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Reeds Brook named 2016 Blue Ribbon School



Reeds Brook Middle School (above) is one of three schools in Maine that have named 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education.

Reeds Brook one of only 3 schools in Maine, 329 in U.S. to receive national honor

Reeds Brook Middle School has been named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

The announcement was made September 28th by U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr.

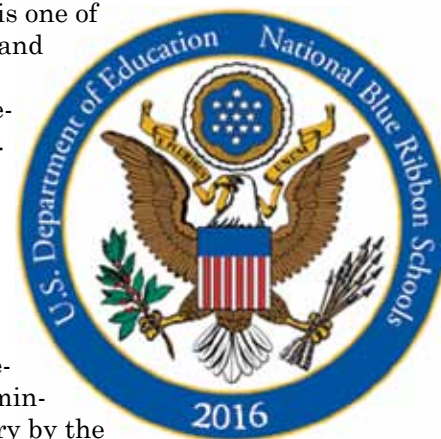
Reeds Brook is one of only 329 public and private schools nationwide to receive this honor.

Reeds Brook and two other Maine schools—Falmouth Middle School and Sea Road School in Kennebunk—were nominated last January by the Maine Department of Education. All three were honored as Exemplary High Performing Schools.

The three Maine schools were congratulated by Deputy Commissioner of Education William Beardsley, who noted that schools have to meet strict criteria to be named a National Blue Ribbon School.

“These three schools deserve great credit for their dedication to the mission of educating our children,” he said. “I commend the educators, parents, and students who all work to make these schools such proud examples of excellence in the state of Maine.”

Principal Regan Nickels and science teacher Lori Matthews will represent RSU 22 and Reeds Brook Middle School at an awards ceremony in Washington, DC, on Nov. 7 and 8.



Principal Regan Nickels (left) and science teacher Lori Matthews (right) will represent Reeds Brook Middle School and RSU 22 at a two-day awards ceremony in Washington, DC, on Nov. 7 and 8.



U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr. (above) appeared on a giant video screen to make the announcement to Reeds Brook students.

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RSU 22 receives Empower Award for Wellness

The RSU 22 Wellness Team, led by Health and Wellness Coordinator Brittany Layman, received an Empower Award from the Wellness Council of Maine at the council's annual meeting October 5 at Point Lookout in Northport.



Brittany Layman

Regional School Unit 22 serves 2,320 students and families along with 400 employees and promotes health and wellness through a variety of initiatives.

The health and wellness initiatives are conducted by school leaders who understand the value of a healthy population and work force.

• Student and faculty can eat healthy fruits and vegetables from 3 school gardens, understand where foods come from with farm-to-table instruction, participate in a variety of fitness challenges, and understand the world around them by

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McGraw 2nd graders with some of the apples they harvested from the RSU 22 Apple Orchard.

Despite dry weather, a great garden season

By Brittany Layman

RSU 22 Health and Wellness Coordinator

Even with all of the dry weather it has still been a great garden season. The season started in mid-April as students started seedlings inside their classrooms.

• At Hampden Academy the students in the Alternative Education Program planted a variety of seeds during their science class. These seedlings—including broccoli, pumpkins, and cucumbers—were transplanted into the main garden at Reeds Brook Middle School.

• Students in Ms. Bowman McKay's 6th

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The garden at Leroy H. Smith School.

RSU 22 Wellness Committee receives Empower Award

(Continued from page 1)
 hiking on campus trails.
 • Through policy development, they have been able to promote healthy celebrations inside the

classroom and offer exciting food choices in the cafeteria.
 • This year, RSU 22 is embarking on a partnership with a local wellness center and medi-

cal facility to focus on the health of the employees and will also be expanding on community connections to target families who may be struggling with drug and alco-

hol abuse.
 RSU 22 represents a healthy school culture for students, staff, and community.



Students in the Alternative Education program at Hampden Academy planted a variety of seeds during science class.



Watering the garden.



Apple harvest.

Despite dry weather, a great garden season

(Continued from page 1)
 grade class started a variety of tomatoes that were moved out into the Reeds Brook greenhouse in early June.
 • Mrs. Bailey's first grade class helped plant three rows of red, purple, and pink potatoes. They learned the importance of "hilling" the potatoes to prevent sun damage.
 • This was the first year we have had a vegetable garden

at Smith Elementary School. During spring recesses, students helped plant seedlings, weed the garden, and water. During the summer months students and community members were able to enjoy carrots, purple beans, cucumbers, and tomatoes. With the support of Time and Tide, a resource conservation and development organization, we will be adding compost to the garden to improve the soil along with planting 100 strawberry plants and a few raspberry bushes.

• At Wagner Middle School Mrs. Rawcliffe planted and maintained the raised bed behind the school. The students planted tomatoes, squashes, and potatoes along with herbs. There is room to expand the garden by adding trellises and additional apple trees.
 • Many of the apple trees in the RSU 22 apple orchard were loaded this fall with crisp Liberty, Honey Crisp, Golden Delicious, and Wolf River apples. All of the McGraw School 2nd grade students went out to the apple orchard and learned about the different types of trees growing on campus. The students then helped harvest many crates of apples that were used in the lunch program and cooking lessons.

Students and employees have



RSU 22 Health and Wellness Coordinator Brittany Layman talks to McGraw 2nd graders about the types of apples grown in the RSU 22 apple orchard.

been enjoying tons of vegetables that have come from the RSU 22 school gardens. Recently, the remainder of the tomatoes were harvested along with the sweet potatoes. All of the produce has been shared with the school cafeterias, and students have

enjoyed fresh salsa, salad greens, and much more.

We are always looking for folks to volunteer in the school gardens and orchard. Please feel free to contact Brittany Layman, Health and Wellness Coordinator, blayman@rsu22.us.



Harvesting onions.



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RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort

24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

is published by Maine Regional School Unit No. 22 for the citizens of Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport, and Frankfort.

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

Drug Use Prevention Subcommittee

In July 2016 the Drug Use Prevention Subcommittee of the RSU 22 School Board met to discuss the current and future state of the district's drug use prevention work.

This dynamic group is made up of educators, administrators, parents, community members, law enforcement, and area drug use prevention specialists, along with members of the Board.

It is our hope that students will be joining us to help improve the current work being done.

The group is committed to providing curriculum, student opportunities, and staff development that promotes substance abuse prevention, awareness, and education.

We believe every student has a right to a healthy and safe learning environment.

If you are interested in participating in this group or have any suggestions please feel free to contact chair Wally Fraser, School Board Member, and co-chair Rick Lyons at wfraser@rsu22.us and rlyons@rsu22.us.

Curriculum Office Update

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

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

MEA Results

Maine students took state tests in the spring of 2016. Our learners participated in MEA (Maine Educational Assessment) science testing at grades five, eight and eleven. Those results should be coming to our schools in mid to late October. Once we receive the information, schools will review results and inform students and families of their progress. Traditionally, in RSU 22, we score well on the state's science tests.



Mary Giard

The Maine State Department of Education has hired a new company to deliver our state assessments for English Language Arts and mathematics. Students in grades three through grade eight participated in the new tests. The test was brand new and it had some bugs that were worked out during the testing period. Student results should be delivered to school districts some time in October or early November.

RSU 22 PBE (Proficiency-Based Education) Diploma Updates

In August, the RSU 22 School Board unanimously voted to extend the awarding of Proficiency Based Diplomas for RSU 22 students until 2020. Students who are freshman this 2016-2017 school year will be the first class graduating from Hampden Academy receiving proficiency based diplomas. Our students will need to demonstrate proficiency in the four core academic areas of English, math, science, and social studies, as well as another content area of their choice. Those choices include: world languages, health and physical education (wellness), visual and performing arts, science and technology, and career and education development. In 2021, another content area will be selected by students to fulfill the need to meet proficiency requirements in six content areas. Following 2021 expectations, each year another content area will be added until all eight content areas are included in RSU 22's PBE diploma.

Students must also demonstrate strengths in Maine's Guiding Principles. Those principles include work habits (being on time, being prepared, producing high quality work), oral and written communication, collaboration – working with others, and other skills that will help them be successful once they leave high school. The military, employers and higher education institutions agree that students need to be able to demonstrate those skills.

Learning Results information at the Department of Education:
<https://www.maine.gov/doel/proficiency/standards/maine-learning-results.html>

RSU 22 Strategic Plan

A portion of the district's strategic plan focuses on instruction and assessment. Below are some updates on those goals.

Focus on Goal #1 Student Learning and Outcomes: To improve individual student engagement and achievement

Vision goal a: Develop and implement rigorous, proficiency based curricula that are guaranteed, viable and measurable

Movement toward meeting vision goal a

1. Have identified and implemented priority standards in all content areas K-12
2. Have created and implemented an on-going monitoring/adjusting of content area curricula K-12
3. Have provided staff with direction, common time and resources to implement proficiency-based curricula K-12

Vision goal b: Develop a system of learning experiences that are engaging and ensure student-centered, proficiency-based learning

Movement toward meeting vision goal b

1. Provided staff with direction, time and resources to implement student-centered, proficiency-based learning experiences.

