



Link-22

RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort

24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

Fall 2019



Christine "Tina" Boone

Tina Boone, former Principal at Weatherbee, named Assistant Superintendent for District Development

Christine "Tina" Boone, Superintendent of the Glenburn School Department and former Principal at the George B. Weatherbee School in Hampden, will be the new Assistant Superintendent for District Development in RSU 22, effective July 1.

Mrs. Boone's nomination was approved unanimously by the RSU 22 Board of Directors at its regular meeting on Wednesday, November 20.

Regan Nickels, whose appointment as RSU 22 Superintendent is also effective July 1, said she is delighted that Mrs. Boone is returning to RSU 22.

"We are fortunate to have such an experienced and expert district level administrator as Mrs. Boone to fill the position of Assistant Superintendent," Mrs. Nickels said. "Beyond her strong qualifications and capabilities, Mrs. Boone knows the RSU 22 community well and will be dedicated to serving our students, staff and families in the pursuit of educational excellence."

Mrs. Boone says she's looking forward to the challenge.

"I am very excited to have attained a job that speaks to all my passions in education," she said.

"I have spent much of my career focused on instructional leadership, school improvement and coaching. I have been an administrator from PreK to grade 12 and taught in higher education. I appreciate what it requires at all levels to provide effective leadership. To get to supervise and support school leaders as a primary function of a job, really is a dream job for me."

As Assistant Superintendent for District Development, Mrs. Boone will focus on leadership development, legislative advocacy, com-

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Rachel Gardella, Maddie Mooers, Linda MacDonald, and Andrea Lee with Hampden Academy's banner as a Special Olympics National Unified Champion School.



Lisa Bird of Special Olympics Maine (center) speaks at Hampden Academy's Homecoming assembly Sept. 27.

Special Olympics, ESPN honor Hampden Academy as Unified Champion School

Special Olympics and ESPN have recognized Hampden Academy and RSU 22 with their highest awards for inclusion and unified sports.

During a special Homecoming assembly on Friday, September 27, Lisa Bird of Special Olympics

Maine announced that Hampden Academy would receive National Banner Recognition as one of 175 Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools for 2019.

Then, ESPN named Hampden Academy to the ESPN Honor Roll

for 2019—a list of 34 Unified Champion Schools, one in each state where Special Olympics is active.

Special Olympics says a Unified Champion School is one that has an inclusive school climate, exhibits a sense of collaboration, engagement

and respect for all—and has demonstrated its commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 national standards of excellence.

One of the ways a Unified Champion School promotes inclusion is by

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Message from RSU 22: you might enjoy substitute teaching

Do you have two years of college credits, like kids, and want to control your own work schedule?

You might very well enjoy being a substitute teacher in RSU 22.

Do you like younger kids but not high school or middle school kids, or vice versa? You might still enjoy being a substitute teacher in RSU 22.

"We really need substitute teachers," says Assistant Superintendent Regan Nickels (who will become Superintendent effective July 1). "The fact is that you can tell the district which schools and which grade levels you prefer, and if a substitute teaching assignment doesn't fit your schedule, you may decline."

The only requirements are that you fill out an RSU 22 substitute teacher application form, have two years of college credits, and obtain a Criminal History Records Check through the State Department of Education.

"It's a pretty interesting job, and you work

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Engineering 101 students focus on projects

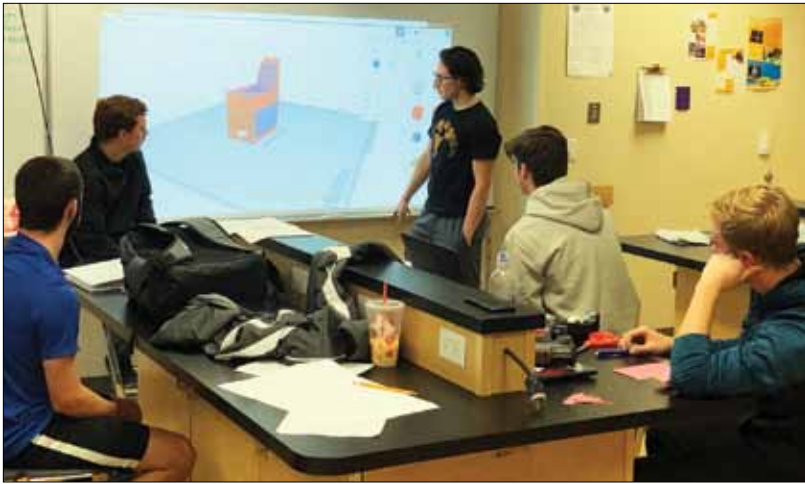
The Technology Education department started the year with three new classes—two sections of Introduction to Engineering, primarily for freshmen and sophomores, and Engineering 101 for juniors and seniors and an entry level Robotics class open to all students.

The students in Engineering 101 have been working on a series of projects for the Hampden Academy athletic department. They are researching, designing and building different pieces of equipment for the athletic training room.

The projects include:

- A custom-designed taping table that is comfortable for the trainer and the athletes being taped. (Noah Dancoes and Adam Thompson).
- A tape stand, that will hold and organize all of the taping materials (Jarrett Jones, Michael O'Roak, and Jonathan Spaulding).
- An ice bag rack (Isaac Cruz).
- A color coded theraband rack that will hold all of the different bands (Beau Gagner and Michael Ray Jr.).
- Two designs for a slant boards used for

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Kenny Penney, Adam Thompson, Noah Dancoes, Robert Buzzini, Matt Knupp look at a 3D model of their design for a custom-made taping table.

Superintendent's Message

Welcome to Tina Boone as Assistant Superintendent for District Development; RSU 22 to face budget issues, including new \$40K mininum salary for teachers

By Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 22

We are delighted to announce that Tina Boone, former principal at Weatherbee School and current superintendent in Glenburn, has accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent for District Development in RSU 22. She will start on July 1—the same day I retire and Regan Nickels takes my place as Superintendent.

A committee made up of two Board members and the administrative team sought applications for the position in August and held two rounds of interviews.

The committee was unanimous in recommending Tina to the Board of Directors, which voted, also unanimously, to approve her contract at the regular Board meeting on November 20.

As Assistant Superintendent for District Development, Tina will focus on leadership development—ensuring that all schools have plans in place to maximize teacher performance and improve student learning.

She will also be responsible for legislative advocacy, communications, and enhancing the relationship between the district and the RSU 22 Education Foundation.

We think it's essential for RSU 22 to know what's going on in the Maine Legislature—the potential impact of bills on education generally and on public school districts specifically—so that we can make our voice heard on these issues.

RSU 22 will soon be gearing up for contract negotiations with the unions representing the

teachers and the support staff (custodians, ed techs, administrative assistants, etc.).

As is customary, these negotiations will be conducted in executive session. Nevertheless, we recognize that the contracts will impact our 2020-21 budget, which the Board will be working on in the coming months.

One of the critical issues in the teacher contract will be bringing the contract in line with the \$40,000 minimum salary for teachers that was mandated by the Legislature in the last session.

In RSU 22, our base salary is currently \$35,600, or \$4,400 below the base. Bringing our salary schedule in line with the new minimum will go well beyond the new base salary. Currently, our first five steps are all below the new base, with step 5 at \$39,965.

In mandating the \$40,000 minimum salary for teachers, the Legislature said the state would pay one-third of the increase for each school district, but that means local taxpayers have to fund the remaining two-thirds—and the entire amount after the three years are up.

Obviously, this will have a significant impact on our 2020-21 budget, which will be submitted to the Board in May and go to the voters for final approval in June.

Among legislative initiatives we will be watching very closely are proposals to transfer responsibility for administration of special education services for children with disabilities from

birth to age 5 from Child Development Services (a state agency) to public school districts.

Legislators discussed several proposals last spring, but received pushback from educators because of questions about how the transfer would be funded. General purpose aid to education (GPA) increased by \$48 million during the first year of the biennium and is scheduled to be increased by about \$70 million during the second year. However, that would not be nearly enough to cover the cost of local school districts providing special education services to children after they reach age 3, much less the cost to serve children with disabilities from birth to age 5.

It's not just the monetary cost, but the infrastructure. Who will oversee the IEPs for these children? We don't have enough people to handle the additional workload, so we'd have to hire more staff.

At this point, legislators are uncertain as to how this issue should be resolved. Limiting the change to children age 3 and up would reduce the impact substantially, but it would still be very costly and schools would need additional revenue in order to break even.

We will be monitoring this very closely, and we will update you in the February issue of the *Link-22*.

Courtney Patterson joins RSU 22 staff as Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)

Courtney Patterson has joined the staff of RSU 22 as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

She will be using applied behavior analysis (ABA), a type of therapy based on the principles of learning, to help children improve specific behaviors. Her office is located in the Leroy H. Smith School in Winterport, but she will be traveling to all schools in the district.

She says she often works with children who have developmental delays, autism, or other mental health challenges. However, the principles and strategies used can be helpful to any child experiencing difficulty.

Ms. Patterson has been a BCBA for 10 years. For the past



Courtney Patterson

three years, she worked for Kids Peace New England, a private charity dedicated to serving the behavioral and mental health needs of children, families, and communities.

Previously, she served as clinical and curriculum coordinator for the Fraser Ford Child Development Center in Sanford for two years, and for the IWK Children's Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development on Prince Edward Island.

A native of Nova Scotia, she graduated from Dalhousie University in Halifax and Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, completing undergraduate and graduate work in psychology. She also completed a post graduate program in ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) from Penn State University.

Ms. Patterson and her family live in Hampden. They have two daughters who attend school in RSU 22.

She enjoys spending time with family. She loves music and theater and also enjoys spending time outside—at the beach, gardening, or camping.



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RSU 22 Diversity Forum Follow Up set for Thursday, Dec. 5, 7-8:30 p.m.

By Regan Nickels, Assistant Superintendent, RSU 22

RSU 22 has continued its efforts toward building an inclusive and equitable school district since school and community members came together at the June Diversity Forum. Becoming culturally aware and more equitable is the district's next step and commitment. RSU 22 is grateful to the students, parents, educators, board and community members that are helping move the district forward on this learning journey. We are making significant strides.

RSU 22 has engaged Nicola Chin of *Up With Community* to help coach district leaders and the Diversity Committee in building a multi-year roadmap to becoming a more inclusive and equitable district where all families experience safety, community and an excellent curriculum. To this end, a district leadership team has been formed and is meeting regularly to build members' awareness and to keep in communication with staff and community.

A Diversity Forum Follow Up will be held on Thursday, December 5, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Hampden Academy Dining Commons. The follow up will allow interested community members to hear more about the efforts underway in RSU 22. Light refreshments will be served.

The following day, during early dismissal inservice, all teachers and school staff will have an opportunity to hear from Assistant Superintendent Regan Nickels and Ms. Chin about district efforts as well. An important aspect of the awareness work in RSU 22 centers around strengthening district values and instructional strategies.

The following Essential Behaviors and Outcomes Proclamation is read aloud at each school board meeting and serves as the platform for district equity work:

RSU-22 commits to the following essential behaviors and outcomes:

Education enables all students to learn the skills, acquire the knowledge, and develop the attitudes necessary for them to reach their potential as citizens who can meet the challenges of a changing global society.

We believe that:

- All citizens in our communities share the responsibility to educate our children and themselves.
- Our schools are community support systems and should welcome and encourage all members of our communities to participate.
- Our schools will have a supportive and empowering atmosphere for all students and community members.

We look forward to the Diversity Forum Follow Up as a means to continue community discussion, share ideas and inform the community about RSU 22's goals in this area.

Curriculum Office Update

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

2018-2019 State Assessment Results

We have received preliminary confidential state testing data from the March 2019 administration.

- Writing has not been factored into the grades 3-8 eMPowerME ELA results – purely Reading data.
- Our math scores have not improved.
- As we contemplate what the results may mean, we are beginning to discuss how we might address some of

the concerns.

- We have been reviewing NWEA MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) data to determine whether or not we are seeing student growth over time. That information was shared at the October School Board meeting.
- We will compare results from other districts, as well as learn about programming and instruction from high-achieving school systems with similar

demographics.

- We will be comparing unit assessment results across the district (similar courses or grade levels) to gauge areas of strengths and concerns.
- We will again review our turnover for both students and teachers.
- We will be offering some internal professional development and coaching through the winter and the spring.



