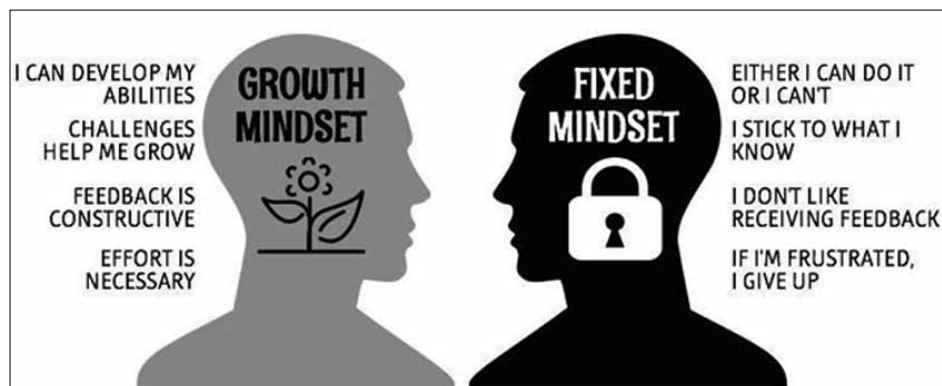
A handmade sign about the "Growth Mindset."



Leroy Smith School seeks to foster 'Growth Mindset'

Over the past few months, several staff members at the Smith School have received training on Growth Mindset. The concept of a growth mindset was developed by psychologist Carol Dweck in her book, *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*. In recent years, many schools across the nation have started using Dweck's theories to inform how they teach students.

Students with a fixed mindset believe their abilities—their intelligence and talents—are fixed traits. They have a certain amount and that's that, and then their



goal becomes to look smart all the time. On the other hand, students with a growth mindset understand that their talents and abilities can

be developed through work and effort, along with good teaching and persistence. They learn from being challenged and know that failure

is not a bad thing, but rather a learning opportunity.

Smith School is working to incorporate the ideas of growth mindset in the school's "Habits of Mind," in guidance classes, and during classroom activities.

We are:

- Providing equitable access to advanced learning opportunities,
- Cultivating the skills of perseverance, grit, and resiliency,
- Teaching the students how the brain works, and
- Talking growth mindset language.

Smith School has MoMEntum around Farm Day!



Shearing sheep like this one was one of the things Smith School students learned about on Farm Day.

Students at Smith School were lucky enough to participate in Farm Day in early October!

This was a day dedicated to learning about Maine agriculture and all it has to offer. Students in grades PreK through Grade 4 cycled through stations that allowed them to:

- Taste and learn about a variety of apples.
- Feed chickens.
- Care for a newborn calf.
- Learn about shearing sheep.
- Sort trash for recycling.

Each center gave Smith students an unforgettable hands-on experience. It was so memorable that students in Mrs. Davis's first grade class decided to share what they saw and learned using their iPads!

Each student at Smith School, Kindergarten through Grade 3, has their own iPad, courtesy of the Maine Department of Education's MoMEntum Pilot Project. This pilot program is dedicated to helping students' literacy skills grow; therefore, Mrs. Davis's students went back to the classroom to create books, write captions for photos, and practice explaining



First graders use their iPads to share what they saw on Farm Day.

what they learned.

Mrs. Mauri Dufour, senior specialist for Apple Professional Learning, took pictures with her iPad during Farm Day and shared these photos with teachers. First graders used the Notes app to caption their favorite picture from Farm Day. Then, they used the BookCreator app to make a book about their individual

(Continued on next page)

Linda Ross, teacher at Smith helping staff, students implement new math program

In 2015, the University of Maine at Farmington began a pilot program called The Maine Mathematics

NEW STAFF AT LEROY H. SMITH SCHOOL

Elizabeth Walls, 3rd grade

Elizabeth Walls is the newest third grade teacher at the Leroy H. Smith School. Prior to teaching third grade she taught fourth grade for two years. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with a concentration on mathematics in May, 2011. Mrs. Walls is currently continuing her education by working on her Master's degree of Education through the University of Maine.



Elizabeth Walls

Mrs. Walls grew up and attended school in Bangor. She currently resides in Hampden with her husband and black lab, June. Outside of school, Mrs. Walls enjoys going for walks with her dog, visiting her family in southern Maine, and making home decor crafts.

Emily Stearns, 2nd grade

Emily Stearns, who taught for nine years in Belfast, is a new 2nd grade teacher at Smith School.



Emily Stearns

In Belfast, she taught kindergarten for one year and then taught first grade for two years and second grade for six years.

She graduated from the University of Maine in 2000 with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education. Her son Dillan is in third grade at Smith School.

Outside of school she enjoys camping, hiking, fishing, and being outdoors. She also plays adult soccer and softball through the YMCA in Belfast.

Rachel Goode, Newburgh PreK

Rachel Goode has joined the staff of RSU 22 as the teacher at the Newburgh PreK. She has taught Pre K for two years and says she "absolutely adores it!"



Rachel Goode

She has a B.S. degree in Elementary Education from the University of Maine and is currently working on her early childhood certification. She has two daughters of her own, ages 8 and 12.