Plans for 2016-2017

1. Create multiple ways for learners to progress through learning progressions (begin to develop opportunities for some choice)
2. Provide parents with information regarding student-centered, proficiency-based education

Vision goal c: Align instructional practices to student-centered, proficiency-based instruction within the instructional framework of Robert Marzano's *Art and Science of Teaching*

Movement toward meeting vision goal c

1. Aligned resources to priority curricula (Next Generation Science Standards and Maine's Learning Results)
2. Provided time for teachers to:
 - a. review data to group and regroup students
 - b. share strategies
 - c. share resources aligned to the *Art and Science of Teaching's* instructional model
3. Continued to provide Complex Reasoning training (add rigor)
4. Continued to provide *Art and Science of Teaching* training

Vision goal d: Create and utilize students' educational experiences with the larger community

Plans for 2016-2017

1. Goal d requires greater attention this year.
2. Develop mutually beneficial partnerships and relationships with the community
3. Create mentoring - apprenticeship opportunities for students with the business community

Teacher Effectiveness

Vision goal e. Implement effective supervision - evaluation system congruent with LD 1858

Movement toward meeting vision goal e

Aligned RSU 22 supervision/ evaluation system with DOE mandate (LD 1858)

Plans for 2016-2017

- Provide ongoing training and support for RSU 22 educators

Vision goal f: Stay abreast of legislative action and advocacy

Movement toward meeting vision goal f

- Have been watching what is in place, what is on the horizon and what is being halted

Vision Goal g: Research and implement proficiency-based assessments, develop and implement detailed communications plan

Movement toward meeting vision goal g

- Constant review of standards, assessments, and reporting on learner progress

Plans for 2016-2017

- Distribute a detailed communication plan related to PBE

Title I

Title I information has been added to the RSU 22 website. It can be found under the Resources tab, and then go to the Curriculum Title I page.

Parent information regarding Title I can be found on the site, including: description of the program, a parent compact and more. More information will be added to the site during the 2016-2017 school year.

School-based health clinic now open at Hampden Academy

The RSU 22 school-based health clinic opened for Hampden Academy students on October 11, 2016, at 8 a.m.

We are happy to announce that Brandy George, FNP, will be joining our team. She is very excited to be working with our students and



Brandy George, FNP

will be available 2 days per week, Tuesdays from 8 to 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 7:30 to 10 a.m. If you are interested in learning more please, visit the Hampden Academy website under the Health Service

tab, or call Hampden Academy at 862-3791.

The goals of the School-Based Health Center are:

- Improve the health and wellness of the student population.
- Improve the school environment.
- Provide support to families who may find it difficult to access health services during the school year.

Strategies to achieve these goals include:

- Provide high quality integrated health services to prevent future health problems.
- Ensure access to immediate medical care.
- Keep students healthy so they succeed in the classroom and beyond.

Substitute Teachers All Schools

Application at www.rsu22.us

HA Chamber Singers invited to perform Fauré Requiem at Carnegie Hall

The Hampden Academy Chamber Singers have been invited to participate in a performance of the Fauré Requiem at Carnegie Hall in New York on June 5, 2017, directed by Dr. Dennis Cox, retired choral activities professor from the University of Maine.

Heidi Corliss, music teacher and choral director at Hampden Academy, said Dr. Cox wrote to her and 11 other people that he knew had good music programs and strong singers to make up a choir for the Fauré Requiem.

She says the group is trying to raise enough money to make the trip and to allow the students to go sightseeing and attend a Broadway show while they are in New York.

The plan calls for the group to leave June 2, rehearse on June 3 and 4, perform on June 5, and return on June 6.

Ms. Corliss said the Chamber Singers were planning a number of fund-raising events during the coming months to help pay for the trip.

"We're going to try to raise a lot of money," said Ms. Corliss. "New York is not cheap."

One of the first fund-raisers was a concert at the Performing Arts Center on October 1 that featured five Hampden Academy graduates who either make their living as musical performers or are semi-professional performers in the greater Bangor area.

The graduate vocalists were:

- Rogan Winch, tenor, an opera singer who is finishing his stud-



The Hampden Academy Chamber Singers have been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall.

ies at the University of Maine. This summer, Rogan performed in France.

- Renee Montgomery, soprano, an opera singer who received her M.A. degree in opera performance from the University of Utah.
- Matt Madore, tenor, an elementary music teacher in RSU 22 who also performs frequently with the Penobscot Theatre and at other local events.
- Dominick Varney, baritone, who is affiliated with the Penobscot Theatre and the Winterport Open Stage, both as a singer and director.
- Brianne Beck, soprano, who

has performed with the Penobscot Theatre and has choreographed a lot of shows in the Bangor area.

"It means a lot to have these alumni come back to Hampden

Academy to support our current musical groups," said Ms. Corliss.

She said the Chamber Singers is the most advanced choir at Hampden Academy. The choir currently has 39 members, who are selected by audition. They perform five or six times a year.

Fund-raisers planned in coming months include:

- October—Citrus Sale
- Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m.—Fundraising meeting, including information for mattress sale
- Oct. 28—Music Association dance, HA Multi-Purpose Room.
- Nov. 12—Mattress Sale, HA Dining Commons, 10a.m.-4 p.m.
- Nov. 17-Dec. 14—Annual Piper Mountain Wreath sale
- Dec. 16—Holiday Celebration Performance @ Next Generation Theater (pending)
- Date TBD—Dinner Theater/Auction
- Date TBD—T-Shirt Fundraiser

In addition, the Music Department and Music Boosters will be applying for grants and soliciting prospective donors.

HAMPDEN ACADEMY Leigh Magnan, Principal 862-3791



HA students, staff enjoy 2016 Homecoming Spirit Week

Hampden Academy students and staff members enjoyed 2016 Homecoming Spirit Week during the last week of September.

Each day of the week featured a varsity game and a special theme.

- Monday—Field Hockey vs. Mt. Blue. Theme: Lazy Monday, with students and staff wearing sweat-pants and pajamas.
- Tuesday—Boys Soccer vs. Camden Hills. Theme: Flannels Day.
- Wednesday—Powder Puff football. Theme: Represent Your Team Day, with students and staff wearing apparel with logos of their favorite teams.
- Thursday—Girls Soccer vs. Lawrence. Theme: Crazy Socks Day.
- Friday—Homecoming Football vs. Lawrence. Theme: Purple and White Day.

The Homecoming activities were organized by the ASB Leadership Club, a service organization open to all Hampden Academy students. Among other activities, the group provides volunteer mentors for freshmen during their first day of school at Hampden Academy.

The faculty advisor is Rob Kissinger.

Madison Rishton, a senior and Leadership Club member, said Homecoming Week "is one of my favorite weeks of the school year."

Paige Malkow, also a senior, agreed.

"You get to dress up crazy and be you—and show as much school spirit as you can," she said.

The ASB Leadership Club meets regularly throughout the school-year, according to Mr. Kissinger.

"We have done a number of things over the years, from Food



Members of the Hampden Academy ASB Leadership Club, who mentored freshmen during their first day of school.

Boxes for the needy in Belfast to organizing and advertising for the Hike for the Homeless. All of these events are open to any student who would like to join the club."

He said school climate is a main goal for the club, and so the main charge centers around the Mentor Program.

"Mentors are Leadership students who apply to help acclimate the incoming 9th graders each year," he says. "Mentors are Leadership students, but not all Leadership students are Mentors."

The Mentors run the Step Ahead Night in the spring, do a Freshmen Pre-Season day in the summer, and completely run the first day of school at Hampden Academy, where incoming freshmen, transfer students, and foreign exchange students are the only ones in attendance.

"These are big events and long days, so it is what we are generally



The senior class team enjoyed Powder Puff football during Homecoming Week.

known for," Mr. Kissinger says. "Leadership Club continues to work throughout the year on smaller projects, such as decorating and running Homecoming."

Mr. Kissinger notes that while anyone can join the club, the students who participate have developed a

tradition of honor and elevated standards. "Leaders [student members of Leadership] demonstrate responsibility and community service," he says. "They give back hours and hours of their summer by helping to make the next year, and the next round of students, the best they can be."



Emily Gonthier and Justin Hatch (left photo), Garrett Soule and Isabella Pressey (center photo), and Sydnie Phillips and Jaden Clewley (right photo) rehearse scenes from “Welcome to the Monkey House.”

Drama Club to present ‘Welcome to the Monkey House’ Dec. 1-3

The Hampden Academy Drama Club will present *Welcome to the Monkey House*, a drama based on a series of short stories by Kurt Vonnegut, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Dec. 1-3, starting at 6:30 p.m. each night at the Performing Arts Center.

