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# Link-22

RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444 November 2013

## Enrollment at RSU 22 schools increases by 7.1%

Enrollment in RSU 22 schools rose to 2,302 students as of October 1, the highest total in more than a decade and an increase 153 students, or 7.1 percent, compared to October 1, 2012.

The increase includes 124 students from Frankfort, which became part of RSU 22 effective

July 1, and 27 tuition students, most of whom are attending Hampden Academy.

Sixty-one Frankfort students in grades PK-4 are attending Leroy H. Smith School in Winterport; 41 Frankfort students in grades 5-8 are attending Wagner Middle School in Winterport,

and 22 Frankfort students in grades 9-12 are attending Hampden Academy.

Enrollments increased at George B. Weatherbee School, Reeds Brook Middle School, Leroy H. Smith School, and Wagner Middle School, while

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## RSU 22 Board Chair Kelly Bickmore installed as President of Maine School Boards Association

Kelly Bickmore, chairperson of the RSU 22 Board of Directors for the past four years, is the new President of the Maine School Boards Association.

She was elected at the organization's annual meeting, which was held in conjunction with the Maine School Management Association fall conference October 25-26 at the Augusta Civic Center.

She is in her third year as an officer of the MSBA. She had previously served for a year as President-elect and as Vice President the year before that. Following her term as President, she will serve one more year as Immediate Past President.

Ms. Bickmore has represented Newburgh on the RSU 22 board for 13 years. Before becoming board chair, she served for two years as assistant chair.

"I love my work on the RSU 22 board," she says. "We've worked hard to foster leadership and innovation, and to make sure that as a district, we

move forward and do a really good job educating our students."

She says the work that the RSU 22 board has done over the years "gives me some credibility when I speak statewide, because we're doing such a exceptional job locally."

Ms. Bickmore says that her goal as MSBA President will be to protect and advocate for funding of public education. From a personal standpoint, she'd like to promote the

*(Please turn to page 11)*



Kelly Bickmore



Martha Harris with her WLBZ-TV "2 Those Who Care" award.

## Martha Harris receives WLBZ-TV's '2 Those Who Care' award

Longtime RSU 22 school board member Martha Harris has been honored by a Bangor television station for her volunteer activities in education.

Ms. Harris was one of five recipients of the WLBZ 2 Those Who Care awards for 2013, which recognize individuals "who demonstrate exceptional service to their community and who have been nominated by their peers."

*(Please turn to page 2)*

## HA to host VEX Robotics State Championship on Feb. 15

An effort by the Technology Education department to develop a robotics program at Hampden Academy appears to be making progress—enough progress, in fact, that it will host the VEX Robotics State Championship in the gym, dining commons, and multi-purpose room at Hampden Academy on February 15.

Last year, technology teachers Charlie Huff and Todd Moore worked for several weeks with a group of six students who met after school to build a robot, with a goal of developing interest in robotics and making a presentation to the

*(Please turn to page 5)*



Technology Education students with one of the VEX robots they created. Front: (l. to r.): Catherine Trojecki, Zack Conners, and Cade Seavey Back: Dan St. Louis, Jacob Beaulier, Levi Nash, Dylan Noyes, Nick Hashey, and Tyler Junkins.



**"GUYS AND DOLLS" AT HAMPDEN ACADEMY**—"Guys and Dolls," with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, became the first musical to be performed by Hampden Academy students at the new Performing Arts Center, with three performances on November 14, 15, and 16. Above, Nicely Nicely Johnson (played by Justin Hatch, center) gives testimony in a musical number, "Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat," after the "guys and dolls" have been brought to a prayer meeting. In addition to Justin, the cast included Ethan Casavant as Nathan Detroit, Mikayla Burridge as Miss Adelaide, Noah Gardner as Sky Masterson, Tien Misler as Sister Sarah Brown, Keenan Soule as Benny Southstreet, Erika Olver as Arvide Abernathy, Samuel Biddlecom as Harry the Horse, Nick Nadeau as Big Jule, Miles Martin as Rusty Charlie, Rosie Frost as Agatha, Sabrina Hatfield as Calvin, Reba Sands as Martha, Tristan Gardner as Lt. Brannigan, Rowan Shelly and others as the Crap Shooters, Courtney Hill as Angie the Ox, Keenan Soule as Joey Biltmore (voice), Megan Morin as General Matilda B. Cartwright, Rowan Shelly as a Waiter/Crap Shooter/Dancer, Mikayla Holmes as Master of Ceremonies, Julia Andrew as Allison (dancer), Courtney Hill as Ferguson (dancer), Bella Pressey as Vernon (dancer), and Sabrina Hatfield, Kristin Dunton, and Nicole Lester as Dancers. Sharon Zolper was the artistic director, Heidi Corliss was the music director, and Rob Kissinger was the technical director.



Superintendent’s message

Positive enrollment trends, new teacher contract, Board priorities

By Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 22

We are excited to report the increase in our student population of approximately 7.1% since last year at this time. The increase is associated with Frankfort joining our RSU, tuition students primarily at Hampden Academy, and new families coming to one of our four communities. The following chart compares October 1, 2012 to October 1, 2013.

School	Oct. 1, 2013 Enrollment	Oct. 1, 2012 Enrollment
McGraw Elementary School	318	346
Weatherbee Elementary School	372	341
Newburgh Early Child. Center	13	15
Smith Elementary School	326	254
Wagner Middle School	223	180
Reeds Brook Middle School	358	305
Hampden Academy	692	708
Totals	2302	2149

\* \* \*

The RSU 22 Board of Directors and the Tri-22 Teachers Association have a new two-year contract. The salary structure maintains the traditional scale and is supplemented by a merit component aligned with the annual evaluation. The base salary was increased by approximately \$1,350; adjustments were made for teachers not being able to move up an identified step, and adjustments for those at the top of the scale. Each teacher is eligible for a merit component based on the annual evaluation. Currently, the annual teacher evaluation system does not integrate student outcomes from standardized tests. However, LD 1858 (to be operational in FY 2016) will have a requirement for student outcomes to be a component of the teacher evaluation system.

\* \* \*

The RSU 22 Board of Directors held its annual retreat Sept. 17-18, facilitated by Connie Brown and Elaine Tomazewski of the Maine School Management Association. The retreat focused on existing goals and strat-

egies and the timelines associated with them. At this point, the administrative team is working to develop strategies to adhere to the goals, which are primarily centered on teaching and learning.

Specifically, we want to continue to advance student-centered, standards-based education in RSU 22. As a result, the policy committee is doing a lot of work to support the concept of student-centered, standards-based education, including looking at district mission statement and the mission statements of all of our schools.

Later this fall, we hope to have final details fleshed out with respect to objectives, strategies, and a timeline to bring our goals to fruition

\* \* \*

Six RSU 22 board members participated in the Penobscot River Educational Partnership’s retreat at Jeff’s Catering on September 21. The meeting, which was facilitated by former RSU 22 Board Chair Tim Pease, was based on the theme, “What’s My Job, Anyway?”

Mr. Pease focused on the respective roles and responsibilities of school board members and school administrations—with the Board responsible for policy development and the administration responsible for carrying out the policy that’s set by the Board. He also talked about how the roles are interwoven as the board and the administration support one another.

The full board had an opportunity to follow up with Mr. Pease at its regular meeting on November 20. Veazie School Committee members were invited as well.

\* \* \*

Six Board members and the two student representatives attended the annual meeting of the Maine School Management Association in Augusta on October 25-26. Board members participated in various workshop sessions. During that session, RSU 22 Board Chair Kelly Bickmore was installed as President of the Maine School Boards Association. Kelly will be in an extremely important position as she leads the state’s school boards association.

Enrollment at RSU 22 schools increases by 7.1%

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they declined slightly at Hampden Academy and Earl C. McGraw School.

The school-by-school enrollment totals as of October 1 were:

• Hampden Academy, 692 students, or 16 fewer than the October 2012 total of 708. The decline was much smaller than anticipated, according to Superintendent of Schools Rick Lyons.

“We anticipated losing 69 students compared to last year,” he said.

He noted that 195 students in the Class of 2012 graduated last June, while only 126 8th graders were scheduled to move up to HA from Reeds Brook and Wagner. Much of that anticipated deficit was erased

by the increased number of tuition students and the 22 students from Frankfort who enrolled at HA.

• Reeds Brook Middle School (grades 6-8), 358 students, an increase of 53, primarily due to move-ins.

“This was a surprise,” Mr. Lyons said.

• Wagner Middle School (grades 5-8), 223 students, an increase of 43, primarily due to the influx of Frankfort students.

• Leroy H. Smith School (grades PK-4, 326 students, an increase of 72. This increase was expected because of the influx of students from Frankfort.

• George B. Weatherbee School (grades PK, 3-5), 372 students, an

increase of 31 students. About half of was due to the addition of a second Pre-K class at the school.

• Earl C. McGraw School (grades K-2), 318 students, a decline of 28 compared to October 2012. This decline was expected due to a smaller than usual incoming kindergarten class.

Mr. Lyons noted that the enrollment trends appear to be positive for RSU 22, as the number of students from Frankfort and the number of tuition students at Hampden Academy are both likely to increase.

Frankfort has 124 students attending RSU 22 schools and about 50 students attending schools in RSU 20 (Searsport, Stockton

Springs, etc.). The number of Frankfort students enrolling in RSU 22 schools will gradually increase in the next three years as school-choice options expire.

Mr. Lyons also expects the number of tuition students to increase.

“Hampden Academy is only in its second year of accepting tuition students,” he said. “Three years down the road, we could have another 45 students if we continue to communicate with K-8 schools in the area.”

This year, HA has 13 tuition students from Holden (RSU 63), 6 from Eddington (RSU 63), 3 from Orrington, 2 from Dedham, and one each from Clifton (RSU 63), Alton (RSU 34), and Dixmont.

Martha Harris receives WLBZ-TV’s ‘2 Those Who Care’ award

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The winners received their awards during ceremonies October 3 at Gracie Theater on the Husson University Campus. They were also featured on a WLBZ-TV special at 8 p.m. on November 9.

The award recipients also received a \$500 check earmarked for their favorite charity. Ms. Harris’ check was donated to the RSU 22 Education Foundation.

Ms. Harris said she was “shocked” when RSU 22 Superintendent of Schools Rick Lyons told her she had been selected for the award.

“Rick and Kelly Bickmore [chairperson of the RSU 22 Board of Directors] nominated me for my work in education, and Steve Pound from the State Board of Education also wrote a letter of recommendation. I had no idea. They did it all behind my back.”

Ms. Harris said she’s been involved in education as long as she can

remember. “Even as a high school student, I was involved in education, tutoring other students,” she said. “When I came to Maine 36 years ago, it just seemed a logical thing to do.”

Ms. Harris said when she had children, she started doing play school and preschool recreation activities. Once her children started school, she got more and more involved, volunteering for half a day a week and becoming active in Partners in Education (PIE) in Winterport.

She was elected to the RSU 22 (then SAD 22) board 19 years ago, and she’s been re-elected every three years since.

In addition, she’s now in the third year of a five-year term on the State Board of Education. She was appointed by Gov. John Baldacci.