Ms. Goode originally came from Bangor but moved to Winterport two years ago and says she could not be happier.

"I am beyond thrilled to come on board as a member of the teaching staff for this fantastic district," she said.

Coaching Program. The focus of the program is to help support districts in their quest to improve mathematics teaching and strengthen students' mathematical knowledge.

Math coaches are trained to provide professional development within their own district, which can take the form of direct coaching, providing workshops, or leading mathematics committees.

Linda Ross from Leroy Smith School began this program two years ago and will be completing the program in June 2018.

Some of the things that Linda has been working on in her building are assisting with the implementation of our new mathematics curriculum, providing coaching support in the classroom, and tracking current student data.

This fall Linda has been working on helping teachers and students become familiar with our new mathematics curriculum. As with



LEROY H. SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Dawn Moore, Principal, 223-4282

anything new, there has been an adjustment period for all concerned. This curriculum was chosen for a number of reasons but most importantly for its potential to help our students strengthen their mathematical knowledge. One of the most valuable components of our new curriculum is the online component. Each parent has access to their student's account online.

Some ideas for students and parents to do together online are:

- Read the Student e-text with your student to review the day's lesson.
- Review the Another Look video that corresponds with each lesson.
- Practice math vocabulary using the cards provided online or by the teacher.

• Use everyday items to model math to help develop concrete understanding of concepts.

• Play the games provided on the website.

• Complete the guided practice with your student.

During the Student Showcase at Smith, parents were offered a sheet with log-in instructions and student passwords. If you would like a copy, please contact the school office and we will be happy to send a set of log-in instructions to you. We are excited about the many opportunities that envision 2.0 affords our students, but most importantly we know that every day they are growing their mathematical knowledge and skills, which will serve them well in the future.



RSU 22 PreK:

RSU 22 has PreK openings in all locations: Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport. If you have a child who turned 4 on or before October 15, 2017, please contact Dawn Moore at dmoore@rsu22.us for more information. We offer a variety of programs for 4 year olds. Visit our website at <http://www.rsu22.us/our-schools/pre-k/> for details around days/times and locations.



Smith School has MoMEntum around Farm Day!

(Continued from preceding page) experiences at Farm Day. Finally, students used the Explain Everything app to tell three facts they learned about the newborn calf,

nicknamed Leroy, that they cared for. It was a unique way to reflect on the special learning that happened during Farm Day!

Thank you to all of the agricul-

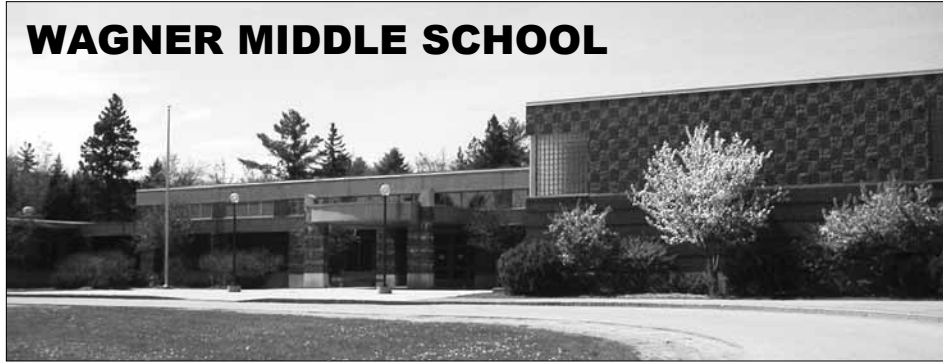
tural volunteers, parent volunteers, RSU 22 staff, and Smith School staff that worked together to make this day happen!

NEASC Accreditation Team visits Wagner November 5-8

A team of educators from New Hampshire and Massachusetts visited Wagner Middle School November 5-8 as part of the school's re-accreditation process for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The visit was the culmination of a year and a half of work by the Wagner staff, including a school self study based on the seven NEASC standards, identification of strengths and weaknesses, and the creation of a school improvement plan.

The NEASC visiting team spent four days meeting with administrators, teachers, students, parents,



community members, and School Board members to verify that the self-evaluation represented a true picture of Wagner's strengths and weaknesses.

Principal Richard Glencross said

the visit went well and most of the comments by the visiting team were positive. He said the team will present a final report to the school in a month or two.

Dr. Glencross said the self-im-

provement plan that Wagner presented to the visiting team focused on three elements—school culture and climate, school assessment processes, and supporting student with special needs.

He said the strengths identified in the self-evaluation included the building and facilities at Wagner, and the instructional integrity of the school.

"We're doing great things in the classroom," he said.

The steering committee for the self evaluation and the NEASC visit included Erica Farrar, Dana Ross, Michelle Campbell, and Karen Boynton, along with Dr. Glencross.



Some of the Christmas trees that were auctioned off last year.

Wagner 'Pride Pack' getting ready for 2nd Christmas Festival

(Continued from page 1)

to put some of the trees in the long hallway that leads to the classroom area. That will allow more seating in the cafeteria and better access to the trees."

Jen said the Pride Pack is still looking for businesses and organizations to donate Christmas trees.

"If you'd like to sponsor a tree, please contact the PTO and we'll find a space for you," she said.