Drama Club advisor Jenn Guare, who is directing the production, said she chose it for its literary merit and because she wanted to offer the student actors—particularly the seniors—an opportunity to perform something that isn’t a comedy.

“We’ve done comedy for the past three years,” she said. “I wanted to give

the students a chance to try out some different things, stretch some different muscles, and grow as performers.”

She said the show, which was dramatized by Christopher Sergel, is a “backstage story” about a community theater group in the fictional town of North Crawford that has decided to put on a series of four short plays based on Kurt Vonnegut short stories.

Over the course of the play, the audience sees a group of community theater actors as they interact with each other—and as they perform the four plays.

In effect, it’s five plays in one,

and each of the actors performs two roles—one role as a member of the theater troupe and a separate role as the character he or she plays.

“Everybody who has a character to play has to come up with two different personalities for that character—the character in the show and actor performing that character,” says senior Justin Hatch, who plays characters in two of the vignettes.

Ms. Guare said *Welcome to the Monkey House* is also different in that there’s really no lead performer.

“It’s very ensemble-based,” said Justin. “We all have to work together—more than we ever have before.”

Harmony Stetson, also a senior, agreed. “No one character is more important than another one,” she said.

Mikayla Holmes added that past musical performances have had ensembles, but they have always had lead roles.

“Now we don’t really really have any lead roles, so we’re all kind of an ensemble,” she said. “It’s a different dynamic, but it’s better, I think.”

Another challenge for the cast is the contrast between comedy and straight drama.

“It’s different, very different,” said Justin. “Our challenge for the past three years has been how to we make the audience laugh. Now we have to figure out how can we be entertaining without relying on verbal appreciation.”

Ms. Guare said it’s easy for actors in a comedy to tell how they’re doing because if the audience likes the show, they’re laughing.

“In a straight drama, how do they recognize audience engagement without the immediate feedback of laughter,” she asked. “We’ve just started. We’ve talked a lot about how to break the audience’s heart

instead of making them laugh.”

So far, the cast is enjoying the experience.

“It’s going to be a good show,” says Harmony. “It’s going to be an interesting challenge. It will be fun to put on a show that’s so different from we’ve done the past two years.”

Cast members include seniors Justin Hatch, Mikayla Holmes, Avery Maietta, Paige Malkow, Emily Parent, Isabella Pressey, Rebekah Sands, Hunter Spencer, and Harmony Stetson; juniors Danielle Barrett, Alexandra Buzzini, Emily Gonthier, Nicholas Parker, Mikayla Patel, Sydnie Phillips, and Garrett Soule; sophomores Jaden Clewley, Nathan Manaker, and Eleanor Prescott; and freshmen Teodora Blejeru, India Hendricks, Grace Koelbl, and Phoebe Wagner.

Rob Kissinger is the technical director and set designer. Junior Terra Malkow is the student director.

The crew includes Isaac Anderson, Mia Hendricks, Garrett Donovan, Jennifer Parks, Clara Simpson, Rachel Lyons, Miles Martin, Natalie Pyle, Lisa Reitmayer, Andrew Tilley, and Emiline Verhare.

Cast members and students in HA’s Introduction to the Performing Arts Center class are also working backstage to bring the show to life.

‘Poetry Out Loud’

Hampden Academy’s school-wide Poetry Out Loud competition will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 22 (the last day of school before Christmas vacation) in Performing Arts Center.

Students in the schoolwide competition qualify by winning their classroom competitions.

For more information, contact Sam Manhart in Room 211 or email him at smanhart@rsu22.us.

‘Play It Forward IV’ coming Jan. 12

Pat Michaud’s Music Technology class is looking for students who have written original music to see if they would like to participate in Play It Forward IV, a CD release event that the class sponsors every other year.

Students selected for Play It Forward IV will be able to have their music recorded in a professional music studio and put on a CD.

The CD release event will be held at the Performing Arts Center on Thursday, January 12, at 7 p.m.

Mr. Michaud says the event is called “Play It Forward IV” because after expenses, all of the funds from sale of CDs plus collections at the door of the CD release event go to charity. This is the fourth time the event has been held.

The expenses are minimal. Andrew Clifford, owner of Main Street Music Studios in Brewer, gives the class a substantial discount on studio time, which is covered by the Music Department budget, so the only cost is mastering the CD and making duplicate copies for sale.

This year, funds from Play It Forward IV will benefit Sienna Probert, a junior at Hampden Academy who is fighting cancer.

“Sienna’s family has had to make a lot of sacrifices to help her,” Mr. Michaud said. “We want to do whatever we can to help them.”

The Music Technology class provides students with an opportunity to train on all of the audio equipment at Hampden Academy. Then they go to Main Street Music Studios where they visit Mr. Clifford’s

recording studio and learn how that process works.

A series of auditions for the CD will be held in October and November, and the students who are selected will be scheduled for recording sessions at Main Street Music Studios, where their music will be digitally mastered and professionally recorded. The CD will include only original material, so the class doesn’t have to deal with any copyright issues.

The Music Technology students will then produce the CD, including all of the artwork, advertising, and publicity for the CD release event.

At the CD release event, the student musicians will play the music they recorded and anything else they want to play. The Music Technology students will also be active during the CD release event, operating the sound in the PAC, setting things up on stage, running microphones, connecting guitars and pianos and making sure they’re all working the way they should be.

“As they go through this process, the Music Technology students will see that people who aren’t performers can become involved in the music business,” Mr. Michaud says. “The students do the set up, the recording, and all the marketing for the event. They’ll notify the local radio and TV stations and the newspapers. About a month before the event, we’ll have big marketing blitz get the word out that this is happening. Our ultimate goal is to fill up the PAC, and make a great donation to Sienna and her family.”

Hampden Academy Direct Dial Phone Numbers

Alternative Education.....	862-6429
Athletic Office.....	862-3985
Cyr Bus	862-3984
Food Services (HA)	862-7334
Guidance Office	862-4111
Health Center	862-5570
Library	862-3549
Main Office	862-3791
Music Office.....	862-4962
Technology Office	862-3335

2016 Blue Ribbon School

(Continued from page 1)

ton, DC, on November 7th and 8th to recognize the school's hard-won achievements.

* * *

Students and faculty at Reeds Brook celebrated the Blue Ribbon School announcement at an assembly after lunch on Friday, Sept. 30.

Superintendent Rick Lyons, Principal Regan Nickels, and science teacher Lori Matthews congratulated the students on a job well done and said their hard work had paid off.

Mrs. Nickels asked the students to give a rousing applause to their teachers because "they helped lead you on this journey."

The students responded enthusiastically.

Mrs. Matthews said the students were asked during the assembly why they thought Reeds Brook had been honored as a Blue Ribbon School.

"Their responses were awesome," she said. "One student said it was because we follow our core values and do the best we can. Another said we always try as hard as we can and don't give up."

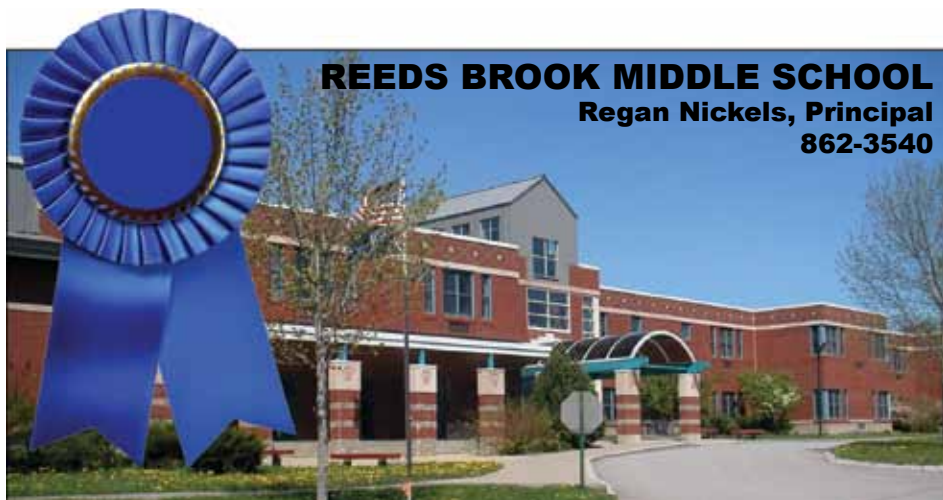
What was striking, she said, was that the comments weren't about being smart, but rather about things like persevering, working hard, and keeping at it.

Some of these themes were in evidence a few days later when

inter-



Superintendent Rick Lyons congratulates Reeds Brook students.



REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL
Regan Nickels, Principal
862-3540

viewed a group of Reeds Brook students about the Blue Ribbon award.