A native of Baltimore, MD, Ms. Harris was raised in Syracuse, NY, and attended Tufts University (then Jackson College for Women) in Medford, MA. She graduated from the Rutgers University School of Social Work with a Master’s degree in Social Work, and she was a social worker before she going to law school at Northeastern University. She is

currently a partner in the law firm of Paine, Lynch & Harris in Bangor.

Ms. Harris says her volunteer activities aren’t limited to education.

She’s on the board of OHI, an organization that helps children and adults with disabilities by offering counseling, residential living services, and foster care.

She is also a long-time supporter of Windover Art Center, an art camp in Newburgh with programs in theater, pottery, photography, and other subjects, primarily during the summer.

Ms. Harris has two sons who graduated from Hampden Academy in 2003 and 2005.

“They both got good educations,” she says. “I’m pretty passionate about public education.”

Both of her sons are involved in the arts. The older son graduated from Hampshire College in Amherst, MA, while the younger son graduated cum laude from George Washington University with a major in History, minor in Theater and Religion. He is an aspiring actor and voice-over actor.



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Richard A. Lyons, Superintendent of Schools

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

Maine Regional School Unit No. 22  
24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

207-862-3255

www.rsu22.us

# Mary Giard named ‘Curriculum Leader of the Year’

Mary Giard, Director of Curriculum for RSU 22 for the past six years, has been named 2013 Maine Curriculum Leader of the Year.

The award was presented at the fall conference of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Conference, which was held October 21 and 22 in Freeport.

She was nominated by RSU 22 Superintendent of Schools Rick Lyons, who kept the award a secret.

“It was a complete surprise to her,” he said. “She didn’t know she was receiving the award.”

Mr. Lyons said one of Ms. Giard’s most significant initiatives has focused on the initiation of student-

centered standard-based learning in RSU 22.

“She has been the central leader of this endeavor and has taken considerable initiative, time and energy to mobilize resources, build awareness, and train faculty members for this significant educational change,” he said.

In promoting student-centered, standards-based learning in RSU 22, Mr. Lyons said Ms. Giard has worked hand in glove with Mary Jane McCalmon to establish a community exploratory steering committee.

“This committee includes com-

munity members from the business and parental communities, faculty, administration and students,” he said. “This steering committee has focused on the introduction and discussion of standards-based proficiency-based learning pillars. Ms. Giard organized and facilitated three public forums last spring in the towns of our RSU to inform community of our move towards standards based learning.”

In addition, he said Ms. Giard has spent considerable energy coordinating standards-based learning trainings through Maine Cohort for Customized Learning partnership.



Mary Giard

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

## Curriculum Office Update

During the 2012-2013 year RSU 22 convened a steering committee comprised of teachers, adminis-

trators, school board members, business owners and community members. They led and facilitated

community fact gathering sessions. As a result of the feedback, RSU 22 has now published a vi-

sion to move us forward with our student centered proficiency based work.

## RSU 22 Student-Centered Proficiency-Based Vision

### RSU 22 Principles for Student Learning

- All students can learn
- Students learn at different paces
- Students learn in different ways
- Students are motivated in different ways
- Students demonstrate what they know in different ways
- Student learning happens anytime and anywhere

### RSU 22 Vision for all Learners

#### Academic Content (Know)

RSU 22 students engage in rigorous learning experiences that meet their educational needs by:

- embracing academic content that is rigorous, relevant, clearly defined and comprehensive
- demonstrating knowledge of academic content in a variety of ways

#### Learning Habits (Work Ethic)

All RSU 22 students continuously develop a strong work ethic to serve them for a lifetime of learning by:

- taking responsibility for their learning and actions
- producing work products in a timely manner
- taking pride in the products of their learning
- appreciating that mistakes are part of the learning process
- demonstrating respectful, honest and ethical behaviors

#### Collaboration (Engage)

All RSU 22 students develop collaboration skills that enable them to work well with others by:

- developing their skills for successful integration into a global community after graduation
- working together productively
- expanding their learning community beyond classroom walls
- communicating effectively through speaking, writing, and engaging in the visual and/or performing arts

#### Complex Reasoning (Think)

All RSU 22 students engage in learning experiences that promote reflective practices, such as:

- engaging in creative expression
- locating, analyzing, and evaluating information
- solving problems
- thinking critically
- embracing innovation
- creating solutions
- seeking and understanding multiple perspectives
- regarding challenges as opportunities

### Bringing the Vision to Life Rich and Rigorous Learning Experiences for RSU 22 Learners

All RSU 22 students and community members work collaboratively to:

- Provide a variety of learning experiences that support various ways students know, think, engage, and work
- Recognize and encourage opportunities and experiences that expand learning beyond classroom walls
- Develop the capacity of students to become lifelong learners

### Effective and Meaningful use of Technology by RSU 22 Learners

All RSU 22 students and community members develop the capacity to:

- Honor students’ technological skills
- Utilize technology in ways that enhance learning experiences
- Utilize technology to foster collaboration and communication
- Collaborate to develop digital citizenship (honesty, respects, integrity and safety)

### Positive and Supportive Relationships for all RSU 22 Learners

- All RSU 22 stakeholders are prepared to:
- Encourage parent partnerships to support student learning
  - Recognize students as individuals and learners
  - Develop partnerships between and amongst students, parents and educators

### Connection to the Larger Community for all RSU 22 Learners

- All RSU 22 stakeholders seek the opportunity to:
- Develop mutually beneficial partnerships and relationships with the community
  - Create mentoring/apprenticeship opportunities for students with the business community
  - Seek and utilize the community as a resource for learning opportunities
  - Engage students in opportunities designed to develop citizenship
  - Encourage moral, social, community, and global responsibility

## Title I Parent - School Compact for Leroy H. Smith School, 2013-2014

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 students.

### 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 students—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 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 to review, 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 their children what is 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 chil-

dren’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 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 consequences for their actions.
- get adequate rest.
  - be willing to try again—it’s OK to make mistakes.
  - share with parents what is happening at school.



5 storytellers to face off in Edythe Dyer Library’s Grand Slam event Dec. 3

The Edythe Dyer Library’s third annual Story Slam competition will conclude when five preliminary winners meet in the Grand Slam at 6:30 p.m. on December 3 at the library. The winners were Noah Gardner, Tien Misler, Katie Gardella, Paige Malkow, and Meredith Prescott. The first three Story Slam winners each received a \$250 check. The fourth Slam on Nov. 19 resulted in a tie between Paige and Meredith, so they split the \$250 prize. The Grand Slam winner will receive \$500. The Story Slam contest is funded

by a grant from Katahdin Trust Co. A story slam is an open mic event in which participants tell stories about a specific theme within a set time limit. The themes for the library’s 2013 Story Slams were:
 

- October 8, “Family Drama.”
- October 22, “Epic Fail.”
- November 5, “Middle School.”
- November 19, “First . . .”

 The theme for the Grand Slam on December 3 will be “Animal.” It was announced at the Nov. 19 Slam. Storytellers must be of high school age and either reside in an RSU 22



town or be a member of the Edythe Dyer Library in order to compete. Fifteen Hampden Academy students, including 10 freshmen, showed up for the first Story Slam, and the usual 10-contestant limit was waived. The freshmen, led by Noah, dominated the October 8th competition.

Spotlight on Service . . .
OUR SCHOOL

Writing tutors enjoy helping HA students

About 12 to 15 members of the Writeous Writers are currently available as tutors in the Writing Center (Room 208), and another 12 students are taking Jenn Guare’s Advanced Writing Seminar course, which will train them to be writing tutors during the second semester. Any student in any subject who has a writing assignment that he or she would like to talk about is welcome in the Writing Center. Most often, students seek help with essays for their English classes, but they also seek help in preparing history papers, lab reports, statistics assignments, etc.



WRITEOUS WRITERS—From left: Dana Hsiao, Kristi Reichel, Lizzy Loxterkamp, Laura Fairman, and Olivia Plowman are among volunteer tutors who are available in the Writing Center to help students with their writing assignments.

Writing Center volunteers have many reasons for becoming tutors, but mostly they enjoy helping their fellow students. “I really enjoy being a writing tutor because I get to help people improve,” says Olivia Plowman. “Plus it’s neat to hear about all the ideas people have!”

OUR REGION
Key Club partnering with United Way, BBBS

The Hampden Academy Key Club is taking its role as a service organization to a new level this year. In addition to the projects it has traditionally performed in the school and around the community, it is forming a community service partnership with the United Way of Eastern Maine. As a result of the partnership, Key Club is leading an effort to collect board games and other games for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine. Sarita Field of the United Way and Matt Donahue from Big Brothers, Big Sisters made a presentation at an academic assembly at Hampden Academy on November 15 to kick off the board game project. Key Club advisor Debbie Daigle said bins for games and toys were placed in the cafeteria until Dec. 1, so that

freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes could compete to see who can bring in the most items. The class that brings in the most games will win \$200 for their class. Items being sought include:
 

- Board games—Apples to Apples, Battleship, Candy Land, Guess Who, Life, Sorry, and others, as well as checkers and chess sets.
- Card games—Skip-Bo and Uno, etc., as well as playing cards.
- Sports equipment—nerf footballs, balls for Four Square, Frisbees, jump ropes, soccer balls, etc.
- Arts and Crafts—child-safe scissors, colored pencils, construction paper, crayons, foam shapes, markers, paint/glitter, Play Doh, etc.
- Miscellaneous—antibacterial wipes, baking products, disposable cameras, Lego sets, sidewalk chalk.

OUR WORLD
Jeanette Evans’ goal: to build a ‘bottle school’

Jeanette Evans, secretary at Hampden Academy, has a goal of building a “bottle school”—a school constructed of plastic soft drink and water bottles filled with inorganic trash—in Guatemala. Two years ago, she started a group consisting of students, teachers and community members, and they raised about \$8,000 their first year. Mrs. Evans and her son, Hampden Academy graduate Ethan Evans, spent a week in Guatemala helping “Hug It Forward,” an organization that has built 29 bottle schools at an average cost of \$6,500 per classroom. Last summer, Mrs. Evans and Ethan made another trip to Guatemala and also donated \$1,700 that the group raised to Hug It Forward. They focused

on getting more people to go and wound up leading a group of 13, including three Hampden Academy teachers (Emily Albee, Ambrosia Bertenshaw, and Jennifer Guare), a former teacher (Ellen Pariser), and a student, Elise Arsenault, who raised all of the money to go on the trip herself, mostly by painting canvas sneakers. This year, the group would like to put it all together. Their goal is raise \$16,000—enough to build a two-room bottle school with money to spare—and take 20 people with them. Mrs. Evans notes that between students and staff, there are close to 800 people at HA, and if everyone raised or donated just \$20 each, the total would be \$16,000. She feels that the key



French Club and Spanish Club members talk about keeping the Hampden Neighborhood Food Cupboard supplied.