When the trees are put on display in the cafeteria and the hallway, each tree will have a box in front of it. People drop their raffle tickets in the boxes of the trees they want to win. At the end of the Festival (about 4 p.m. on December 9), one ticket will be drawn from each box, and the owner will be notified to pick up his or her tree on Sunday.

Tickets for the Christmas tree raffle are being sold by students for 50 cents apiece. Last year, more than 6,000 tickets were sold.

Everything about this year's Christmas Festival is likely to be bigger and better, Jen says.

In addition to more Christmas trees, the number of vendors for the craft fair has increased.

"We have more than 30 vendors," Jen says. "Everyone came back from last year because they were so pleased with the craft fair. All of the vendor space was sold out by the end of October."

The hours have also increased. Last

year, the Festival opened at 10 and closed at 2. This year, in response to comments from the public, the hours have been expanded to 9 to 4.

Jen says the entire school is joining forces to make the Christmas Festival a success.

"The kids are phenomenal,"

she says. "The Student Council is helping us [Pride Pack] make decorations for our tree, and they'll also be making decorations for the lobby and main hallway. The music students will be performing live holiday music during the Festival."

Last year, Student Council

members made a big hit with the vendors by helping them set up tables Friday afternoon and evening before the Festival and Saturday morning. The students also help the crafters by getting lunch or a snack for them and watching their tables if they have to take a break.

'Pride Pack' planning Indoor Golf Tournament March 3

The Wagner Middle School PTO, aka the Pride Pack, is planning an indoor miniature golf tournament for March 3, the first Saturday in March.

The holes will be designed and built by students, possibly in partnership with area businesses and organizations.

If the idea of an Indoor Golf Tournament sounds familiar, it was done in 2011 by Mrs. Penley's 5th grade class at Weatherbee School in Hampden. The idea was then

borrowed by Old Town Elementary School in 2012 and 2013.

"It was a lot of fun," recalls Dave Wollstadt, *Link-22* editor and school board member in Old Town who wrote about the tournament in the March 2011 issue of the *Link* and convinced the Old Town Rotary Club to sponsor a similar tournament at the Old Town Elementary School.

He said the holes in Old Town were designed by student groups at the elementary, middle school,

and high school levels, as well as by local companies and organizations, including the Old Town Fire Department.

"It's amazing the designs that people can come up with for miniature golf holes," he said. "Some of the holes were simple, but some were pretty complex. But together they provided a very interesting round of miniature golf. It's a great family activity to get people thinking about spring in early March."



WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL THRILLER AND COSTUME CONTEST WINNERS—This year's Fall Thriller was held on October 20 and featured a deejay—Matt Towey, aka DJ 2Tows—who played great music and kept everyone entertained all evening (left photo). The Costume Contest winners were (right photo, l. to r.): Amy Spencer, Most Creative/Home-made; Aiden Chen, Most Traditional; Corbin Davis, Scariest; and Johannah and Carly Philbrook, Funniest.

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Wagner students on an antique Wagon at the Treworgy Farm.



Clipper Trip students on the Orono Bog boardwalk.



Students enjoy the hayride at Treworgy's Family Farm.

Wagner students enjoy 'Clipper Trips' to Bangor City Forest, Treworgy's Farm, Bangor Cinema; Orono Trampoline Park next

Fifth grade teacher Betsy Murphy has organized four "Clipper Trips" for Wagner Middle School students who are interested in exploring activities in the greater Bangor after school.

The first trip, on September 27, took about 20 students to the Bangor City Forest, where they toured the Orono Bog Boardwalk. Afterwards, the group went to Sweet Frog in Bangor to get an ice cream before returning to school.

The second trip, on October 13, was to Treworgy's Family Farm in Levant, where 31 students went through the corn maze, got an ice cream cone, and enjoyed a hayride.

The third Clipper Trip, to see the movie *Wonder* at the Bangor Cinema, was scheduled for November 17. Based on the New York Times bestseller, *Wonder* tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time.

The fourth Clipper Trip, to the Orono Trampoline Park, is scheduled for December 15.

Mrs. Murphy has organized the Clipper Trips for several years to give Wagner students additional opportunities to enjoy coming to school.

NEW STAFF AT WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lauren Lumm, 6th Grade

Lauren Lumm, who spent 12 years as a teacher at three elementary schools in New York City, is now teaching 6th grade English language arts at Wagner Middle School.

For the last five years, Mrs. Lumm taught 5th grade at PS 321 in the Park Slope section of Brooklyn. Previously, she taught various elementary grades at PS 63 on the Lower East Side of Manhattan and at PS 194 in Harlem.

Mrs. Lumm said she came to Maine because her husband Conrad, a marketing executive, was looking for a job outside of New York City. He became director of marketing for the Bangor Daily News in the summer of 2016. She stayed in Brooklyn for one more school year and moved here during the summer.

In New York, the Lumms lived in Park Slope. They closed on a house in Hampden on October 27.

Mrs. Lumm was raised in Katonah, NY, a commuter town about 45 minutes north of New York. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's degree in History. She received her Master's degree in teaching at Pace University in New York, where she met her husband, who was a teacher before he went into marketing.



