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View of the main entrance to the new Hampden Academy (left center of photo) and the three-story classroom wing (right).



Link-22

MSAD 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444 November 2011

Hampden Academy project on track for June completion

Construction of the new Hampden Academy is about 70 percent complete, and everything is on track for students to start learning in the new building in the fall of 2012.

The structure is now totally enclosed, allowing construction crews to work inside the building throughout the winter. The Phase II general contractor, J&J Contractors, Inc., is on schedule for substantial completion on April 30, 2012, and final completion on June 30, 2012.

Sargent Corporation, the Phase I general contractor, has completed the athletic facilities, including the new baseball field, 8-lane track, and tennis courts. They have paved some of the parking area.

Sargent will stay on the job until spring 2012. Sargent crews will put the binder on the parking areas and roadways this fall and then do the final paving in May and June 2012 so it will look fresh and new when the school opens.

SAD 22 garden project adds greenhouse at Reeds Brook

If you drive into the Reeds Brook Parking lot whether it be to pick up your student or to look at the progress of the new high school, you can't help but notice a large structure covered in plastic and two compost bins on the lawn. This is just the latest accomplishment of the on-going SAD 22 Apple Orchard and School Garden Project.

The 18'x 24' Gothic-style greenhouse was constructed this past summer with the help of Sargent Corporation, Jeff Beswick and his UTC students, and SAD 22 staff. With help from Hampden home-builder Scott Hiller and SAD 22 custodian Dean El-Hajj, a group of students in the Alternative Edu-
(Please turn to page 11)



Alternative Education students carry the frame for a raised bed into the SAD 22 Garden Project greenhouse.

Shawn Kimball honored as ACTEM Technology Leader of the Year

Shawn Kimball, technology integrator at Hampden Academy, has been honored as Technology Leader of the Year by the Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine (ACTEM).



Shawn Kimball

The award was presented at ACTEM's annual awards banquet October 14 at the Augusta Civic Center.

Mr. Kimball, who helps teachers at Hampden Academy use technology to be more effective in the classroom, received a \$2,000 personal cash award along with an additional \$1,000 check for technology-related purchases at his school.

He was nominated by Deb White, a teacher at Asa Adams School in Orono and former ACTEM Teacher of the Year for Maine and National Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Kimball says his involvement with technology began when
(Please turn to page 3)

Newburgh Pre-K gets \$5K grant to upgrade playground

The Newburgh Early Childhood Center has received a \$5,000 grant from Head Start Body Start to upgrade its outdoor play facility.

The funding has allowed the center to expand the grassy area of playground, extend the fence 20 feet further out, plant two trees and perennial shrubs, and purchase topsoil for a vegetable garden and an annual flower garden.

Seventy tulip bulbs were scheduled to be planted in mid-November.

In addition, the center has added an asphalt tricycle track to the playground and purchased three new tricycles.

Other improvements that are
(Please turn to page 11)



Paeton and Anleigh create a traffic jam on the new tricycle track.

2 HA sophomores spend summer in China

Two Hampden Academy sophomores who had studied Chinese at the Bangor Chinese School spent six weeks last summer continuing their language studies in China.

The students, Dana Hsaio and Kierra Speed, were part of a group of 20 Maine students age 15-20 who traveled to China under the auspices of the State Department's National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y).

The group spent two days in Beijing; three weeks in Harbin, a sister city to Bangor in northern China; two days in Xi'an, where they saw the Terra Cotta Warriors; and two weeks in Kunming in southwest China.

In Harbin and Kunming, the students stayed with host families and attended school from 8 a.m. to 4 or 5 p.m. for six days a week.

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Dana Hsiao (right) and Kierra Speed (second from right) at the Great Wall.

Superintendent's message

SAD 22 Board, Education Foundation collaborate on capital campaign

By Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, SAD 22

SAD 22 Board of Directors and Education Foundation Collaborative

The SAD 22 Board of Directors and the MSAD 22 Education Foundation Board of Directors have both voted unanimously to work in partnership on a capital campaign to support educational programming for all students in the district, grades PK-12.

The SAD 22 board voted on November 2; the Foundation board voted on September 8.

The two boards will formulate a memorandum of understanding and appoint a steering committee to move forward with the capital campaign.

Hampden Academy Re-Use Committee

After many months of deliberation, the SAD 22 Board of Directors voted on October 5 to offer to sell the existing Hampden Academy facility to the Town of Hampden. The 23-acre tract, which extends from North Main Road to the Penobscot River, has an estimated fair market value of \$1 million, according to the Maine Valuation Co. of Standish.

The purchase price for the town, as prescribed by state law, would be the fair market value, minus the town's share of the district cost-sharing formula. Since Hampden's share of the SAD 22 budget is 61.39%, it would pay 38.61% of the fair market value, or \$386,100.

The board put two conditions on its offer.

First, the 1843 Hampden Academy building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, must be preserved.

Second, the board asked the town to respond to the offer within 60 days, by December 5, 2011.

The timeline is important, because if the town decides it doesn't want the property, the SAD 22 board may want to consider demolishing all or part of the structure to eliminate the need to spend \$200,000 to \$250,000 a year to heat and maintain a building that's not being used by the district. By law, any demolition of a structure by SAD 22 would require a referendum.

Hampden Academy Capital Project

Looking at the new Hampden Academy, the construction project is on schedule and within budget, and the general contractor is on track for substantial completion by April 30, 2012, and final completion by June 30, 2012. Students will start attending classes in the new facility in August/September 2012.

The new athletic fields are about 99% complete, but we want to give the grass a year to grow. We'll start using them in the spring of 2013.

However, we expect that the new softball field between Reeds Brook and McGraw will be ready for use in the spring of 2012.

SAD 22 enrollment increases by 2.4%

We've had some more good news this fall, as our enrollment has increased by 2.4%, or about 52 students. As of October 1, 2011, a total of 2,206 students were attending SAD 22 schools, compared to 2,154 in October, 2010.

Town of Frankfort-SAD 22 Board of Directors

Conversations with the town of Frankfort are continuing. Frankfort officials have told us that they intend to file a petition on January 1, 2012, to withdraw from RSU 20, which currently serves nine towns in the Belfast-Searsport area.

We have been meeting monthly, and we've talked about several possible configurations involving Frankfort and SAD 22, including:

- Frankfort operating as a municipal school district, tuitioning students to SAD 22.
- Frankfort becoming the fourth town in SAD 22.
- Frankfort and SAD 22 forming an Alternative Organizational Structure (AOS), sharing a central office but maintaining separate budgets and school boards.

If Frankfort joins SAD 22, it would bring about 180 students to the district and increase the enrollment at Hampden Academy by about 50 students.

These conversations will continue in the coming months.

Congratulations

Congratulations to SAD 22 board members Martha Harris and Liliane Deighan, who were recognized at the Maine School Boards Association fall conference for their longevity on the board. Martha has served for 17 years, and Liliane has served for 14 years.



Amy Faircloth



Niles Parker

Congratulations also to Amy Faircloth, Niles Parker, and Nicholas Winchester, who were elected to the SAD 22 Board of Directors in the November 8 balloting.



Nicholas Winchester

Negotiations

We have just begun negotiations with the SAD 22 teachers' union. Last spring, the district and the union signed a one-year contract because both sides were concerned about the fiscal landscape.

The board and the non-teaching staff agreed on a three-year contract last spring, which will be in effect until June 30, 2014.

SAD 22/RSU 22

Title I Parent-School Compact

The Parent-School Compact is a voluntary agreement that helps both the school and parents work closely together to better meet the needs of our students. The compact lists the expectations of the school, the parents, and the student.

Teachers and the school agree to....

1. Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

Staff will:

- get to know the student by taking an interest in the student as an individual.
- communicate clear, attainable goals for the students.
- be creative and enthusiastic in meeting the needs of the student- they all learn in different ways.
- frequently monitor each student to check for understanding of concepts and assignments.
- collect samples of the student's work to help show progress.
- provide recognition to the student when a goal is met.
- be respectful and listen to what students say.
- be a positive role model.

2. Hold parent-teacher conferences annually during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement:

- Parent-teacher conferences will be held each year, after the first rank cards have been sent home.

- A yearly Literacy Night will be held for parents to review the Title I program. Parents will also be able to meet and speak with Title I staff.

3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's progress.

- Report cards will include a progress monitoring report for all students participating in pull-out literacy programs.

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff and information.

- Parents may call the Leroy Smith School (223-4282) to set up a consultation with their child's teacher.
- Parents may access information through the district website.

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities.

- All parents will be invited to volunteer and participate in special classroom projects by filling out a volunteer form which is distributed on the first day of school.

Parents agree to....

- talk with their children/ ask children what's happening at school and review their papers daily.
- praise and encourage their children's school work, activities, and behavior.
- read with their children.

- make sure that their children arrive at school each day, on time and well rested.
- help their children learn and practice good organization and time management.
- limit the amount of daily screen time (television, computer, or other electronic devices) and establish "quiet zones" and "quiet times" for homework.
- be a good role model.
- have high and reasonable expectations of their children.
- talk/communicate with their children's teachers and meet with teachers and staff as needed.
- call their child's teacher at school any time they have questions or concerns.
- help their child develop responsibility.