Mary Giard

Civil Rights Teams in RSU 22

Civil Right Teams are now established in the schools where students are in grade 3 or high-

er. We now have Civil Rights Teams at Leroy Smith School, Samuel Wagner Middle School,

George Weatherbee School, Reeds Brook Middle School and Hampden Academy.

Building Diversity Awareness

RSU 22 educators are beginning to build diversity awareness.

Twelve educators attended the Maine Multicultural Conference held at UTC on Saturday,

November 16th. Many topics were discussed throughout the day.

Message from RSU 22: you might enjoy substitute teaching

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at your own will,” Mrs. Nickels says.

One of the best things about subbing is that you can work as much or as little as you want, depending on your circumstances.

* * *

If you’re wondering what it’s like to be a substitute, you can ask any of the RSU 22 building principals. Or you can ask some of the people who are currently working as substitutes—like Margaret Bebb of Hampden, who has been subbing for the past 10 years, and Angela LaRochelle, also of Hampden, who has been subbing for three years.

Both of them say they enjoy subbing—and that it’s a perfect job for someone who wants to control their own schedule.

Margaret says one of the reasons she like subbing is the convenience.

“You can choose when you want to work, and you can work as few or as many days as you’d like,” she says. “You can basically set your own schedule.”

When she started subbing, she was able to make sure that her work schedule didn’t conflict with her children’s needs. Her two sons are now in college—Husson University in Bangor and Wentworth College in Boston—so that’s no longer an issue—but there are still some



Substitute teachers Margaret Bebb (left) of Hampden and Angela LaRochelle, also of Hampden.

weeks when she has other things she wants to do.

Angela says she began volunteering as a recess monitor at Weatherbee five years ago. While volunteering, she saw how much substitutes are needed, so three years ago she applied and was accepted.

“I love subbing,” she says. “It’s perfect for me and my family. My oldest attends Reeds Brook Middle School, and my youngest is at Weatherbee. I really like being on the same schedule as my kids—having the same vacation days and being off on their snow days. It’s great.”



Angela says many prospective substitute teachers aren’t aware that when they apply to be a substi-

tute, they can express a preference for which school, which grade level, and what type of course they prefer.

“I was nervous when I started, but I found the schools to be very accommodating,” she said. “I quickly found my footing thanks to the helpful and supportive teachers and staff. They take great care of you.”

Margaret says many people don’t realize that the skills from their previous work careers are transferable to substitute teaching.

“Some people may have fears about working with students,” she says. “They need to remember that problem-solving, focusing on the task at hand, and ensuring that you or your teammates understand and follow directions—those are skills that we all use at work and in our daily activities, and they’re equally valuable in the classroom.”

RSU 22 School Safety Plan update

Regional School Unit 22 continues to review and revise district and school safety plans. During the 2019-2020 school year it has been the focus of the District Safety Committee to refine how reunification will occur. Reunification is the controlled and formalized method of dismissing students to their parents/guard-

ians or persons listed as their emergency contacts. During a time of crisis the students’ welfare is the district’s priority and responsibility, and RSU 22 wants to make sure we are executing the very best plan. In the next couple of months, please look for more information from your child’s school regarding reunification.

Tina Boone named Assistant Superintendent for District Development

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munications, and enhancing the relationship between the district and the RSU 22 Education Foundation.

“Our biggest challenges are all about school improvement and making sure we reach and teach every child,” she said. “To do that, we have to coach building-based leaders to maximize teacher performance. An important part of this new role is not what we teach, but how we teach. School improvement plans address the HOW part.”

Mrs. Nickels says another important part of Mrs. Boone’s job will be legislative advocacy.

“There’s tremendous activity in Augusta,” she says. “Education has been the subject of numerous bills, and it will be the subject of more legislation in the coming session. We have to be knowledgeable about these bills, and we need to be articulate as to what our district stance is. We need to stay on top of what’s happening in the Legislature, and hopefully be in a position to advocate and shape legislation.”

Mrs. Boone said she did some work with the Legislature as the Glenburn superintendent, and she feels that her broad range of experience in education will allow her to view prospective legislation through a variety of lenses and talk about how a law might impact public schools.

Mrs. Nickels adds that she hopes Mrs. Boone will be able to help renew the district’s partnership with the RSU 22 Education Foundation.

“We haven’t had a liaison to attend Education Foundation meetings on a routine basis,” she says. “RSU 22, like other school districts, needs to identify outside resources so we can grow. We need to share our initiatives and seek the partnership.”

Mrs. Boone emphasizes that she’s been very happy in Glenburn. She says she’ll do her best to transition into her new job with RSU 22 as time allows, but looking out for the interests of Glenburn schoolchildren will be her No. 1 priority through June 30.

That said, she’s excited about the opportunities that she sees in RSU 22.

“The RSU 22 Board is open-minded, innovative, and willing to support trying new things,” she says. “In addition, the four RSU 22 towns recognize and support innovation. This is not to say that we want change for the sake of change. We don’t. If it’s not broken, I don’t want to fix it. Nevertheless, this position offers an opportunity to reflect and analyze what we can do better. It’s a growth model.

“I think right now RSU 22 is at a point where they’re very open minded, and want to innovate. Even though they’re largely successful, they don’t rest on their laurels. I’m excited about the expectation from the board and the community—and from Mrs. Nickels. I know she has high expectations, and she is going to settle for anything less than the best for our students.”

Mrs. Boone lives in Frankfort with her husband Benjamin, a RoadMaster on the Maine Montreal and Atlantic Railway, and their two sons. The oldest, Simon, will be a senior at Hampden Academy next fall, while Roger will be a freshman.

2 social studies teachers bringing HA Civil Rights Team back to life

Two social studies teachers, Heidi Harris and Michele Metzler, are bringing the Hampden Academy Civil Rights Team back to life after an absence of several years.

The team met twice in October, and it has regular meetings scheduled for Thursdays after school in Mrs. Metzler's room, 221.

The team is part of the Civil Rights Team Project (CRTP) of the State Attorney General's office, which is designed to help schools address bias-motivated behaviors and harassment and create a welcoming environment.

The CRTP is focused on six areas— race/color, ethnic backgrounds/ancestry, gender/gender ex-

pression, disability, sexual orientation, and religion. About 175 schools in Maine have civil rights teams

Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Metzler started by attending a training session led by the Assistant Attorney General on October 15th.

Mrs. Harris said about a dozen students attended the initial meetings. She said one of the challenges is going to be to make sure people know "who we are and what we do."

She said the students looked at the CRTP mission and talked about what makes a good Civil Rights Team member and what makes a good Civil Rights Team.

Then, they put that together as a mission statement for the Hampden



Academy team, as follows:

"The Mission of the Hampden Academy Civil Rights Team is to educate the school community on social issues in order to create an inclusive environment in which all students feel safe, respected, and represented."

Mrs. Harris said new team members are always welcome.

"The Civil Rights Team is sup-

posed to be student-driven," she said. "The kids are really the boots on the ground. They know what's going on, much more than adults do. It's important for them to identify areas where they think attention is needed. They're in the best position to tell us the best ways to increase inclusivity and tolerance and to decrease bias-based actions or behaviors."

Hampden Academy planning to implement DOE 'Seal of Biliteracy'

Hampden Academy is planning to implement a Department of Education initiative to provide a Seal of Biliteracy to students who demonstrate proficiency in both English and a second language.

The Seal of Biliteracy will go along with the diploma and will be part of the student's final transcript.

"This will be a permanent record that the student has mastered English and learned a second language at a pretty advanced level," says Ben Johnson, Latin teacher

at Hampden Academy and Instructional Leader for Languages at Hampden Academy.

The program is new, having started just last year.

Latin is one of the languages recognized for the Seal of Biliteracy. Five Hampden Academy graduates had the seal attached to their diplomas this summer after they scored a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP Latin test in the spring.

Mr. Johnson says the Biliteracy program requires that students complete the English requirements

for high school graduation.

For the second language, students need to achieve a certain level on an outside test. Hampden Academy is looking at the STAMP 4S test in French and Spanish. The school can determine when to offer it, and students can take it multiple times.

"We're thinking about offering STAMP 4S in early spring," he said. "We haven't done this before, but we have the funds set aside and we've made it a priority goal for this year. The French and Spanish

teachers are on board."

Mr. Johnson said the AP test isn't currently offered for French and Spanish.

"We think the STAMP 4S test may be a way of giving students a little more reward for going four years in a language," he said.

He noted that 37 states currently offer the Seal of Biliteracy.

Students attending the University of Maine System automatically receive 6 or 8 foreign language credits if they have the Seal on their transcript.

Hampden Academy French students to correspond with students at Lyceé Moquet

Students at Hampden Academy and the Lyceé Moquet, a public high school in Chateaubriant, France, will be corresponding with each other this year through a partnership set up by the Maine Department of Education and the Académie de Nantes, the DOE's counterpart for the northwest part of France.

French teacher Ambrosia Noyes said sophomores and seniors at

Hampden Academy would send the first set of letters and videos to their counterparts in France.

The Hampden Academy sophomores have done introductory write-ups of themselves in French, while the seniors produced videos about themselves, also in French.

After the students at the Lyceé Moquet receive the letters and videos, they will respond to their

Hampden Academy correspondents in English.

Ms. Noyes said she had talked with the teacher in France, and they came up with a list of topics for the students to focus on.

The Hampden Academy sophomores will be writing about the differences they see between Hampden and Chateaubriant and the two schools, while the seniors are

likely to select topics that are more aligned with their curriculum, such as gun control and women in science.

Ms. Noyes said she didn't know exactly when the French students would respond, but she noted that the communication process should be faster, as "everything is digital now."

Special Olympics, ESPN honor Hampden Academy as Unified Champion School

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bringing together young people with and without intellectual disabilities on sports teams through the Special Olympics Unified Sports program. Special Olympics says schools can also promote inclusion through inclusive student clubs and other in-school or community-wide initiatives, and by fostering youth leadership.

Andrea Lee, RSU 22 Special Olympics Coordinator and coach of the Hampden Academy Unified Basketball Team, said the awards were about a lot more than HA's success with Unified Basketball.

"This is about making choices to include others throughout the entire district," she said.

"The most visible aspects of this are Unified Basketball and our efforts to put fans in the stands at Special Olympics event," Ms. Lee added, "I believe the award was given to Hampden Academy, but it's really a demonstration for all of RSU 22 to say we believe in you."

Rachel Gardella and Maddie Mooers, seniors at Hampden Academy, accepted the award on behalf of the student body.

Rachel, a partner on the Unified Basketball Team, said she was honored to be involved with the team.

"I wanted to help others, and I wanted to volunteer," she said. "Maddie and I have known each other forever, but I don't think we'd be as close as we are now if it wasn't for unified sports. I'm so thankful for how inclusive Hampden Academy is and for all of your support."

Maddie, who earned a bronze medal in the



Maddie Mooers (left) and Rachel Gardella represented Hampden Academy on the Special Olympics Maine Unified State Council and served as emcees at the council's conference in Portland on November 15.

long jump at the 2019 Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi, said receiving the award was a great honor for Hampden Academy.

"This award is not only about our Unified Track Team or our Unified Basketball Team, it's about everything we do in school," she said. "We are the Hampden Academy Broncos."

Nick Raymond, vice principal at Hampden Academy, said Maddie and Rachel have both been very instrumental with Special Olympics and Hampden Academy.

"They've been leaders at our school and key contributors to unified sports and Special Olym-

pics," he said. "That's why they were chosen to represent the school in receiving the award."

They also represented Hampden Academy on the Special Olympics Maine Unified State Council, and served as emcees at the council's conference in Portland on November 15.

Mr. Raymond said Hampden Academy and RSU 22 has long been involved in Special Olympics.

"We've always had a large team and participated in a lot of events," he said.

This year, Hampden Academy is hosting the Special Olympics Maine Motor Activities—a competition for athletes with physical disabilities and who struggle with motor skills—in March.

Lisa Bird, representing Special Olympics Maine, said watching the program grow at Hampden Academy has been exciting.

"When you started, it was something new for your school, but for all of the students who are at Hampden Academy now, it's just a way of life. You deserve a round of applause."

Ms. Bird said Hampden Academy has made some big choices.