Lauren Lumm

Mrs. Lumm enjoys board games. She says her favorite game is "Le Havre," strategy game in which the players seek to become the preeminent shipping magnate in the port of Le Havre by acquiring materials, building ships and buildings, and taking care of their workers.

"It sounds really boring but it's the most fun ever," she says.

Mikayla Mitchell, 5th Grade

Mikayla Mitchell has joined the staff at Wagner Middle School as a 5th grade math teacher. She also served as coach of the combined Reeds Brook-Wagner Middle School field hockey team this fall.

A first-year teacher, she received her B.S. degree in Education (with a concentration in grade 5-8 science) last May from the University of Maine.

A native of Bangor, she graduated from Bangor High School and did her student teaching in the 8th grade at Doughty Middle School and the 5th grade at Old Town Elementary School.

Ms. Mitchell played field hockey in high school and currently plays in a women's league. She also enjoys hiking and being outdoors.

She lives in Veazie with her two dogs, a boxer and a lab, both rescued.



Mikayla Mitchell

Andrea Bozzino, Special Ed

Andrea Bozzino has joined the staff at Wagner Middle School as a special education teacher in the 5th and 6th grade resource room.

Last year, Mrs. Bozzino was at McGraw School, where she was a special education teacher for grade 2. Before coming to RSU 22, she taught special education in Old Town for two years and in Orono for three years.

A native of Winterport, Mrs. Bozzino graduated from Hampden Academy in 1996 and then attended the University of Maine, where she received her B.S. in Elementary Education, followed by her M.S. and CAS in Special Education.

She is currently working on another CAS in Literacy at UMaine.

The Bozzinos live in her grandparents' home in Winterport. They have three children—Parkerr, a junior at Hamden Academy; Frankie, an 8th grader at Wagner; and Tommy, a 3rd grader at Smith Elementary School. The children are the fourth generation to attend Winterport and Hampden schools.

Mrs. Bozzion says she loves hiking, spinning, and knitting.



Andrea Bozzino

Doretta Callahan, 6th Grade

Doretta Callahan, who spent 11 years teaching at Glenburn Elementary School, is a new 6th grade math, social studies, and health teacher at Wagner Middle School.

At Glenburn, she taught at the middle school for nine years and then spent the last two years as a K-5 social studies and technology teacher.

She grew up in Hermon, graduated from Hermon High School, and then started raising her family in Frankfort.

When her two sons started school, she went back to school and got her undergraduate teaching degree from the University of Maine in 2006.

She received her M.Ed. in Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction from UMaine in 2009 and her CAS degree in Students at Risk-Response to Intervention from UMaine in 2012. She's on track to graduate from UMaine this December with another Master's degree in Educational Leadership.

Ms. Callahan lives in Frankfort. She enjoys the outdoors, music, family, and friends.

McGraw 1st graders enjoy Mrs. Bailey's 'pumpkin patch'

When 1st grade teacher Vicki Bailey planted some pumpkin seeds at her house last spring, she wasn't thinking about a school project.

But when she saw a new garden area along the back side of McGraw School that wasn't filled with flowers, she decided to bring her pumpkin seedlings to school and plant them in the garden so the kids could watch the pumpkins grow and see the life cycle in action.

"It wasn't planned as a school project, but it turned into one," she said. "The garden was near the playground, so the kids could look at the pumpkin

plants as they went out to the playground and again when they came back in. Most of the classes talked about the pumpkins or observed them at some point this fall."

Mrs. Bailey said the pumpkin seedlings that she transplanted grew into a very successful pumpkin patch. She said her class went out and looked at the pumpkins a number of times, and they made mini-posters with photos from the garden showing the pumpkin life-cycle. "We wound up with about a dozen pumpkins—almost enough



Mrs. Bailey's class with pumpkins and life-cycle posters.

to give one to each classroom," she said.

In addition to the pumpkins, her students delivered life-cycle posters to be hung in all the classrooms at McGraw.

Mrs. Bailey will save the seeds after they carve a pumpkin so the students can plant them this spring. They will start the pumpkin seeds in the classroom and then transplant the seedlings to the garden before the end of school. This way they can see the entire pumpkin life-cycle all over again.



The pumpkin patch alongside the school.



EARL C. MCGRAW SCHOOL
Kristin Briggs, Principal, 862-3830



FIRE SAFETY WEEK—Matt Thomas of the Hampden Fire Department with first grader Benjamin Millett in one of the town's fire trucks during Fire Safety week.

NEW STAFF AT MCGRAW SCHOOL

Melissa Pearce, Special Ed

Melissa Pearce, who spent the last five years as a special education teacher and paraprofessional at an urban charter school in Pittsburgh, PA, is now teaching special education at McGraw School.

In Pittsburgh, Ms. Pearce was a paraprofessional (ed tech) for three years and then a teacher for two years.

A native of Colorado, she graduated from Western State College of Colorado in Gunnison, Co. After she graduated, her father died and she moved to Pittsburgh to be with her mother and sister.

The three of them didn't like Pittsburgh because of the lack of outdoor opportunities. They had spent some time in Maine on vacation—mostly in the Acadia National Park area and Ellsworth, and they found it reminded them of the things they liked in Colorado. Last October, they stayed in an airbnb rental in Winterport, and they wound up deciding to move.