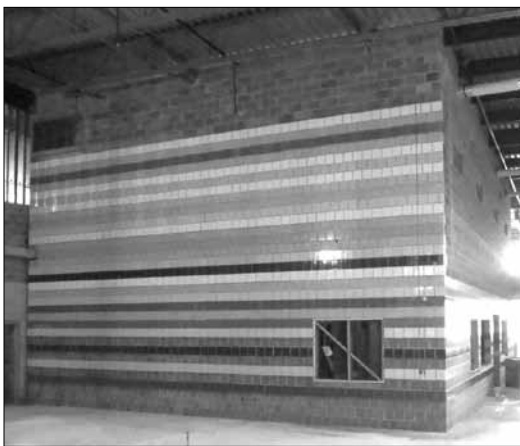
Students agree to....

- come to school with a positive attitude.
- attend school regularly and arrive on time.
- be responsible for bringing home all their books, homework, and materials.
- be prepared for class each day.
- seek help when needed.
- take time to read every day on their own time.
- be willing to participate.
- get along with and respect others.
- meet their responsibilities and accept the consequences of their actions.
- get adequate rest.
- be willing to try again—it's OK to make mistakes.
- share with parents what is happening at school.

More photos from Hampden Academy construction project



Work proceeds on the performing arts center.



A tile wall takes shape in the new dining commons.



The new 8-lane track is now complete.

HAMPDEN ACADEMY



Child Development classes operate nursery school

The Child Development classes at Hampden Academy are operating a nursery school for area children, ages 3-5 (pre-K) for two days a week through January 11. The framework of the nursery school includes Learning/Discovery centers, creative art projects, nutritious snacks, circle time, concept development, and gross motor skill activities.

The nursery school is planned by two different high school classes: Child Development and Advanced Child Development. The Child Development class works with the nursery school children in the learning centers, and creates plans for stories and extension activities. The Advanced Child Development class learns to write lesson plans with behavioral objectives around



Child Development class members with nursery school students at their Halloween party.

concept development and gross motor skill activities. The Advanced Child Development class also set

program goals to “develop positive social skills, including cooperation and interdependence, and to develop effective language skills, both listening and speaking.”

The purpose of the nursery school is to provide high school students with the opportunity to plan activities and practice using developmentally appropriate practices for preschool-age children. The young children have the opportunity to play and interact with others in a safe and well-supervised learning environment.

The class is taught by Diane Batty. Ms. Batty says the nursery school is the first school experience for the young children.

“When the children walk into our classroom, it’s the very first time they’ve ever been to school,” she says. “We always try to make it a really fun experience and help (Please turn to page 5)

Students learn mysteries of DNA using LEGO blocks

Students in the Alternative Education program at Hampden Academy are learning about DNA—one LEGO block at a time.

They’re using LEGO kits that contain different-colored blocks representing the basic structural elements of DNA to create models and then mimic the process by which the genetic information in DNA is copied and transmitted to new cells.

The students were also able to mimic the mutation of a normal gene into the gene that causes cystic fibrosis, which involves a single letter change—a G instead of an A—in a long DNA chain.

“One of our students has a brother with cystic fibrosis,” said Kai Ksnyiak, teacher in the Alternative Education program. “So it’s pretty significant for us to do this.”

Ms. Ksnyiak attended a seminar on the Lego DNA kit, along with Hampden Academy biology teacher Dick Balentine. Mr. Balentine hopes to use the kits in all of the school’s biology classes.



An Alternative Education student uses LEGO blocks to create a DNA model.

Shawn Kimball honored as ACTEM Technology Leader of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

Governor King proposed the one-to-one laptop initiative in 1992, when he was a science teacher at Hermon Middle School.

“I was inspired and felt obligated to make the most of the situation,” he said. “Over the years Apple’s MLTI team, ACTEM, and

the University of Maine provided me with valuable knowledge and skills that helped me reach a point where I truly discovered ‘how to learn.’ The best learning comes from multiple sources, with the most important source being my worldwide personal learning network, which includes many ACTEM members.”

Mr. Kimball has been a member

of ACTEM for more than ten years. He takes courses and attends additional conferences throughout the year to learn new tools and pedagogy that he can share with teachers locally and throughout the world utilizing such tools as email listservs, Twitter, Facebook, and Google+.

Mr. Kimball says he spends a lot of time on Twitter, Facebook, and Google+ trying to educate himself about tools and issues.

“I think the tools are great, but building a culture for change is most important to me,” he says. “Through Facebook, I am able to educate the many community members who follow me.”

Mr. Kimball says he does a lot of work with teachers one-on-one through appointments, but he also “walks the halls” to make himself available to teachers.

“I continuously move about my school helping teachers increase their skills,” he says. “Everyone is at

a different point so group trainings do not seem to work in our school. I have helped many teachers start using Moodle and Google Docs. I helped teachers as they started using the newest version of PowerTeacher gradebook. Many teachers last year started using FLIP cams to capture student skills. Several teachers do video projects. I go into classes to help with the process.”

Mr. Kimball also works with students whenever he can.

“I love seeing student work,” he says. “Very often students come to my office to get help on projects.”

Before coming to Hampden Academy, he worked two years as technology integrator at Glenburn Elementary School. Prior to that, he taught 7th and 8th grade science at Hermon Middle School for 13 years. He also spent a year teaching 9th grade science at Central High School.

Mr. Kimball’s son Ryan contributed to this report.



Link-22

MSAD 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport

24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

is published by Maine School Administrative District No. 22 for the citizens of Hampden, Newburgh, and Winterport.

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4 high-school-age storytellers vie for \$1,000 'Story Slam' prize on Nov. 30

Four high-school-age storytellers from the Hampden-Newburgh-Winterport area will compete for a \$1,000 prize in the "Grand Slam" event of the "Story Slam" series at 6 p.m. Wednesday, November 30, at the Edythe Dyer Community Library.

The competition is being sponsored by the library with funding from Katahdin Trust Co., which recently opened a new branch on Western Ave. in Hampden.

The students qualified for the Grand Slam by winning four preliminary Story Slam competitions, which were held at the library on Wednesday evenings during October and November.

The Grand Slam storytellers are:

- Kyle Grogan, a junior at Hampden Academy, who won the first Story Slam competition on October 5 on the subject of "Friends."
- Colin Vidas, a junior at Hampden Academy, winner of the October 19 competition on the subject, "Oops."
- Tien Misler, a freshman at

Hampden Academy, winner of the November 2 Story Slam on the subject, "Stormy."

- Jimmy Kolyer, a junior at Hampden Academy, who won the November 16 Story Slam on the topic of "Vacations."

The four Story Slam winners each received a \$500 prize.

The competition was open to high school students from Hampden, Newburgh, and Winterport.

Up to 10 students were allowed to compete in each round. If more than 10 students showed up, the contestants were selected by lot.

The Story Slam is an open mic event in which participants tell stories. The stories have to adhere to the evening's theme and be constructed by the storyteller. The storytellers tell their stories before an audience and a panel of judges, with a time limit of five minutes. Props, costumes, and musical instruments are not allowed.

Sunny Somers, manager and retail services officer for Katahdin Trust, said the bank wanted to do

something for the community. After some research, she said the bank decided to make a donation to the library of \$25 for each checking account that was opened at the new branch, up to \$10,000.

She said the library identified high school students as its most under-served population and decided to sponsor the Story Slam series as a way to bringing them into the facility.

Donna Beck, youth services director for the library, said the library director, Debbie Lozito, had heard an adult story slam event on public radio and thought the format could be adapted for high school students.

Colin, the Oct. 19 winner, said his story on the topic, "Oops," recalled the time he attended Cub Scout camp when he was 6 years old. His friends started playing a game of who could say an inappropriate word the loudest. Colin didn't want to play, and when one of the camp counselors heard his friends yelling the inappropriate word, they ended up getting in a lot of trouble.

The next day, however, Colin tripped on his way to dinner, cut his knee pretty bad, and ripped his jeans. "In front of every person at Cub Scout camp, including the counselor who reported the inappropriate word game, I yelled that word," he said.

Oops.

Colin said he had no idea what the word meant, he just knew that he wasn't supposed to say it. He was dragged off to the office, which is where his story ended.

Colin said he was reminded about the story by Todd Moore, a teacher at Hampden Academy who was the counselor at Cub Scout camp who took him to the office.

Colin says the judges for Story Slam look at how the contestants tell the story. Eye contact and voice projection are important, as are gestures (but not to the point where they take away from the story).

"Good description is important, too," he says "You want to make audience feel like it's there."

Drama Club takes 'Aesop's Fables' on tour of 5 elementary schools

The Hampden Academy Drama Club has taken its fall play, *Aesop's Oh-So-Slightly Updated Fables*, on the road, to the delight of audiences at five area elementary schools.

A cast of 27, with two student directors, performed the Fables at the Etna-Dixmont School and Dedham Elementary School on Wednesday, Nov. 9, and at Earl C. McGraw and George B. Weatherbee Schools in Hampden and Leroy H. Smith School in Winterport on Thursday, Nov. 10.

The play, directed by Sam Worden, provided a modern take on five of Aesop's classic fables, including the Dog and the Bone, the Tortoise and the Hare, and the Country Maid and her Chickens ("Don't count your chickens before they hatch"). The play was set in the country, a small village, and an aerobics studio.

Mr. Worden was assisted by Drama Club advisor Sharon Zolper.