"You have chosen not to look at people's abilities or disabilities," she said. "You have decided that it's important to play together, to do sports together, to be on the same field, the same track, the same court side-by-side—and to become teammates with your classmates. We're here today because Hampden Academy chooses to include. You are a school that has chosen acceptance, dignity, and inclusion for all of your students."

Drama Club presents ‘Sister Act’ as 2019 fall musical

The Hampden Academy Drama Club, with a cast of 10 seniors, four juniors, four sophomores, and eight freshmen put on three evening performances of the musical “Sister Act” on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 21-23.

The musical was based on the 1992 movie of the same name that starred Whoopie Goldberg. The story was the same as the movie, but all of the music was different.

Sara Gass, a senior, played the lead role of Deloris van Cartier, the Whoopie Goldberg character who was forced to hide in a convent with the pseudonym of Sister Mary Clarence.

Other cast members were seniors Caroline Beckwith, Teodora Blejeru, Garrett Donovan, Denali Eyles, Grayson Koelbl, Sophia Mathi, Adrien Sholes, Emi Verhar, and Matt Yost; juniors Jessica Dobson, LillyAnne Keeley, David Kelley, and Ethan Suderley; sophomores Madi Baude, Gracie Farrar, Morgan Gray, and Mallory Parks; and freshmen Victoria Boyorak, Samantha Brooker, Josie Gilmore, Molly Kearns, Grace Pelletier, Emma Prescott, Max Ross, and Lily Woodside.

Jenn Guare was the Artistic Director, Heidi Corliss was the Musical Director, Rob Kissinger was the Technical Director, and Aimee Gerow was the Choreographer.

Backstage management was done by Gracie Demchak and Emily Hatch. The lighting was run by Jaiden Hansen and Adrien Sholes. Sound design and operation was by Ryan Scott. Backstage managers were Gracie Demchak and Emily Hatch.



The cast of “Sister Act” rehearses a musical number.

Costumes were done by Jenn Guare, Susan Guare, Cathy Dionne-Gass, and Ellen Porter. Alaina Bates was the fly system operator. Hair and make-up was done by Skylar Manhart and the cast.

Mr. Kissinger’s IPAC (Introduction to the Performing Arts Center) class was responsible for set construction and painting

The pit orchestra included Dana Ross on piano, Patrick Michaud on trumpet, Jonathan Fenders on trombone, Bryan Frost on flute/alto sax, Jerdon Kiesman on soprano and tenor sax, Robert Brown III on guitar, Bailey Mallory on bass, Zachary Scott on drums, and Jay Baines on percussion.

Grayson Koelbl, a senior who played Deloris’ boyfriend, Curtis Jackson, said prior to the performances that the cast “put a lot of work into a pro-



Lily Woodside rehearses with Sarah Gass.

duction that we know will make audiences smile.” He said the Drama Club’s hope was “to get jaws dropping...and maybe a visit from the Pope himself!”

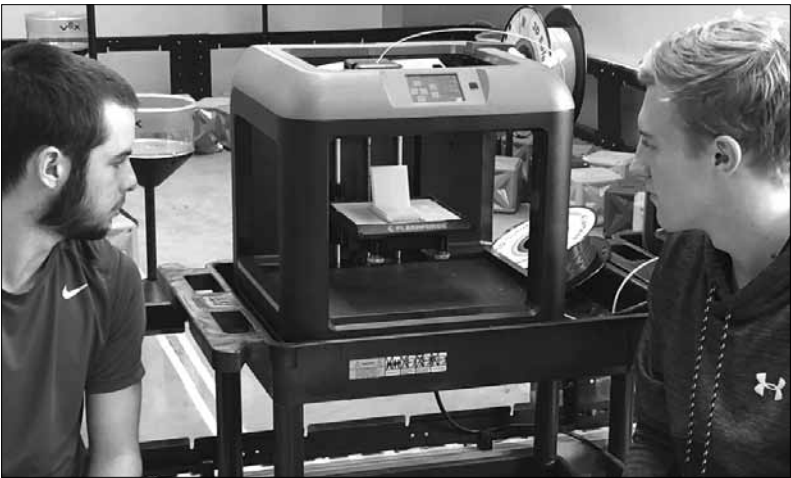
Engineering 101 students focus on projects for Hampden Academy Athletic Dept.

(Continued from page 1)
stretching the athletes lower legs (Robert Buzzini and Jonathan Turlo, and Matthew Knupp and Kenneth Penney). All students will then be working together to design and build a padded seat for the back of the gator to transport an injured athlete.

The engineering students began the design process by meeting with the athletic trainer to fully understand the needs of the department. Following the design process, they then brainstormed ideas, presented their ideas to the trainer for approval, decided on final designs and constructed 3-D printed prototypes using Tinker-CADD. The students will start building the actual products starting this week.

Technology Education Instructional Team Leader Todd Moore says the taping table would cost about \$1,400 if purchased, the Engineering 101 students will build it for about \$250.

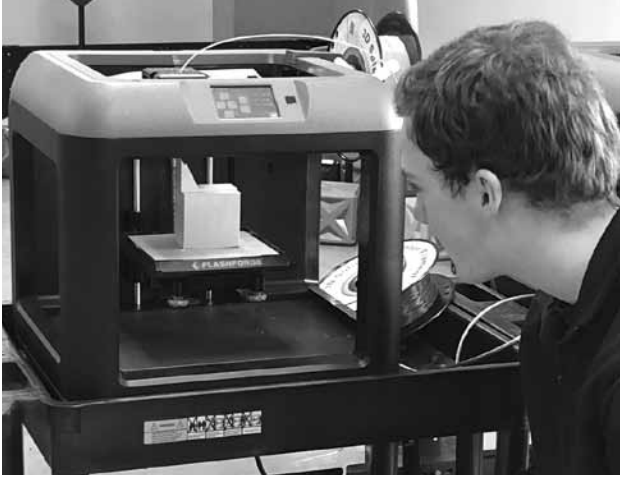
Once this project is completed, Mr. Moore says the Engineering 101 students will next be designing and building cardboard boats that will race across the Lura Hoit pool. The challenge requires each team to use



Kenny Penney and Robert Buzzini with their Gator seat being 3D printed.

the same materials list. The boat must transport each member of the team across the length of the pool. He also plans to have the class look into renewable energy by researching and designing different styles of windmills, build prototypes of the different designs, and then test them to see which one is the most efficient. “We will then build a full size windmill that will be able to generate power.”

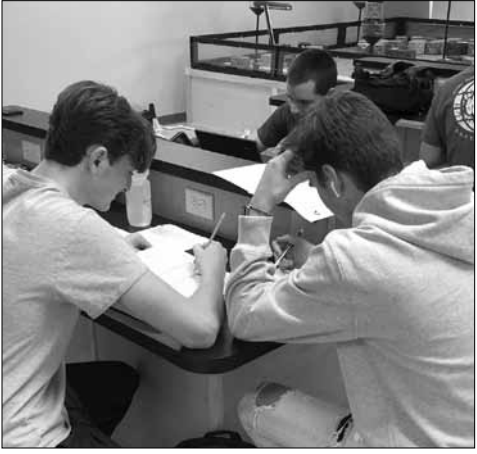
All of the new technology classes provide real world challenges for all students involved.



Adam Thompson with the model of the taping table being printed in the 3D printer.



Michael Raye and Beau Gagner.



Matt Knupp and Jonathon Turlo



ROALD DAHL’S MATILDA THE MUSICAL—Back row (l. to r.): Bri-
anne Beck and Dominick Varney (both Hampden Academy alumni).
Center): Matt Madore (music teacher), Abby Scott (Reeds Brook),
Emma Campbell (Hampden Academy), and Andrew Barrett (Hamp-
den Academy). Front: Luka Bogolyubov (Weatherbee).

Teacher, 4 students to perform in Penobscot Theatre Company’s ‘Matilda’

A teacher and four students from RSU 22 schools will be performing in the Penobscot Theatre Company production of *Roald Dahl’s Matilda the Musical*, Dec. 5-29, in Bangor.

The teacher is Matt Madore, who teaches music at Weatherbee and McGraw schools and directs the Show Choir at Reeds Brook Middle School.

The students are Andrew Barrett, a senior at Hampden Academy; Emma Campbell, a sophomore at Hampden Academy; Abby Scott, a 7th grader at Reeds Brook, and Luka Bogolyubov, a 3rd grader at Weatherbee.

The cast of *Matilda* also includes two Penobscot Theatre regulars who are Hamp-

den Academy alumni. They are Brianne Beck, who plays Miss Honey, and Dominick Varney, who plays Mr. Wormwood.

An avid reader, and imbued with powers even she doesn’t fully comprehend, Matilda is a clever and imaginative girl. At school for the first time, she encounters two authority figures who are polar opposites; the kind and nurturing Miss Honey, and the mean and demanding Miss Trunchbull.

Originally written by Roald Dahl, *Matilda* is the story of a kind and curious child who triumphs in the face of adversity. In true Roald Dahl fashion, victory for the underdog is never in question.



The Hampden Academy R&B Project (left photo) and the Jazz Ensemble groups perform at the Fall Jazz Night Concert. Photos by Bill Tracy.

Hampden Academy jazz groups pay tribute to Don Stratton at Fall Jazz Night

Hampden Academy jazz groups performed a tribute to the late Maine jazz legend Don Stratton at the school's Fall Jazz Night Concert at the Performing Arts Center November 4.

The concert included performances by the Hampden Academy R&B Project and the Jazz Combo, Jazz Band, and Jazz Ensemble.

Performing with the students were a number of musicians with connections to Stratton, including jazz clarinetist Brad Terry, pianist Gerry Wright, bassist Bob Roman, trombonists Jim Winters and Dan Barrett of the University of Maine, saxophonist John Cooper from College of the Atlantic, composers Terry White and Craig Skeffington, and Hampden Academy alumni Jake Michaud, Bailey Giles, and Alex Batey.

The Jazz Band premiered Terry White's "And Stay Out," a blues piece dedicated to Don Stratton. The Jazz Ensemble premiered Craig Skeffington's "Buy a Ticket," another blues dedicated to Stratton.

The Fall Jazz Night concert was publicized in a lengthy article about Don Stratton in *The Maine Edge*, a free newspaper with a circulation of 18,500 copies distributed every week to 25 towns in Penobscot and Hancock counties. The article was

written by staff writer Mike Dow. Dow interviewed Pat Michaud, music teacher and director of bands at Hampden Academy. Portions of Dow's article are reprinted below:
* * *

"Don Stratton influenced many of us greatly," Michaud said of the jazz great, formerly a resident of Bangor and Augusta and a Professor of Music at the University of Maine in Orono and Augusta. "Next to my father, Don was the most influential person in my life."

Stratton was part of the jazz heritage of Boston and New York City. He recorded and performed with numerous greats, including Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Louis Armstrong, The Glenn Miller Orchestra with Tex Beneke, Herbie Mann, Lester Young, and many more.

Stratton performed in storied venues including Birdland, Radio City Music Hall and on Broadway in historic shows, including "Bye Bye Birdie," "Hello Dolly" and "Once Upon a Mattress."

Don Stratton was instrumental in developing the jazz program at the Manhattan School of Music, where he had received his BA and MA in Music Theory. "MSM is now recognized as having one of the foremost jazz programs in the world," Pat Michaud says.

Michaud studied trumpet with Stratton for a number of years and had previously honored the musician with similar tributes during his lifetime. "Don would perform with the students and share his gift with

them," he said. Michaud recalls a special tribute concert held during Homecoming Weekend in 1995, which also involved David Demsey, Director of Jazz Studies at William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, and a former professor at the University of Maine in Orono and Augusta. "Dave came in and led that group and Don was with us, and he played along on a number of pieces that we associated with him. I'll never forget the moment when Don said 'Thanks for doing this before I die.' It was a special night. Dave Demsey will return for this special concert to serve as our guest conductor for all Hampden Academy jazz groups."
* * *

I asked Michaud to describe what Don Stratton was like as a person and as a professor.

"When I first arrived as a student at the University of Maine, I had some issues to overcome with my trumpet playing," Michaud said. "Don had the ability to see potential in students that others might not have spotted. In me, he saw a desire to overcome my obstacles and he agreed to take me on."

One summer during a period when he was a student at the University of Maine in Orono, Michaud arranged a series of lessons with Stratton as a way to continue learning when school wasn't in session.