"Life's too short, why not find a place you like?" she said. "We came to Maine in July, and we love it here."



Melissa Pearce

Ms. Pearce lives in Bangor with her mother and sister.

She enjoys reading about political science subjects and hiking with her two dogs.

"We didn't have a lot of opportunities to go hiking outdoors in Pittsburgh, so that's one thing we love to do here," she says.

Audra Leland, 1st Grade

Audra Leland, who taught kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade in Enfield for nine years, is now teaching 1st grade at Earl C. McGraw School.

A native of Lincoln, Ms. Leland graduated from Mattanawcook Academy, started taking classes in Early Childhood Education at the University of Maine, and then spent several years as a stay-at-home mom.

She got her degree from UMaine when her youngest child was in kindergarten. She spent half a year as an ed tech at Alton Elementary School before starting her teaching career in Enfield.

Ms. Leland lives in Bradley with her two children, who attend Old



Audra Leland

Town High School. The oldest is a senior; the youngest is a sophomore.

She enjoys reading and doing anything outdoors, including hiking and camping with her children.

Kayla Worster, 1st Grade

Kayla Worster, a native of Winterport and 2010 graduate of Hampden Academy, is a new 1st grade teacher at Earl C. McGraw School.

Last year, Ms. Worster was an ed tech III in the kindergarten program at McGraw. Before that, she was a long-term sub at Hermon Elementary School for a year and a 1st grade teacher at Mill Stream Elementary in Skowhegan for a year.

She graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a B.S. degree in Education in 2014.

After attending Smith Elementary School, Wagner Middle School, and Hampden Academy, she had no doubt about her long-term career objective.

"I grew up in RSU 22 and knew this was where I wanted to do my teaching," she said.



Kayla Worster

Ms. Worster lives in Winterport and enjoys crafting, including painting, scrapbooking, and similar activities. She also enjoys spending time with her family at the family camp in Bucksport.

Julie Pace, Pre-K

Julie Pace is the Pre-K teacher at the Earl C. McGraw School. She has taught preschool-age children for 16 years, including three years at McGraw through the RSU 22-Pre-quis CAP Pre-K collaboration.

She received her Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education in 2003, and her Bachelor's degree in Mental Health and Human Services in 2005. She received her Early Childhood 081 teacher certification in 2015.

Mrs. Pace grew up in Holden and currently lives in Glenburn with her husband, beagle, cat, and bunny. She enjoys making crafts and spending time with her family while camping on Sebasticook Lake.



Julie Pace

4th graders in Mrs. Whitehouse's and Mrs. Randall's classes dress up as wax museum characters

Fourth graders in Christy Whitehouse's class and Candi Randall's class dressed up as characters from their independent reading books and performed as a "wax museum" in the upstairs hallway at Weatherbee School on November 3.

Each student created a lanyard poster that hung around their necks to tell observers the name of the character, the title of the book they were reading, and at least two character traits and two pieces of evidence from the story.

Students in other classroom were invited to walk the hallway, see the wax museum, and glean information from the lanyard posters.

This year, Mrs. Whitehouse and Mrs. Randall are combining their classrooms and co-teaching language arts. Mrs. Randall is responsible for reading content, while Mrs. Whitehouse is responsible for writing content, including mini-lessons, conferencing, and formal and informal assessing of student progress.

"We are trying to make better connections between reading and writing curriculums," Mrs. Randall said. "We are helping to make the connections and integrations between language arts for all students."



WAX MUSEUM—Fourth graders in Ms. Whitehouse's and Ms. Randall's classes line the upstairs hallway and pose as a wax museum of characters from their independent reading books. From left: Josh Sirois as Bailey from "A Dog's Purpose," Jake O'Donnell as Charlie from "Nightmares!," Mason Bethony as Moxie from "All the Wrong Questions," Aidyn Ball as Harry Potter from "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," Zia Cano as August from "Wonder," and Olivia Hanscom as Apple White from "Ever After High."

NEW STAFF AT WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

Jill Starrett, 3rd Grade

Jill Starrett, who is in her 28th year of teaching, is a new 3rd grade teacher at George B. Weatherbee School.

Mrs. Starrett comes to Weatherbee from MSAD 28 (Camden-Rockport), where she was a 1st grade teacher for 12 years. Before that, she worked for Waldo County Head Start for 15 years, including time as assistant director and education supervisor.

Mrs. Starrett grew up in Patten, a small town on the east side of Baxter State Park. She graduated from Katahdin High School and received her B.S. degree in Elementary/Early Childhood Education from Plymouth State College in New Hampshire. She later received her M.Ed. degree in Early Intervention/Special Education from the University of Maine.

She lives in Belfast with her husband Craig and a Shih Tzu named Mandy. They have a son, Grant, 22, who is a Registered Maine Guide in Allagash.

She says she loves to read, and her family enjoys camping. They were active in the Boy Scouts for many years, as her son is an Eagle Scout.

Robin Gagner, Special Ed

Robin Gagner, who joined RSU 22 last year as a special education teacher at McGraw School, is now teaching grade 4 reading and spelling at Weatherbee School.