"I know that our school has a good reputation," said 8th grader Keagan Haskell. "This makes our reputation even better."



Kennedy Sharpe

Kennedy Sharpe, a 7th grader, said the award was a good opportunity for Reeds Brook because it recognizes that "teachers put a lot of work into making sure the students do well in school."

"Everyone works hard," added 7th grader Emma Haskell (no relation to Keagan). "Both the teachers and students work hard."



Emma Haskell

"The teachers make us feel like we're a good school and learning, so we feel comfortable with our education," said Naveen Jones, 8th grade.

The students had a number of other positive comments about their school.

"The kids and the staff all follow our Core Values—respect, honesty, responsibility, and compassion," said Kennedy.

"It's a nice, clean school," added Naveen. "Everybody respects everybody."

"There's not a lot of bullying," said Keagan.

When Link-22 asked what was really good about Reeds Brook, Kennedy talked about "how awesome the teachers are," while Emma said, "how respectful everyone is of others," and Naveen said "how nice and honest and comfortable everybody is."

Keagan mentioned how comforting the teachers are. "They're not stressed all the time—they try to make us feel like this is home."

* * *

Nominations for the Blue Ribbon School program were based on test scores showing overall academic excellence. To qualify, Reeds Brook students had to score in the top 15 percent statewide in reading and math,

and all subgroups within the school scored in the top 40 percent in reading and math.

Once nominated, the school had to prepare a formal application for the award, which was submitted to the U.S. Department of Education last March. The application was prepared by a committee com-

prised of Rachel Larrabee and Nancy Simpson, math teachers and members of the Faculty Council; Karyn Field, 8th grade teacher who has been involved in the NEASC accreditation process; Tom Leonard and Gail Ociepka, special education teachers; and Mrs. Matthews and Mrs. Nickels.

The application process involved answering a variety of questions about instruction, assessment, community outreach, extracurricular activities and other areas to explain why the school had been able to achieve such high learning standards.

"We had to provide evidence about each area," said Mrs. Field. "We quickly realized that we needed to be as detailed as possible in terms of providing opportunities for all kinds of kids, all kinds of learners, and all kinds of interests. At Reeds Brook, the entire school day, both during and after school, is geared to all students and not just a certain type of learner."

"The bottom line is that we were recognized because we're high-achieving, and we're high achieving because we meet the needs of all different kinds of kids. The best part was that it was easy to do—we do have all of those things, and we didn't have to go looking for them. In fact, if anything, we had to hold back and focus on the major things we were doing in each of those categories."

* * *

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students either achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content.



Naveen Jones



Keagan Haskell

NEW STAFF AT REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sarah Baillargeon, Nurse

Sarah Baillargeon is the new school nurse at Reeds Brook Middle School.

She comes to RSU 22 from Eastern Maine Medical Center, where she worked in the transfer center for two years, assisting doctors throughout the state when they needed to transfer patients to EMMC.

She also worked in the EMMC cardiology unit for about 8 months.

Previously, Mrs. Baillargeon was a nurse at Penobscot Valley Hospital in Lincoln for seven years. She also served as a job specialist for Jobs for Maine Graduates for five years, including two years at Foxcroft Academy and three years at Waterville High School.

Originally from the Patten-Sherman area, Mrs. Baillargeon graduated from Katahdin High School. She received her associate's degree in Nursing from Southern Maine Community College and her bachelor's degree in Psychology from Champlain College in Burlington, VT.

She and her husband Joe live in Hampden with their two boys, ages 5 and 7, who are in kindergarten and second grade at McGraw School.

She says most of their activities, including soccer, Cub Scouts, and camping, revolve around their two little boys.

"They keep us busy," she said.



Sarah Baillargeon

Audrey Cliff, Math

Audrey Cliff has joined the staff at Reeds Brook Middle School as a math teacher for grades 6, 7, and 8.

A graduate of Hermon High School, she received her B.S. degree in Secondary Education in May with a concentration in mathematics.

She did her student teaching last spring at Reeds Brook, where her mentor teacher was Nancy Simpson, who retired in June.

Ms. Cliff lives in Bangor. She enjoys playing ultimate frisbee and tennis.



Audrey Cliff

Deborah Colpitts, Science and Social Studies

Deborah Colpitts, who graduated from Husson University in December 2015, is teaching science and social studies at Reeds Brook Middle School.

Previously, she held long-term sub positions at Hermon High School and Carmel Elementary School.

At Husson, Ms. Colpitts had a double major in elementary education and secondary education in life science. She also played for the Husson softball team, seeing action as a pitcher, first baseman, and outfielder.

A native of Levant, she graduated from Hermon High School.

She still lives in Levant and enjoys fishing, hiking, and all sports. She's an avid softball and baseball fan. Last year, she coached the softball team at Caravel Middle School in Carmel.



Deborah Colpitts



Staff and students at Reeds Brook celebrated their selection as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School by hanging blue ribbons a tree in the cafeteria.

More information about the National Blue Ribbon Schools program can be found at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.ml>.

At Wagner Middle School, the first two days set the tone for the school year

One of the traditions at Wagner Middle School is to use the first two days of school to set the tone for the rest of the year.

The process starts in August, when the teachers get together for their annual “volunteer day” to make plans for those first two days.

“The idea is to establish a climate for learning through a variety of activities,” says Principal Richard Glencross. “The activities are fun, but they are strategically designed to help students understand routines—and to build a leadership capacity among students where older students model behaviors for younger students.”

Lunchtime Sports is back at Wagner

Lunchtime Sports is back at Wagner Middle School, and the students are enjoying it.

The first session this fall was a walking unit called “Wagner on the Move,” in which students walked after lunch and kept track of their mileage.

The students picked the top five places they wanted to “visit” during the exercise, and they walked a total of 1,631 miles during the session.

Jen Deprey, physical education and health teacher at Wagner, said Lunchtime Sports the transitioned

On the first day of school, August 30, students entering the building were all greeted by staff in the lobby and given a Wagner Pride pin.

“Right off the bat, a welcoming climate was established, and students were able to understand that they’re part of something bigger than themselves,” Dr. Glencross said.

The positive climate was further emphasized during the initial welcome meeting in the gym, where remarks by Dr. Glencross and staff members were punctuated by door prize drawings, which continued at various times through the first two days.

Time was built into the schedule

to a soccer unit. Students had the option of playing on a lunchtime soccer team, serving as soccer officials, or cheering on their classmates. Some students chose to continue walking.

“They had lots of choices,” Ms. Deprey said. “They can decide what they want to do during that time.”

The lunch period at Wagner lasts 40 minutes. Students eat lunch during the first 20 minute; during the last 20 minutes they have an opportunity to play sports or otherwise work off excess energy.

sion Math,” she said. “For example, a teacher could ‘flip the classroom’ and allow students to watch videos corresponding to the lessons at home, and thereby providing more time for one-to-one and small group support in the classroom. The program allows teachers to try varied approaches, while at the same time ensuring consistency throughout the district.”

Dr. Glencross adds that Envision Math also works well for RSU 22 students who want to accelerate their learning and take algebra in grade 8.

“This isn’t new, but it will help students as they move up from grade 6 to be ready for algebra in grade 8,” he says.

One of the goals of the task force that recommended Envision Math was to find a math program that is closely aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which were adopted for the Maine Learning Results in 2011.

Ms. Larrabee said the task force studied and piloted multiple CCSS-aligned math programs during its two years of deliberations, before reaching a consensus that Envision Math 2.0 was the best choice.

“Teachers are excited about the digital components, such as intervention and enrichment opportunities, as well as the ability to track CCSS standards within the program,” she said. “Math teachers are also excited about the uniformity and structure across all schools in the district.”

Dr. Glencross agreed.

“As the district moves towards a standards-based reporting system, we wanted to find a math program that was tighter-aligned to what we’re doing,” he said. “We also thought it would be better if the recommendation came from the teachers, because they understand the teaching and learning process better than anyone—and and they know what the needs of our kids are.”



WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL
Richard Glencross, Principal, 223-4309

to welcome the 5th graders and show them how to use their lockers—important information for the younger students who have never had a locker before.

The program included a review of school policies and expectations, and the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders had an opportunity to go to their mixed-grade-level homerooms.

“Homerooms with multiple grade levels have been a Wagner tradition for many years,” Dr. Glencross says. “It gives the older students an opportunity to model behavior and be role models for the younger students.”

When 5th graders started coming to Wagner five years ago, the staff decided not to include them in the mixed-grade-level homerooms, because they’re already being eased into the school from a more self-contained environment to a less self-contained environment.

One activity on the first day this year was to ask the students to identify five “Wagner words.”

Each homeroom group nominated three words that described what the students want Wagner to be for

the year—in effect, a theme for the year. On the second day, the students voted, and the top five “Wagner words” were:

Fun
(Full of) Pride
Creative
Bully-free
Unforgettable

In addition to their homeroom groups, the students were introduced to their Wagner Family groups on Day 1.