"He wouldn't charge me because I drove from Madawaska, which is where I'm from," Michaud recalled. "One summer I was living in Bangor and working

a couple of part-time jobs. Don would have me take care of odd jobs around his house because he knew I needed the money. He kept me honest, he would even have me spreading manure. He was like my second father and we always kept in touch after I graduated."

As a professor, Michaud says Stratton was famous for thinking outside the box. "He had very creative ways of describing how he wanted you to play a piece," he said. "He would say things in a very obscure way that translated very well. He used very specific images that he knew we would understand."

As a composer, Michaud says Stratton would write with specific people in mind, in a fashion similar to how Duke Ellington composed. "He would always find a way to feature people based on their interests," he said. "He was a very prolific composer and extremely unique. He wrote a piece for a former teacher of mine."

The selection was titled "A Suite for 7 Undependable Trumpet Players" which involved each musician doing something different throughout the piece, according to Michaud, who describes how the surreal scene unfolded.

"One of my roles involved me going out and messing with a transistor radio. Another had to play a pinball machine. Another musician had to read a book throughout the piece and the sound of that book closing provided the closing note for the piece. Don Stratton was an incredibly unique person — truly one of a kind."

NEW STAFF AT HAMPDEN ACADEMY

Melanie Crowe, Art

Melanie Crowe, a Hampden Academy graduate who taught art at Marshwood Middle School in Eliot for 16 years, is the new art teacher at Hampden Academy.

She teaches sculpture, 3D art, digital communications (digital photography and video production), and advanced digital communications at Hampden Academy.

Before she started teaching, she managed an art supply center in Portland—Artist and Craftsman Supply—for eight years.

Mrs. Crowe graduated from Hampden Academy in 1992 and attended Massachusetts College of Art and then the Portland School of Art while working full-time at the art supply center. She received her teaching degree from the University of Southern Maine.

She said she's been hoping for several years that Hampden Academy would have an opening for an art teacher "so I could move back home and teach up here."

Mrs. Crowe and her husband Dan, a builder, live in Frankfort. They have two sons, a 6th grader at Wagner Middle School and a 3rd grader at Smith Elementary School.

Mrs. Crowe says she loves making art, gardening, and being outdoors. She's also an avid knitter.

Travel is another favorite activity.



Melanie Crowe

"We travel as much as we can," she says. "I'd love to go to Scotland and Ireland, but we want to wait until the children are older."

Mariko Haskell-Brown, Special Ed

Mariko Haskell-Brown has joined the staff at Hampden Academy as a special education teacher.

Ms. Haskell-Brown comes to Hampden Academy from Searsport High School in RSU 20, where she spent 10 years in special education and the After School program.

Before that, she lived in Georgia. Since she had two young children, she stayed at home and worked for a photographer, creating wedding albums, packaging photos, and framing, etc.

A native of Frankfort, Ms. Haskell-Brown graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington in 1998. She moved around a lot, as her husband, a women's soccer coach, moved to jobs in North Dakota for two years, Montana for one year, and Georgia for five years.

They moved back to Maine in 2006, when her husband was named women's soccer coach at Husson University. He is currently coaching women's soccer at Maine Maritime Academy.

They now have three children—a son who is a senior at Hampden Academy, a



Mariko Haskell-Brown

daughter who is a sophomore at Hampden Academy, and another daughter who is in kindergarten at Smith School.

Ms. Haskell-Brown continues to have a passion for photography in portraiture and documentary photos. She says her children also keep her busy. Her son plays soccer and track, while her daughter plays soccer and softball and plans to try out for basketball this year.

Cameron Blood, English

Cameron Blood, a member of the last class to graduate from the old Hampden Academy building in 2012, is now teaching social studies and English to Hampden Academy students in grades 9-12.

Mr. Blood received his B.S. degree in Education, with a concentration in Secondary English, in 2017 from the University of Maine.

In 2017-18, he was a long-term sub at Orono High School; in 2018-19, he taught 8th grade ELA in Searsport.

Mr. Blood has been serving as an assistant coach for indoor and outdoor track and field for the past seven years. This fall, he started coaching cross country as an assistant at Reeds Brook.

A native of Hampden, he still lives in Hampden.

Mr. Blood enjoys hiking and going to his parents' camp at Beddington Lake.



Cameron Blood

Harold Williams, Special Ed

Harold Williams, a special education teacher at Penquis Valley High School in Milo for the past 10 years, has joined the staff at Hampden Academy as a special education teacher in one of the resource rooms.

Previously, he served for eight years as the cooperative education coordinator and athletic director at Central High School in East Corinth.

A native of Bangor, he received his B.S. degree in physical education from the University of Maine in 1991. After graduation, he worked for two years as an ed tech III in special education at Bangor High School and then spent eight years as a physical education teacher at Hancock Grammar School in Hancock, outside of Ellsworth.

He and his wife Rhoda live in Bangor. They have two grown daughters who live in Hermon and Hampden, and one grandson, almost 2, in Hampden.

Mr. Williams says he likes to go to the gym and enjoys all kinds of sports and musical events.

He's coached basketball for 30 years. He's currently in his 8th season coaching the girls JV team at John Baptist Memorial High School. While he was at Central High School, he was the boys varsity coach.



Harold Williams

Busy fall for school nutrition with many events, new programming

It's been a busy fall in school nutrition with events including Maine Harvest Week, Apple Fest, Grandparents Day, Veteran's Day breakfast. We continue to try to highlight local farms participating in the Harvest of the Month program which features a monthly local harvest. This fall we have featured Maine tomatoes, broccoli, apples and squash in all schools during lunch.

New Programing

Smith School—"What's that Wednesday" offering a morning snack featuring fresh fruits and vegetables, a trading card and stickers.

Wagner Middle School—Healthy Cooking School with Brenda starting in December.

Taste Testing

Smoothies at Reeds Brook—including using our Smoothie Bike!

Wagner Middle School tasted Spaghetti Squash with Meat Sauce, Zucchini Muffins, & Sweet Potato Pie!

School Meal Accounts

Please help us keep costs down by keeping student meal accounts up to date. We send bills via email so please let us know if you change your email account.

Applications for school meals can be filled out anytime during the school year.



Addison Dowling, 6th grader at Reeds Brook Middle School, enjoys a smoothie sample while using the smoothie bike under the watchful eye of RSU 22 Wellness Coordinator Brittany Layman.



Broccoli and hummus were offered at the first "What's that Wednesday" healthy snack program at Smith School. Above, Ariana Smith and Henry Walters (left photo) and Izzy Krummel (right photo) display their platters of broccoli and hummus.



Looking for subs

We are looking for school food service subs and are willing to train. Check with the Superintendent's office to apply.

Vacancy

Kitchen Manager for McGraw-Weatherbee schools. Contact the Superintendent's office for details.

Questions or Concerns?

Please contact Kathy Kittridge, School Nutrition Director, 862-3543, kkittridge@rsu22.us.



Veggies from the Reeds Brook School gardens (right) and peaches from the Wagner Middle School orchard (left) were featured on the salad bar at Reeds Brook.

Carol Kiesman named Director of Gifted and Talented Services for RSU 22

Carol Kiesman, who has taught 5th grade at Weatherbee School for the past eight years, has been named Director of Gifted and Talented Services for RSU 22.

Mrs. Kiesman came to RSU 22 in 2007. During her first three years, she was the Gifted and Talented teacher at Wagner Middle School.



Carol Kiesman

A native of Houlton, she graduated from the University of Maine at Presque Isle and taught in Houlton for 20 years before moving to the central Maine area. She has a Master's degree in School Administration from the University of Southern Maine.

In her new position, Mrs. Kiesman will oversee the Gifted and Talented program in RSU 22, including planning and programming, delivery of services, and identification of GT students.

RSU 22 has two GT instructors, Kathy Rogers, who covers Smith School, Weatherbee School, and Wagner Middle School; and Cindy Donovan, who covers Reeds Brook Middle School.

Ms. Kiesman provides consultation services for McGraw School and Hampden Academy.

At McGraw, she works with teachers to provide materials and enrichment or challenging activities for high-achieving students.

At Hampden Academy, she meets with students in grades 9-12 and

helps them choose courses, such as honors classes, AP classes, and on-line courses that would be appropriate for their GT programming.

She also works with students who are identified as GT in the VPA (Visual and Performing Arts) area in seeking enrichment and challenges for their area of identification. She arranges workshops and visits from guest artists to provide additional skills, knowledge, and enrichment.

Rebeckah Perry: drama at Reeds Brook, Show Choir at Wagner

Rebeckah Perry is the new drama advisor at Reeds Brook Middle School and the Show Choir director and choreographer at Wagner Middle School.



Rebeckah Perry

She says she is looking forward to preparing a comedy to be performed by students at Reeds Brook in the spring.

For the past four years, she has been the director and choreographer for the Ascension Show Choir at Hampden Academy.

Ms. Perry is currently the Show Choir director for the University of Maine summer music program, MSYM. She also performs professionally in several regional theatres and sings the National Anthem for professional sports franchises across the country.

She owns and operates her own

Mrs. Kiesman says one of the biggest parts of her job is the identification process and developing the ILPs (Individual Learning Programs) for the students who are identified as GT.

She says school districts in Maine can identify up to 5% of the student population as GT. In RSU 22, students need to be in the 98th or 99th percentile based on aptitude and achievement testing in order to qualify.

business, Queen City Arts, in Bangor, where she has a private studio for piano and voice and teaches creative problem-solving in both the arts and sciences. She says Queen City Arts specializes in process learning. In 2018, she was named the winner of the Bangor Top Gun Showcase, which identifies high growth potential entrepreneurs, in 2018.

Kathy Rogers new GT instructor for Smith, Weatherbee, Wagner

Kathy Rogers, who was an ed tech in the composite class at Weatherbee School since 2014, is now the Gifted and Talented instructor for Weatherbee and Smith elementary schools and Wagner Middle School.



Kathy Rogers

A native of Kennebunk, she moved to Frankfort while attending

"The state guideline says we can't exceed 5%, which is about 120 students," Ms. Kiesman says. "That's a guideline, not a hard-and-fast rule, but it's a guideline that needs to be taken seriously."

RSU 22 has to submit a district GT plan to the Department of Education every year. That plan specifies how the district identifies GT students and how the district allocates GT funds and staff.

A native of Mapleton, ME, Ms. Perry graduated from Presque Isle High School and the University of Maine, where she studied Theatre, Vocal Performance and Dance.

She lives in Bangor with her fiancé, Daniel, and their three children, Tobias, Lucy, and Clara. She enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, and being outdoors.

the University of Maine.

After graduating from UMaine in 1999, she started her teaching career in the Belfast area, now RSU 71. She has been employed by RSU 22 since 2014.

Mrs. Rogers and her husband live on Wild Ginger Farm in Frankfort. They have three sons, one at Hampden Academy and two at Wagner Middle School.

When she's not working or watching one of her sons at a sporting or music event, Mrs. Rogers says she can be found on the family farm or on the trail with her horse, Keeley.

Smith School celebrates statewide ‘Day of Welcome’

On Friday October 25th, Smith School’s Civil Rights Team led the school in a special celebration called Day of Welcome. Day of Welcome was part of our Civil Rights Team’s ongoing work of engaging our school community in thinking and talking about ways to make others feel welcome everyday regardless of their identity. At the elementary level, Smith School’s CRT focuses on making sure that all students feel welcome and included everyday.

This statewide event was sponsored by the Maine Office of the Attorney General through the

Civil Rights Team Project (CRTP). The CRTP is a school-based program that supports student civil rights teams, who engage their school communities in thinking and talking about issues related to race and skin color, national origin and ancestry, religion, disabilities, gender (including gender identity and expression), and sexual orientation. These are the 6 categories protected by the Maine Civil Rights Act. There are currently more than 175 schools

participating in the CRTP. As part of this important state-wide celebration, our Civil Rights Team created a message to welcome people of all identities in our school. This message is displayed in our school cafeteria. The team also hung posters throughout the building and handed out Day of Welcome pins that all students and staff could wear to emphasize the importance of making everyone feel like they belong. Smith School CRT also talked about the day of welcome and displayed their signs at an all school assembly. The team is looking forward to building upon this day as they prepare for their 5th annual Welcome Week that will be celebrated in February.