Previously, she taught at Holden Elementary School for a year after moving to the Bangor-Hampden area. Before that, she taught grades 3 and 6 at Woodland Elementary School in Washington County for 10 years.

She has started working towards a Master's degree in Special Educa-



Brooke Boulanger

tion at the University of Maine.

Ms. Gagner has been a part-time real estate agent for Realty of Maine since 2005. She has also owned her own business—a soy candle company that she sold several years ago—and she owns three apartment buildings in the greater Bangor area.

Ms. Gagner was raised in Alexander, ME, and graduated from Woodland High School and the University of Maine.

She lives in Hampden and has three children—Emily, a sophomore in the nursing program at UMaine; Beau, a sophomore at Hampden Academy; and Rylan, a 3rd grader at Weatherbee.

Ms. Gagner says she loves volleyball, antiquing, working with children, and spending time with family.

Her inspiration for going into education was her father, Barry Wheaton, who passed away in 2013.

"He was a teacher and school principal for 40 years," she said. "He led the drive to build a new elementary school in Princeton, and the school library is named after him."

Philip Bergin, 5th Grade

Philip Bergin, who emigrated to the U.S. from the United Kingdom in 2010, has joined the staff at George B. Weatherbee School as a 5th grade teacher.

Before coming to Weatherbee, Mr. Bergin taught 5th grade at Central Community Elementary School in Corinth for a year. Before that, he taught 5th grade science at Ridge View Community School in Dexter for five years.

From 1992 to 2010, he taught children ages 7-11 at primary schools in Sussex in the southern U.K., except for 2½-years when he studied at a Catholic seminary.

He said he decided to emigrate because his wife, the former Cynthia Largay, was from Maine and a graduate of Hampden Academy. They currently live in Bangor with



Philip Bergin



GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

Jennifer Cyr, Principal
862-3254

their two children, ages 7 and 6.

Mr. Bergin says he enjoys soccer, although he notes that he doesn't play it much these days ("I just kick the ball around," he says).

The team he follows is Liverpool, which competes in the English Premier League, the top football (soccer) league in the U.K.

Meghan Schall, Literacy Coach

Meghan Schall, who has taught grades 3 and 4 at George B. Weatherbee School for the past 18 years, is now the school's literacy coach.

The literacy coach provides interventions for students with the goal of getting them back to grade level in their reading.

"We work on fluency, comprehension, and word-work—how to read and decode words," she says.

Generally, she works with students 30 minutes a day, in addition to checking data and monitoring the students' progress.

In addition to helping individual students, Mrs. Schall serves as chair of the school's literacy leadership team—working on professional development and best practices for reading instruction.

Mrs. Schall says her new job gives her the best of both worlds.

"I'm passionate about reading," she says. "I love reading, and I love teaching about reading. With this job as literacy coach, my two worlds collide."



Meghan Schall

Samantha Anderson, 5th Grade

Samantha Anderson, who served as an ed tech in the resource room at Weatherbee School last year, is teaching 5th grade math, science, and social studies at Weatherbee this year.

Before coming to RSU 22, Mrs. Anderson was a receptionist for Berkshire Hathaway for a year and Central Maine Plastic Surgery in Lewiston for a year. Previously, she taught 4th grade in Lincoln for two years.

A native of Massachusetts, she moved to Dexter when she was in 5th grade. She graduated from Dexter High School and then received her B.S. degree in Elementary Education at the University of Maine at Farmington.

She lives in Brewer with her husband Dustin and their cat.

She loves to cook, read mysteries and fantasy novels, and do crafts, such as crocheting. She's also enjoys DIY projects.



Samantha Anderson

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Post-Narrative Lead

By Lucas Fachiol
Mikki Libbey's 3rd Grade

"Okay class, time for recess," Mrs. Welch said, trying to hide her frustration. I, however, was still writing. "Time for recess," Mrs. Welch said to me. I ignored her.

Annnnd done." I said as I got up and went outside. I felt a cool, easy gust of wind come over me as I opened the door. I looked to my left, all I saw was the cool, crimson, lonely brick wall I looked to the right seeing my two best friends, Ryan and Jordan.

"Let's pretend!" Jordan demanded.

"Tag?" Ryan offered.

"Ummm..." I mumbled. I didn't like making decisions like these. "Tag, I guess?" I said.

"Fine," Jordan whined.



Lucas Fachiol

LUCAS FACHIOL'S NARRATIVE WRITING ASSESSMENT—Lucas, a student in Mikki Libbey's 3rd grade at George B. Weatherbee School, was asked to write a true story about a time in his life as part of an assessment of his ability to write a personal narrative. He produced the above narrative on his own.

NEW STAFF IN RSU 22

Stephanie Shteirman, Technology Integrator

Stephanie Shteirman, a former journalist, librarian, and adjunct professor at Southern Connecticut State University, is the new technology integrator at Weatherbee and McGraw Schools.

Ms. Shteirman held a series of positions as a library media specialist, summer music camp program director, and library media coach in the New Haven Public Schools and Milford Schools from 1998 to 2016, when she moved to Maine.

She also served as an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, from 2010 to 2016.