OUR COMMUNITIES
Spanish, French clubs support food cupboard

The Spanish Club and French Club at Hampden Academy are joining together to create a year-long project to keep the Hampden Neighborhood Food Cupboard supplied with food. “We used to do one food drive around Thanksgiving, but we talked with the food cupboard and learned that they struggle at other times of the year,” said Mackenzie Winchester, a junior who belongs to the Spanish Club. “There are times when their counters are empty. We’re going to try to do this year-round and give them an inventory.” The initial food drive was a competition between the freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, and the faculty at Hampden Academy. The faculty won, hands down. The initial donation was pre-

sented to the food cupboard at the Hampden-Messalonskee football game on October 18. For the following week, the emphasis on donations shifted to personal care products. “We’re hoping the competitions continue,” says Kerry Quigley, a junior and member of the French Club. “We’re really trying to help people—and trying to get students actively involved. Over 20 families a week get food from the food cupboard.”

NHS offering to do chores for elderly

Stacking wood, raking leaves, shoveling snow, breaking ice. Those are a few of the chores National Honor Society members at Hampden Academy would like to do for elderly residents or others in the community who need assistance. NHS members Erin Jeter and Jake Maltz told Link-22 that the group is offering its services for people who need help preparing for or getting through the winter. They said that NHS is also interested in hearing from people who have other ideas for community service projects that NHS members might perform. People who need help or who have other community service



NHS members Erin Jeter and Jake Maltz.

suggestions should contact the NHS advisor, Danielle Johnson at Hampden Academy, 862-3791, or by email at [djohnson@rsu22.us](mailto:djohnson@rsu22.us).

to reaching this goal will be to get the students involved much more than in the past years. The group has kicked off its fundraising efforts with a bake sale during the Drama Club’s production of “Guys and Dolls,” which raised \$828 over three nights. Last year, the Reeds Brook Student Council donated money, and she says some of the elementary schools have expressed interest in the project for this year. The “bottle school” trip is scheduled for June 26 through July 2. Anyone interested in going on the trip can contact Mrs. Evans at [jeanette.evans50@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanette.evans50@yahoo.com). For more information, you can link to Mrs. Evans’ Facebook page, “ASchool4Me,” or go to [www.hugitforward.org](http://www.hugitforward.org).



## Samantha McGarrigle earns Girl Scout Gold Award with Reeds Brook train signs

Communing with nature has helped a 2013 Hampden Academy graduate earn her Girl Scout Gold Award.

Samantha McGarrigle, 18, of Hampden, has installed a series of signs along the nature trail behind Reeds Brook Middle School, informing visitors about what lives in the wetlands and vernal pools located along the trail.

Samantha chose to do this project because “people simply don’t know what was around them. My signs will help people to learn that there are many things around them in the woods.”

Samantha, now a freshman and honors student at Unity College majoring in wildlife biology and minoring in zoology, invested nearly 115 hours into the project, which included researching the topic and designing, building and installing the signs.

She received help on the project from RSU Assistant Superintendent Emil Genest, Reed Brooks teacher Lori Matthews, her HA Envirothon



*Samantha McGarrigle with one of her signs..*

advisor Amy Sidell, fellow members of the Envirothon team, and her parents, Dale and Darleen McGarrigle.

Unfortunately, Samantha’s signs were recently pushed over or vandalized, but her father says repairs are underway.

A Facebook page has been set up for the project. Samantha plans to maintain the signs, with help from future Envirothon teams and the general public.

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/Reeds-BrookSigns>.

## Susan Abraham Swimathon

The Hampden Academy Swim Team is proud to announce the 7th annual Susan Abraham Swimathon on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at the Lura Hoit Pool at 2:45 p.m.. In our swimathon, competitors see how many lengths of the pool they can swim in 20 minutes. Our student athletes ask for pledges of monetary support, either a per length amount or a flat rate. Funds raised through the swimathon are equally distributed to three ongoing causes:

- To provide swim lessons at the Lura Hoit Pool for children in RSU 22 who could otherwise not af-

ford them. These funds are granted through the Susan G. Abraham Endowed Scholarship Fund

- To benefit the Susan Abraham Senior Swimmer Scholarship. This scholarship is annually awarded to two graduating seniors who have swum for Hampden Academy for at least two years and have shown outstanding dedication to the team.

- To benefit the Hampden Academy Swim Team.

For more information, or if you’d like to swim in the swimathon, see Mr. Manhart in Room #211 ([smanhart@rsu22.us](mailto:smanhart@rsu22.us)).

## HA to host robotics championship Feb. 15

(Continued from page 1)  
RSU 22 Board of Directors.

Mr. Huff, Mr. Moore, and two students also attended a robotics competition at Cape Elizabeth High School last spring, where they established a connection with the Robotics Institute of Maine, a group that is dedicated to supporting robotics in Maine and helping new teams get started.

As a result of that meeting and conversations over the summer, the Robotics Institute provided Hampden Academy with two full VEX competition kits to allow Mr. Huff and Mr. Moore to form two robotics teams. In addition, the institute has provided, on loan, a full 12’x12’ playing field, which will allow the teams to practice. The field is also being made available as a practice field to teams from UTC and John Bapst.

Mr. Huff and Mr. Moore are currently working with a group of students on Mondays and Wednesdays after school to design and build two robots to compete in VEX competitions this year. The first competition will be held December 14 at the Augusta Civic Center, and the second will be at Erskine Academy on January 18.

The final state competition will be the state championships at HA on February 15. Two winners at

the state competition will qualify to compete at the VEX world championships at Anaheim, CA.

In addition to the donated kits for competition, Mr. Huff and Mr. Moore are currently working on purchasing kits for the Technology Education II classes and an Applied Physics class, in order to get those students involved. Some of the students in those classes are involved in the competition teams as well but the goal is to reach more students with robotics, as it teaches many skills other than just building a robot.

Mr. Huff and Mr. Moore point out that robotics involves many lessons in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). In addition to Tech Ed II and Applied Physics, they would like to purchase introductory kits from VEX for the Technology Education I classes to provide introductory lessons in robotics.

“This is proving to be a very exciting year for our Technology Education Curriculum,” says Mr. Huff. “By the end of the year we should have a very strong robotics program that Hampden Academy will be proud of.”

For more information about the VEX robotics competition, you can watch a video on *YouTube* at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3euUzfn0TwI>.

## NEW STAFF AT HAMPDEN ACADEMY

### Alisa Wing, School Psychologist

Alisa Wing has joined the staff of RSU 22 as the district’s school psychologist.

She was previously a school psychologist at a middle school and high school in Newport, NH, for three years.

Ms. Wing was born in Warsaw, NY, a small town in western New York. Her father was in the U.S. Coast Guard, so she attended schools in Key West and Cape Canaveral, FL, Cape Cod, Niagara Falls, and Rockland, ME, where she graduated from high school.

She graduated from the University of Maine in 2007 and received her Master’s degree in School Psychology at Alfred University in western New York.

Ms. Wing lives in Levant with her husband Dustin and 2½-year-old daughter Isabella. She enjoys playing poker and watching sports. She says she has no favorite team, but likes the St. Louis Cardinals in baseball, the Buffalo Bills and New York Giants in football, and the Buffalo Sabres in hockey.



*Alisa Wing*

### Derek Smith, Health

Derek Smith has joined the staff at Hampden Academy, where he teaches 10th grade health and senior-level anatomy and physiology. Previously, Mr. Smith taught at Lakeview Middle School in Rossville, GA, a town on the Georgia-Tennessee state line.

A native of Belfast, ME, he graduated from Belfast Area High School in 1995 and attended Lee University in Cleveland, TN. After graduating from Lee, he remained in the North Georgia-Tennessee area.

Mr. Smith said he decided to move back to Maine because all of his close relatives are here—his parents live in Belfast, his brother is a police officer in Belfast, and his sister and brother-in-law are state troopers in Jonesboro.

Mr. Smith is single and lives in Belfast. He enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, and other outdoor activities. He also enjoys handyman work—building things, working fence posts, and baling hay, etc.



*Derek Smith*

### Rob Spreng, Math

Rob Spreng, who taught math at Nokomis Regional High in Newport for the last six years, is now teaching math at Hampden Academy.

A native of Bangor, Mr. Spreng graduated from Bangor High School and the University of Maine.

After working as an engineer in the semiconductor industry in Florida and Massachusetts for 10 years, he returned to Maine and worked as an educational technician at Hampden Academy for a year.

Mr. Spreng lives in Bangor with his wife and two children, a son, 9, and a daughter, 4. He coaches baseball in the spring, and he enjoys playing golf and spending time with his family.



*Rob Spreng*

### Steve Earl, Life Skills

Steve Earl has joined the staff at Hampden Academy as an educational technician in Life Skills.

Previously, he was a substitute teacher and tutor at Reeds Brook Middle School and Hampden Academy.

He has a Master’s degree plus 30 credits and has taught science at different universities in the Bangor area.

Mr. Earl is originally from the

### Jackie McKenney, French

Jackie McKenney, who taught beginning French at Reeds Brook and Wagner last year, is now teaching French I and French II at Hampden Academy.

A native of Presque Isle, she moved to the Bangor area while she was in elementary school. She graduated from Mount View High School in Unity and the University of Maine. She also has a Master’s degree in Education from UMaine and spent a semester abroad on Réunion Island, an overseas department of France located in the Indian Ocean.

She started the French program at Husson University in Bangor and taught there for two semesters, before moving to New York, where she was a stay-at-home mother for six years. She now lives in Winterport.

When she returned to Maine in 2006, Ms. McKenney was hired to teach beginner French at Wagner Middle School, which she later supplemented by working as an educational technician. Last year, she taught beginner French half time at both Wagner and Reeds Brook Middle School. She was also the cross country coach at Wagner for two years.

She loves outdoor sports, gardening, home improvement projects, cooking, the martial arts (she is a second degree black belt and continues to train in New York) and traveling. This year, she was able to take two trips—one to Iceland for fun (northern lights, ice climbing, glacier hiking, and snorkeling in a glacier-fed fissure) and the other for a 2½-week volunteer stay on a horse farm in France.



*Jackie McKenney*

### Diane McClellan, Art

Diane McClellan, an artist who studied glass in Rhode Island and New York, is the new art teacher at Hampden Academy.

Ms. McClellan moved to Maine four years ago and spent the last three years as director of religious education for the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor.

Previously, she taught service learning and art at South Valley Academy, a charter school in the South Valley area of Albuquerque, NM.

Ms. McClellan grew up in Wayland, MA, outside of Boston and studied at the Rhode Island School of Design for two years. She traveled cross country and wound up at the University of New Mexico for a year. She wanted to go back to working with glass, so she enrolled in the New York State College of Ceramics in Alfred, NY, and then moved back to New Mexico.

Ms. McClellan and her husband Frank live in Orono with their son Kyle, 9, and daughter Ayla, 6.

Ms. McClellan says she’s tried a lot of different media. “What really interests me are materials and conveying ideas with materials,” she says. She has an ongoing project that she started in the glass shop, taking hot glass and burning wood with it. She has also started doing encaustic painting, a process that used heated beeswax to which different pigments have been added.



*Diane McClellan*

western U.S., having lived in California, Oregon, Colorado, and Wyoming. He says he moved to Maine 22 years ago “to be warmer.”

He lives in Veazie with his wife Marjorie, who teaches at Reeds Brook. They have a son and a daughter.