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

4th graders study transfer of energy in collisions

In Mrs. Hay’s 4th grade science class students have been studying about the transfer of energy in collisions. They were posed with a ‘problem’, given a ‘challenge’, had to follow specific criteria and constraints, and then tested, redesigned, and tested again their Rube Goldberg machines.

The Problem: Students have entered a contest to create a collision machine for the state fair. The state fair committee shows students a picture of a Rube Goldberg machine to give them an idea of what they are looking for. The committee tells them that in order to win, their machine must have at least four different collisions and be the most unique and entertaining.

The Challenge: Students must design and construct a collision machine for the state fair. Criteria and Constraints: Students’ machines must include at least five dominos, a pendulum to start the chain reaction,

a target to hit, and something that makes sound when hit. Students may use the materials provided or bring materials from home. Students’ machines must fit on top of a student desk. Students’ machine parts must make at least four different collisions and a sound. Students must first research pendulums, then build their own pendulum, using a 20-cm, 40-cm, or 60-cm string with three washers attached to the end.

Students worked together as a team to make a design plan, set up their machines to test, redesign to make the machine work better, then test again, before doing a final presentation to the class. Groups discovered that they had to be very patient while using the dominos, because they easily fell over. They practiced great persistence, which paid off in the end. Their Rube Goldberg machines were very creative and even showed each groups personality within the designs.



Constitution in the Classroom

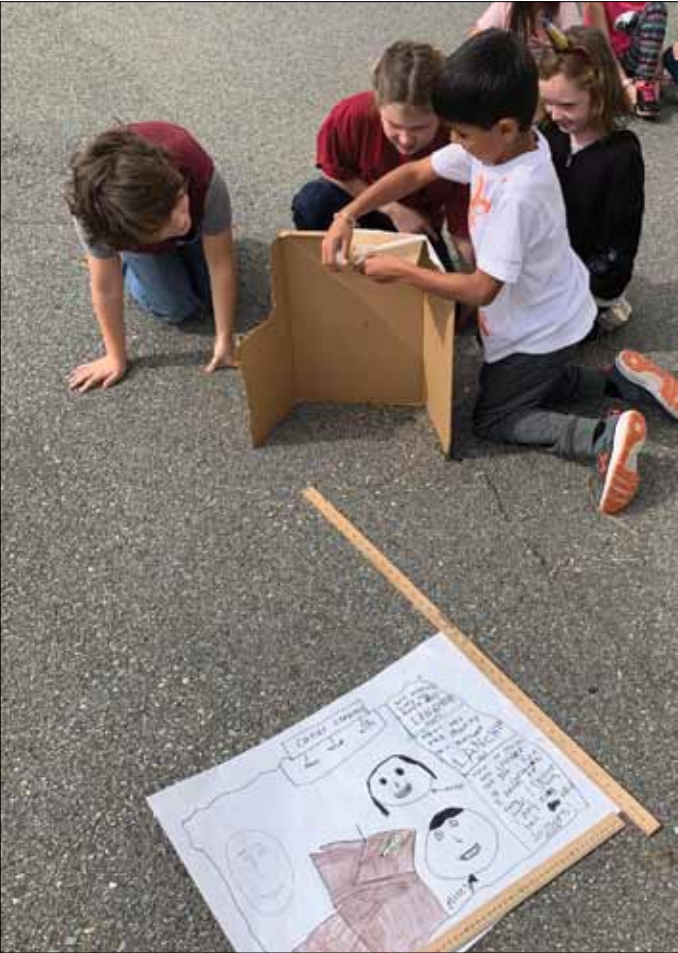
The second, third, and fourth grade students at Leroy Smith School got the opportunity to learn about the Constitution first-hand from 4 members of our community. Kate Grossman, Chris Ruge, Phil Smith, and Sarah Newell volunteered to share their time and knowledge with us. Constitution in the Classroom is a program taught in the schools by lawyers to raise awareness of the fundamental Constitutional principles. Since Constitution Day is observed on September 17, it was the perfect time to come into the classroom. CITC has lesson plans on the Separation of Powers, Voting Rights, and the First, Fourth, and Sixth Amendments. At the end of the visit our children were thrilled to be given their own pocket-sized copy of the Constitution. A big thank-you to these folks for taking the time to visit our classrooms and share their expertise with us.

Launching into Science Learning

Third graders at Smith School have taken off with their learning about force and motion. Through many different experiments, students gained knowledge about how different forces can act upon an object. Students built ramps, explored how pendulums work, and learned about balanced and unbalanced forces. All of this data gathering and research allowed them to put their learning into action.

Students were given a problem-based learning scenario in which they needed to create a prototype pop-fly launcher for a local little league team. The design must launch a ping pong ball at least a meter high and a meter long. Students had to stay within a certain budget and materials list. As a team, they had to create a design sketch and work together to plan a budget. After purchasing materials, they worked together to engineer and build their launchers.

It was then time to test and make modifications. Through the testing process teams recorded data and looked at ways in which they could make their design better. Some groups were able to make their launcher go over 4 meters long! Students loved getting to test their designs and cheered on their peers. It was an exciting hands-on learning experience for our students.



Smith, Wagner art works on display in Winterport

This fall, artwork by students from Smith School and Wagner Middle School have been on display at the Winterport Public Library, the Winterport House of Pizza, and Tea Mania.

Art teacher Mary-Ann Hennessy-Ashe said the artworks will remain in place through December. Students whose artwork is on display include: Winterport House of Pizza—Dakota Pelletier, Maddie Frank, Bradi Norwood, and Elena Reynolds, grade 8; Austin Lane and Elliot Carignon,

grade 7; and Franklin McKnight, Izzy Krummel, Paisley Knipping, and Bailey Patterson, grade 4.

Tea Mania—Chastity Dillingham, Jordan Hardy, and Luke Emerson, grade 8; Graisen Kelly, grade 7; Lydia Adamo and Evaline Harvey, grade 5, and Gus Gustafson, Charlotte Welch, and Lacey Beaulieu, grade 4.

Winterport Public Library—Annie Jordan, grade 5, and Jake Theriault, grade 4.

Garden Club underway at Smith

Smith School Garden Club is underway for the year to help maintain and improve the beauty of our school. The kids have started off by pulling weeds and trimming down plants to get ready for winter. Soon they will be planting spring bulbs and mulching more of the gardens.



Cookies and Careers at Smith School

Students in Miss Robles' fourth grade class are testing out a new program that allows students to enjoy a snack and to learn about a variety of career paths from the comfort of their own classrooms. At the end of September, students in Miss Robles' class welcomed Mariah Hughes, the marketing coordinator at Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC), into their classroom. Mariah spoke about different kinds of marketing and what she specifically does in her role. Many students were surprised to learn the different types of tasks that she completes as marketing coordinator, including designing logos and getting to be on the news! Mariah also spoke to the

students about the college itself. She emphasized all EMCC has to offer the community, including a variety of one-year certificates, two-year degrees, and transfer options, all of which lead to in-demand, high-paying careers for a fraction of the cost of other schools.

Miss Robles hopes to continue to grow this program by welcoming in one member of the community per month to come and teach students about their career path. Currently Miss Robles has scheduled a nurse, lawyer, physical therapist, engineer, and merchant marine to come and speak with the fourth graders in her classroom. "I think that it is very important to expose kids to



different career choices as early as possible, you never know what presenter may really stick with them!"
Fourth Grade Thoughts:
"I liked that she gave us specific

details about her job, I learned a lot!" Landon P.
"I'm excited to learn about new jobs, and learn things that I do not know yet about each job." Amelia C.

'Steve' character adds excitement at Smith

If you're a Smith School parent, you may have heard students talk about Steve and wondered who they were referring to. Steve is a special visitor who often comes to classrooms during weekly Guidance lessons. Steve is made out of a wooden block and colored tape. His face resembles Steve from the popular game Minecraft, which is where he got his name. As part of the School Counseling program, Mrs. Raymond created Steve to help increase student engagement and make lessons more fun.

For the past 5 years, there have been several different versions of this popular Guidance class character. Some of these include: Tie-dyed Steve, Purple Steve, Sparkly Steve and the ever popular "Mr. Burnham Steve," who students named after a former Smith School teacher. When a class works together to show good listening skills and participation during lessons, they have the opportunity to have Steve stay in their classroom for a few days. Mrs. Raymond keeps track of the number of times a class earns Steve. Once a class has earned Steve 5 times they earn "Big Steve" (who is made of cardboard and lots of tape!).



1st Grader Aisley poses with "Tie-Dyed" Steve and "Big Steve"

Big Steve is much larger than the other versions of the character. Classes who earn Big

Steve celebrate with a special game or activity during their next lesson with Mrs. Raymond.

Reeds Brook Cross Country teams have banner season

Almost 60 students participated as part of the Reeds Brook Cross Country team (XC) with all three grades represented. Reeds Brook is part of the Penobscot Valley Middle School Cross Country League, which includes over two dozen area schools.

After the regular season, both the boys and girls teams won the Large School Division Conference Championship on October 13 against 13 other teams. They ran a 1.75 mile course in Corinth.

The boys were led by Harrison Shain, who won the overall individual championship, finishing less than a second away from breaking the course record. He was followed by Brody Simons (3rd), Miles Shain (5th), Garrison Wilkerson (11th) and Asher Valentine (15th).



The start of the boys race at the Airline Invitational in Aurora.

The girls were paced by Emily Kneser's 5th place finish. She was followed by Ada Pultorak (7th), Natalia Charles (10th), Anleigh Stevens (11th), and Molly Curtis (26th).

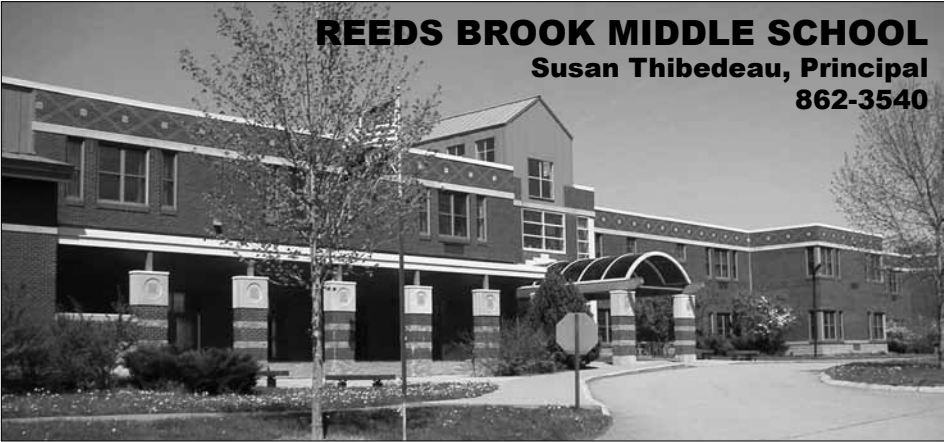
A week later both teams also won the Inland Conference Championship, running a 1.9 mile course in Lincoln.

In the Inland championship the boys scored 27 points, 50 points ahead of the second place team from Bangor. The girls also distanced themselves from the field, beating the next closest team by over 30 points. Both teams had their first 5 runners finish in the top 15.

Harrison Shain went undefeated during the conference season, winning each of the six league races he competed in. It is the first time both boys and girls teams have won both the large school and inland conference



The Reeds Brook girls cross country team.



championships in the same year.

The team was also able to travel to Aurora to participate in the Airline Invitational on October 24. Different than the league meets, any team in the state is eligible to attend. In all there were 26 teams represented with a total of nearly 450 runners competing, with crowds and competition that you would find in a typical high school setting.

Both Shain boys, Simons, Charles, and Pultorak finished in the top 20 in their races. The girls team placed third and the boys team were second, missing the winner's trophy by only 10 team points.

Reeds Brook Cross Country coach Jason Kash says an outstanding team mentality is the defining characteristic of this year's cross country team.

He explains: "The first five finish-

ers determine the team score, but that doesn't limit the impact that a team mentality has. First of all, it doesn't matter who the five runners are, so it can be anybody on the team to fill those spots. More importantly though, support and camaraderie are vital. We are fortunate to have a big team and that allows lots of different training and encouragement to happen, from experienced runners to students trying out the team for the first time. All parts of preparation are done together, and they all go through the same racing conditions together. There was so much improvement from the beginning to the end of the season among all the athletes. I think the success they've had this season is a tribute to the inclusive attitude and support they have all had for each other."