The student directors were Morgan Springer and Michelle Rocker. Cast members were Helena Tatgenhorst, Eli DiSalvatore, John Rocker, Casey Black, Tien Misler, Marion Earley, Kyle Grogan, Megan Morin, Derek Willette, Erin Jeter, Simon Burditt, Hannah Holden, Keenan Davie, Sage Rapp, Kim Davis, David Rice, Max Ianazzi, Jamie Bickford, Ali Russel, Jacob Burns, Andrya Ryan, Mikayla Burridge, Meredith Prescott, Katelyn Lyons, James Cowin, Katie Fosse, and Laura Fairman.

Mr. Worden, who directed his first Drama Club production, studied music and theater at Sarah Lawrence College and spent about eight years in New York doing theater, including regional theater and tours, mostly musicals.

He says he would like to bring musical theater to the performing arts center in the new Hampden Academy in the future.

He's currently taking a night course at Husson University on theatrical management, learning more about sound, lights, sets, etc.

"With the facility that we will have, we'll be able to do professional quality theater," he says. "We just need the manpower and knowledge to know what to do with it all."



John Rocker and Megan Morin as "the butcher" and the "girl", two recurring roles that flit from fable to fable, even when they don't belong.



James Cowin and Katie Fosse as the narrator and the Country Maid who made the mistake of counting her chickens before they hatched.

When he was in New York, Mr. Worden said he worked fairly steadily as an actor and photographer—and waiting tables—but he was rarely on stage in New York.

"Until you get the really big break, you audition in New York and get a gig in places like Virginia, or on tour," he said.

When he moved back to Maine, he noticed that the cast the Penobscot Theatre production of *Little Shop of Horrors* included a girl who was engaged to a friend of his in New York.

Mr. Worden's acting credits include a lot of musicals, including the lead roles of Tony in *West Side Story* and Joe Hardy in *Damn Yankees*. He also understudied the role of Lancelot in the national tour of *Camelot*.



Derek Willette as the Great Lion from *The Lion and the Mouse*, a fable that says "no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."



Helena Tatgenhorst as the "scrumptious, delicious, intensely perfect grapes" from the fable *The Fox and the Grapes*.

New staff at Hampden Academy

Donna Casavant, ASL

Donna Casavant has joined the staff of SAD 22 as the teacher of American Sign Language at Hampden Academy.

Previously, she had spent 10 years as an independent consultant working with schools that don't have a teacher for the deaf on staff. She also worked with early intervention programs through the Maine Department of Education's Child Development Services program.

Before that, she taught chemistry and earth sciences at Scarborough High School and at the Boston School for the Deaf in Randolph, MA.

Mrs. Casavant graduated from Bates College with a B.S. in Biology and Secondary Education and received her Master's degree in Deaf Education from Smith College. She also has a CAS in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education from the University of Maine.

Mrs. Casavant said she started learning sign language when she was very young, but she didn't have any other connection with deafness.

"Most people who go into deaf education have a deaf child, a deaf relative, or a deaf friend," she says. "That wasn't the case with me."

She said the program at Smith focused on oral deaf education, so most of her sign language experiences came through courses taken at various locations and through living at schools for the deaf. She also spent a summer working in a special program at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Casavant and her husband David, who serves as associate provost at Husson University, live in Hampden. They have four children—Christin, a senior at Hampden Academy; Ethan, a freshman at Hampden Academy; Paul, a 7th grader at Reeds Brook Middle School; and Aishwarya, a kindergarten at McGraw School.

She enjoys family time, including a lot of singing and outdoor activities.

Erika Largay, Guidance

Erika Largay has joined the Guidance Department at Hampden Academy as a guidance counselor.

She comes to Hampden from Washington Academy in East Machias, where she served as a guidance counselor for a year.

She received her Master's degree in Education in 2010 after serving her internship in the guidance department at Old Town High School.

A native of Brewer, Ms. Largay graduated from Brewer High School in 2001 and received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Child Development from the University of Maine.

She lives in Brewer with her 4-year-old daughter and a much-loved dog named Jackson. She enjoys going to the gym, walking the dog, and practicing yoga and tai chi.



Donna Casavant

Leah Olson, Art

Leah Olson, art teacher at Bucksport Middle School for the past five years, is the new art teacher at Hampden Academy.

A native of Lee, ME, Mrs. Olson is currently a teacher-leader in arts assessment, working with seven other visual arts teachers to explore assessment strategies and help other teachers use technology for student learning.

She loves art and working with students, and she particularly enjoys painting, drawing, and working with clay and glass.

She also likes learning new things. For example, for the last two or three years, she has been fusing glass (a process that involves taking pieces of glass of different colors and firing in a kiln at very high temperatures so that they fuse together), which she learned at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts.

"It's a journey in the creative process, for sure," she says. "When I learn new things, it helps my students."

Mrs. Olson graduated from Lee Academy and earned her B.S. degree in Education from the University of Maine. Her first job was in SAD 22, teaching art at Wagner Middle School and Smith, Newburgh, and McGraw elementary schools, which she did for three years. Then she moved to Orrington, teaching at the Center Drive School for eight years.

She lives in Bucksport with her husband Carl and their two children, Zoe, 9, and Cody, 8.

Charlie Huff, Technology Education

Charlie Huff has joined the staff of Hampden Academy as the technology education teacher.

Mr. Huff comes to Hampden from South Portland, where he taught technology education at the middle school level for 15 years. For the first 14 years, he taught at Mahoney Middle School. Last year, he split his time between Mahoney and Memorial middle schools.

A native of Jay, ME, Mr. Huff graduated from Jay High School and has a B.S. degree in Technology Education from the University of Southern Maine.

Mr. Huff lives in Brewer and has two sons. The oldest, 8, is a 3rd grader at Brewer Community School; the youngest, 6, is in 1st grade. This fall, he coached his older son's grade 3-4 football team in Brewer, as well as his younger son's rec soccer team.

He also enjoys cycling and has a part-time contracting business, CH Construction, which specializes in residential remodeling.



Leah Olson

Emily Albee, History

Emily Albee, who taught part-time at Reeds Brook Middle School last year, is now teaching modern world history at Hampden Academy and 8th grade language arts at Reeds Brook.

She spends 75 percent of her workday in SAD 22; she also works part-time at the University of Maine as a graduate research assistant for Dr. Bruce Segee, associate professor of computer and electrical engineering, and doing outreach work with technology in the classroom.

Last year, she taught 7th grade social studies and advised an after-school innovation club at Reeds Brook.

Ms. Albee lives in Bradley. She was raised in Columbia, MD, and graduated from UMaine with a double major in Education and History. She has her Master's degree in Middle Level Education, and she's almost finished her CAS in Technology and Social Studies.

She enjoys traveling and loves music and teaching. She says travel—she spent a month in China last summer and has visited New Zealand and parts of Europe—helps her become a better teacher.

Ed Toulouse, French

Ed Toulouse, who retired in 2004 after teaching French and photography at Hampden Academy for 32 years, has returned to the school to teach French.

During his retirement, he worked as a substitute teacher at Hampden Academy and also worked in sales at L.L. Bean and Johnny's Selected Seeds.

Mr. Toulouse and his wife Judith, a retired teacher (Nokomis Regional High in Newport), live on a mini-farm in Plymouth. They have two grown children and four grandchildren.

He enjoys gardening and collecting cars, motorcycles, and tractors. He says he's especially fond of his 1959 Triumph TR3.

Although he taught photography for many years when Hampden Academy had a darkroom, he's never been particularly interested in digital photography.

Mr. Toulouse still collects old cameras, and eventually he plans to set up a darkroom to do black and white photography.

"Darkroom black and white photography has a different look than digital black and white," he says.



Emily Albee



Ed Toulouse



Erika Largay



Charlie Huff



Dana Hsiao (second from left) with her host family in Kunming.

Summer in China

(Continued from page 1)

Dana and Kierra said the first half of the day was devoted to at least four hours of Chinese lessons. During the rest of the day, they studied Chinese culture.

The students were divided into three groups—beginner, intermediate, and advanced—based on their knowledge of Chinese. Both Dana and Kierra were in the intermediate group, for students who had studied Chinese for at least a year.

For homework, they were given a paragraph composed of Chinese characters with pinyin (the official system for transcribing Chinese characters into the Roman alphabet) on top.

"We had to try to memorize the characters and the tone of the pinyin," said Kierra. "If you don't know the tones, you don't know the language."

Both girls said they enjoyed the trip and were impressed by the sheer number of people in China.

"There are a ton of people over there," said Dana. "It's like New York everywhere—but more people than even New York City."

Kierra said a lot of the students in the Bangor Chinese School group had to take city buses to get to school from where their host families lived.

"That was completely different," she said. "Those buses were jam-packed full. There was no personal space."

"Every seat was taken," Dana added. "All the standing space was also taken. It was like a can of sardines."

The NSLI-Y is a State Department program that provides scholarships to encourage students to learn Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, Persian, Hindi, Korean, and Russian in summer programs.

Although they said the six weeks in China was a "really good experience," Dana and Kierra said it was also a lot of work.

"I'd go again, but once is enough at this age," said Dana. "I missed my summer."

"It was like school all year around," added Kierra.

Nursery school

(Continued from page 3)
the children transition from home to school. Because this is a major milestone for children to transition into a school environment, we focus on their social and emotional needs to help them feel safe and to enjoy their experiences with us."

Reeds Brook students, staff vote on mascot question

Students, faculty, and staff at Reeds Brook Middle School were scheduled to vote on Friday, November 18, to see whether they want to retain their current mascot, the Rebels, or replace it with the Raptors or the Ravens.