Mr. Earl enjoys camping, hunting, and fishing, and he says he would be happy to teach anyone how to pan for gold.



# NEW STAFF AT REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Marcey McIntyre, Special Ed

Marcey McIntyre, who worked as a temporary educational technician at Wagner Middle School last year, is not a permanent educational technician at Reeds Brook Middle School.

She is working 1-on-1 with the same student she worked with last year.

Previously, she worked as a substitute teacher in the Life Skills program at Reeds Brook for almost a year and as a family support worker at Penquis for a year.

A native of the Old Town area, Mrs. McIntyre graduated from Old Town High School and received her Associate's degree in Mental Health and Human Services from the University of Maine at Augusta's Bangor campus. After several years as a stay-at-home mom, she returned to UMA to get her Bachelor's degree.

She and her husband Jason live in Hampden. They have two sons, Brendan, a sophomore at Hampden Academy, and Ian, an 8th grader at Reeds Brook.

She says the only leisure activity she has time for is "watching my kids' sporting events."



Marcey McIntyre

## Andrea Sprague, Librarian, Weatherbee, Reeds Brook

Andrea Sprague has joined the staff of RSU 22 as the librarian for the George B. Weatherbee School and Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden.

Mrs. Sprague comes to RSU 22 from Bangor High School, where she spent the last five years as an educational technician, including four years in the library and one year in the resource room.

She has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and is in the process of completing her Masters degree in Library Science through the University of South Carolina.

A native of Des Moines, IA, Mrs. Sprague came to Maine because her husband, who was in the Coast Guard, had friends in Calais who urged him to come to Maine when he retired. Calais was too far out of the way for Mrs. Sprague, so they compromised and settled in Bangor.

The Spragues have two children, ages 21 and 22. Mrs. Sprague's hobby is medieval reenactment, which gives her opportunities to have fun with archery, embroidery, and medieval cooking.



Andrea Sprague



REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Reeds Brook: the 'Best First Day Ever'

Reeds Brook Middle School students enjoyed their Best First Day Ever, thanks to the efforts of an informal committee of teachers led by 8th grade social studies teacher David Haggan.

The idea was to kick off the school year with a first day filled with fun activities for students that emphasize citizenship and Reeds Brook's core values of honesty, responsibility, compassion and respect.

The group solicited local businesses to raise funds for a magician and to print tie-dyed t-shirts with the Reeds Brook Rebel shield and the motto, "You Can't Hide Rebel Pride."

The magician kicked off the Best First Day Ever, performing magic tricks which were tied into stories related to the core values of honesty, responsibility, compassion and respect.

Then, the students were divided into smaller groups for a series of workshops on the core values led by teams of two teachers each. Following the workshops, the students went outside for a field day and barbecue, with grade-appropriate games, such as tug-of-war. After about 45 minutes, the students came back inside for a program that included motivational videos and performances by the band, choir, and show choir.

Finally, at the end of the day, Chris Beckwith dressed up as a 1970s game show host—complete with a wig and moustache—calling himself Alex Trebeckwith. Mr. Beckwith asked questions about how students should apply the core values to specific situations. Students who gave good answers were given "You Can't Hide Rebel Pride" t-shirts, Mrs. Moody playing Vanna White and distributing the prizes.

Mr. Haggan said enough money was raised so that all teachers could get a t-shirt, and the remaining 75 t-shirts were given to students as prizes.

He said the goal was to raise addi-



Reeds Brook students enjoy "The Best First Day Ever."

tional funds, possibly by raffling off a Kindle Fire, so that all 400 Reeds Brook students can have a "You Can't Hide Rebel Pride" t-shirt.

Mr. Haggan said the Best First Day Ever was the kick-off event for the school year. From there, he's hoping that there will be more assemblies and workshops throughout the year, possibly including a return visit by two NFL players with Maine ties—Matt Mulligan of West Enfield and the New England Patriots, and Mike DeVito of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Thanks to the following donors: Schacts True Value, Pizza Gourmet, H. O. Bouchard, Dysarts, Crawford's Import Auto, Bacon Auto Parts, Hampden Floral, Hampden Hardware, Scissor Excitement, Snowman Printing, Darlings, and Patrick Perry and Sharry Woodside, who gave 30 lbs. of lobsters.

## Behavioral Resource Room moves to Reeds Brook

Richard Dudley's Behavioral Resource Room Program has moved to Reeds Brook Middle School to help centralize the program within the district. The program has existed within the district for fourteen years, but had previously been housed at Wagner Middle School in Winterport, Maine. "I love challenges and feel that change is a good thing!" Rich shares, adding, "The students on my caseload will all be together at Hampden Academy. It's great if the students from Frankfort and Winterport can get together sooner with one another in Hampden."

Jocelyn Stilwell and Charles Stambach, both Educational Technician III's, work hard supporting all students within Mr. Dudley's classroom and the mainstream.

"I couldn't have the program transition so seamlessly without them," Mr. Dudley says. "These two individuals work extremely hard to offer consis-



Richard Dudley



Jocelyn Stilwell



Charles Stambach

tency, support, and structure every academic day to the students they assist."

Mr. Dudley is a firm believer in pride within school, whether it's Wagner or Rebel Pride. He enjoys working with students with emotional/social or behavioral disabilities. He delivers reading, writing and math instruction to the students on his caseload, and also supports students with organizational and/or emotional regulation challenges. He is a firm believer that young adults require movement breaks to self-regulate. He coaches students to be good citizens.

"There is nothing more fulfilling than helping students realize their full potential," he says.



**COLOR ME FUN RUN**—The Reeds Brook Middle School cross country team joined with the Veazie Community School cross country team for a special running event on September 24 at Reeds Brook. The idea was to celebrate running and healthy exercise without the pressure of a competitive run. The students wore sunglasses and white t-shirts and ran a 2-mile course. At three stations on the course, a group of volunteer teachers, assisted by other adults and students, threw handfuls of colored powder (a mixture of cornstarch and dry tempera paint, which is considered safe) at the runners. By the time the cross-country runners reached the finish line, they had a lot of paint on their shirts, faces, and hair. Afterwards, the runners gathered on the softball field to throw powder at each other. Cross country coach Rob Burke said idea for the race came from Reeds Brook athletic director Lori Matthews. He said similar "color me" races have been held as part of a national movement to promote running and healthy exercise. Mr. Burke said the school is planning another "color me fun" run next spring, which would be open to the entire school as a fund-raiser.

## David Haggan receives

David Haggan, 8th grade social studies teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School, received \$1,000 worth of school supplies from Office Max, as part of the office supply company's A Day Made Better award program.

The award symbolizes Office Max's estimate that teachers spend an average of \$1,000 a year of their personal funds on supplies for their classrooms.

For 2013, Office Max selected 530 teachers nationwide, including Mr. Haggan and three other teachers from Maine, for the awards.

Mr. Haggan was nominated by Regan Nickels, principal at Reeds Brook. The award included an office chair, a Kindle Fire, a camera, a labeling machine, and large quantities of pens, pencils, erasers, paper clips, and other supplies.

Mr. Haggan said the award came as a complete surprise.

"In my mind, every teacher on the staff works just as hard as everyone else," he said. "It felt a little awkward being singled out, but but it was fun. I got a standing ovation from all the kids."

He said the award far exceeds his own needs, so he's been sharing the supplies with other teachers. He's given some of them to his students, and he lets other teachers pick out what they need.





Civil Rights teams at Wagner.

## 2 Civil Rights teams at Wagner this year

Jennifer Huerth has joined Cindy Moran as an advisor to the Civil Rights Team at Wagner Middle School, and they’ve found a lot of enthusiasm for the project this year. In fact, so many students have

expressed interest that there are two Civil Rights teams, one for grades 5-6 and one for grades 7-8. Members of both teams attended an all-day training session at Brewer High School on November 4 to learn about bias and civil rights. The training was provided by the Civil Rights Team project of the State Attorney General’s office. Ms. Huerth, who serves as guidance director and half-time gifted and talented teacher at Wagner, said the Civil Rights Team members are in the process of developing plans for the coming year. “It’s their team,” she says. “They will come up with a series of events that they want to sponsor and organize to get students talking about such things as uniqueness, and how it’s OK to be who you are. The students have some really great ideas this year, and I think it’s going to be an exciting group.”

## Thanks to 3 Winterport residents for donations

Wagner Middle School would like to thank three Winterport residents who donated school supplies for use by staff and students during the 2013-2014 school year. The donors were Jeannie Deighan, Kim Deighan, and Tim Bennett, all from Winterport. The donation included quantities of paper, glue, markers, pencils, notpads, folders, pens, pencil boxes. Some of the donated materials used by students and some by staff, and some was given to new students as a welcoming gifts

## \$1,000 in school supplies from Office Max



David Haggan (center) receives the “A Day Made Better” award from the Office Max team.

Mr. Haggan doesn’t need a Kindle Fire, since he already has a Macbook Air and an iPad. As a result, he’s planning to raffle off the Kindle to raise money so that all Reeds Brook students can receive a “You Can’t Hide Rebel Pride” t-shirt. The citation that accompanied the award stated: “Over the past few years, and just recently for our first day of school this year, Mr. Haggan has repeatedly dedicated himself to organizing, coordinating and activating school-wide functions and celebrations that encompass a learning goal with community outreach and education. For instance, Veterans have been honored, not through an assembly but through a day-long coordinated event designed to involve the entire student body, the faculty

and more. He even coordinated the event to include our high school. Moving on from that to his most recent endeavor, Mr. Haggan coordinated The Best First Day Ever return to school event for all students. He worked tirelessly through the summer on his time and of his own volition to organize a motivational speaker and magician, to schedule faculty speakers, focus heavily on the school core values of Responsibility, Respect, Compassion and Honesty. He even organized a raffle during the summer to secure funds to launch the event. In summation, Mr. Haggan personifies the sentiment of “going above and beyond.” He genuinely values students’ connections with their school and community and considers it his charge to build this connection.”

## Student teacher brings guests to Wagner

Joseph Novak, a University of Maine student from Holden, has a lot of interesting friends, and five of them have visited Tamara Cardello’s 7th grade class at Wagner Middle School where he been student teaching this fall. The visitors have included

- Sylvester Guzman, a Mixtec Indian from Mexico who started working at age 12, came to U.S. (in the logging industry), got a job at UMaine, and is now studying for his master’s degree in history.
- A UMaine student from Nepal who visited with the class via Skype. The Nepalese student is working towards his chemical engineering degree at UMaine.
- Tiambo Ngunte of the Camer-



Joseph Novak

oon, Africa, who is studying biology at UMaine and hopes to become medical doctor.

- Lee Chao Hu, a Chinese student who has been in the U.S. for 10 years and is now studying accounting at UMaine.
- Gkisedtanamoogk, a native Wampanoag from Mashpee, Cape Cod, who is an adjunct instructor with the UMaine Native American Studies program who taught a course Mr. Novak took on Multicultural Societies

Mr. Novak met the first four when he worked with them at the cafeteria on campus. “I scrubbed pots in the cafeteria for two years,” he says. “The great thing about it is that it’s a place where the university is able to help a lot of students who need jobs. It’s a real melting pot.”