6th, 8th grade health classes complete unit on smoking, vaping

Students in Reed Farrar's 6th and 8th grade health classes at Reeds Brook Middle School have recently completed a unit on smoking, chewing tobacco, vaping, and peer pressure.

The class has been using a curriculum from the Maine Department of Education called "Catch My Breath."

The class was challenged to learn that regular smoking and vaping are on the rise among teenagers in Maine.

Mr. Farrar said the smoking rate among teens had gone down as low as 7%, but it's increased to about 8.5% in the past year.

For teen vaping, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reported that 12% of teens in Maine were vaping in 2017; in 2018, that figure had almost doubled to 22%.

"That's a huge swing," Mr. Farrar said.

One of the things the class talked about was that e-cigarettes tend to be viewed as very hip and trendy—in keeping with the whole cell phone age.

"Kids can plug them into their USB ports and look really modern," he said.

One of the things the class has



Lilly Trip teaches the class about a healthy vs an unhealthy lung.

focused on is how the full-bore marketing effort of e-cigarettes that has been aimed at young people, with fruity flavors and silly names.

"The government is trying to catch up with the marketing aspect," Mr. Farrar said. "It's a little behind the curve trying to regulate this product."

Early in November, Mr. Farrar invited Roxanne Dubay and Sara Yasner, prevention specialists who work for Bangor Community

Health, to speak to the 6th and 8th grade health classes about vaping.

"There's a lot of misinformation about vaping, especially on the internet and with the marketing of these products," Mrs. Dubay said. "We want to make sure they know the science involved and why people are concerned, so they can make good informed decisions."

She added that e-cigarettes are specifically marketed at young people, so they show up in their Snap-



Isabella Fagone (left) and Kiersten Shayne filmed a video commercial about a doctor treating a smoker.

chat, Twitter and Facebook accounts.

"The kids are seeing a lot about e-cigarettes," she said. "The flavors mimic a lot of kid-friendly products like cotton candy, gummy bears, fruit and mint that make them seem as harmless as gum."

Mr. Farrar said that after conducting research in class, the students made video skits, posters, and Kahoot online quizzes to teach other about the effects of nicotine products.

Reeds Brook Civil Rights Team now meeting on Thursdays after school

The Civil Rights Team at Reeds Brook Middle School is now meeting after school on Thursdays from 2 to 3 p.m. in Room 241.

The team has two new faculty advisors, 7th grade science teacher Michele Freeman and 8th grade English teacher Karyn Field.

Mrs. Freeman said the team became inactive for a while, when only one faculty advisor was available. Now that Mrs. Field is on board, the team can become active again.

The team is part of the Civil Rights Team Project (CRTP) of the State Attorney General’s office, which is designed to increase the safety of elementary, middle level, and high school students by reducing bias-motivated behaviors and harassment in Maine schools. The CRTP accomplishes this by supporting student civil rights teams in schools.

Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Field attended a training session led by the Assistant Attorney General on October 15 at Jeff’s Catering in Brewer.

Mrs. Freeman says the purpose of the Civil Rights team is to provide a safe, welcoming, respected school community for everyone. The six focus areas designated by the CRTP are race/color, ethnic backgrounds/ancestry, gender/gender expression, disability, sexual orientation, and religion.

Team members will accomplish their work through a variety of activities, including morning announcements, posters, and ensuring that appropriate literature is available in classrooms.

As the team meets during the year, it may come up with specific projects aimed at reducing bias-motivated behaviors and harassment at Reeds Brook.

Mrs. Freeman says the Reeds Brook team is part of a district-wide effort, with Civil Rights Teams currently active in five RSU 22 schools—Hampden Academy, Reeds Brook and Wagner middle schools, and Weatherbee and Smith elementary schools.



Back Row from left to right leaning in Olivia Sharpe, Roz O'Reilly, Annelise Small, Maryssa LaBlanc, Alanna LaPointe, Allison Blake, Genevieve Walther, Front row left to right, Tessa Castrucci, Zoe Castrucci, Benjamin Arsenault, Soren Peterson, Emma Hancock,

NEW STAFF AT REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Michelle Geaghan, Spanish

Michelle Geaghan, who has been teaching business skills in Spanish, Portuguese, and in an English-as-a-second-language context for 20 years, is the new full-time Spanish teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School.

She teaches Spanish to grades 7 and 8 using an immersion method, where students learn by doing and talking rather than by rote memorization.

Before coming to Reeds Brook, Sra. Geaghan was a long term sub teaching Spanish at Brewer Community School and as assistant director of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM) in Limestone. For three years, she managed global operations for Coffee News, teaching business skills online in Spanish and Portuguese to Coffee News franchisees in both Europe and Latin America

Before that, she ran her own business, Ace Lingual Executives, for 10 years, teaching business skills to executives in English or Spanish, working out of her home in Waterville.

Sra. Geaghan was born in Illinois to a family of non-Spanish speakers. After taking Spanish in high school, she became a teacher of ELL (English Language Learner) students. She graduated from the University of New Mexico with a degree in Spanish and ELL in 1989.

Her first job after college was with Motorola, which paid her to move to Miami because of her fluency in Spanish.

She moved to Maine in 2006 because a client from her Florida days offered her a leadership position in his company, Northeast Laboratory Services, which has a lab in Winslow.

When Sra. Geaghan lived in Miami, her work was teaching business skills in Spanish exclusively within Fortune 500 organizations. When she arrived in Maine, she taught business skills for local manufacturing businesses in English, Spanish, and Portuguese (which she learned as part of her language studies at the University of New Mexico). Sometimes she also had to translate for these organizations as part of a manufacturing shut-down overseas.

She also participated in additional entrepreneurial opportunities for teaching Spanish to executives in Maine and also provided translation services to local non-profits (including the local school system in Clinton (near Waterville) which has a large population of migrant workers employed by local dairy farms).

Sra. Geaghan lives in Waterville with her husband, who she met when she moved to Maine in 2006.

Each of them brought a daughter into the new family. Sra. Geaghan’s daughter is bilingual and is currently studying theater at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. Her husband’s daughter is the eldest and is a mom to their two grandchildren. She says she speaks Spanish to the grandchildren, hoping that they will learn the language as well.

Sra. Geaghan says she has fallen in love with Maine.

“When I saw in 2016 how our demographics were changing in Maine, I thought my skills with multicultural communities would be of benefit to our local school system,” she said. “I decided to study education and business administration with an emphasis on multicultural/global equity at Thomas College.”

She completed her Master’s degree in 2018.

During Sra. Geaghan’s time off, she and her husband spend a lot of time fishing, gardening, going to Colby College hockey games, being part of their local church, and “being a good neighbor” by supporting families that are members of a Spanish-only church in Clinton.

Joshua Jenks, Math

Joshua Jenks, who spent three years working with special education students at Reeds Brook Middle School, is now a math teacher there.

Mr. Jenks teaches math to students in 6th and 7th grade.

Last year, he was part of the special education support staff as an ed tech. Previously, he was a resource room ed tech at Reeds Brook.

Before coming to Maine, Mr. Jenks taught 4th grade math and science at MacDill AFB in Tampa, FL

He was raised in a military family, and he wound up in Florida when his father, who was in the Army, was assigned to a post in the area.

He received his undergraduate degree from Florida State University in Tallahassee. When his father was reassigned to South Carolina, Mr. Jenks stayed in Florida and got his Master’s degree in elementary education from the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Mr. Jenks’ wife, Celeste, was finishing her chiropractic degree, and they both decided they wanted to move to Maine.

“We love Maine,” he said. “We’ve been here for four years, and there’s no going back.”

Mr. Jenks and his wife enjoy hiking, boating, and hunting. He says he hunts birds, partridge, and deer.

They are expecting their first child in May.

Hilary Poisson, Spanish

Hilary Poisson, who taught Spanish in the Bangor School Department for 30 years before retiring for a year, is the new half-time Spanish teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School.

During her last nine years in Bangor, Mrs. Poisson taught middle school Spanish classes.

She said she started her teaching career as a half-time teacher in RSU 22 (then SAD 22) and saw the Reeds Brook position as an opportunity to get back into teaching.

“I missed the kids, and missed the planning and collegiality,” she said. “This is perfect—I’ll be teaching half-time, ‘A’ days only.”

Mrs. Poisson and her husband live in Eddington. Their daughter is grown, and they have two grandchildren who live in Bangor.

She said she and her husband like to travel, and they spend a lot of time at their camp on Pushaw Lake.

Ashlea Bourdon, 8th grade Special Ed

Ashlea Bourdon has joined the staff of Reeds Brook Middle School as an 8th grade special education teacher.

Previously, she was a special education teacher at the Bangor Regional Program for a year, an ed tech in the regional program for a year, and an ed tech at a preschool in southern Maine for 1½ years.

Before that, she was a stay-at-home mom for six years and traveled with her ex-husband to Army bases in Germany and Kansas.

A native of Hampden, Ms. Bourdon graduated from Hampden Academy and Lyndon State College in Vermont.

She now lives in Hermon with her three children, who attend Hermon schools. The oldest is in 4th grade, and middle child is in kindergarten. The youngest is in day care.

Ms. Bourdon enjoys playing and watching sports. She played field hockey, basketball, and softball at Hampden Academy, and volleyball, basketball, and softball in college.

She currently plays volleyball and is certified as an official for middle school and high school JV basketball games. She also helps coach her daughter’s Little League softball team.



Hillary Poisson



Joshua Jenks



Ashlea Bourdon

Danielle Lorruso, 6th grade Science

Danielle Lorruso has joined the staff at Reeds Brook Middle School as a 6th grade science teacher.

Last year, she taught 6th grade science and math as a long-term sub at Wagner Middle School.

Previously, she spent four years teaching middle school science at a private school in Costa Rica.

She said everyone at the school was bilingual, and about 80% of the students were Costa Rican. About 75% of the classes, including her science classes, were taught in English,

Before going to Costa Rica, Ms. Lorruso spent six months teaching 8th grade students at the Daktari Bush School and Animal Orphanage in South Africa.

Daktari, a nonprofit organization, had contracts with 22 villages in South Africa, which sent some of their 8th grade students to the school and animal orphanage for a week, where they had supplementary teaching in math and English, visited game reserves, and learned about job opportunities in South Africa.

Ms. Lorruso was originally from Mashpee, MA, and went to high school in New Hampshire. She received her B.S. degree in Biology from Husson University.

She lives in Hampden and enjoys snowboarding, running, playing guitar, drawing, and painting.

Andrew Logan, 6th grade ELA and Athletic Director

Andrew Logan has joined the staff at Reeds Brook Middle School as a 6th grade language arts teacher and athletic director.

Mr. Logan started teaching language arts in March 2019. Previously, he had taught 4th grade at the Lewis Libby School in Milford for a year.

Before that, he worked at Acadia Hospital and Eastern Maine Medical Center for a total of 13 years.

At Acadia, he worked for three years as a general educator and three years doing staff and patient education. At EMMC, he was a transporter and materials specialist for seven years.

He also served as an assistant football coach at Bangor High School.

Mr. Logan received his Bachelor’s degree in secondary and elementary education from Husson College in the fall of 2017. He is currently working on his Master’s degree in Educational Leadership at the University of Maine.

A native of Bangor, he played football at Bangor High School and Husson. He and his wife Danielle live in Bangor.

Mr. Logan enjoys outdoor activities. He serves as a Maine Guide, specializing in fishing trips for smallmouth bass in the Penobscot River during the summer.

7th, 8th graders at Wagner invited to serve as peer tutors; 23 volunteer

Seventh and eighth graders at Wagner Middle School have been invited to serve as peer tutors to help students in grades 5-8 with math, science, social studies, and English.

A total of 23 students volunteered. Based on their preferences and strengths, they will be paired up with peers or younger students for tutoring in those four subject areas during their free time—study halls, lunch, LTS time, etc.

Tutoring may also be done during homework club, if both the tu-

tor and the student being tutored stay after school.

The 7th grade tutors included Isabella Boyorak, Katarina Boyorak, Maria Edwards, Liliana Faloon, Sue-Ann Foster, Makayla Gabriel, Graisen Kelley, Ella Manning, Maggie Metzler, Madison Morrill, Caitlin Murphy, Delaney Perkins, and Eva Saucier.

The 8th graders included Ava Downs, Madison Ginn, Jordan Hardy, Niya Hink, Lindsay Littlefield, Kristen McTague, Anthony Parks, and Matthew Sherwood.