For the past two years, all teachers at Wagner have had a mixed-grade groups of students called “Families.” These Family groups (which include 5th graders) meet periodically throughout the year for various activities. On Day 2 (August 31), the Families got together and played a series of games called the Wagner Olympics to promote teamwork and leadership and to help them get to know each other.

The Day 2 activities also included a fire drill and a shortened version of the Thursday schedule, so the younger students would know where they would have to go on that day.

Reeds Brook, Wagner implement new math program

The two middle schools in RSU 22—Reeds Brook and Wagner—have implemented a new math curriculum this year for students in grades 6-8.

The program, Envision Math 2.0, was recommended after a two-year study by a panel of teachers from both schools.

“The decision really came from the teachers,” said Wagner Principal Richard Glencross. “They understand the curriculum standards, and they also understand the teaching and learning process. They were able to pick the program that is best aligned with what our needs are.”

Envision Math was piloted last year, and this year it’s being used in all math classes in grades 6-8 at both schools.

Chris Gould, 6th grade math teacher at Wagner, said the new curriculum is web-based, so students can work at home if they have an internet connection. Students also get a workbook that makes it easy for them to practice their lessons or complete assignments at home without an internet connection.

He said there are many different things students can do on the computer, including doing practice problems and watching “Virtual Nerd,” a series of online videos where a character on the screen explains what the topic will be covering.

Mr. Gould noted that students can also do quizzes or assessments online.

“If students do poorly on a quiz, Envision Math will come up with worksheets that allow them to practice the skills that they need to work on,” he said.

Rachel Larrabee, who teaches math in grades 6-8 at Reeds Brook, says the program is very rigorous, but the continuity of each lesson allows for a streamlined approach.

“Teachers will be able to apply their own individual teaching styles and strategies while using Envi-

NEW STAFF AT WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Jen Deprey, Physical Education and Health

Jen Deprey, who taught physical education at Hampden Academy last year, is now teaching physical education and health at Wagner Middle School.

Previously, she spent four years as the manager of the Olympia Sports store in Old Town. Before that, she taught physical education at Brewer High School for two years.

While at Brewer High School, she was an assistant soccer coach and head coach of the softball team.

During the winter, she works as a high school basketball official.

A native of Bangor, she attended Bangor High School and graduated from the University of Maine with a B.S. degree in Kinesiology and Physical Education.

Mrs. Deprey enjoys coaching, enjoying spending time outside, hiking, and gardening. She and her husband live in Holden.



Jen Deprey

Charla Lowell, Guidance

Charla Lowell, who served as guidance counselor at Central High School in Corinth last year, is the new guidance counselor at Wagner Middle School.

Mrs. Lowell is now in her 16th year in guidance. After graduating from the University of Maine with a B.A. in Psychology and an M.Ed. in Counselor Education, she started at Leavitt Area High School, where she stayed 2½ years before she had to leave because of family medical issues.

She held a half-time position in the



Charla Lowell

Orono School System for a year and then went to Schenck High School in East Millinocket, her high school alma mater, where she stayed for 11 years.

She and her husband, a Merchant Marine engineer, decided to relocate to Hampden two years ago. Mrs. Lowell spent a year to become familiar with the area and substitute taught, primarily at Weatherbee School. When she decided she was ready to go back to work, she got the job at Central.

The Lowells have a 10-year-old daughter who is in 5th grade at Weatherbee.

Mrs. Lowell says she enjoys watching sports, reading, and following her daughter, who plays soccer, basketball, and softball.

Ian Hall, Science and Social Studies

Ian Hall has joined the staff at Wagner Middle School as a 5th grade writing, science, and social studies teacher.

For the past two years, Mr. Hall taught at Mountain View School, a PK-8 school in Sullivan.

He taught 3rd grade in the first year and a mixed-proficiency group of 3rd and 4th graders in the second year.

Before that, he worked part-time as a produce farm farmhand for Chase’s Daily in Palermo for four years while earning his B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Maine.

Mr. Hall grew up in Monroe, where he still lives. He attended Mt. View High School.

He enjoys playing the guitar and bass guitar, along with fishing (mostly salt water fishing for mackerel and a few small stripers) and golf. His family recently purchased land on Ambejejus Lake, which has introduced him to the joys of lake fishing.



Ian Hall

HA Robotics Team keeps growing; now at 31

The Hampden Academy Robotics team keeps growing.

Now in its fourth year of competition, the Gearheads have 31 students, up from 24 last year and just 7 during the first two years.

The increase occurred despite the loss of eight seniors to graduation, including four of the six original team members who helped start the Robotics program as freshmen.

Two of those graduated seniors—Zac Perry and Nick Hashey—have volunteered to come back and help now when their college schedules permit. Zac is a freshman at Eastern Maine Community College, and Nick is a freshman at the University of Maine at Augusta's Bangor campus.

At this point, the Gearheads are scheduled to compete in three VEX Robotics competitions:

- Nov. 12 at John Bapst H.S.
- Dec. 3 at Hall-Dale H.S.
- January 21 at Erskine Academy.

On February 18 the State Championship meet will be held at Hampden

Academy. Last year, all four Gearhead teams qualified for the state meet.

This year's robotics game is called VEX Star Struck. A YouTube video describing the game can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0t2zstQ84Tw&noredirect=1>

This year's Gearheads roster includes four teams, as follows:

Team 9343 A—Devon Downs, Riah Malachi, Kaelan Dinwiddie, Jordan Collins, Miles Martin, Ariel Thompson, Alexis Pressey, and Panithan Rithbui.

Team 9343 B—Will Collins, Nate Jordan, Alex Smith, Steven Santiago, Izaiah Swartz, Nick Gauthier, and Conan Harmon.

Team 9343 C—Bekah Novak,



Robotics team members start assembling their robots.

Austin Wilson, Ty Knappe, Annika Witt, Robert Brown, Matt Southard, and Mia-Tatiana Hendricks

Team 9343 D—Elliot Mulford-Layne, Kyle Prim, Ryan Scott, Zach Scott, Colby Whitmore, and Zeb Sanborn

Note: the list may be incomplete because of restrictions on publicizing student identities.

10th annual Susan Abraham Swimathon set for Dec. 21 at Lura Hoit Pool

The Hampden Academy Swim Team is proud to announce the 10th Annual Susan Abraham Swimathon on Tuesday, December 21, 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. In the coming days, Hampden Academy swimmers will be asking for pledges of support.

Be boldly generous: this event raises funds to benefit the Susan Abraham Senior Swimmer Scholarship, the Hampden Academy Swim Team, and swim lessons for district children who otherwise would not be able to afford them.

For more information, or if you'd like to swim in the swimathon, see Mr. Manhart in Room 211 or contact him at smanhart@rsu22.us.

RSU 22 ADULT EDUCATION FALL 2016

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

High School Completion, HiSET and Basic Literacy Instruction

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

Distance Learning Courses

We continue to offer, through a partnership with Education to Go, nearly 500 interactive personal enrichment online courses to residents of RSU 34 and neighboring communities. All classes are instructor-led, fit into convenient six-week formats and are affordably priced. Some of the more popular course titles include:

Creating WordPress Websites	Accounting Fundamentals
Discover Sign Language	Computer Skills for the Workplace
A to Z Grant Writing	Publish and Sell Your E-Books
Grammar Refresher	Introduction to Java Programming
Genealogy Basics	Introduction to Windows 10
Writing for Children	Introduction to PC Troubleshooting
Beginner's Guide to Getting Published	Introduction to Guitar
Assisting Aging Parents	Start Your Own Small Business
Introduction to Statistics	Getting Started in Game Development
Write Your Life Story	Introduction to Natural Health and Healing

To view a complete catalog of distance learning courses, visit our page: www.ed2go.com/rsu22.

New Free Online Courses & Trainings

Through a new partnership with a company called Atomic Learning, we are now able to offer to our residents free access to a variety of educational blogs, videos and online tutorials. If interested, please contact us at 862-6422 or at mtardie@rsu26.us. Some of these topics are:

Web Design	Web Applications	Career Skills
Teaching Strategies	College Success	Communication Skills
Computer Skills	Photography	Finance
Professional Development	Presentations	Operations Systems
Classroom Management	Graphic Design Word Processing	

Personal Enrichment Courses

Once again this fall, we are offering a wide assortment of personal enrichment courses and workshops. Some courses that that will still be starting in October and November include:

Primitive Rug Hooking	Jewelry Making	Basic Bike Maintenance
Morning Yoga	How to Buy & Sell on eBay	Greeting Card Workshops
Zumba	Meditation and Relaxation	Tai Chi
Penny Rugs	One-Night Quilting Classes	Wreath Making
Mason Jar Seasonal Gifts	Maine Driving Dynamics	Basic First Aid
Baking & Cooking	Hunter's Safety	Thanksgiving Pies
Christmas Kissing Ball	First Aid for Pets	Caring for Your Senior Pet
Intro to Animal Behavior	DIY Your Own Website/Blog	Intro to Kindle Publishing
Making Pita Bread at Home	YouTube Creator for Parents & Teens	
Personal Fitness Training	Introduction to Etsy	The Russian Enigma
Introduction to iMovie		

To view our complete Fall 2016 course schedule go to: www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com

Planning for the Winter & Spring

We generally start to put together our winter and spring class schedule in early November. As always, we love to hear from folks as to courses that they would like to see us offer or courses that they would like to teach. Please contact us at 862-6422 or at mtardie@rsu22.us.