Mr. Novak is scheduled to graduate from UMaine in December, but he’s planning to pursue a Master’s degree in Special Education.

## NEW STAFF AT WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Amanda Pullen, 7th grade

Amanda Pullen has joined the staff at Wagner Middle School, where she teaches 7th grade math and social studies. She also served as varsity field hockey coach at Hampden Academy. Ms. Pullen comes to RSU 22 from Searsport District Middle School, where she taught 6th grade math for the past six years. A native of Dexter, she graduated from Dexter Regional High School. She attended Colby College for a semester and then transferred to the University of Maine at Farmington, where she played field hockey and graduated summa cum laude in 2007 with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education. She is currently working towards a Certificate in Math Leadership in the graduate program at UMF. Ms. Pullen lives in Frankfort and enjoys reading, coaching, staying active, and being outside.



Amanda Pullen

### Aimee Light, Speech and Language Pathologist

Aimee Light has joined the staff at Wagner Middle School as a speech language pathologist. Mrs. Light had previously served as a speech language pathologist in the Scarborough, ME, school system, working with students in grades K-2. Prior to that, she spent four years in the Boston area, including two years as a graduate student getting her Master’s degree in Speech Language Pathology from the MGH Institute of Health Professions, and two years working in the Artlington, MA, school system. A native of West Enfield, Mrs. Light graduated from Penobscot Valley High School in Howland. She received her B.S. degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Maine. She and her husband Joe live in Searsport. They have an 18-month-old son, Judah. Mrs. Light likes to play with her son, run, hike, and read.



Aimee Light

### Chris Gould, 6th grade

Chris Gould, who served as head custodian at Reeds Brook Middle School for six years, is now teaching 6th grade at Wagner Middle School. While he was working full-time at Reeds Brook, Mr. Gould was also a full-time student at the University of Maine and a squad leader in the Maine Army National Guard with two overseas deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. He received his B.S. degree in Elementary Education from UMaine last May. A graduate of Hermon High School, he had worked as a custodian for six years prior to accepting the job at Reeds Brook. Mr. Gould lives in Hampden with his wife, Jackia-Dion. They have four sons, Christopher-Colby, 11; Matthew, 8; Tylor, 6; and Noah, 1. He enjoys playing sports, camping, being busy, and spending time with his family.



Chris Gould

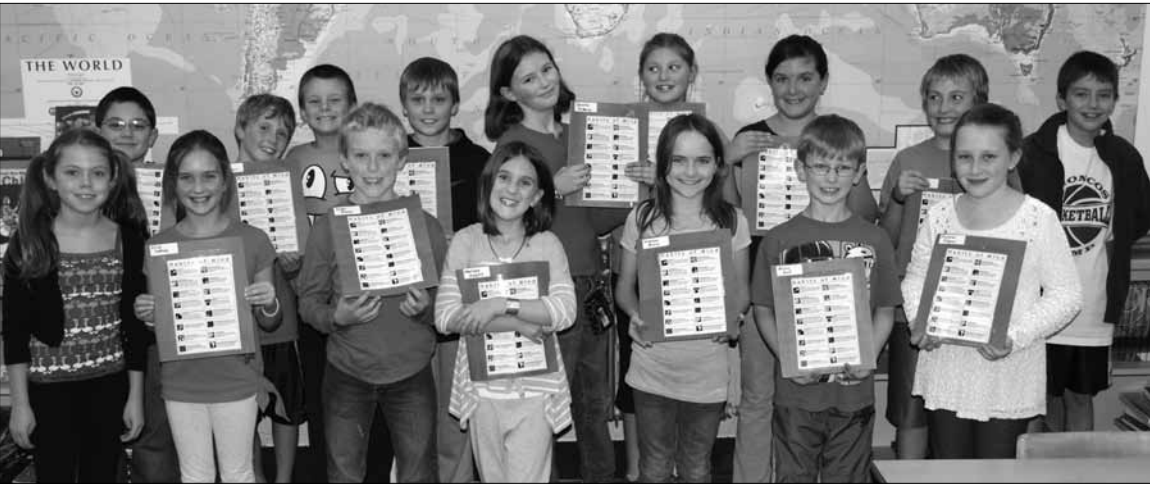
### Ann Reid, Librarian, Smith and Wagner

Anne Reid who was the Librarian at Leroy H. Smith School and George B. Weatherbee School last year, is now the Librarian for Smith School and Wagner Middle School. Mrs. Reid received her Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons College. She has a B.A. degree from Wesleyan University. She lives in Belfast with husband and 4-year-old daughter. She and her husband moved from Boston to Maine in the summer of 2011. A native of Skowhegan, she says she’s happy to be back in Maine. Last year, RSU 22 had one librarian serving the two middle schools, and one librarian serving Smith and Weatherbee Schools. This year, the district has one librarian serving grades K-8 in Winterport, and one librarian serving grades 3-8 in Hampden.



Ann Reid





Weatherbee Student Council members.

## Weatherbee Student Council members promote habits of mind needed for success

This year the Student Council at George B. Weatherbee School has identified what kind of habits they want and need to be successful in school and in life. Principal Christine Boone, who is the Student Council sponsor, said the group began the year with a discussion about the roles and responsibilities of Student Council members at Weatherbee.

“The students shared ways that the Student Council has historically made our school a better place, and our goals this year evolved from that,” said Ms. Boone.

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders voted that “persistence” was the first habit that they want to instill in classmates. The students met after school and reviewed eight possible habits that they might like to promote. Of those eight, the members voted to first focus on persistence.

“We chose it because we wanted to keep people trying to get better and better,” said 5th grader Madison Burns. Student Council members talked about Olympic athletes and other historical figures who have had to persist in order to be successful. Conversation

*(Please turn to page 11)*

## NEW STAFF AT GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

### Christine Boone, Principal

A twenty-year veteran in education, Christine Greenlaw Boone is the new principal of the George B. Weatherbee School.

She was formerly principal of Frankfort Elementary School and Gifted and Talented Coordinator in RSU 20.

After graduating from the University of Maine at Orono with a B.S. in Elementary Education, Ms. Boone began her career as an educator teaching middle school in the Clark County School District, in Las Vegas, NV. She obtained her masters degree in Educational Leadership at the University of Nevada Las Vegas where she started her administrative career.

Upon returning to Maine, she served as an assistant principal at Miller School in Waldoboro, principal in Stockton Springs and Frankfort, and Gifted and Talented Coordinator for the former MSAD 56 and then RSU 20.

As a principal, she utilized the Professional Learning Community model to implement standards-based instruction, create volunteer-based school enrichment programs, and increase student achievement. As a GT coordinator, she supported classroom teachers in recognizing that giftedness is a special need and providing the tools and resources to meet those needs.

Ms. Boone has also served as a clinical field supervisor for student teachers at Husson University, and she currently teaches for the New England Institute for Teacher Education in partnership with Endicott College.

She looks forward to serving the community of Hampden as the Weatherbee principal and continuing the well-defined best practice that is alive and well at Weatherbee school.

Even before school started in September, Ms. Boone said she was impressed with the work ethic of the Weatherbee teachers.

“Through my initial transition interviews with parental stakeholders, I learned that parents take pride in their teachers for this reason,” she said. “I look forward to being the lead learner of such a driven team.”



Christine Boone

### Morgan Hart, 4th Grade

Morgan Hart has joined the staff of the George B. Weatherbee School as a 4th grade teacher.

Mrs. Hart comes to Weatherbee from Brewer Community School, where she was teaching 7th grade. She taught for seven years in Brewer, including six years of 7th grade and one year of 5th grade.

Before Brewer, she taught at the Wiscasset Primary School for two years.

A native of Wiscasset, she is a graduate of Wiscasset High School and the University of Maine. She received her Master’s degree in Literacy from UMaine in 2012.

Mrs. Hart lives in Orrington with her husband Tim, who works in Apple’s Middle Level Tech program. They have a son in 1st grade and a daughter who attends Montessori School.

Mrs. Hart says she enjoys being active and “playing with my dog and my kids.”



Morgan Hart

### Kelly O’Brien, School Counselor

Kelly O’Brien is the new school counselor at the George B. Weatherbee School.

She comes to RSU 22 from Leonard Middle School in Old Town, where she taught world languages for six years. Previously, she taught Spanish at Dirigo High School in Dixfield.

A native of Hampden, Ms. O’Brien graduated from Hampden Academy and Mt. Allison University in Sackville, NB.

Last summer, she spent seven weeks in China as a Fulbright Scholar, visiting schools in Beijing, Xian, Chongqing, and Shanghai with a dozen other teacher.

She has also traveled to Japan, Korea, and Turkey.

Ms. O’Brien lives in Hampden. She also enjoys downhill and crosscountry skiing.



Kelly O'Brien

### Rebecca Gross, 3rd Grade

Rebecca Gross is a new 3rd grade teacher at Weatherbee School.

Last year, she complete a full-year internship in a grade 3 classroom in Newton, MA, while earning her Master’s degree from Leslee University through the school’s Elementary Education and Creative Arts in Learning program.

Ms. Gross received her Bachelors degree in Theater Arts and English from Hamilton College.

After graduating from Hamilton, she worked in professional theater and arts administration, spending a year in Portland as an intern for the Portland Stage Company. She then moved to her hometown of Camden, where she worked in marketing and development for Bay Chamber Concerts and Community Music School and stage managed for the Everyman Repertory Theater Company.

Ms. Gross lives in Bangor. She enjoys the theater, being outdoors, walking, and swimming. She also loves to travel. Before starting her Master’s degree program at Leslee, she traveled in Japan, Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Vietnam, and Cambodia for about three months.



Rebecca Gross

### Kathleen Johnson, Secretary

Kathleen Johnson is the new secretary at the George B. Weatherbee School. She replaces Martha MacLeod, who retired after 18 years.

Mrs. Johnson moved back to Maine from Massachusetts last summer. She was a stay-at-home mom from 2004 to 2010, and for the last three years, she worked part-time at her son’s school and substitute taught.

Previously, she worked at a nursery school and served as a claims representative for Travelers Insurance Co.

A native of New York, Mrs. Johnson lives in Hampden with her husband Gregg, who works in medical sales. They have a son Jack, 8, who attends Weatherbee School.



Kathleen Johnson



Matt Madore (music), Angeli Perrow (art), and Andrew Plaisted (phys ed).

## Weatherbee art, music, phys ed teachers take integrated approach to instruction

As RSU 22 pursues student-centered learning this year, the specials teachers at Weatherbee have taken an integrated approach to instruction in music, art, and physical education.

The entire RSU staff is reading *Classroom Instruction that Works*, and teachers are breaking down their instruction to identify and refine the research-based best strategies outlined in each chapter.

The specials team at George B. Weatherbee School is going one step further. Matt Madore (music), Angeli Perrow (art) and Andrew Plaisted (physical education) are targeting nonlinguistic representation teaching strategies. They have responded to the book study and follow-up professional dialogue by consciously and systematically integrating literacy and math into the instruction they provide in art, music and physical education.

For example, Mr. Madore has been using fractions and graphs to help students understand and identify note duration in music. A kinesthetic approach is also embedded to help with the understanding of pitch relation.