Before becoming a librarian, she worked as a journalist, starting as a desk assistant at NBC News in New York City from 1983 to 1984, followed by four years as a television reporter and radio news director for stations in Laredo and Harlingen, TX, two years as a military writer for the *San Antonio Light*, and one year as an environmental writer for the *Houston Post*.

From 1992 to 2008, she was a freelance journalist with credits in the *New York Times*, the *Hartford Courant*, and Reuters.

Ms. Shteirman was born in New York City, grew up in Connecticut, and graduated from Barnard College in New York with a B.A. in Art History and received a Master of Science degree in Journalism at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. She also has a Master's degree in Library Science from Southern Connecticut and has completed the Intermediate Adminis-

trator Certification Program, also at Southern Connecticut.

She lives in Hancock with her son, who is a senior at Sumner Memorial High School. In the summer, she works on a one-acre farm in Gouldsboro where she grows vegetables and herbs.

"You name it, I grow it," she says.

In the fall, Ms. Shteirman makes wreathes using tips from a tree farm owned by a friend. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, they sell the wreathes, along with Christmas trees, at a strip mall in Methuen, MA, which is the hometown of the friend who owns the tree farm.

Tricia Richardson, Gifted/Talented

Tricia Richardson, who taught 3rd grade at Weatherbee School for three years and 2nd grade at McGraw School for one year, has become part of the Gifted and Talented Program within RSU 22. Ms. Richardson provides services for identified students in grades 2-8.

Ms. Richardson provides services at Wagner Middle School and Weatherbee, McGraw, and Smith Elementary Schools. The Director of the Gifted and Talented Program education, Dr. Ruth Lyons, works with the identified students at Reeds Brook Middle School.

Ms. Richardson holds the State of Maine Gifted Education Teaching Endorsement and is currently a student at the University of Southern Florida where she is close to completing a Master's Program in Gifted Education. Ms. Richardson also coaches the Girls on the Run team at Weatherbee School.



Stephanie Shteirman



Tricia Richardson

RSU 22 ADULT EDUCATION - WINTER 2018

www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com

A wide variety of educational, professional development and personal enrichment courses will again be made available for people to take through our program during the winter academic season. To contact us directly you can call our office at 862-6422 or email our program director at: mtardie@rsu22.us

Hampden Academy Fitness Center Hours

The Hampden Academy Fitness Center will be open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 pm starting January 30. There is no cost to RSU 22 residents. A staff member will be on hand to assist participants with fitness equipment orientation and personal fitness planning.

Please note that the Fitness Center will be closed on all snow days, holidays or on days when after-school activities have been cancelled because of the weather. Call us at 862-6422 for more information.

Personal Enrichment Courses

Once again, this winter, we will offer a variety of personal enrichment courses and workshops. Our paper flyers will be in homes during the first week of January, but our course catalog will be available to view in early December. General course topics include:

Dance and Music	Personal Wellness	Health and Fitness
Crafting and Art	Technology	Cooking and Baking
Languages	Hobbies and Special Interests	

To view our complete Winter 2018 course schedule go to:

www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com

CNA Training

Certified Nursing Assistants help patients or clients with health care needs, working under the supervision of an approved nurse. Demand for CNA's in the health care industry is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations! Our next CNA class is scheduled to start in mid-March. Classes are projected to run Monday and Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings to be more accommodating to students and folks who are working. The cost for this next class will be only \$750. We offer students convenient payment plans and possible course reimbursement options.

Contact us at 862-6422 for an application or to find out more information about this popular training program. We expect that the deadline for applications will be March 1.

High School Completion, HiSET and Basic Literacy Instruction

For adults looking to earn a high school diploma, a HiSET Certification or to improve basic literacy and ESL skills, we offer year-round opportunities for advancement. If you are interested in earning your Adult Education High School Diploma, you should get a copy of your high school transcript and schedule a meeting with one of our staff. You may be closer to earning a diploma than you think. In January 2014, the HiSET replaced the GED and became Maine's State High School Equivalency Diploma. Since then, our program has helped many of our residents earn this life-changing credential. Again, just contact our office at any time if you have questions about or interest in the HiSET

Distance Learning Courses

We continue to offer, through a partnership with Education to Go, nearly 500 interactive personal enrichment online courses to residents of RSU 22 and neighboring communities. All classes are instructor-led, fit into convenient six-week formats and are affordably priced. Some of the more popular course titles include:

A to Z Grant Writing	Introduction to Interior Design
Become a Veterinary Assistant	Blogging & Podcasting for Beginners
Beginner's Guide to Getting Published	Introduction to JavaScript
Business and Marketing Writing	Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint
Computer Skills for the Workplace	Adobe / Acrobat Photoshop
Buying & Selling on eBay	Introduction to Oracle
Grammar Refresher	QuickBooks 2017
Test Prep: GRE, LAST, SAT, Praxis	PC Troubleshooting
Helping Elderly Parents	Writing for Children

New Online Health Occupations Courses!

In 10 to 20 weeks, you can become nationally certified in these portable, high demand health care jobs through our partnership with the Academy of Medical Professions. Students who complete their program also receive assistance with job searching and resume writing.

Dental Assisting	Medical Transcription	Medical Coding & Billing
Medical Office Specialist	Pharmacy Technician	Hospital Coding & Billing

For more information about any of these courses, including payment plan options and specific certifications awarded per course, please contact us at 862-6422.