The vote is the final step in a process that started last year to determine whether the Rebel mascot was in keeping with the goals and values of the school.

Principal Thom Ingraham said the winning mascot would have to get at least 51% of the vote. If none of the three mascots reach that threshold, a runoff election will be held.

The mascot issue was raised last year by the Climate Conservation Corps, a group of teachers that wanted to foster a positive learning and social environment at the school. The group led the process of identifying the school's four core

values of Honesty, Compassion, Responsibility, and Respect, and then developed a matrix of what those values look like in the classroom, the hallways, the cafeteria, and other areas of the school.

They also thought it would be a good idea to take a look at the school mascot, which has been the Rebels since the school opened 14 years ago. The name was chosen because a Revolutionary War skirmish took place in the vicinity of Reeds Brook.

Initially, the Reeds Brook "Rebel" was personified by a character similar to Yosemite Sam, but that character fell out of use because he was carrying a rifle. As a result, Reeds Brook wound up with a nickname, the Rebels, but no graphic element



Proposed mascots/logos at Reeds Brook—the Raptors, the Ravens, the Rebels.

to go along with it.

"You can't buy a Reeds Brook Rebels sweatshirt with an identifiable logo on it," says Mr. Ingraham.

Last spring, students were asked

to suggest mascot ideas, along with logo designs and explanation of how the mascots would fit in with the school's values. More than 70 mascot ideas were submitted.

A group of teachers and Student Council members went through the entries and chose seven semi-finalists, which were submitted to the student body through Google Docs. Rebels, Raptors, and Ravens were the top vote getters. The Raptor and Raven logos were cartoon characters; the Rebel logo was a block "R" inside a circle.

Once the voting is complete, Mr. Ingraham says Reeds Brook Middle School "will take the new mascot and connect to the values of the school."

18 from Reeds Brook selected for District V Middle School Honors Festival

Eighteen students from Reeds Brook Middle School were selected to participate in the District V Middle School Honors Festival, which was held on Friday, November 4, at Mattanawcook Academy in Lincoln.

Band members participating in the festival were Kalie Goldstein and Reba Sands, flute; Danielle Sanders, clarinet; Riah Malachi, bass clarinet; Tamara Hathorn, alto sax; Noah Dery and Noah Gardner, trumpet; Zach Todd, baritone sax; Paul Casavant, percussion; and Nathaniel Haiden, bass.

Chorus members who attended

the festival were Lydia Tilley and Abby Jones, sopranos; Lily Case and Abby Elkins, altos; Riley Sherman, tenor; and Noah Larson, bass.

Baritone player Eiji Frey and bass vocalist A. J. Glidden were selected for the festival band and chorus, respectively, but were unable to attend.

Becky Mallory is the band director at Reeds Brook; Heidi Corliss is the choral director.

Band manager for the festival was Ted Nokes of Dexter Regional High School; the choral manager was Kris Vigue of Stearns High School, Millinocket.

New staff at Reeds Brook

Nicole Chamberland, 7th grade special ed

Nicole Chamberland has joined the staff of Reeds Brook Middle School as a 7th grade special education teacher.

Last year, she was a special education teacher at McGraw. The previous year, she was an educational technician in special education at the Newburgh Elementary School.



Nicole Chamberland

Originally from the Lewiston-Auburn area, Mrs. Chamberland received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Maine in 2009. She is on track to receive her Master's degree from UMaine in May 2012.

She and her husband Andre live in Newburgh. They are expecting their first child in May.

Mrs. Chamberland enjoys dance, scrapbooking, cycling, and spending time with friends and family.

Elizabeth Van Uden, 6th grade special ed

Elizabeth Van Uden, a former student at Reeds Brook Middle School, has returned as a 6th grade special education teacher. Previously, she worked as an educational technician at the elementary school and high school in Orono for several years.

Ms. Van Uden received her Bach-

Michele Freeman, science, health, math

Michele Freeman, who taught 5th grade at Weatherbee School last year, has returned to Reeds Brook Middle School, where she teaches 7th grade life science, 8th grade health, and 7th grade math.

Before transferring to Weatherbee, Mrs. Freeman taught 6th grade at Reeds Brook for 11 years, and taught in Steuben for three years.

She is a graduate of the University of Maine.

Mrs. Freeman lives in Holden with her husband Jason and their three children, Lauren, 20, a nursing student at UMaine; Alyssa 7, a 1st grader; and Jack, 3½, who is in preschool.

Mrs. Freeman attends Zumba class and enjoys reading and spending time with her family.



Michele Freeman



Michelle Reasso new librarian for Reeds Brook, Wagner

Michelle Reasso has joined the staff of SAD 22 as the librarian for Wagner and Reeds Brook middle schools.

Mrs. Reasso previously served for eight years as reference/young adult librarian at the Highland Park (NJ) Library, where her primary responsibility involved working with middle school and high school students.

"As a public library, we ran a lot of programs for students," she said. "We created a library advisory board made up of students who helped us plan events. Then we did what they wanted to do."

Mrs. Reasso says she'd like to bring more library programs to the two schools, and to that

end, after-school library clubs have been started at both schools.

She's also planning book-related events at Wagner and Reeds Brook to promote books and the love of reading.

About 100 students from the two schools participated in a Gods and Goddesses trivia contest in which they had to provide

answers to daily questions about gods and goddesses. Students received extra drawing chances if they cited a book as the source for the answer they provided.

The winners at each school received a copy of Rick Riordan's new book, *Son of Neptune*.

Mrs. Reasso is also planning to have students prepare book trailers—video clips similar to movie trailers—so they can promote their favorite books.

One thing Mrs. Reasso would like to get across is that the library is an interesting and fun place to be.

"In the spring, one of our favorite books, *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, is being released as a movie," she says. "We are planning a *Hunger Games* party to coincide with the release and hope everyone will want to participate. We have a lot of ideas. We will vote as a group as to which we ones we prioritize based on what we and other students might enjoy."

Anyone can join; please see Mrs. Reasso for information.

Mrs. Reasso and her husband Bob, who is the athletic director at Husson University, live in Bangor. They have two children, a son who is a senior at Bangor High School and a daughter who is a sophomore at Husson.



Michelle Reasso



Ryan Kord won the Gods and Goddesses trivia contest at Wagner. Yvonne Marshall was the winner at Reeds Brook.



A few members of the Reeds Brook Library—Jeb, Nick, Amelia and Emma—help with book displays in the windows for Halloween.



A group of Wagner students takes a break at the Common Ground Fair in Windsor.



Another group of Wagner Students at the Common Ground Fair.

Wagner students spend day at Common Ground Fair

Students at Wagner Middle School made their annual trip to School Day at the Common Ground

Fair in Windsor on Friday, September 23. Because it was school day, admis-

sion fees were waived by the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. Transportation was paid by the Wagner Pride Pack.

The students saw a lot of animal and growing displays, along with displays on how to live organically. They also visited the Youth Enterprise Zone, a tent set up for students who have created things for sale.

"It's a unique opportunity for students to learn more in a non-traditional setting," said Betsy Murphy, 6th grade science and language arts teacher.

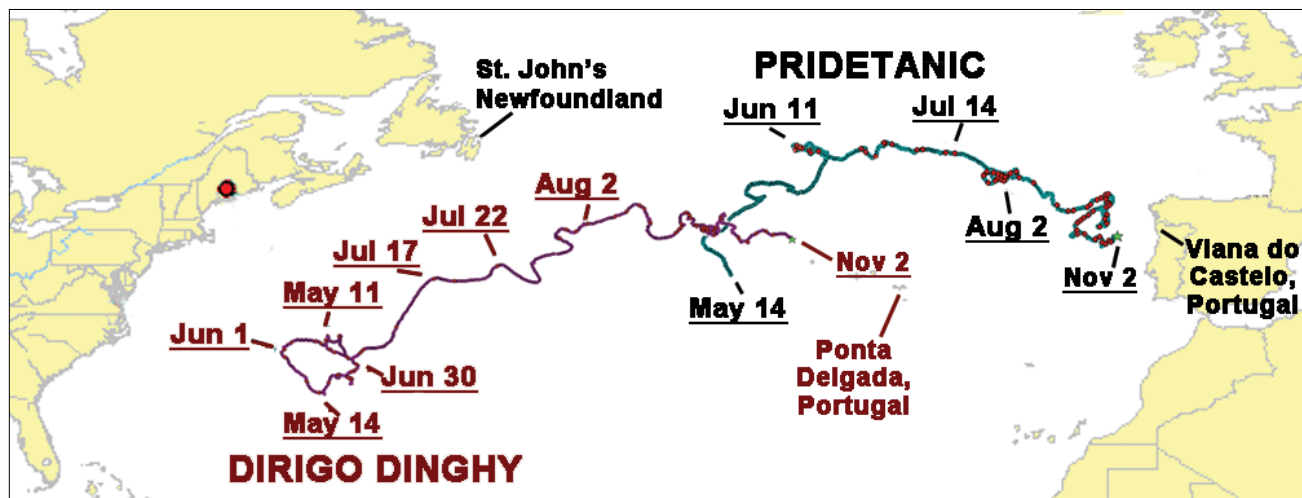
She said the highlights of the trip included riding on a hay wagon, getting faces painted, and "just exploring and checking things out."