Fall chess tournament to start Oct. 25

The Chess Club's annual fall tournament will begin October 25, according to Sam Manhart, the club's faculty advisor.

The tournament will be open to anyone in the school and will be single elimination. Games will be played during Chess Club time or at a time of the players' convenience during the one-week

window allotted for each round. Both students and staff are welcome.

The Chess Club meets Tuesday afternoons after school in Mr. Manhart's room (Room 211). Except for tournament play, students of like abil-



Chess Club action in Mr. Manhart's room (Room 211): Andrew Pinkos vs. Daniel Trojecki.

ity play each other, and students who are knowledgeable about chess teach students who are learning the game.

Students who miss the fall tournament can enter the spring tournament.

4th Annual Hampden Academy Shakespeare Film Festival

Romeo and Juliet

Tuesday, October 25th, 2016
Starring Orlando Bloom & Condola Rashad
Broadway play filmed in HD, 2013

Othello

Tuesday, November 1st, 2016
Starring Laurence Fishburne & Kenneth Branagh
Directed by Oliver Parker, 2000

Macbeth

Tuesday, February 28th, 2017
NEW! 2015 film directed by Justin Kurzel and starring Michael Fassbender as Macbeth

Scotland, PA.

Tuesday, March 14th, 2017
Modern version of *Macbeth* set in a hamburger stand in Pennsylvania. Directed by Billy Morissette, 2001

ALL SHOWS START AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE HAMPDEN ACADEMY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER.

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All proceeds will further Arts and Humanities education in RSU #22

NEW STAFF AT HAMPDEN ACADEMY

Amy Gilman, Chemistry

Amy Gilman, a former chemical engineer who spent seven years in New Zealand, is now teaching chemistry at Hampden Academy.

A native of Hampden, Ms. Gilman graduated from Hampden Academy in 1990 and received her chemical engineering degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

She worked for 12 years in research and development, including two years for Polycycled Laminates, a manufacturer of circuit boards in New Hampshire, and 10 years for Rogers Corp., a specialty materials company located in Rogers, CT.

Ms. Gilman met her husband, a mechanical engineer, while both worked for Rogers Corp. In 2006, they decided to move to Christchurch, New Zealand, where he helped build turbines for the wind power industry and she stayed at home with their first child.

After seven years in New Zealand, they decided to move back to Hampden after a series of major earthquakes devastated 80% of the city center in Christchurch. Stringent building codes prevented more serious damage and loss of life, but most of the buildings suffered structural damage such that they wouldn't have been able to survive another major quake, and they had to be demolished. "Christchurch was a difficult place to live in with so many buildings torn down," she said.

In Hampden, they relocated into a home that had previously been owned by Ms. Gilman's parents. The house required major renovations, and for the past three years Ms. Gilman has served as project manager for the remodeling effort.

Ms. Gilman and her husband have two children, a boy, 8, in 3rd grade, and a girl, 10, in 5th grade, both at Weatherbee School.

Ms. Gilman enjoys making soap and going to the family camp, which is located off the grid on Brandy Pond about 30 miles ENE of Old Town.

She describes soap-making as a hobby, but it's also an opportunity to experiment as a chemist.

"It's all chemistry," she explains. "Soap-making allows the bored engineer at home to change the components of the soap to make different kinds of lather and achieve different kinds of cleaning. It's an interesting exercise in lab work at home. Besides, it's no fun to do the same thing all the time."

Crystall Davidson, Special Ed

Crystall Davidson, who spent the last 18 years as an orthodontist assistant in Waterville, is now a special education teacher in the Learning Center at Hampden Academy.

She received her B.A. degree in Liberal Studies with a minor in psychology from the University of Maine at Augusta in August. She said she was able to take an alternative pathway because she had taken a number of college courses in past years.

She said she enjoyed working in the orthodontist's office, but she had always been interested in teaching. "It was just a question of when—and then just doing it," she said, adding that as her daughters got older, it became easier to go back to school and make the transition.

"That's what I did," she said.

Ms. Davidson lives in Oakland. She gained her pre-teaching experience at Messalonskee High School in Oakland.

Her oldest daughter is a sophomore at Southern Maine Community College in Portland. Her youngest daughter is in

7th grade at Reeds Brook Middle School and commutes to Hampden with her.

"My daughter decided if she was going to switch schools, she'd rather do it now," Ms. Davidson said. "She's enjoying it."

She said the family is likely to relocate in the near future.

She says her family enjoys the arts, especially visual arts, and they like going to arts activities. They also enjoy hiking and hockey.

Amy Sidell, Biology

Amy Sidell, a former environmental engineer who has served as advisor to Hampden Academy's Envirothon Team for the last four years, has joined the staff at HA as a biology teacher.

For 10 years, she was a stay-at-home mom. Last year, she returned to the classroom to perform long-term sub assignments at Hampden Academy and Reeds Brook.

Previously, she worked as an environmental engineer for Fluor Daniel GTI in Boston and Seattle and later for Phillip Services Corp. in Seattle.

After her first child was born, she and her husband decided that although Seattle was a fun place for young adults, they wanted to raise their children in Maine. They now live in Hampden with their two sons, a 4th grader at Weatherbee School and a 6th grader at Reeds Brook Middle School.

Ms. Sidell graduated from Old Town High School and attended Dartmouth College, where she received her B.S. degree in Environmental Engineering. She also has a Master's degree in Forest Soils from the University of Washington.

Her husband works as a computer programmer for Adobe. He helped create InDesign, the page layout program which is used in publishing the *Link-22*.

Ms. Sidell says she enjoys gardening, hanging out with her family, and spending time at their camp on Pleasant River Lake in Beddington.

Jessica Scott, Physics and Science

Jessica Scott, a Hampden resident of seven years and former school board member who ran a landscaping and construction business in Brewer for several years, is now teaching physics and freshman science at Hampden Academy. Before coming to HA, Mrs. Scott taught biology, physics, anatomy and physiology, and earth science at Mt. View High School in Thorndike for three years.

Previously, she and her husband Andrew ran two companies, A. J. Scott Systems Inc, a facilities maintenance/construction company, and Precision Lawn Care, a landscaping company, both in Brewer. She enjoyed the outdoors, so she decided to put her courses in soil science and botany to work by forming a landscaping company. Mrs. Scott attended the University of Maine at Farmington pursuing a degree in Secondary Science Education, but decided to become an entrepreneur. Mrs. Scott states that her "experiences in business provided a unique perspective regarding the academic and social skills needed in today's workplace." She believes in "personalized learning and that all students can be successful when teachers connect with them and help them to identify their strengths and interests."

After her two children started pre-school and kindergarten in RSU 22, she

decided to pursue the teaching profession again realizing the impact she would have on the future. Mrs. Scott notes that she comes from a long line of educators. Her grandfather served as principal at Presque Isle High School and headmaster at Lee Academy, her grandmother was a French and Latin teacher, her father was an instructor and later Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, and her mother recently retired as an elementary principal after 37 years in MSAD 49, primarily at Benton Elementary School. Her father is currently a professor at Thomas College and implemented the first Criminal Justice program at the college. She came to understand "the rewards of teaching and leading in education as it comes with great responsibility and she is passionate about making a difference in the lives of children."

In 2009 the Scotts moved from Holden to Hampden because of RSU 22's reputation for educational excellence. Their two daughters, Alexis and Abby, are now in 4th and 5th grade at Weatherbee School. Mrs. Scott's commitment to education took another step forward in 2012, when she was elected to the RSU 22 Board of Directors. She served for two years but resigned in July 2014 because of her graduate studies at UMaine and commute to Mt. View. "I loved my time on the board," she said. "Having that degree of involvement in education was really worthwhile."

Mrs. Scott has pursued graduate studies full-time over the last five years after enrolling in the Master of Arts in Teaching program at the University of Maine in the fall of 2011. She received her Master's degree in 2013, and started teaching at Mt. View that fall. She will be graduating in December of 2016 with her CAS in Educational Leadership from UMaine.