Similarly, Mrs. Perrow has been using poetry to set the scene for students to create background for certain works of art. She also has students create one-point perspective drawings, where students create a better understanding of spacial relations, giving a three dimensional look to a two dimensional piece of art.

Students in Mr. Plaisted’s Physical Education classes can be heard sounding off their multiplication tables while jumping rope.

He has his students jump rope while counting by 2’s; when they reach 20, they switch over to 3’s and jump to 30. They continue that pattern until they until they get all the way through their math facts up to 12. The younger students may work in pairs, with one person jumping while the other counts by 2’s, 3’s, and up.

Another variation is to involve groups of jumpers using long ropes.

“A jumper gets in, and the group decides which math facts they’re going to cover for that jumper,” he says. “Then the student jumps, while the whole group counts the math facts until someone misses a jump—then they get a new jumper.”

He said the students enjoyed the jumping—and they learned some math facts.”

*(Please turn to page 11)*



# Wireless projectors help teachers use technology to augment instruction

In recent years, teachers at Earl C. McGraw School have been using technology to augment instruction and make it more interactive.

This fall, those efforts have received a boost from the installation of wireless projectors in the classrooms. Teachers are able to use the wireless network to connect their laptops to the projectors, which project the image from the laptop screen onto the wall for all the students to see.

And because the projector is mounted on the ceiling, there are no shadows and no people in the way.

To learn more about technology at McGraw School, *Link-22* interviewed 1st grade teacher Kimberley Moran and kindergarten teacher Leah Welch, both of whom say it has become an important part of their classroom routine.

"I use technology whenever it makes a better learning experience for the children," says Mrs. Moran.

"I find something new to do with it almost on a daily basis," says Ms. Welch. "It's super cool; I love it."

Mrs. Moran says the wireless projector in her room is on throughout the day. She starts using it first thing in the morning.

"When the kids come in, I project pictures on the wall, instead of giving them questions on paper," she says. "The kids have to generate questions about the pictures that are math-related. It's an easy way to go over some of the lessons from the day before."



Mrs. Moran also uses the projector to show a daily video from Wonderopolis, a website that offers videos on "the wonder of the day," which can be varied by grade level and subject matter.

"At morning meeting, we'll watch a video on something like why paper airplanes fly, and how to fold paper airplanes to make them fly better," she says. "Then we'll ask, how is this math-related? How is this thinking-related?"

Mrs. Moran even uses the projector when she makes some of the entries to her classroom blog, which can be found at <http://moranminds.blogspot.com>.

"Every day, at the end of the day, the students come together and I project the blog on the wall," she says. "I click on New Posts, and the kids tell me what we did during the day. We review it, and when parents see the blog at home, they can see what their children did at school and ask questions about it."

Ms. Welch has the same laptop that all the other teachers have, but most of the time she connects with the wireless projector using her iPad.

"It's handy," she says, "and there are so many apps [for the iPad] that I can use with my students."

For example, Ms. Welch uses an app to send the morning message to the projector, which puts it on the whiteboard. She uses other apps to teach calendar time and help her students keep track of the weather and the number of days in school.

"These are things we're already doing in the classroom, but using the iPad makes them more interactive and engaging," she says.

Both Mrs. Moran and Ms. Welch use the projector for "brain breaks"—times when the student have been sitting too long and just need to get up and move around.

Ms. Welch says she's found different clips on YouTube that the students enjoy using for brain breaks.

"I put the clips on the screen, and all the kids stand up and dance to them," she says.

Students in Mrs. Moran's class also use iPads that she gets from the cart as part of their regular classroom routine.

"I get four iPads every morning for the students to use during Daily 5 [a literacy program that focuses on tailoring student lessons to their

*(Please turn to page 11)*

## NEW STAFF AT EARL C. MCGRAW SCHOOL

### Gwen Winston, 2nd Grade

Gwen Winston, a former artist, has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a 2nd grade teacher.

Ms. Winston comes to McGraw from Fruit Street School in Bangor, where she spent two years as a kindergarten literacy tutor. Previously, she worked as a long-term sub for a year at McGraw and as a preschool teacher for four years.

A native of New York, Ms. Winston received her undergraduate degree at Brown University. She had a career as an artist—primarily as a painter, but working in other media as well. She received her teaching certificate through the Alternative Teacher Certification program at Husson. Ms. Winston lives in Newburgh. Her hobbies include painting, baking bread, and gardening. She has two teenage children who attend Hampden Academy.



Gwen Winston

### Tricia Forsman, 1st Grade

Tricia Forsman, who served as an educational technician at the George B. Weatherbee School and Earl C. McGraw School for the past seven years, is now teaching 1st grade at McGraw.

She says she was "inspired by some of the amazing teachers that I had the opportunity to work with at Weatherbee and McGraw" and decided to pursue her teaching certificate. She started the process last year and received her certification last spring.

A native of Saco, Mrs. Forsman graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington in 1994 with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education and taught preschool for 3 years before leaving to be a stay at home mom. When her youngest child started kindergarten in 2006, she went to work as an ed tech at Weatherbee.

Mrs. Forsman lives in Hampden. She and her husband have three sons, 19, 16, and 12—one in college, one at Hampden Academy, and one at Reeds Brook.

She enjoys reading, scrapbooking, and spending time with family.



Tricia Forsman

### Brian Simpson, Resource Room

Brian Simpson, a telephone company retiree who spent the last year and a half as a long-term substitute teacher at three RSU 22 schools, has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as an educational technician in the Resource Room.

Mr. Simpson began substituting shortly after retiring from the telephone company, where he worked for 32 years. His substitute assignments were at McGraw, Reeds Brook, and Weatherbee schools.

A native of Minot, ME, Mr. Simpson graduated from Edward Little High School in Auburn and received his B.A. degree in History from the University of Maine. He worked as an ed tech in the Resource Room at Garland Street Middle School (now the Cohen Middle School) for three years and then took the job with the phone company.

Mr. Simpson lives in Hampden with his wife Nancy, who is in her 37th year as a teacher and her 24th year at Reeds Brook. They have three grown sons, two in New York and one in California.

The Simpsons enjoy the theater, and they are both avid gardeners with perennial and vegetable gardens.

Mr. Simpson is a lifelong Red Sox fan. He has a goal of visiting all 32 major league ballparks, and he's halfway there, having watched games at Fenway Park and 15 other stadiums.

### Tricia Kearns, 2nd Grade

Tricia Kearns, formerly an elementary school teacher in Virginia Beach, VA, is teaching 2nd grade at the George B. Weatherbee School.

Ms. Kearns, who grew up in Carmel, said she moved back home with her two sons last summer. They now live in Newburgh. The older son, Patrick, is a sophomore at Hampden Academy; the younger son, Gavin, is a 7th grader at Reeds Brook.

Ms. Kearns is a graduate of Hermon High School and Rivier College in Nashua, NH. She enjoys music, gardening, reading, and doing anything outside.



Brian Simpson



Tricia Kearns

### Crystal Stratton, Secretary

Crystal Stratton is a member of the office staff at Earl C. McGraw School.

Mrs. Stratton started as a secretary at McGraw in January 2013 after working for RSU 22 Adult Education in Reeds Brook during the fall of 2012.

She also worked in the nurse's office at Hampden Academy for two years, before taking time off to stay with her baby.

Mrs. Stratton and her husband Paul live in Frankfort. They have a 3-year-old daughter, Piper, and another child on the way.

Mrs. Stratton grew up in Bangor and is a graduate of Bangor Christian School. She says she enjoys photography and the outdoors and loves to do arts and crafts with her daughter.

### Kimberley Moran, 1st Grade

Kimberley Moran has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a 1st grade teacher.

Mrs. Moran comes to McGraw after serving as a Academic Interventionist in SAD 6 for one year and as a 1st grade teacher in RSU 57 for two years.

Previously, she worked for the United Way of Greater Portland, the American Red Cross of Southern Maine, Literacy Volunteers, and various private schools.

Originally from New York City, Mrs. Moran graduated from Skidmore College with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She received her Master's degree in Literacy Education from the University of Southern Maine, and she holds a Special Certificate in Non Profit Administration from Harvard University.

She now lives in Hampden with her husband and two children, a 1st grader at McGraw and a 3rd grader at Weatherbee.

Mrs. Moran enjoys reading and blogging. She says she reads almost everything, but particularly children's books.



Crystal Stratton



Kimberley Moran

### Jodi Bisson, 2nd Grade

Jodi Bisson, who taught for 22 years in Lincoln, has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a 2nd grade teacher.

For the last two years, Mrs. Bisson taught at Mat-tanawcook Junior High School in Lincoln. Previously, she taught in the elementary school.

A native of Presque Isle, Mrs. Bisson graduated from the University of Maine at Presque Isle. She enjoys gardening, Zumba, and going for walks.

Her husband, Mike, is the athletic director at Hampden Academy. They have an 18-year-old daughter who is studying nursing at the University of Maine.



Jodi Bisson

### Morgan McCluskey, 2nd Grade

Morgan McCluskey, who graduated from the University of Maine in December 2012, has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a 2nd grade teacher.

She is a native of Bangor and a graduate of Bangor High School.

Ms. McCluskey lives in Hampden and says her hobbies include "anything Disney."



Morgan McCluskey

### Jen Bowen, Secretary

Jen Bowen, who owned and operated Bright Beginnings Child Care in Hampden for the past six years, has joined the office staff at Earl C. McGraw School.

Before she started her day care center, Mrs. Bowen was a substitute teacher in the district. She has also served as a Girl Scout leader and is a former president and secretary of the PTO.

Mrs. Bowen and her husband Randy live in Hampden. They have two daughters.

Mrs. Bowen enjoys camping, kayaking, reading, and being outdoors.



Jen Bowen





Students husk 300 ears of corn for Harvest Lunch.

Harvest Lunch a tradition at Smith School

On September 12 the Lunch Staff at the Smith School had their annual Harvest Lunch, where the items being served are all found locally. Some of the items on this year’s menu were: carrots, corn, cucumbers, apples, and hamburgers. Harvest Lunch helps promote local agriculture and enhances the students understanding of where food comes from. One of the traditions of this day is that students

help husk the corn. This year Ms. Le-Brecque’s 2nd grade, along with Mr. Bartlett’s Physical Education class, combined to husk 300 ears of corn in under 20 minutes! The teachers give a quick demonstration and then the students just went for it! Having the students take part in the preparation is a great learning experience along with them seeing what it is like to pitch in and help out.

NEW STAFF AT LEROY H. SMITH SCHOOL

Jennifer Beckett, Special Ed

Jennifer Beckett is a new special education teacher at Leroy H. Smith School. A native of Calais, ME, she now lives in Bucksport with her 3-year-old daughter, who keeps her on the move and very busy! She received her Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education from the University of Maine and recently completed her Master’s degree in Special Education/Early Intervention.

Before coming to Smith, she worked at Child Development Services as the special education teacher of a special purpose pre-school program called The Learning Tree.



Jennifer Beckett

Linda Ross, 3rd Grade

Linda Ross, an educational technician at Leroy H. Smith School for the past two years, is now teaching 3rd grade at Smith. She graduated from the University of Maine with a Bachelor’s degree in University Studies. Recently, she completed the requirements to become a certified classroom teacher. “It has been a long journey, but well worth the trip,” she says.