Some of the more popular exhibits were the recycle tent and the sheep-herding dogs.

One Wagner student spent the weekend at the fair, working with her parents, who displayed their goats.

Several former Wagner students who now attend Hampden Academy were volunteers at the fair.

WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL



The website iboattrack.com has been tracking the progress of mini-boats Dirigo Dinghy (left) and Pridetanic (right).

Wagner, Reeds Brook mini-boats still sailing

Two mini-boats that were launched by students in the Explorer classes at Reeds Brook and Wagner middle schools last May are still sailing after more than six months at sea.

The *Pridetanic*, from Wagner, was 109 nautical miles west of Viana do Castela, Portugal, on November 2, after a journey of 4,944 nautical miles.

The *Dirigo Dinghy*, from Reeds Brook, was 387 nautical miles west of the Portuguese island of Ponta Delgada on November 2, after sailing 4,075 nautical miles.

Both boats were launched from the Maine Maritime Academy training ship, the *State of Maine*. The *Dirigo Dinghy* was launched on May 11 about 200 nautical miles east northeast of Bermuda; the *Pridetanic* was launched May 15 in the mid-Atlantic, about halfway between North America and Europe.

The two boats are unmanned, 4½ feet long, and designed to sail downwind with no steering. They are equipped with GPS transponders that report their position every two hours. People who want to keep track of the boats' progress can do so by going to www.iboattrack.com, and clicking on "Educational Passages - Mapper" at the right side of the web page.

Michele Campbell, who teaches the Explorer class at Wagner, says the students are looking at wind and current data to see if they can predict where the *Pridetanic* will make landfall.

If the boat continues to travel in an easterly direction at its most recent speed of 1.8 knots, it

could reach the coast of Portugal in a matter of days, before this issue of *Link-22* goes to press. However, there are no guarantees. On September 12, the *Pridetanic* was about 155 nautical miles off the coast of Spain and seemingly headed toward landfall, but the winds and currents shifted, sending the boat on a southerly course for the next week, parallel to the Portuguese coast and about 150 miles offshore. Then the boat doubled back and meandered in a northerly direction for about 10 days, before the winds shifted again, pushing the boat about 200 miles southwest.

By October 26, the *Pridetanic* was 260 miles west of Portugal—100 miles further out to sea than it had been. Since then, the boat has been sailing east, toward the Portuguese coast, at about 1.5 knots.

If the *Pridetanic* does make landfall, the Wagner students are hoping that whoever finds her will follow the instructions that are posted on the deck, asking the finder to take the boat to a local school and asking the school to contact Wagner.

In the meantime, the *Dirigo Dinghy*, which spent the first month of its voyage sailing in circles north of Bermuda, has been following an easterly course ever since, except for a four-week period in September and October when it sailed in circles in the mid-Atlantic not far from the area where the *Pridetanic* was launched.

UPDATE: As of November 16, the *Pridetanic* was just 51.5 nautical miles west of Viana do Castela, Portugal, traveling at a speed of 0.5 knots, but it had spent the last 20 hours going in a circle.

Brenda White new kitchen manager at Wagner Middle School

Brenda White is the new kitchen manager at Wagner Middle School, replacing Gerry Mayhew, who retired last June.

Ms. White had subbed for Ms. Mayhew and other kitchen employees at Wagner and Leroy H. Smith School for the past four years, and when the job came open, she applied.

She said she's trying to offer students more healthy choices and to solicit their opinions through surveys.

"When we had leftover taco meat one day, we used it the next day to make nachos," she said. "We try not to waste food. If possible, we use it the next day in a different form to give kids more choices."

Ms. White recently asked students for pizza suggestions (the cafeteria traditionally serves pizza every other Friday) and added Hawaiian pizza to the menu as a result.

One Friday, she also prepared a few pizzas with bacon on them. "The kids felt like they were getting a treat," she said.

Ms. White said she has found the students at Wagner to be very respectful.

"I have so many kids who walk through the cafeteria line saying thank you," she says. "They keep the place clean. They're willing to help if I ask."

Before she started subbing in the school cafeterias, Ms. White worked at the Bangor Daily News, proofreading newspapers when they came off the press and doing ad composition. She also managed an Irving for a while.

Ms. White lives in Winterport and attended Leroy H. Smith School when it was a K-8 school.

"Some of the teachers [at Wagner] were my teachers when I was in school," she says.

Wagner Principal Richard Glencross said Ms. White has taken on two projects in addition to her kitchen duties—repairing and re-hanging the athletic banners in the gym and reorganizing the trophy case.



Brenda White

Weatherbee literacy team using monthly assemblies to promote love of reading

The literacy team at the George B. Weatherbee School has been using the monthly assemblies to promote the love of reading.

Each assembly has a theme that encourages students to read—and to share what they read with the rest of the student body.

In September, the theme was “Read, Write, and Rap.” The literacy team wrote the words for a song about Weatherbee and asked students to make it into a rap, or to make up their own rap about Weatherbee reading.

A number of students took on the challenge and performed their raps during the September assembly.

In October, the theme was “Mystery.” Students were asked to select a mystery and given the option of performing a skit, doing a commercial promoting the book, or portraying a character recommending the book.

The November theme is “Time Capsule.” Students are being asked to read a book that’s set in the past or in the future, create a diorama about the book, dress up like a character, or create a time capsule with items from that period which would be displayed somewhere in the school.

The December theme will be “Diary of a Wimpy Kid,” with students

being asked share their favorite episodes from that popular series.

“We focus on the science of reading, but we also want to focus on the art of reading and the love of reading,” says Angel Gaudreau, 4th grade teacher and literacy team member. “It’s good to have the Newberry authors and the Caldecott books, but there are books that students like and connect with that may not be considered great literature—but it gets them reading.”

Upcoming themes for 2012 include:

- January: “Play on Words.”

Students will share their favorite metaphors, syllogisms, idioms, and favorite sayings.

- February: “Fantasy.” Students will be asked to come up with a way of sharing a favorite book with a fantasy theme.

- March: “Classy Poets.” Each class will focus on a different poet for the month, in preparation for April, which is Poetry Month. Students might share a poem during the March assembly.

- April: “Humor.” Students will share their favorite jokes, riddles, etc.

- May: “Informational Text.” Students will share some of the interesting facts that they learn from books or other informational reading.



GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

Teachers promote favorite ‘Tuesday Titles’

Teachers at George B. Weatherbee School are going public with their favorite children’s books.

The program is called “Tuesday Titles,” because it happens every Tuesday during morning announcements.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, a teacher gets on the intercom and reads two to three pages from a book that she would like to encourage students to read.

The goal is to whet students’ appetites for reading and to get them interested in books that are available in the school library.

Some teachers who have promoted a favorite “Tuesday Title” report that students have asked them



Teacher Meghan Schall features her Tuesday Title selection, “The 39 Clues Book One.”

about the book and where they can find it.

To further stimulate interest, the Tuesday Title is put on display, along with a photo of the teacher, so students can see what the cover looks like and who recommended it.

New staff at Weatherbee

Morghan Foster, School Counselor

Morghan Foster has joined the staff at George B. Weatherbee School as school counselor.

Last year, Ms. Foster served as elementary school counselor in RSU 25, covering two elementary schools in Bucksport and the elementary school in Orland, which is now closed.

Previously, she worked for the Bangor Daily News in the recruitment advertising department.

Ms. Foster graduated from the University of Maine in 2005 with a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism and Advertising, with a minor in Public Relations. She also has a Master’s degree in Counseling Education and is working on her CAS, also in Counseling Education.

She coached middle school cheering for seven years, including three years at Reeds Brook Middle School, three years at Holbrook School in Holden, and one year at the William S. Cohen School in Bangor.

“I loved kids, felt like I connected with kids, and wanted to help children,” she said.

She took the last two years off to complete her Master’s degree start her counseling career, and she has resumed coaching this season at Center Drive School in Orrington.

A native of Brewer, Ms. Foster graduated from Brewer High School. She lives in Brewer and is planning to get married in April.

She enjoys hiking, working around the house, and being outdoors. She and her fiancé particularly like hiking in Acadia National Park, and have hiked Mt. Washington, Mt. Katahdin, and Gulf Hags.



Morghan Foster

Bonnie Keaton, Grade 5

Bonnie Keaton has joined the staff at Weatherbee School as a 5th grade teacher.

Ms. Keaton comes to Weatherbee from Myrtle Beach, SC, where she taught 4th grade for three years. Previously, she taught for two years in North Carolina and served as an educational technician for a year in Ellsworth.

Ms. Keaton was born in Vermont and raised in Newport, RI (her father was in the Navy). She received her bachelor’s degree in corporate communications from Roger Williams University in Rhode Island, and worked in the corporate world for a number of years as an international contract administrator for Early Cloud & Co., a telecommunications software company in Newport.

However, the classroom was calling, and Ms. Keaton went back to school to get her teacher certification at the University of Rhode Island in 1997, and she’s been working in education ever since. She worked as a substitute teacher for several years in Rhode Island, and then went south seeking better job opportunities that were a better fit for her skills and education.

“I’ve been trying to get back to New England ever since, because this is where my heart and my family are,” she says. She has six brothers and sisters in the northeast.

Ms. Keaton lives in Hampden and has two grown children and a 3-year-old granddaughter.

She describes herself as “a writer by passion.” She’s not published, but she enjoys “creative non-fiction, writing through the filter of fond memories and important life lessons.”