Mrs. Scott grew up in Fairfield and graduated from Lawrence High School, where she played on two state championship basketball teams with Cindy Blodgett. Mrs. Scott coaches basketball through the Hampden Rec children's program in the winter and also enjoys downhill skiing with her family. She says she often travels with her family, mainly down the East coast as her parents and one of her sisters have homes in Florida. She is most often found supporting her daughters as they pursue theater, basketball, and guitar lessons, as well as watching the New England Patriots.

Marjorie Earl, Special Ed

Marjorie Earl, the owner of ATA Martial Arts in Hampden for the past 10 years, has joined the staff at Hampden Academy as a special education teacher.

Before coming to HA, Ms. Earl served as director of a federal half-way house in Bangor for 18 months and as a special education ed tech at Reeds Brook Middle School for five years.

Previously, she was a federal probation officer in Bangor for 15 years and a state probation officer in Wyoming for one year.

Ms. Earl is from Glen Ellyn, IL, near Chicago, and received her B.A. in Administration of Justice from the University of Wyoming. She also has an M.A. in Public Administration from the University of Maine.

She started working as a state probation officer in Wyoming. She transferred to the federal probation system and moved to Bangor.

She owns and operates ATA Martial Arts in Hampden, which is affiliated with the American Taekwondo Association. She has been a 4th degree black belt for six years and is currently training for her 5th degree belt.

Ms. Earl has two children, both

grown and out of the house. Her daughter, 22, lives in Washington state; her son, 20, lives in Bangor.

In addition to taekwondo, she enjoys kayaking and biking.

Mike Lalime, English

Mike Lalime, a Bangor native who had been working in sales in Connecticut, is now an English teacher at Hampden Academy.

After getting his Bachelor's degree from Saint Anselm College in Manchester, NH, in 2013, Mr. Lalime started working for Carousel Industries selling technology to schools. After two years, he decided that sales wasn't the right path for him, so he left his job and started taking on-line classes from St. Joseph's College of Maine in Standish to get his teaching certificate.

He also served as a teacher's assistant at King Phillip Middle School in West Hartford and as a home care professional working with autistic children in Connecticut.

He completed his student teaching at William H. Hall High School in West Hartford, CT.

Mr. Lalime attended Bangor High School for two years and then graduated from John Bapst High School.

He enjoys the outdoors—hiking, camping, and fishing—and music. He plays the guitar and performed in coffee shops in Connecticut.

Mr. Lalime married his wife, Torrie, of Glastonbury, CT, on July 4. They now live in Hermon.

Chelsea Harth, Kitchen Manager

Chelsea Harth, a native of Newport and graduate of Nokomis Regional High, is the new kitchen manager at Hampden Academy.

Mrs. Harth has been working in the food industry for the past six years, starting as a scratch baker and short order cook. She was a cook for Hollywood Casino from 2014 to 2015, when she became a cook for Stillwater Healthcare.

After a year at Stillwater Healthcare, she decided that a health care setting wasn't for her and accepted the position at HA. She still works at the casino during in-service days, holidays, and summer vacation.

For the past three years, she has been working on her B.S. degree in Public Health at Southern New Hampshire University.

Over time, she would like to either transition into a community health education program or continue building a better lunch program at HA by implementing local and native ingredients through a farm-to-table program.

"We have an excellent school garden in RSU 22 that promotes healthy eating as well as great educational opportunities for your students," she says.

Mrs. Harth is an avid gardener who loves to grow vegetables and flowers. "It's always exciting to start seedlings as spring approaches," she says.

She and her husband Nathan are frequent golfers who also enjoy hockey. They live in Etna with their son Philip, 6, and daughter Lillian, 5.



Amy Gilman



Amy Sidell



Jessica Scott



Marjorie Earl



Crystall Davidson

Substitute Teachers

All Schools

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GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL
Christine Boone, Principal
862-3254

NEW STAFF AT WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

Erin Adams, 3rd Grade

Erin Adams has joined the staff at George B. Weatherbee School as a 3rd grade teacher. She is on a three-person team with Mikki Libbey and Angela Pratt, teaching reading and spelling.

Erin graduated with a degree in Elementary Education from St. Joseph's College in Standish, ME. After graduation she taught first grade in Texas until the birth of her first child. She was a stay at home mom for 12 years while her children were growing up.

Last year she worked as an educational technician at Weatherbee. During the previous year, Mrs. Adams started substitute teaching when her two youngest children were in kindergarten so she could become familiar with RSU 22 policies and procedures. Mrs. Adams enjoyed the welcoming and supportive community at Weatherbee and knew it was where she wanted to continue her career.

Mrs. Adams is originally from Calais, and her husband is from Bangor. The Adams have lived in Hampden for the last three years and have four children—two sons who attend Reeds Brook Middle School in grades 6 and 7, and a son and a daughter in grade 2 at McGraw Elementary School.

Mrs. Adams says they enjoy spending time together and love baseball.



Erin Adams

Mr. Lovely and his wife Kari, who were married in August, live in Newburgh.

He enjoys the outdoors—hiking, camping, and disc golf (golf with a frisbee)—and spending time with their dog Harley. He also loves sports and plays at intramural level whenever possible.

Dannelle Farrell, Special Ed

Danelle Farrell, who spent the last 26 years teaching in Westerly, RI, has returned to Maine as a special education teacher at the George B. Weatherbee School.

She taught special education during her first seven years in Rhode Island but spent the last 19 years teaching second grade.

A native of Fort Fairfield in Aroostook County, she attended Fort Fairfield High School, graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a B.S. in education, got married and moved to the eastern Connecticut-Rhode Island area.

When she retired from the Westerly school system, she decided to move back to Maine—but not all the way to the County.

Ms. Farrell lives in Bangor with her daughter. She enjoys visiting with family, gardening, and reading.



Dannelle Farrell

Abby Marvin, 5th Grade

After working as a long-term sub for six months last spring, Abby Marvin has been hired as a 5th grade teacher at the George B. Weatherbee School this year.

This year, she's working on a team with Matt Lindemann and teaching math and writing.

As a long-term sub from December to June, she was on a 5th grade team with Carol Kiesman and teaching math, science, and social studies.

Ms. Marvin graduated from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Elementary Education and a concentration in math in December. During the fall semester, she did her student teaching at Weatherbee.

She grew up in Orrington and attended John Bapst High School.

She enjoys spending time outside and at camp. During the summer, she went whitewater rafting and got caught up on her reading—mostly about the Lucy Calkins writing program.

She lives in Orrington.



Abby Marvin

is to Greece in August! Ms. Swanson's office is in the portable at Weatherbee.

Kimberly Ackerson, Occupational Therapist

Kimberly Ackerson has joined the staff of RSU 22 as the occupational therapist for Reeds Brook Middle School and Wagner Middle School.

Mrs. Ackerson received her B.S. degree in Psychology from Husson University in 2014 and her M.S. degree in Occupational Therapy, also from Husson, in 2015. During the spring of 2015, she did a three-month placement in RSU 22 with the previous occupational



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

NEW STAFF AT MCGRAW SCHOOL

Samantha Pelletier, Kindergarten

Samantha Pelletier, who student taught in Amy Hanson's kindergarten class last spring, is a new kindergarten teacher at Earl C. McGraw School this year.

Ms. Pelletier graduated from the University of Maine in May with a B.S. in Elementary Education in May with a concentration in English and a minor in disability studies.

She also student taught in Lee Birmingham's 4th grade class at Weatherbee.

She grew up in Madawaska and was a member of the Madawaska High School Class of 2012.

She says she loves "being outdoors as much as I can," along with reading, spending time with family, and ice skating. She lives in Old Town.



Samantha Pelletier

Robin Gagner, Special Ed

Robin Gagner, a self-described "Jill of all trades," has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a special education teacher in the Life Skills program.

Robin grew up in Alexander, ME, between Woodland and Calais, and graduated from Woodland High School in 1989.

She received her B.S. with a major in Elementary Education from the University of Maine and for 10 years taught grades 3 and 6 at Woodland Elementary School and Holden Elementary School.

Robin took some time away from teaching to stay at home with her young children. During this period, she became a real estate agent. Selling real estate was something she could do on a part-time basis at hours that fit her own schedule. It has been a worthwhile and great learning experience for her. Along the way she has also been an independent business owner, a landscaper, an apartment owner, and a blackjack dealer. She has always looked forward to embarking on new adventures.

Once Robin's youngest child started school, she became eager to get back to education and working with children. She spent time substitute teaching, tutoring, and working as an educational technician in a variety of settings. She worked in the Early Childhood Program



Robin Gagner

at Newburgh Pre-K just last year. Her passion for teaching was something she got from her Dad, who was a teacher and principal for nearly 40 years.

Robin lives in Hampden and has three children—a daughter, Emily, a freshman at the University of Maine majoring in Nursing, a son, Beau, a freshman at Hampden Academy, and a son, Rylan, a 2nd grader at McGraw.