Mrs. Ross lives in Hampden with her husband Dana and their two daughters, Maggie and Katie. In her spare time, she loves to read, knit, swim in her pool, and spend time with her family.



Linda Ross

Hillary Hoyt, 3rd Grade

Hillary Hoyt is fully enjoying her time as a 3rd grade teacher at the Leroy H. Smith School. As a recent graduate of the University of Maine she still tries to be involved in hobbies and interests that she found in college. Throughout college she worked at a biological and chemical lab and is very excited to continue her love of science by getting to be a K-5 Science Resource Partner with the Maine Elementary Science Partnership.

She also has a passion for dance having taught now for 6 years and having been part of the UMaine Dance Team. This year she is very excited to be able be part of the coaching staff for the Husson Dance Team.



Hillary Hoyt

Kim Raymond, Guidance

Kim Raymond, former guidance counselor at George B. Weatherbee School, is now the Guidance Counselor at Leroy H. Smith School.. Mrs. Raymond graduated from the University of Maine in 2004 with her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and a minor in Sociology and went on to receive her Masters degree in Counselor Education in 2006. During the 2005-2006 school year, Mrs. Raymond spent three days per week at Smith completing her school counseling internship. Following graduation, she worked for six years as a school counselor at the Etna-Dixmont School, where she worked with students in Pre-K through grade eight before coming to Weatherbee for the 2012-2013 school year.

Although she enjoyed her year at Weatherbee, Mrs. Raymond is excited about the opportunity to be back working at the school where she began her counseling experiences. She has a passion for making a difference in the lives of young people and is looking forward to working with students at the early elementary level. Mrs. Raymond lives in Hampden with her husband Nick. They have two daughters, Zoelle, 4, and Aisley, 1. Some of her interests include writing stories and poems, fitness and spending time with her family.



Kim Raymond

Lynette Pendleton, Ed Tech

Lynette Pendleton has joined the staff of Leroy H. Smith School as an educational technician. Previously, she worked for Broadreach Family and Community Services as an educational technician, Pre-K teacher, and children’s case management worker. Before that, she was a family advocate for Waldo Community Action Partner’s Head Start. Ms. Pendleton earned her Associate’s degree in Early Childhood Education from Eastern Maine Community College and her Bachelor’s degree in Special Education from the University of Maine. She grew up on the island of Islesboro and moved to Belfast at the end of her junior year in high school. She now lives in Belfast with her twin boys, Cooper and Dylan. She enjoys reading, hiking, walking, baking, and spending quality time with her sons going on adventures, cooking, and building with Legos.



Lynette Pendleton

Two towns: Building one community

Change isn’t always easy. But if you ask the staff and students at the Smith School in Winterport about change, they may tell you that it can sometimes be easier than expected. As students from Frankfort and Winterport came through the doors together for the first time to start this school year, it wasn’t clear how everyone would adjust. This year, Smith School

welcomed over 95 new students along with 9 new staff members. Although there were some initial adjustments that needed to be made such as setting up new classrooms, working through logistics of lunch times and bus dismissal with an increased number of students, staff and students are adjusting well to all of the changes. As the year began (and prior to), staff members have been working diligently to make sure that all students



feel welcomed and included. Teachers have gone above and beyond to engage students in exciting learning opportunities and promote time for students to interact in positive ways. Some students have also been involved in small groups during lunch or snack times where they have had the chance to talk and get to know each other in a smaller setting.

Smith School bracelets were purchased with money that was awarded through a RSU 22 Educational Foundation Grant. The bracelets include the school name and also display the schools core values: “Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be Respectful.” Recently, at an All School Assembly, students received bracelets of their very own to wear as members of the Smith School community. Staff and students are encouraged to wear these bracelets as a symbol of school unity and pride.

Although school has not been in session for very long yet this fall, it is clear that the two towns of Frankfort and Winterport have come together in true small town fashion. It is great to see so many people from both towns willing to support the school and the students. If this sense of community can feel so strong already at this point in the year, the school spirit and pride will undoubtedly continue to grow as the school year progresses!

Jenny Bouchard, 2nd Grade

Jenny Bouchard has joined the staff of the Leroy H. Smith School as a 2nd grade teacher. Mrs. Bouchard comes to Winterport from the Augusta area, where she taught pre-K for one year and kindergarten for two years after graduating from Husson University in Bangor. A native of Mars Hill, she lives in Hermon with her husband and two dogs. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, snow shoeing, and taking walks in the woods with her dogs.



Jenny Bouchard

Christy Baker, 1st Grade

Christy Baker, 2nd grade teacher at Frankfort Elementary School for the past four years, has joined the staff at the Leroy H. Smith School as a 1st grade teacher. Mrs. Baker graduated from the University of Maine in 2001 and then taught 1st grade in Hermon for eight years. She lives in Frankfort with her husband and two daughters. She enjoys outdoor activities with her family, including swimming and biking.



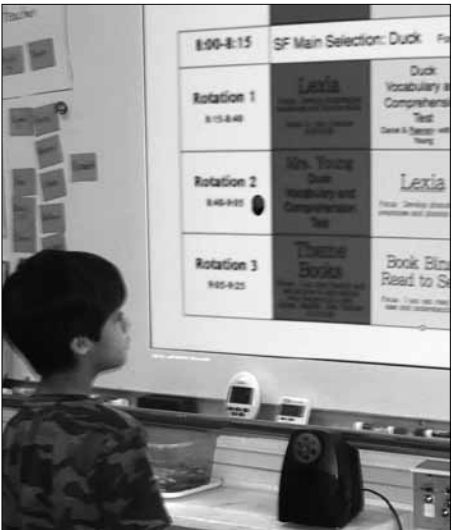
Christy Baker

Lindsey Davis, 1st Grade

Lindsey Davis, kindergarten teacher at Frankfort Elementary School last year, is teaching 1st grade this year at Leroy H. Smith School. Mrs. Davis grew up in Bangor and graduated from Bangor High School in 2004 and from Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, CT, in 2008. She taught 3rd grade for one year in Washington, DC, and then taught kindergarten for two years in Alexandria, VA before returning to Maine. Mrs. Davis and her husband live in Winterport and are expecting their first child in January. Outside of school, she serves as a volunteer coach with the Hampden Academy swim team. She also loves to read and spend time with her family.



Lindsey Davis



Smith student views a lesson that’s being projected on the classroom wall.

Wireless projectors installed in Smith classrooms

During the summer, Smith School classrooms received new Epson projectors. The projectors are permanently mounted to the wall and project on whiteboards. Teachers can wirelessly project from laptops or I-pads. During before school meetings, teachers attended a brief training on projector use. Since school started, teachers have been creatively using the projectors for learning activities, lessons, posting goals/objectives, posting procedures, and sharing student work. Additionally, Smith Staff members and students use the projectors to listen to calming music, watch curriculum video clips, watch slide shows, (Continued in next column)



# McGraw

(Continued from page 9)

individual needs],” she says. “If students need to work on handwriting, they’ll use a handwriting app or a program called Letterschool, where they trace letters. Or they might do Sightword, a game where the computer says a word, and the student has to touch it on the screen.” Sightword can display words from Pre-K to 5th grade level, depending on what the student needs.”

She says the iPads can also be used as a math station. For example, students can play an electronic version of a math-related card game called “Top It” (similar to “War”), which reinforces what they’re learning about numbers.

One of the more unique uses of technology in Mrs. Moran’s classroom is a video that helps the students tidy up and get ready for circle time.

“Every morning, instead of telling the kids to clean their areas, I play the video on my laptop,” she says. “The image is projected onto the wall, and as soon as the kids see it, it tells them what to do, and they do it. At the end, it counts down from 10 to zero, and by zero, they need to be sitting in the meeting circle.”

## Weatherbee Student Council

(Continued from page 8)

included the perception that some things are easier for some people, but if you try hard enough and long enough, you can meet with success.

During a recent assembly, Student Council members took the lead as they defined persistence and then called on classmates to give examples of persistence. Not giving up and looking for ways to reach your goal when you get stuck are messages they want to promote at Weatherbee this year, and they did a great job delivering that message.

Additionally, they voted to list “striving for accuracy” as a second habit of mind that they wanted to emphasize in the upcoming months. They said striving for accuracy is one of the most important habits to establish now. Double checking and doing your best were reasons the students felt this was important. The old adage, “any job worth doing is worth doing well,” is one these children understand as they promote constant improvement in their lives and the lives of their classmates.

When given the opportunity to set the standards, this year’s Student Council has raised the bar.

Dylan Bubar reminded members that “Seeing something through to the end is important!” Marissa Abbott agreed: “Keep climbing,” she added. Weatherbee Student Council members expect students to demonstrate their best through accuracy and persistence, and they intend to lead by example.

## Wireless projectors installed in Smith classrooms

(Continued from preceding page)

and view online interactive books. Sarah Young, a second grade teacher, uses the projector throughout the day for a wide variety of purposes. First thing in the morning students’ morning job expectations are listed using the projector along with the question of the day which

## News from RSU 22 Adult Education

### GED Being Replaced:

The State of Maine has announced that it has contracted with Educational Testing Services to provide its High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) as a replacement for its GED Test starting in January 2014. The new HiSET will essentially cover the same academic material as the GED and will be offered by pen-and-paper or electronically. Maine is one of seven states to contract with HiSET for its high school equivalency credential program. The good news for RSU 22 is that we will now be able to offer this new high school equivalency test in Hampden, whereas we had been unable to procure a GED Test Site License in the past. Please contact our office (862-6422) if you have any questions about the HiSET or want to schedule HiSET testing starting in January.

### New Career Training Programs:

We are, again this winter, excited to be able to offer our residents access to a wider variety of career training courses through partnerships with Orono Commons and OHI such as Certified Nurse’s Aide (CNA), PSS, CRMA, and MHS. We are now able to also offer a series of new health occupations courses that will allow students to pursue careers such as Pharmacy Technician, Dental Assisting, Medical Coding & Billing, Electronic Health Records, Phlebotomy Technician and Medical Terminology. These courses offer a combination of online and

live laboratory work that allows students to prepare for national level certification tests in six to twelve months.

### Winter Courses:

Again this winter, we are also offering a wide variety of enrichment courses and workshops, academic programs, one-day bus trips and family literacy programs. Our winter flyer should be in homes by early January and most of these courses will start in middle to late January. In late December, we should have complete descriptions of our winter schedule available online at: [www.rsu22.us/adulteducation](http://www.rsu22.us/adulteducation) (to view only) and at: <http://orono-hampden.maineadulted.org> (to register and pay for online). We also have access to over 500 distance learning enrichment courses at: [www.ed2go.com/rsu22](http://www.ed2go.com/rsu22).

### Our Growing Adult Education Partnership:

For five years now, RSU 22 has partnered with RSU 26 (Orono) to provide residents of our school communities access to a greater variety of quality programs for adult learners. We are genuinely excited that this fall, RSU 34 (Old Town, Alton, Bradley) has now agreed to work with us as well as school districts representing Veazie, Glenburn, Milford and Greenbush. To access courses and programs being offered by all of our adult education partners this winter, please visit us at: [www.riversideadultedpartnership.com](http://www.riversideadultedpartnership.com).