Bonnie Keaton

Partnership between UTC, PTOs leads to storage shed for playground equipment

Thanks to a partnership between the Building Construction program at the United Technologies Center in Bangor and the Weatherbee and McGraw PTOs, the two schools will soon have a new storage shed for playground equipment.

The shed was built this fall by the students in the Building Construction program, under the direction of instructor Dave Stevens.

The students used lumber, siding, and shingles that were purchased by the PTOs.

Sargent Corporation is donating the use of a flatbed to deliver the shed to the Weatherbee-McGraw playground.

The building is 10’x14’. The Weatherbee Student Council plans to use the front half of the shed, which

has a half-door, as a concession stand to allow students to sign out balls and other playground equipment.

The two PTOs will also use the back of the shed for storage.

Funds for the materials came from the PTO playground equipment fund. The two PTOs donate about \$500 a year to the fund to support playground needs.

Dawn Beswick, who was president of the McGraw PTO last year, said the fund had more than \$6,000 last May, but about \$3,000 was spent to replace the wood chips over the summer.

Mrs. Beswick, whose husband is a colleague of Mr. Stevens at UTC, said the Building Construction students have also built cubbies for the students at McGraw School.

Funds needed to buy guitars

Fund-raising efforts are underway at George B. Weatherbee School to give all 5th graders the opportunity to learn guitar as part of the school music program during the second semester.

Music teacher Shelley Burcalow said the goal is to raise enough money to purchase 24 student guitars, so everyone can have a guitar during general music class.

“Fifth grade is a really good age to begin,” says Ms. Burcalow. “Most kids that age have the finger strength to hold the strings down, and there’s a lot of interest in playing guitar.”

So far, enough money has been

raised to purchase eight guitars, but she needs to raise another \$1,300 to buy the other 16. The 3/4-size guitars, which are easier for most 5th graders to play, are \$80 apiece.

Ms. Burcalow says she’d like to raise money by selling Christmas ornaments imprinted with a picture of Weatherbee School, but she needs a volunteer to help her organize the fund-raising effort. If someone has other ideas for fund-raising, Ms. Burcalow says she’s open to suggestions.

Anyone interested should call Ms. Burcalow at Weatherbee School, 862-3254, or email her at sburcalow@sad22.us.

McGraw parents see how children spend a typical day at Curriculum Night

Earl C. McGraw School opened its classrooms to students and parents from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday evening, October 6, for Curriculum Night.

Parents were able to see how their children spend a typical day in school, while the students had an opportunity to show their parents some of the work that they have done and

some of the things they are learning.

For the 2nd graders, teacher Cindy Kelley said it was a student-driven evening.

"Stations were set up for each of the curriculum areas, and the children explained the concepts that they are learning in literacy and math," she said. "The children led

the whole evening themselves."

Mrs. Kelley said the teachers were there and able to interact with families, "but we didn't show the families the curriculum—that was done by the students."

First grade teacher Amy Nadeau said the 1st graders were invited to walk their parents through a typical day in the classroom. Several teachers had a morning message out and a normal day's schedule on the board. Student work was on display, and students were able to show parents and guests some of the books they were reading and some of the journals and writer's workshop stories they were writing.

Mrs. Nadeau said there were a lot of questions from parents, particularly related to math.

"The math that students learn today is different from what previous generations learned, so it's a big question for parents," she said.

Kindergarten teacher Sue Ward said parents were able to see what their children are learning in kindergarten and learn about the daily routines—the "morning meeting," calendar, and counting and literacy exercises. She said the teachers had different literacy and math centers set out so that children could take their parents around the classroom and show them how their learning takes place during the day.

New staff at McGraw

Vicki Bailey, Grade 1

Vicki Bailey has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a first grade teacher.

For the past three years, she taught kindergarten in Canton, MA. Previously, she taught 5th grade at the Etna-Dixmont School for five years, tutored part-time in Bangor for one year, taught grades 7 and 8 in Hope for a year, and taught 3rd grade in Hebron for 11 years.

A native of Rumford, Mrs. Bailey graduated from Rumford High School and received her B.S. degree in Education from the University of Maine at Farmington.

Mrs. Bailey and her husband Jeff live in Hampden. They have two sons, an 8th grader at Reeds Brook Middle School and a 5th grader at Weatherbee.

She enjoys camping, walking, activities with her children, and crafts when she has time.

Adam Knowles, Phys Ed

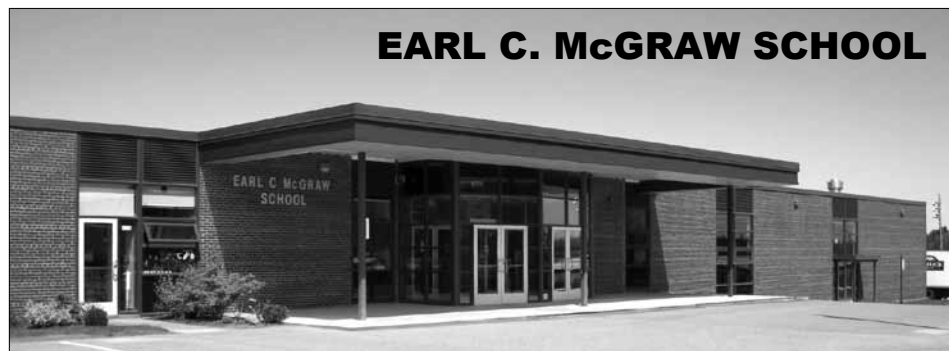
Adam Knowles has joined the staff of SAD 22 as the new physical education teacher at the Earl C. McGraw School. He also teaches an 8th grade physical education module every morning at Reeds Brook Middle School and adapted physical education at McGraw and Weatherbee schools.

Before coming to SAD 22, he taught physical education for grades PK through 5 in SAD 3 (Thorndike area) for six years, teaching in Brooks, Monroe, Troy and Liberty, and one year in Unity.

A native of Dedham, he graduated from Brewer High School and received his B.S. degree in Kiniesiology and Physical Education from the University of Maine.

His wife, Heather Knowles, teaches first grade at McGraw. They live in Brewer with their two sons, ages 3½ and 18 months.

Mr. Knowles says he enjoys outdoor activities. He also has a small photography business, Knowles Photography, and he's a partner in a power-washing business, Downeast Mobile Powerwash.



Ron Lare and Therapy Dog Skylar listen as a student reads.



Cheryl Lare and Opie with two McGraw kindergarten students.

McGraw kindergartners read to Opie and Skylar

Kindergarten students at Earl C. McGraw School who are just beginning to learn how to read have found the perfect audience for reading practice.

They're happy to listen, no matter what the skill level of the reader.

They don't make faces if a word is mispronounced.

They won't suppress a giggle if something sounds a little funny.

And they'll never, ever criticize.

These perfect listeners are Opie

and Skylar, two little Therapy Dogs that are brought to class on the third and fourth Fridays of every month.

Therapy Dogs are dogs with a temperament that allows them to be friendly and outgoing to all people, even when put under stress.

The dogs let students pet them and then lie quietly while the student reads aloud. All concerns about being judged are put aside, and the students are able to relax and focus

on their reading.

Opie and Skylar are owned by Ron and Cheryl Lare of Hampden, who accompany them into the classroom. The Therapy Dogs also visit the first and second graders at McGraw.

Opie and Skylar like people of all ages. In addition to listening to young readers, they also help greet the troops coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan, and they visit assisted living residents in Hampden.

2nd graders celebrate annual Bird Festival

Second graders at Earl C. McGraw School celebrated their annual Bird Festival on Friday, October 28. The festival is the culmination of their science unit on birds.

The students rotated through the four 2nd grade classrooms, each of which had different activities related to birds.

- In Mrs. Kelley's room, the topic was "Food for the Brood," which included a relay on how many worms the birds can bring back to feed their babies. The students used clothespins to simulate a bird's beak and pick up rubber fishing worms.

- In Mrs. Fitzpatrick's room, the students had a nest exploration activity, observing and measuring real birds nests.

- Mrs. Sturdee's room featured a beak activity, in which the students experimented with different tools that simulated different types of bird beaks—tweezers, chopsticks, clothespins, straws, etc. Then they tried to pick up certain foods to see

which beak would match the type of food that a bird would eat.

- In Mrs. Barnes' room, the students used computers to conduct a virtual dissection of owl pellets to see what the owl ate.



McGraw 2nd graders use different tools to simulate different types of birds beaks as they search for food.

Earlier in the week, on Wednesday, the art teacher, Mrs. Ashe, helped the students make bird masks. Then, on Monday, October 31, the 2nd graders put on their bird masks and marched around the school.



Vicki Bailey



Adam Knowles

2nd graders at Smith School learn about jobs during Career Week

The week of October 24 was Career Week for 2nd graders at Leroy H. Smith School.

Every afternoon, they were visited by community members who were willing to talk about their careers, education, and the tools they use on the job.

New staff at Smith

Mandy Hay, Grade 4

Mandy Hay has joined the staff at Leroy H. Smith School as a 4th grade teacher.

Last year, she was an educational technician in Mrs. Mitchell's special ed room for half the day and a student teacher in Mrs. Williams' and Mrs. Moore's rooms for the other half of the day. After completing student teaching in February, she became a half-time ed tech and half-time Title I reading teacher for the remainder of the school year.