Free Online Courses and Trainings

Through a partnership with Atomic Learning, we are again able to offer our residents free access to over 250 online courses and over 10,000 tutorials and individual trainings. To receive a password and login information to these courses email us at: riversideadulthood@rsu26.org or call 862-6422. Some of the newer courses are listed below.

Textease CT	Using SMART Boards	SketchUp for 3D Printing
Kid Px Deluxe	Career Skills Trainings	Google Sheets
Minecraft in the Classroom	Moodle Instructor Training	Boardmaker Plus!
Google Calendar	MS Office Applications	HTML5 & CSS3 Basics
Cyberbullying	Flash CS5	Internet Safety
Dreamweaver CS5	Classroom Management	Podcasting Workshop
WordPress	Creating Digital Portfolios	Being Successful in College
Office for iPad	Anime Studio Training	SharePoint Basics
Photoshop	Moodle for Students	Using Gmail
Supporting Gifted Students	Geometer's Sketchpad	Flickr Training
Adobe Lightroom	iBooks Author Training	Using iTunes
Real-World Geometry	Being Savvy Online	Tech for Students with Dyslexia

College Transitions

Our College Transitions Program is designed to help students successfully prepare for college. We help adult learners who are earning their high school diploma or their HiSET certificate successfully transition to college. We also help students who already have a diploma prepare for their college experience. This spring, we offer **The College Experience: Year One**, a 24 hour blended (live and online) course which allows students an opportunity to earn one free credit from **Eastern Maine Community College**. Contact us if you would like to discuss with us some of the following College Transitions services that we offer.

College Readiness Course	Academic Advising Services	Career Exploration & Planning
Academic Courses:	Algebra / Biology / Writing for College	
Accuplacer Prep & Testing	College Application Assistance	

Like us on Facebook: Riverside Adult Education

Mark the date: Saturday, March 24, 2018: The 2nd annual 'Keep It Local' Business & Community Expo is coming to RSU 22

Please mark Saturday, March 24th, 2018, for our second "Keep It Local" Business & Community Expo. Due to the increase in size, the event will take place at Hampden Academy in both the Gymnasium and the Dining Commons, offering space for up to 90 vendors. The Expo is free to the general public. The Expo will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with setup for the vendors starting at 7 a.m.

This is not just a business-to-business fair; the event will be open to the public at no charge, and ANY business offering goods or services in a retail setting or selling to the general public is encouraged to display. Selling products from your farm? Own a fitness or health-related business? Are you a lawyer or banker or medical professional? Looking to hire new staff? Small engine repair? Art studio or church? You are all welcome. We'd like to showcase the diversity and breadth of the community products and services we have; encouraging to purchase and network locally, all the while providing funds to strengthen education in RSU22.

This event was held for the first time last March, with 45 different vendors showcasing their products or services and over 200 community members attending or participating. The most prominent categories represented were Wellness & Health, Services, Food & Farm, Industrial & Construction, and Education & Nonprofit. It was notable that at least three companies were exhibiting last March primarily to attract full-time or part-time employees.

Rates for becoming a vendor start at \$35 per tabletop booth with returning vendors from last year receiving the discounted rates from the prior year.

If you have questions about the event please or would like to sign up to become a vendor, please contact either board member Peter Witt (retewitt@gmail.com) or Gabe Baker (gbake207@gmail.com) or contact the Foundation directly by calling 207-852-2138 or sending an email to rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com.

Looking to give back? Foundation Board seeks volunteers

The RSU22 Education Foundation is actively seeking new board members and committee volunteers to join a growing non-profit organization that supports the students and teachers in our school district. Exciting new projects await this volunteer group of Board members, serving the towns of Frankfort, Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport.

The Education Foundation funds initiatives with grants that help foster innovative educational projects. If you have a desire to connect with others who share an interest in quality education for children please consider joining the team.

Interested citizens or those wishing to volunteer on a committee should email us at rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com. The Board also presently has 1-year, 2-year and 3-year volunteer board memberships available.

To learn more about the RSU22 Education Foundation, visit us at: www.rsu22educationfoundation.org



RSU #22
Education
Foundation

Community Partners for Inspired Education



WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL PRIDE PACK IS
PROUD TO HOST THE 2ND ANNUAL

WAGNER COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
DECEMBER 9TH

FROM 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.



WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL, WINTERPORT

COME SHOP OUR CRAFT FAIR WITH OVER 30 VENDORS

GRAB SOME DELICIOUS FOOD AT OUR
CONCESSIONS BOOTH

GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN
FULLY DECORATED CHRISTMAS TREES
DONATED BY AREA BUSINESS & GROUP SPONSORS!

KIDS CAN VISIT WITH SANTA



ENJOY LIVE HOLIDAY MUSIC PERFORMED
BY WAGNER MUSIC STUDENTS!

If you would like to participate or volunteer to help with the festival,
please contact Wagner Pride Pack at
wagnerpridepack@gmail.com or Like us on Facebook to send a
message!!

Proceeds to benefit a school based student pantry to help any
Wagner student in need and other school programs...thank you for
your support!