## Susan O’Brien, Hillary Hoyt join Science partnership

Susan O’Brien, 5th grade teacher at Weatherbee School, and Hillary Hoyt, 3rd grade teacher at Smith School have joined in the Science Resource Partner community with the Maine ESP. They are working as part of a group of Science Resource Partners in eastern Maine with 16 other school districts.

The group meets primarily on Saturdays and evenings to coordinate professional science development in RSU 22. Mrs. O’Brien and Ms. Hoyt will be leading groups of RSU 22 teachers in science professional devel-

opment back in our district as a result of this training. Some of the goals of this program are to bring K-5 teachers together with scientists and engineers to increase their content knowledge and content-specific pedagogical skills of teachers in STEM. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

Improving teachers’ knowledge and skills in designing data-driven instruction and strategies while differentiating instruction will meet the needs of the students in our schools.

Our RSU 22 K-12 teachers will learn to use both the Framework

for K-12 Science Education and The Next Generation Science Standards in their classrooms. The partnership will share materials and ideas with other area schools.

What will this bring the students of RSU 22? Students will be highly motivated to study science early in their learning career. Using inquiry and investigation in the classroom supports student achievement and raises student interest. Science will be an important part to every K-5 classroom in our district.

## Kelly Bickmore installed as MSBA President

(Continued from page 1)

expansion of public Pre-K statewide. “Increasing access to public Pre-K is advantageous to both students and school districts,” she says. Research indicates that students involved with Head Start programs have better educational and community outcomes.

Ms. Bickmore expects that the MSBA will have three major challenges during the coming year.

One of those challenges will be learning to work with the new Commissioner of Education, once Gov. LePage decides on a successor to Commissioner Stephen Bowen, who resigned in September.

She says education funding will continue to be a challenge. “We’re never going to have enough money to fund education the way it should be funded, so how do we get enough security in the money that we do have so we can plan appropriately?” she asks.

Ms. Bickmore also expects continued debate over the push to allow additional charter schools in Maine.

“I’m not against individualization of education,” she says. “We’re working hard within RSU 22 to allow more individualization and access to differential learning opportunities, but siphoning students and money away from existing schools is not the way

to do it, because it depletes resources from the schools that are left still working to promote options for all students.. If we’re going to have these [charter school] options, we need to figure out a way to pay for it.”

Ms. Bickmore noted that one of the “perks” of being MSBA President is the opportunity to highlight her district at the MSMA conference. The Hampden Academy choral group provided entertainment on Friday, and Technology Director Jeff Woodside put together a highlight reel of RSU 22 students engaged in academic and extracurricular activities. In addition, Ms. Bickmore and Superintendent of Schools Rick Lyons talked about the strengths of the district during the President’s Reception on Thursday evening.

Ms. Bickmore works as a program director for a group that contract with the state to administer a portion of Medicaid for behavioral health and substance abuse.

“By training and education, I’m a a clinical social worker, a therapist,” she says. “Currently I am applying my skills as an administrator for a health care company. As a clinical social worker I’ve seen how important education or the lack thereof is to young people and their futures.”

Ms. Bickmore has two children who graduated from Hampden Academy—a son, 24, who is studying civil engineering at the University of Maine, and a daughter, 21, who is studying communications disorders, also at UMaine.

### Art, music, phys ed integration in Weatherbee curriculum

(Continued from page 8)

Mr. Madore says there are different ways in which he is able to support the curriculum, such as focusing on songs related to a state when students are studying that state. When 2nd graders are studying the civil rights movement, he’ll bring civil rights songs and poetry into his music lessons.

“The teachers are very appreciative and supportive of our efforts to tie art/music/PE into what they’re doing in the classroom,” he says.

Mr. Plaisted says he had his students say “good-bye” to the old way of doing phys ed, and every body waved.

“In the old way, physical education was all about fun and games,” he said. “We’re still teaching playground skills, sportsmanship, teamwork, and fair play, but we’re also adding in something from the academic side. That’s the difference.”

projector and laptop. For literacy, students’ stations, activities, learning objectives and schedule are all posted using the projector. Standard Operating Procedures/classroom procedures were developed together using the projector and can be accessed and displayed at any time.

process on a chart projected on the whiteboard using the new projector. In math class, the lesson is broken down into different sections, and the objectives and activities for each section are listed using the projector. Furthermore, in math class, key tools like number grids are interacted with by students using the



# Inspired Education at Hampden Academy

By Ken Lane

At the October 2 RSU 22 Board of Directors meeting Student Representative Keegan Quigley reported that fifty HA students had participated in a mathematics competition earlier in the day at Nokomis High School. I wondered what had motivated so many students to participate? How can continued participation be encouraged? I wanted to know more.

The chance to learn more came with a visit to Mr. Donahue’s Advanced Math Seminar (AMS). Students fit in this extra math course on the unused period opposite a science lab. AMS provides preparation for competitions like the one held at Nokomis. Sponsored by the Maine Association of Math Leagues (MAML), five Math Meets are scheduled this year, including one at HA on December 4. Hampden is in the Eastern Maine Math League, one of five leagues listed by the MAML website. All five leagues follow the same schedule, allowing students to compete locally and statewide simultaneously.

Schools may field multiple teams of ten students for each Math Meet. The Meet has six rounds of questions from categories announced at the beginning of the year. For example, probability and complex numbers are two of the categories in the next Math Meet. The first five rounds have three questions each and competitors are scored individually, with the six highest scores contributing to the team score. In the final round, students work as a team to collectively solve a list of nine problems.

AMS students talked openly about their participation in the Math Meets. The opportunity to compete with peers in an academic

subject was cited by several students as a key motivating factor. Preparing for and competing in Math Meets diversifies the students’ extracurricular activity, while providing a rare if not limited opportunity to be recognized for academic performance and achievement.

Only a handful of students were interested in the Math Team when Mr. Donahue was hired ten years ago. He took the small band of math

lovers from class to class and they convinced more students to participate. AMS students report that HA is a comfortable place for students to be interested in math, a culture in which you can love math and still be cool.

All Students in the AMS class agreed that students and teachers who are excited about mathematics influence others to become excited as well. I am a professional mathematician whose love for math took root

decades ago at the Academy. Mr. Tibbetts did it for me in 1969 and Mr. Donahue and his colleagues carry on the tradition today. The RSU 22 Education Foundation serves to “encourage community-wide financial and inspirational support for our district’s students and teachers”. It works both ways since Mr. Donahue and the HA Math Team provide plenty of inspiration for continued support of the Foundation and its mission.

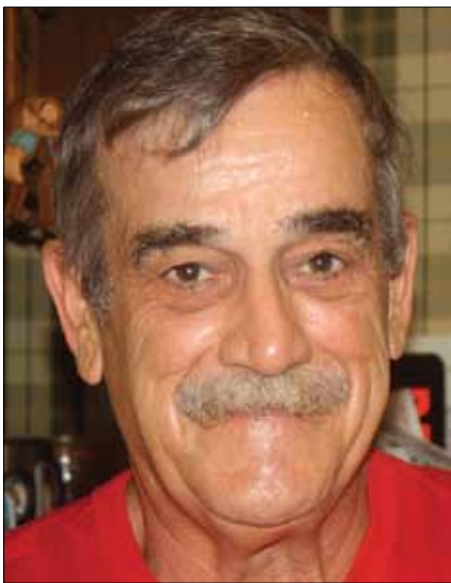


**RSU 22 Education Foundation**  
*Community Partners for Inspired Education*

## Board Member Profile: Ken Lane

Ken Lane is a Newburgh boy, through and through. He was brought up on Kennebec Rd. two doors down from where he lives now with his wife Alice Jean. His formal education began at the one room Chapman School at the corner of Kennebec and Chapman Roads. His grandmother presided at the school at that time. Today he looks back on those four years as “extraordinary,” limited only by “how fast can you learn?” The remainder of his elementary education was at the brand new Newburgh School, now closed.

Ken describes himself as having a wide range of interests as a teenager and graduated from Hampden Academy with his class of 1969. He carried a double major in math and teacher education at UMaine Presque Isle. Feeling the urge to



Ken Lane

see more of the world he went west and obtained a PHD in mathemat-

ics from Idaho State University. He taught math at Hamilton College then at Colby, leaving teaching in 1988 for employment by the Air Force at Cape Canaveral using his math skills to facilitate satellite launches.

He began reading the Bangor Daily News on line and realize that he wanted to come home. He is now entering his 15th year teaching math at Husson University.

When the opportunity to join the Foundation Board came along, Ken needed no urging. He was looking for some avenue to provide a public service and believes his life experiences lend themselves to being able to make a significant contribution to the Foundation. Among his many interests he cites the history and genealogy of area families.

## Education Foundation Mini-Grants program inspiring education

Last spring the RSU 22 Education Foundation was able to award ten mini grants to teachers throughout the school district. These grants, which are made possible by the generous support of businesses and members of the community enable the Education Foundation to supplement classroom budgets and promote inspired educational programming to the students of RSU 22. One of the grants awarded during the spring grant cycle was to Ms. O’Brien’s classroom at the Weatherbee School for the purchase of a document camera. The Education Foundation recently checked with Ms. O’Brien to see how the grant was helping her to bring inspiring education to her students.

**RSU 22 Education Foundation: “What was the inspiration/genesis for this project?”**

**Ms. O’Brien:** “Last year I borrowed a high quality document camera from a friend at the Maine State Aquarium to use during my ocean unit. It was amazing how well I could teach about ocean animals. I could show the live animal up on the board and we could discuss what it was doing, why it was moving like it was, and we shared the exact same experience in real time. It wasn’t a movie or something that someone else posted online, it was our animal, in our classroom, moving right that very second. The best part was the zoom feature. It would zoom in up to 12 times the size.”

**RSU 22 Education Foundation “How is the camera used by the students?”**

**Ms. O’Brien:** “I started to use it for science but found it was perfect for math, writing and reading too. In math we use it every day. I put a copy of the student journal up for us all to work with as a group. In writing we can edit a stu-



Students in Susan O’Brien’s class at Weatherbee School view a live animal greatly magnified, in full color, and in real time, thanks to the document camera she purchased with an RSU 22 Education Foundation Mini-Grant.

dent’s writing together right on their paper and in reading, a book passage can simply be opened up and shared on the spot.”

**RSU 22 Education Foundation: “How have students learned to use the camera and how has it aided their education?”**

**Ms. O’Brien:** “The students are all pros at using the document camera and they share their work or share projects using the document camera on a daily basis.”

**RSU 22 Education Foundation: “How has it helped your educational practice?”**

**Ms. O’Brien:** “As a teacher, I am saving prep time and not running off expensive overhead transparencies. My students have much better lessons because the science is in full color, live, and in real time. I am in awe each time we watch live animals dramatically magnified on our classroom board.”

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Please consider supporting classroom programs such as this by making a contribution to the RSU 22 Education Foundation. Visit our website at [RSU22educationfoundation.org](http://RSU22educationfoundation.org) to learn more.