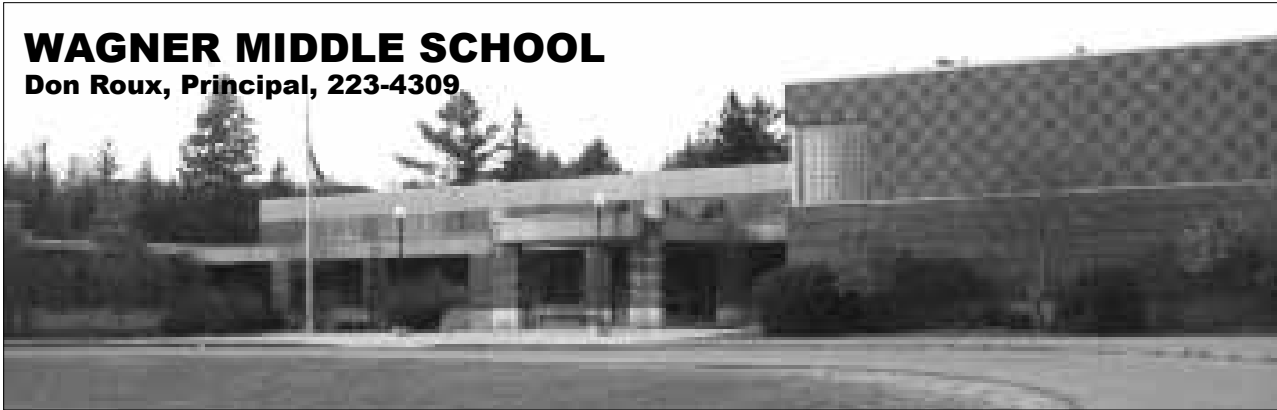
Seventh and 8th grade peer tutors at Wagner Middle School.

18 7th, 8th grade girls from Wagner expand their horizons at UMaine STEM conference

On October 15th, 18 7th and 8th grade girls from Wagner Middle School traveled to the University of Maine to participate in Expand Your Horizons, a day-long conference in which middle-school girls participate in hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities.

The students were greeted on campus by UMaine students and their mascot, Bananas, and welcomed by UMaine President Dr. Joan Ferrini-Mundy.

Then, they heard a keynote by Elisabeth Kilroy (a PhD candidate in Biomedical Science) who inspired the attendees to follow their dream. Following the introduction/welcome session, the students were escorted to various buildings



around campus to participate in small group sessions with a STEM focus.

Wagner students attended workshops on “Understanding How and Why the Imperfect Can Be Preferable to the Perfect,” “How the Tiny Zebrafish Fights Infection,” and “Fierce Fabulous Females.”

Students were asked to reflect on the day and how it affected their feelings about a potential career in science. Here are some of their responses:

- “I enjoyed how nice everyone was and also that we did a lot of hands on learning. Also they gave us stuff to think about and encouraged us to get out there and do stuff.”
- “Yes this just gave me more to think

about in terms of the opportunities that are out there and it also gave me a better understanding of different career paths.”

- “I would say just do it—you will enjoy it. Even if you don't necessarily think that you really want a job to do with STEM you may get ideas about what you want to do.”
- “I learned a little bit about different jobs that would be available to me if I had a STEM career.”
- “I enjoyed seeing the fish and learning and thinking about things I've never heard of before.”
- “Yes, even though it isn't my top choice, I feel like there is a higher chance of me having a science career.”
- “I would encourage students to go [to a conference like this] especially if they are interested in science. It is very empowering.”



Wagner Middle School girls at the Expand Your Horizons conference at the University of Maine.

School Garden and Orchard

By Brittany Layman
Health and Wellness
Coordinator, RSU 22

The end of the gardening season is upon us and our gardens are put to bed for the winter. When the weather was still warm and the ground was soft students were able to complete some important tasks.

The 2nd grade students from McGraw Elementary harvested crates of apples, from the Hampden campus orchard that could be eaten out of hand. The apples were put in the cafeteria to enjoy and were also used to create apple sauce with the 1st grade.

The students in Hampden Academy's Alternative Education Program assisted with the harvest by picking the apples off the upper limbs.

The 1st graders closed out the apple season by cleaning up the orchards of leaves and rotten apples. They also helped screen the trunks to protect them from damage.



Thank you to Daisy/Brownie Troop 715 for helping at the garden and the orchard.

The 7th grade students at Wagner Middle School have taken ownership of the young trees in their new orchard. They spent a morning in mid-September weeding and mulching the bases of the trees along with screening the trunks. They are continuing to work on restoring older apple trees that are located on the side of the building. With a lot of pruning the

trees are coming back to life.

Two big thank yous to folks in the community!! Thank you Daisy/Brownie Troop 715! They cleaned out the garden of all of the vegetation to get it ready for our fall till. We were all happy and muddy at the end of the day.

A wonderful family donated two gorgeous farm stands to the garden program. Next year, we will



Thank you to the Brooker family for donating two gorgeous farm stands to the garden program.

will have one positioned by the entrance to Reeds Brook Middle School and one by the entrance to Wagner Middle School. Community members will be able to enjoy tasty fruits and vegetables and beautiful flowers. Donations will be accepted! Thank you so much Brooker family! We are so lucky!!



FIRE SAFETY—On October 29 and 30, McGraw School welcomed the Hampden Fire Department to teach us about fire safety. The students' favorite part was seeing all of the different tools that the fire department uses to keep us safe and put out the fires!



NEW STAFF **AT McGRAW** **SCHOOL**

Joyce Sturdee, Grade 4

Joyce Sturdee, who retired in 2012 after teaching at Newburgh and McGraw elementary schools for 25 years, has returned as a kindergarten teacher at McGraw School.



Joyce Sturdee

During her six years of retirement, Mrs. Sturdee did a lot of long-term substitute teaching, including two year-long assignments in 2nd grade.

"I found that I still loved teaching," she said. "It was a heart thing—I felt that in my heart I wanted to come back, and I'm very excited to be back in kindergarten."

A native of Presque Isle, Mrs. Sturdee graduated from the University of Maine at Machias and taught in Veazie for seven years, Easton for one year, and New Hampshire for one year before joining the staff at RSU 22 (then SAD 22).

She and her husband Michael live in Bangor. They have two daughters and four grandchildren, who live in Kennebunk and Londonderry, NH.

Mrs. Sturdee enjoys reading, spending time with her family, and baking for her family.

She adds that she enjoys being back in the classroom.

"It's paying off," she says. "I love seeing the students grow in their love for learning."



Chess Club started at McGraw

McGraw began its very own chess club on October 29!

With the help of Mr. David Bishop and Mrs. Gwen Winston (second grade teacher), we welcomed approximately 26 students from 7:30-8:30 to learn the basics of chess. The group will meet every Tuesday morning for six weeks.

Mr. Bishop has also created a chess team that will begin meeting on Saturdays in the Weatherbee School Library.

One of the competitions that is on the schedule is the Maine Scholastic Team Championships, which will be held on March 7, 2020. There are also other competitions, which may be a possibility.

Fifteen second grade students have signed up to be a part of this team!



McGraw students practice their chess skills in the library.



David Bishop teaches McGraw students the basics of chess.

Recess monitors

wanted for

RSU 22 elementary schools

at lunchtime

If you're interested, call the
Superintendent's office

862-3255

Substitutes wanted!!!

If you like children and have 2 years of college credits, you might well enjoy substitute teaching. You can control you own schedule, work when you want to (and not when you have other commitments. You can also tell us which schools, grade levels, age levels, and subjects you prefer.

In addition to 2 years of college credits, you need to obtain a Criminal History Records Check through the Department of Education and fill out an RSU 22 substitute teacher application form, which is available at the Superintendent's office or online at www.rsu22.us. Please call us with any questions you may have.

Superintendent of Schools, RSU 22
24 Main Rd. North, Hampden, ME 04444

207-862-3255



Substitute teacher Angela LaRochelle works with students at George B. Weatherbee School.

3rd, 5th graders work together to improve math fact fluency

This fall a team led by Sue O'Brien came in to conduct math running records on 3rd-5th grade students. As we suspected, students need more practice with their math facts (+/-).

Two teams paired up to pilot a weekly fact fluency practice. Third graders on Mrs. Adams and Ms. Gagner's team and fifth graders on Mrs. Dawson and Ms. Arsenault's team group up to practice their math facts.

Math confidence is an area that students historically have strug-

gled with. To combat this, Weatherbee is trying to flip the script and present math as fun and accessible. In the process, the grade 3-5 teams are trying to create a strong peer culture around mathematical practices. This is an exciting pilot and has yielded some incredible mentorship and leadership opportunities for our 5th graders.



GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL
Jennifer Cyr, Principal
862-3254



Third graders and fifth graders at Weatherbee School practice their math facts.



4TH GRADE TEAM PHOENIX students use Escape Room style puzzles and codes to learn more about the United States Government.



The Class of '69 at the Saturday night banquet at the Hollywood Casino.



Reunion Committee at the banquet (l. to r.): Maynard Baker, Brenda Babcock Brewer, Jim Husson, David Parsons, Sandy Sites Clark

Class of '69 has 50th reunion—one of best that David Greenier has ever seen

(Continued from page 16)

their names over the public address system.

- **Saturday morning, Sept. 7**—Tour of the old Hampden Academy building, which was purchased by HA grad Danny Lafayette, owner of Lafayette Hotels. Class of '69 members were able to see what's been done with the building and how it's now being used—and to reminisce about the four years they spent at the school.

The old gym is now the Rawcliffe Gym, named after Mr. Lafayette's mother-in-law, Morna Rawcliffe, who taught in the old building for many



Jean Deighan ringing the bell at the old Hampden Academy.

years. Mr. Lafayette has placed plaques outside many of the classrooms to show who taught there. Class of '69 members were allowed to ring the Hampden Academy bell during their tour.

- **Saturday afternoon, Sept. 7**—Mr. Greenier led the class on a tour of the new Hampden Academy building.
- **Saturday evening, Sept. 7**—The class met

at Hollywood Casino in Bangor for a banquet. In addition to good food and good company, the class passed the microphone around the banquet tables, so that everyone had a chance to speak.

- **Sunday morning, Sept. 8**—Some of the class members had breakfast at Dysarts before hitting the road to go home.

Jim says his history of Hampden Academy was about 150 pages long as of the end of October. If he includes a list of all Hampden Academy graduates, it will fill at least 200 pages.

One of the interesting incidents he reports in the book is that the Hampden Historical Society has a report written by a woman in 1920 who said that a substantial amount of money was stolen from Hampden Academy sometime around 1870. The amount of money stolen is unknown, as no treasurer's reports are available. The reports were supposedly in a safe that no one could open and which has since disappeared.

What is known is that about the time the funds were discovered missing, two Hampden Academy trustees—the Crosby brothers—resigned quickly from the Board. One of the brothers was the treasurer. The brothers went to Michigan, where they formed a company that later became General Mills. The rumor that was passed on was that the Hampden Academy funds were used as start-up money for the new company.

Jim says the incident led him to start writing the history of Hampden Academy.

Mr. Greenier says the Class of '69 reunion may have been the best he's helped with, but it will probably be the last.

He retired as assistant principal eight years ago, and he says it's time to retire from helping organize reunions as well. Hampden Academy classes that are planning reunions are urged to contact the main office at Hampden Academy.



Joel Robertson (left, the most famous member of the Class of '69, who went on to star in multiple Broadway shows) and Maynard Baker.



From left: Gary Keller, Sterling Golder, Chris Bowden and Rick Whinery

NEW STAFF AT WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

Ashlee Arsenault, Grade 5

Ashlee Arsenault, who was a long-term sub in 3rd grade last year, is teaching 5th grade reading, math, science, and health at Weatherbee School this year.

Previously, she served for four years as an educational technician at Weatherbee. She also did her student teaching at Weatherbee before getting her B.S. in Education from the University of Maine in 2005.

A native of Princeton, ME, she graduated from Woodland High School. Her first job was in Corinna, where she taught grades 3 and 4 for a year. She spent the next 7 years as a stay-at-home mom before joining the Weatherbee staff as an ed tech.