She received her B.S. degree from the University of Maine in May 2010 and did her student teaching after graduation.

A native of Carmel, Mrs. Hay graduated from Hermon High School. She lives in Carmel with her husband Brandon. She enjoys spending time with family.



Mandy Hay

Linda Kocik, Grades K-1

Linda Kocik has become a full-time K-1 teacher at the Leroy H. Smith School this year, after serving as a half-time K-1 teacher and half-time ed tech last year.

Previously, she was a full-time educational technician at Smith for one year, at Weatherbee for three years, and at McGraw for two years.

Mrs. Kocik lives in Hampden with her husband John, a fisheries biologist. They have three children, twins (boy-girl) who will be 15 in November and a 17-year-old son.

She enjoys scrapbooking, reading, and crocheting. She also watches a lot of hockey, as all three of her children play.

The 17 year old, a junior at Hampden Academy, skated for the Bronco hockey team last year and plans to do so again this year. The twins are freshmen and hope to skate for Hampden Academy this winter.

Kate Gould, Grade 4

Kate Gould has joined the staff at Leroy H. Smith School as a 4th grade teacher.

Before coming to Smith, Ms. Gould taught 5th and 6th grade at Holbrook Middle School in Holden.

A native of Bangor, she received her Master of Arts in Teaching degree from the University of Maine in 2009. She enjoys cooking, reading, and playing outside with her dog, Tolkien.



Kate Gould

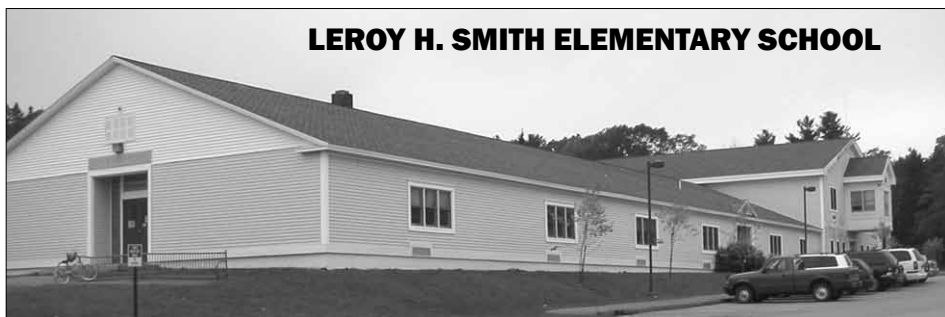
The visitors included:

- Erica Parker, a nurse, who brought in a heart monitor and showed the students how it worked.
- Mike Newey, a refueler in the 101st Air Refueling Wing of the Maine Air National Guard.
- Roger Newey of the Hampden Public Works Department, who brought one of the town snowplows.
- Sarah Young, 2nd grade teacher who built a log house and does carpentry work during the summer.
- Melissa Jagger, a 6th grade teacher from Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast.
- Kirk Chase, a Bangor Hydro lineman, who brought a bucket truck and showed students how he climbs a utility pole.
- Jon Carter, 2nd grade teacher who works as a Certified Maine Guide and leads fishing trips during the summer.
- Stan Bowden, retired fire chief in Winterport.

The 2nd graders were able to look at some of the many different jobs that adults have and the importance of those jobs in the community. The second grade teachers host Career Week in an effort to increase students' awareness about the wide variety of jobs they can choose and the importance of finishing school and going to college.



Nathan Chase (left photo) dons lineman's gear. His father, Kirk Chase (right photo) brought a bucket truck and showed the 2nd graders how he climbs a utility pole.



LEROY H. SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Families enjoy Math and Literacy Night

By Althea Spencer, Literacy Specialist

Leroy Smith School held its annual Math and Literacy Night October 27. More than 80 families were present to take part in the numerous math and literacy activities that were created by the teachers at Smith School.

We were fortunate this year to have Kris McBean's University of Maine students join us to share activities they created as part of their course work. This exciting night included 24 different tables for family learning. Activities included a pretend store, rhyming, non-fiction features, alphabet, several word games, and numerous math activities.

The teachers at Smith School believe that this night provides a valuable opportunity for families to have fun learning about some of the wonderful ways they can support their child's learning.

Over 200 people including parents, grandparents, siblings and students all joined us for this fun and educational family night. The evening concluded with milk and cookies in the cafeteria. Each child selected a free book to take home and enjoy.



Families enjoy math and literacy activities at Smith School.

Student teacher provides Ms. Patterson's 1st graders with unit on ecology

Heather Patterson's 1st grade class at Leroy H. Smith School completed a unit on ecology, which was taught by student teacher Nicole Lever.

Mrs. Lever led the students through several activities, including a slide show, a habitat walk outside where the students looked for various habitats, learning about the life-cycle of the butterfly, and a sorting game, where students matched habitats (pond, ocean, grassland, jungle, forest, etc.) and the creatures that live in them.

Using the book, *Salamander Room*, the students brought in shoeboxes and created their own "salamander rooms," incorporating the four elements of a habitat—space, shelter, water, and food.

Ms. Patterson said the students enjoyed the lesson, and now, more than a month later, they're still talking about it.

As a follow-up, Mrs. Lever created a community service project, in which



Heather Patterson's 1st graders turn their shoeboxes into "salamander rooms."

students donated items to the Animal Orphanage in Old Town, giving animals a chance to enhance their habitats at the animal shelter. Two large boxes of donated items were collected.

iPads iRotate in iGrade levels at Smith

By Jacquie Breedlove

Last Spring, Smith School's Technology Department held a fundraiser, so a few iPads could be purchased. Six iPads were bought from this successful fundraiser.

Each grade level has an iPad that rotates every 15-20 days to the specific grade level. These rotations allow the students to experience and interact with various educational apps.

Thank you again for all of the support with this fundraiser. Another is being planned for the end of April.

For more information about technology at the Smith School and throughout the world, log onto <http://smithschooltech.posterous.com>.

Enrollment up at NECC; openings available

Enrollment at the Newburgh Early Child Center is up from last year, but openings are still available in both the morning and afternoon classes.

Parents don't have to wait to enroll their children—they can enroll them right now. Just contact Penquis at 973-3500 and ask for a preschool application for Newburgh, or stop by the center at the former Newburgh Elementary School.

Last year, there were two classes at the center. This year, there are three classes—two in the morning from 8:30

to 11:30 a.m., with breakfast served, and one in the afternoon class from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., with lunch served.

Limited bus service is available.

There is a bus that brings a couple of the children in the morning, and another bus that takes some of the children home in the afternoon, but no bus that transports preschoolers both ways.



Playground

(Continued from page 1)

planned for the playground include:

- Purchase of some outdoor painting easels and child-size gardening equipment.
- Construction of an outdoor stage in the playground area.
- Installation of an interactive fence featuring musical instruments and games.

Head Start Body Start is a collaboration between the American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation (AAPAR) and the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE). It is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

More than 110 attend NECC Fall Festival

More than 110 students and family members decorated pumpkins and enjoyed a variety of other activities at the Newburgh Early Childhood Center's Fall Festival, which was held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on October 25.

The center holds a meeting for families once a month. The Fall Festival was the meeting for October.

Rocky Ridge Farm in Corinth donated 34 pumpkins, one for each family that attended. In addition, a farmer from Alton donated hay, a parent donated corn stalks, and Hannaford in Bangor donated apple cider and other supplies.

Douglas Photography donated his time to take a portrait with a fall background for every family that wanted one.

The students presented a brief program, with Ms. Karen's two classes singing a song, Ms. Toby's class singing a song, and all three classes singing a song together.

Afterwards, stations were set up for painting pumpkins, making apple prints, and preparing apple salad using a rebus recipe.



Youngsters paint pumpkins at the NECC Fall Festival.

SAD 22 Garden Project adds greenhouse at Reeds Brook

(Continued from page 1)

cation program build four 18'x3' raised planting beds.

Twenty-five bags of organic potting soil donated by Schacht's Hardware in Hampden along with additional bags donated by the Home Depot were enough to fill one of the beds. About 275 more cubic feet of soil is needed to fill the remaining beds.

Fund-raising and applying for corporate grants is the current focus of the steering committee with the goal of having the classrooms start growing this winter. As the warmer weather comes, the focus will be on adding vents in the greenhouse, which is constructed of tubular framing covered by heavy duty poly greenhouse film. Without vents, the greenhouse would get too hot during daylight hours on a sunny day to grow plants.

Thom Ingraham, principal at Reeds Brook, says a number of teachers have expressed interest in participating in the greenhouse



The Garden Project greenhouse, located at the southwest corner of Reeds Brook Middle School.

project and using it for a variety of educational objectives. He said Gail Ociecka's Life Skills class has already started composting cafeteria waste, which will eventually wind up enriching the soil in the greenhouse planting beds.

Jennifer Bowman-McKay, 6th

grade language arts teachers, says she's "super excited" about the project.

"This is truly a partnership between the school and the community, and it's for a practical purpose," she says. "Ultimately, we'll grow something in a man-made structure and we'll eat it."

She says her students will not only be able to plant things and watch them grow, they will be able to do research on various topics and put that knowledge to work.

"To get them out of the classroom and into the greenhouse right outside the building is like a mini-field trip," Mrs. Bowman-McKay says. "It's hands-on experience for them. My class will be springing out of their seats, chomping at the bit—and not just to get their hands dirty (literally!) They'll want to read and write about it, because it's real."