Ms. Arsenault lives in Hampden with her two children, a 4th grader at Weatherbee and a 7th grader at Reeds Brook. “We love to go on adventures when we can, but relaxing at home is something we really enjoy,” she says.

Ms. Arsenault says she loves to run and be outside in the garden.

She also works on the side as a real estate agent for Berkshire Hathaway. “That’s my summer fun,” she says.

* * *

Ms. Arsenault says that grades 3 and 5 at Weatherbee are doing something “really cool”—collaborating on “Fluency Fridays” to increase the speed at which the students can improve the automaticity of math facts—the speed at which students can recite their math facts.

She said four teachers are collaborating on this project.

* * *

Ms. Arsenault says Weatherbee School is looking for boots, mittens, hats, and other snow gear to be put in the school’s snow gear station.

The goal is to ensure that students who don’t have boots or snow gear or who forgot to wear them on a particular day can play outside in cold weather.

Ms. Arsenault says students aren’t allowed off the tar area unless they have boots.

“We try to dress for success,” she says. “I’m sure McGraw School has the same needs. We’re hoping that parents of Reeds Brook students would be willing to donate boots and snow gear that their middle school students have outgrown.”

Deborah DeQuattro, Art

Deborah DeQuattro, a Massachusetts native who moved to Stockton Springs in July, is the new art teacher at Weatherbee School. Last year, Ms. DeQuattro taught at a private school on Cape Cod; before that, she taught middle school art in Chatham, MA, on Cape Cod for 3 years part-time while caring for her elderly mom for six years prior to moving to Maine.

In all, she taught art for 15 years in Massachusetts, mostly at the high school and middle school level in public schools and also taught many elementary grade classes in the summer months over the years. She taught in Portsmouth, NH, for two years and was Department Chair for grades K-12. She studied Advanced Placement Art History and Art Studio at Manhattan College in New York and St. Johnsbury Institute in Vermont, respectively, and taught AP at the high school level. She has also taught an Art History Survey at New Hampshire Institute of Art



Ashlee Arsenault

in Manchester, NH and would love to teach Art History at Hampden Academy. “There are so many connections to other disciplines. I think the students would really like it! I know I would.”

Originally from Framingham, MA, she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Massachusetts College of Art. She has also done post-baccalaureate studies at Montserrat College of Art in Beverly, MA where she also worked.

She started teaching with a provisional certificate; while teaching, she earned her Masters degree from Bridgewater State College. She has 46 credits beyond her Masters degree from various institutions.

She lives in Stockton Springs with her dog, a black and tan coon hound with a strong nose. “Hide the food!”

Ms. DeQuattro says she loves music and art history/culture. She also enjoys painting and says she “noodles around” on the guitar and loves acoustic music by singer-songwriters like Sean Colvin, Joni Mitchell and Van Morrison.

Travel is another activity that she enjoys, but hasn’t done for a while.

“I would really like to travel again,” she says. “I love Italy, and I’d love to go back there and connect with family.”

Ms. DeQuattro said she organized a couple of trips to Europe with students—to England, Italy, and France—when she was teaching high school. It was an amazing experience! A lot of work and worry being responsible for students in another country but “Wow, I loved watching them grow before my eyes...something about traveling, it teaches and enlightens you in so many ways.” “I’d love to travel on my own too,” she says. “I’d like to go everywhere, but I hear Spain is beautiful, and I’d love to see Portugal and Morocco.”

Then again she says, “I learn so much from my students every day and I really enjoy this age group. They are so open and they love learning about art and artists!” She says they inspire and challenge her everyday. “It’s a privilege!”

Terry Martin, Special Ed

Terry Martin, who is in her 24th year of teaching, is a new 5th grade special education teacher at Weatherbee School.

Mrs. Martin graduated from Johnson State College in Vermont and is in the process of completing her Masters degree in School Administration at Endicott College, Beverly, MA, with only one class and her internship remaining.

She started teaching special education in Vermont for a year before moving to Maine. She taught special education at Fairmont School in Bangor for 3 years before taking time off to stay home with her daughter after she was born. She then taught special education at several other schools, including three years at Bangor Christian, three years at the Helen S. Dunn School in Greenbush, three years at the Holbrook School in Holden and Eddington, and 12 years at the elementary and middle school level in Hermon.

Mrs. Martin and her husband, Brent, a home builder, live in Glenburn. She has one daughter and three stepchildren. they have five grandchildren and one on the way in April.

Mrs. Martin enjoys interior design work, which she says is what she would do if she wasn’t teaching. They enjoy boating and hiking, and enjoy spending time with family.

She says she is also quite involved with her church.



Terry Martin

Tina Reed, Special Ed

Tina Reed has joined the staff at Weatherbee School as a special education teacher for grade 3.

Mrs. Reed is in her 27th year of teaching. For the last 18 years, she taught special education for grades K-4 for the Bangor School Department. Before then, she taught special education for Hermon High School, math at Bucksport High School and Stearns High School in Millinocket, math and science at Katahdin Junior High School, special education at Madawaska Middle School, special education at Millinocket Middle School, and special education at Katahdin Junior High.

Originally from Millinocket, Mrs. Reed attended Plymouth State College in New Hampshire and received her B.S. in Education from the University of Maine. She received her Master’s degree in Special Education from New England College in Henniker, NH.

Mrs. Reed lives in Hampden with her husband, Tim Reed, who is assistant principal at Bangor High School. They have two sons, Trevor, a junior at Hampden Academy, and Tyler, 23, who lives in Houlton with his wife and two sons.

Mrs. Reed enjoys traveling with her family, spending time with her pets, and reading books. She and her family spend a lot of time at their two camps at Middle Jo Mary Lake and Schoodic Lake.

Torrie Nightingale, Grade 3

Torrie Nightingale, who graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington in May, is a new 3rd grade teacher at Weatherbee School.

A native of Bangor, she graduated from Bangor High School and lives in Bangor. She played field hockey for four years at UMF and is still involved in the sport as a volunteer coach at Bangor High School.

Julie Fagone, Library Tech

Julie Fagone, a former speech pathologist who completed a variety of substitute teaching assignments in RSU 22 over the past two years, is the new library technician at Weatherbee School.

As a result of her substitute teaching work, she said she was asked to apply for the library position. “I’m a sub turned employee,” she says.

Mrs. Fagone moved from the Portland area to Hampden five years ago with her husband and daughter, who is now a 6th grader at Reeds Brook Middle School.

When her daughter enrolled at McGraw School and attended Weatherbee School for three years, Mrs. Fagone volunteered to help out in the classroom.

“When I started volunteering, teachers kept telling me that the schools really, really needed substitutes,” she said. “That’s how I started.”

A native of South Portland, Mrs. Fagone graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a B.S. in Elementary Education. She received her Masters degree in Communication



Tina Reed



Torrie Nightingale



Julie Fagone

Disorders from the University of New Hampshire.

She then worked as a pediatric speech pathologist for Easter Seals in Portland for 12 years before moving to Hampden.

Mrs. Fagone enjoys reading, hiking, biking, and downhill skiing on Shawnee Peak in Bridgeton.

Dustin Anderson, Math

Dustin Anderson has joined the staff at Weatherbee School as the math interventionist, working with students in all grade levels.

“I work with students who aren’t quite where they need to be in the regular education setting,” Mr. Anderson says. “Our goal is to provide interventions for students who might otherwise fall far enough behind that they would require special education services.”

Before coming to Weatherbee, he worked for Kids Peace in Ellsworth as a teacher in the elementary section. Previously, he was an ed tech at Kids Peace for three years.

Mr. Anderson graduated from the University of Maine in December 2012 and worked for six months as an in-home behavioral health professional (BHP) working with behaviorally-challenged students for Sequel Care of Maine. He taught 5th grade in Corinth for a year and then spent the next year as an in-school BHP for Connection for Kids, working in the Lewiston School District.

A native of Auburn, Mr. Anderson lives in Brewer with his wife Samantha, who teaches 5th grade at Weatherbee. They are expecting their first child around the end of December or the beginning of January.

He enjoys exercising, video games, and spending time with his dog. He’s also been learning the piano in his free time.

Jenna Bragdon, Grade 4

Jenna Bragdon, a Maine native who taught 3rd and 4th grade in Las Vegas for five years, has returned to Maine and is now teaching 4th grade at Weatherbee School.

Ms. Bragdon graduated from the University of Maine with her B.S. in Education in 2013, but worked as a casino dealer at Hollywood Casino in Bangor.

“I had my daughter while I was still in college, and dealing at Hollywood Casino helped pay the bills,” she said. “When I finished, there weren’t a lot of jobs around here, so I moved to Vegas to be a dealer.”

When she arrived in Las Vegas, she discovered that there was a huge shortage of teachers.

“I had my teaching degree, so I decided to kick-start my teaching career,” she said. “I stayed longer than I intended; now I’m home for my family.”

Originally from Caribou, Ms. Bragdon moved to Howland when she was 8 and graduated from Penobscot Valley High School. While teaching in Las Vegas, she received her Master’s degree in Literacy from Walden University.

Ms. Bragdon lives in Hampden with her daughter, Rylynn, who is a first grader at McGraw School.

She says she loves to bake and read, and she’s a “huge Disney fanatic.”



Dustin Anderson



Jenna Bragdon



Weatherbee students with the Christmas tree that was being trucked from Nova Scotia to Boston as a symbol of gratitude for Boston's assistance after the 1917 Halifax Explosion.

Nova Scotia Tree for Boston makes a stop at Weatherbee

On Monday, November 18, Weatherbee School welcomed some special guests, including Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, Noel March of Hampden, and two Canadian neighbors transporting a tree on a flatbed truck. This is more than a tree. It's a symbol of gratitude and international good will. Every year, the people of Halifax, Nova Scotia donate a tree to be lit in Boston in thanks for the city's assistance after the 1917 Halifax

Explosion. This tragedy brought out the best in people and sparked a long-lasting friendship between Canadians and New Englanders, who immediately responded with doctors, supplies, and financial support. The Canadians have said, "You can never say thank you enough." This inspirational message came to life in Weatherbee's all-school share at the assembly that morning.



FLAT STANLEY—James Dunivan, Leah LaPoint and Aubrey Shaw made a Flat Stanley that they asked the drivers to carry with them on their journey to Boston and the all the way back to Halifax, Nova Scotia.



WEATHERBEE WAY WINNERS RECOGNIZED—Weatherbee School honored eight Weatherbee Way winners at the school-wide assembly on November 18. The winners were (front row, l. to r): AJ King, Piper Clark, Aubrey Shaw, Breah Curtis, Ava Bennett, and Ray Misiasek; and (second row) Ben Johnston and Emma Small. Joining them in the photo are Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, Chief Noel March, Supervisor of the Provincial DOT Sheldon Garland, and driver David MacFarlane. The Weatherbee Way encompasses the guiding principles for all students. The winners are students who have gone above and beyond those guiding principles..

Class of '69 has 50th reunion—one of best that David Greenier has ever seen

When David Greenier started teaching at Hampden Academy in the fall of 1968, the Hampden Academy Class of '69 was starting its senior year. Mr. Greenier taught social studies for three years and then became assistant principal for 42 years before retiring in 2012, the year the new Hampden Academy building opened. Over the years, he's helped many Hampden Academy classes plan their reunions. He says the Class of '69's 50th reunion, which was held during the weekend of September 6-7-8, was one of the best he's seen—if not the best. The reunion was organized by Jim Husson of Hampden, a retired anesthetist who is writing a book on the history of Hampden Academy. Assisting Jim was a reunion committee that included Maynard Baker of Readfield; Brenda Babcock Brewer of Skowhegan, the class president;



Members of the Class of '69 were introduced on the field during halftime at the Friday night football game.

David Parsons of Hampden; and Sandy Sites Clark of Bangor. Jim said 100 classmates were on the reunion list, including 11 that had passed away. A total of 93 class members graduated in June 1969, but several others who left early or graduated a year or two later were added to the list.

"There were only 10 or 12 class members that we couldn't find," he said. Fifty-three members of the class returned for the reunion, with Rick Whinery of Cyprus, TX (outside of Houston) traveling the farthest. The reunion schedule included:

- Friday, Sept. 6—Football

game vs. Fairfield. Sterling Golder '69, captain of the 1968 Bronco football team who was named the State Player of the Decade, tossed the coin for the start of the game. At halftime, Athletic Director Fred Lower invited the class members to come down onto the field and read

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