"It's a dream come true—the kids start with planting a seed, and then research it, learn about it, plant it and watch it grow, write about it, and then eat it. You can't get better than that in terms of an educational experience."

To find out more about this exciting project and how to get involved or donate, visit the SAD 22 website at www.sad22.us and click on the MSAD 22 Apple Orchard Project Link.

SAD 22 ADULT EDUCATION

Almost 400 interactive courses available on-line through Adult Ed

The SAD 22 Adult Education Program is excited to offer nearly 400 interactive online courses to residents of Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport. A wide variety of professional development and personal enrichment courses are now available to register for. All classes are instructor-led, fit into convenient six-week formats and are affordably priced. Some general areas of study include: Accounting and Finance, Business, Computer Applications, Design and Composition, Health Care, Language and Arts, Personal Development, Teaching and Education, Technology and Writing/Publishing. To view a complete catalog of courses, visit our web page: <http://www.sad22.us/adulteducation>.

People who are interested in GED Preparation or who want free

one-on-one adult literacy or ESL tutoring should also contact our office for information on how we can help you receive these services. We can also help people earn an Adult Education High School diploma, through our partnership with RSU 26 Adult & Community Education. We will be offering academic courses in both Orono and Hampden this winter, and some courses can even be taken online now.

As always, we will again be offering a large number of personal enrichment courses and workshops this term to residents of Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport. We were very excited with the positive response we've had from many people concerning the programming that we offered during our fall session, and believe that we will continue to offer a variety of

courses and workshops that will appeal to many people this winter. Most of our winter courses will start in mid-January. Some enrichment courses being offered this winter include: Computer Applications, Cooking Courses, Digital Photography, Raising Backyard Chickens, Basic Grooming for Dogs, Maine Driving Dynamics, Penny Rug Wool Appliqué, Ukrainian Egg Dying, One Stroke Painting, Water Color Painting, Scenic Realism Painting, Oil Painting, Buying and Selling on eBay, Introduction to iWorks, Zumba, Skin Care, Early Bird Yoga, Aerobics and Hula Hooping for Fun. We are also going to be offering a selection of our popular "Mommy & Me" crafting workshops this winter.

Our partnership with the RSU 26 (Orono, Glenburn, Veazie)

Adult Education Program is allowing us to offer a wider variety of programming to residents of both educational communities. For example, many residents from the SAD 22 district have been able to take the popular CNA training program that we offer in Orono because of our relationship with RSU 26. The next CNA class will be starting in January and provides participants with the opportunity to earn a valuable certification and the opportunity to start a new and exciting career path. Many people have been contacting us with ideas for courses that they would either like to take or teach. We value your input and continue to want to hear from you. As always, you can contact the SAD 22 Adult Education office at 862-6422.

Foundation to Partner with District on Capital Campaign Project

At its September 8 board meeting, the Foundation unanimously supported a motion to join with MSAD #22 on a major fund-raising campaign for our schools, which will take place over the next several years.

A steering committee, composed of two board members from each organization and interested community members, will be setting the stage for the project in the coming months. Newburgh resident Bill Burke and Peter Witt, of Hampden, will represent the Foundation, and Martha Harris, of Winterport, and Liliane Deighan, of Newburgh, will serve on behalf of MSAD #22.

“Our Foundation is very excited about this project, which is a big undertaking for us and for our community,” said Foundation vice president Peter Witt. “Our first task is to establish how the two groups can work together collaboratively and successfully,” he added.

The concept of a capital campaign to fund both needed and desired items for our new high school and other District schools has been discussed among administrators and board members for many months.

“Fortunately, the Foundation is now ready to take the lead in this endeavor and partner with the District to enhance educational opportunities for all our teachers and students,” said Witt.

Interested community members are encouraged to contact the Foundation at 852-2138 or by email at info@msad22foundation.org.



MSAD #22 Education Foundation

Supporting Innovation in Teaching & Learning

Race Results: 2nd Annual Making Tracks for Teachers Fun Run & Walk

Bright blue skies, balmy temperatures in the '70s, and a Bronco named “Ed” marked the 2nd annual Making Tracks for Teachers 5-K Fun Run & Walk October 8. The event benefits the Education Foundation’s Mini Grants for Teachers Program, which aims to help pay for innovative classroom projects.

Colin Glencross of Bangor was the overall winner of the run, with a time of 18:53. Simone Withers of Hampden was the first female to cross the finish line with a time of 23:20.

Walkers Renee Drake of Winterport and Morgan Ramsay of Hampden were the first to complete the 1-mile walk around McGraw and Reeds Brook schools.

Here are Fun Run results. Colin Glencross 18:53; Nick Young 20:11; William Blunden 23:14; Simone Withers 23:20; Mikey Raye 23:58; Shawn Ramsay 23:59; Richard Glencross 24:07; Mike Raye 24:14; Tania Blunden 25:04; Mary Parsons



Mary Parsons and Tania Blunden head for the finish line. Photos by Adele Drake.



Colin Glencross finished first overall with a time of 18:53.



The Hampden Academy Bronco jokes with some young walkers.

25:05; Ed Nadeau 26:11; Dave Samuelian 26:21; Pam Wildman 26:25; Brandi Chase 26:25; Ian Chase 28:10; Sheryl Mayo 28:31; Vanessa McKay 29:02; Pam Trembley 29:12; Andy Raye 30:03; Greta Dube 30:40; Kristy Shields 30:48; Emma Ianni 30:56;

Melody Tracy 30:56; Jessica Tracy 31:08; Heidi Thomson 31:08; Dan Gott 31:35; Mary Dube 32:00; Terisa Ross 32:08; Andrea Bozzino 32:49; Bryiana Mooers 35:06; Jennifer Folsom 36:16; Isaac Anderson 36:48; Madison Mooers 37:46; Nicolle Philbrook 38:48.

Board Member Profile: Trish Nedorowski

Foundation Board secretary Trish Nedorowski is one of the organization’s longest serving board members, and served on the School Board as well. She is a native of Easton in Aroostook County, and remembers the thrill of a shopping expedition to Bangor after earning money picking potatoes. “I remember buying my first winter coat at the Airport Mall when I was 5 years

old, with \$23 of my own money.”

Trish and her husband would have stayed in Aroostook forever if Loring Air Force Base hadn’t closed. Her husband was transferred to North Carolina for a while, but then they decided to move back to Maine.

“I love Hampden. It feels like an Aroostook County town, like a home town, but it’s closer to all the conveniences of a city.”

Trish has been working with children for over 20 years. She now serves as Executive Director of Wings for Children and Families, facilitating a “team” approach to supporting children, including home, school, and community support.

The Foundation Board is very fortunate to have the benefits of Trish’s input and expertise. She has a passionate conviction to children and families; she is committed to facilitating collaborations;



Trish Nedorowski
Foundation Board secretary

and she hopes to help teachers help students by enriching the possibilities for experiential learning that extends beyond classroom walls.

Ed Foundation Announces Round of Mini Grants

For the first time, the Foundation is requesting proposals for its Mini Grants for Teachers Program, whose goals are to encourage innovative teaching, support new teaching practices, and engage students in collaborative learning. The Program is modeled after the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation’s grants program, a very successful project entering its 10th year.

Beginning December 1, application materials will be available to

SAD 22 teachers on the Foundation’s website and by contacting the Foundation office at 852-2138. The deadline for applications is January 31. Funds will be awarded in early March. Grants are available in amounts up to \$250, and half of the funds to be given out will be for arts and music projects.

For more information on the program, contact the Foundation office at info@msad22foundation.org or 852-2138.

Two Great Bands at the Gracie

On November 9, two terrific bands rocked the house at Husson University’s Gracie Theater, as part of the “Schoolhouse Blues,” a Foundation-sponsored fundraising concert.

Chicago-based band “Biscuit Miller and the Mix,” played over an hour of original music that had the audience swaying in their seats and dancing in the aisles. Biscuit’s smil-

ing stage presence was as irresistible as his music. For the second half of the evening’s performance, “Spiritual Rez” performed a uniquely creative mix of rock, reggae, and funk.

The Foundation is very grateful to the two bands for making the trip up to central Maine, and to the Gracie Theater for helping produce this event.

Making History Together ...



For the Best Future



This month, our Education Foundation launched its first ever **Annual Fund Drive**, and wants you to be part of it! We’re asking people to celebrate our District’s history of excellence and ensure it continues by giving a gift to the Foundation. Our overall fundraising goal this year is \$40,000.

Our Foundation is a non-profit organization separate from the District. Its goal is to build additional resources for our teachers, students and schools. Since it is a donor-supported, 501c3 organization, your contribution is fully tax-deductible.

Please consider giving to support our teachers and young people. You can donate using our online secure service at our Foundation’s website, www.msad22foundation.org, or mail a donation to MSAD #22 Education Foundation, PO Box 115, Hampden, ME 04444.

For information on gifts of securities, donations to support specific programs, or planned giving, please contact the Foundation office at 852-2138.

Holiday Gold for Your Teacher...

Let a special teacher know you appreciate him or her with a Gold Star Teacher Award.

For a gift of \$20 toward the Mini Grants for Teachers Fund, we will send a teacher of your choice a Gold Star Teacher Certificate from you and your family.

The Mini Grants for Teachers Program provides money to teachers for project that are out of reach, financially.

For more information, or to make a gift, visit the Ed Foundation’s website at www.msad22foundation.org.