She says antiquing is one of her favorite hobbies. She also enjoys being outdoors—fishing, swimming, and camping. She doesn't do much hiking but enjoys nature walks. Most of all, she enjoys spending time with her children and extended family.

Brooke Boulanger, 2nd Grade

Brooke Boulanger, who teaches gymnastics in Fairfield and dance in Holden and Hampden, is a new 2nd grade teacher at Earl C. McGraw School.

Miss Boulanger comes to McGraw from Oakland, where she taught 1st grade for three years and Title I math for one year.

A native of Fairfield, she graduated from Lawrence High School and the University of Maine, where she received her B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education.

Miss Boulanger started learning gymnastics and dance when she was about 3 years old, and she has been teaching gymnastics for 12 years. She currently teaches gymnastics at Leaps N Bounds in Fairfield and dance at Top Hat II in Holden and Hampden.

She also enjoys downhill skiing, Zumba, and spending time outside.



Brooke Boulanger

Andrea Bozzino, Special Ed

Andrea Bozzino has joined the staff at Earl C. McGraw School as a special education teacher for grades K-2.

Mrs. Bozzino comes to McGraw from Old Town, where she was a special education teacher for grades 3-4 at Old Town Elementary School for a year, and at Leonard Middle School in Old Town, also for one year.

Before that, she was a special education teacher in Orono for three years.

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

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

The Bozzinos live in her grandparents' home in Winterport. They have three children—a sophomore at Hampden Academy who is a 4th generation student at the school, a 7th grader at Wagner Middle School, and a 2nd grader at Smith Elementary School.

Mrs. Bozzino says she loves to hike, most recently along the Bold Coast of Maine near Cutler.

She also enjoys spinning and knitting. She recently acquired two sheep, and plans to use spin their fleece into yarn.



Andrea Bozzino

NEW STAFF IN RSU 22

Brooke Swanson, Occupational Therapist

Brooke Swanson is the new occupational therapist for RSU 22 students at Hampden Academy and Weatherbee School

She received her B.S. degree in Psychology from Husson University in 2015 and her M.S. degree in Occupational Therapy, also from Husson, last May.

She grew up in Bar Harbor and graduated from Mount Desert Island High School. She will be getting married in August. Her hobbies include hiking in Acadia, walking the beach for sea glass (which she uses to make sea glass jewelry) and traveling. Her next trip



Brian Lovely

Smith Students learn about Habits of Mind

How aware are you of your own thinking habits? At Smith School, students are working hard to become the best learners they can be by learning about Habits of Mind (HOM). A Habit of Mind is knowing how to behave intelligently when you don't know the answers—what critical thinkers do. These skills and strategies can help students to be more aware of their own thinking, behavior and learning. There are 16 different habits.

Three times per month on Fridays students gather in the gym for 40 minutes and participate in an interactive, whole-school lesson that focuses on one of the Habits of Mind. In September, students focused on Managing Impulsivity (thinking before you act) and Listening with Empathy and Understanding (understanding how others feel and thinking about another person's point of view).

Each assembly begins with the singing of the Habits of Mind Song. During these assemblies, Mrs. Raymond (school counselor) helps keep students engaged by



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

using music, songs, videos and interactive games to help teach and reinforce each habit. Mrs. Harrington (school librarian) also helps students think more deeply about the habit by reading a story that connects to the habit of the week.

Teachers post each habit in their classroom and are working to integrate the habit into their school day by using the vocabulary and reminding students to use each habit.

Throughout the year, students will be learning about and practicing these Habits of Mind and will continue to build their skills and vocabulary.

Since the introduction of these habits over the past few years, students have begun to remember some of the habits and are able to identify when they could use them more easily.

Habits of Mind Song

(To the tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star)

We've got Habits, Habits of Mind
We are learning all the time.
We think about what we say and do.
We are problem-solvers too.
We've got Habits, Habits of Mind.
We are Learning all the time.

NEW STAFF AT SMITH SCHOOL

Leigh Robles, 4th Grade

Leigh Robles, who graduated from the University of Maine in May with a B.S. in Elementary Education, is a new 4th grade teacher at Leroy H. Smith School.



Leigh Robles

Originally from Littleton, CO, she wanted something different when she went to college, so she picked the University of Maine.

"I liked it, so I stayed," she said.

Ms. Robles lives in Hampden and enjoys crafting and painting and doing outdoorsy things, such as kayaking and hiking. She especially enjoys hiking the beehive summit in Acadia.

This is Ms. Robles' first teaching job. She student taught last spring in Dedham and Holden.

"I love teaching," she says. "I knew it was going to be fun, but having your own classroom is so much better than sharing a classroom with a mentor teacher."

Jale Chambers, 3rd Grade

Jale Chambers, a Wisconsin native who transferred to the University of Tampa in Florida and then to the University of Maine, is the new 3rd grade teacher at Leroy H. Smith School.



Jale Chambers

Mr. Chambers, who hails from Hartland, WI, about 20 miles west of Milwaukee, said he was studying criminal justice at a local technical college when he realized he didn't want to do that.

He transferred to Tampa and studied education, but didn't like the hot weather, so he transferred again, to UMaine.

"I like Maine," he says. "I love the outdoors—skiing, hiking, and kayaking. I grew up doing cross-country skiing in Wisconsin, but I prefer downhill skiing."

He did his student teaching for 7 weeks in a 3rd grade at Brewer Community School and for 8 weeks in a kindergarten at Downeast Elementary School in Bangor.

Mr. Chambers, who lives in Orono, says he enjoys teaching younger students.

"I love younger kids," he says. "I can speak to them and understand them. They look up to me."

Nandrea Patterson, Kindergarten

Nandrea Patterson, who student-taught at Leroy H. Smith School in the fall of 2013, has returned to teach kindergarten at Smith after three years of teaching 2nd grade at the Miles Lane School in Bucksport.



Nandrea Patterson

Ms. Patterson attended Searsport District High School and graduated from the University of Maine. She started her time with her 100-hour course at Smith in 2nd grade. She did her student teaching with Heather Patterson in first grade and Linda Kocik in kindergarten.

Mrs. Patterson lives in Prospect with her husband and 2 year-old son.

She says she loves being with her family. Their favorite thing to do is to travel together—especially to Disney World.

"We took our 10th trip there this summer," she said. "It was the first trip for our son."

She says she also enjoys camping and fishing and 4-wheeling with her in-laws."

Recycling Team raises funds, awareness at Smith School through Terracycle

By Sarah Young

The Recycling Team at Smith School started meeting on Friday, September 9th. The team meets each Friday after school throughout the school year.

Team Leader Sarah Young has been working with a company called Terracycle since 2009 to recycle items that might otherwise be thrown away. Many different students have volunteered their time to collect, sort, and ship Terracycle items.

Companies like Colgate partner with Terracycle to offer a cash incentive for communities to participate in the Terracycle upcycling/recycling program. For each qualifying item Smith School sends to Terracycle, our school receives a small monetary compensation, usually 1 or 2 cents per item. Over the last 7 years, the recycling team has used that money to buy books for the library, help pay for the lights for the sign in the front of the school, and help pay for a new double water fountain with a water filling station in the River Wing.

We welcome donations from all communities. A list of the items we collect can be found on the Leroy H. Smith School website <http://smith.rsu22.us> in the blue backpack.

We would love to collect all your used toothbrushes, juice pouches, shampoo bottles and many more! Terracycle then "upcycles" them and turns them into new products like backpacks, park benches, and many more. You can visit the Terracycle website to learn more about the company <http://www.terracycle.com>.

The recycling team provides a valuable fundraising opportunity for our school, but more importantly, it teaches the school the importance of preserving the Earth's resources and the value of volunteerism, collaboration, and teamwork.

Dental Hygiene Services

Smith School has been fortunate to partner with Prevention Works, Alissa Wade, Dental Hygienist, to offer dental hygiene services at the school.

Parents can sign up to have their child receive services if their child does not have a dental office they are affiliated with. There are a variety of options for payment, including insurance and self-pay.

Students receive a cleaning and, if needed, sealants, and temporary protective restoration until they can get into a dentist.

We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity!



Dental hygienist Alissa Wade provides dental care for a Smith School student.



HARVEST LUNCH—On Thursday, September 15, students joined in with our cooks to shuck local corn for lunch. Students enjoyed racing each other to see who could shuck the quickest.

'Keep It Local' Business & Community Expo 2017 coming in March to Skehan Center

The RSU 22 Education Foundation is always looking to find ways to strengthen our communities while striving to provide the resources needed to strengthen our student's education. Recently the foundation has developed the concept of holding a "Keep it Local" fair to promote doing business locally and supporting our students varied interests as well. A search of business listings on *Manta.com* provided an eye opening look at the vast number of entrepreneurs in our four communities. Listings show that Hampden has 688 local businesses, Newburgh 110, Winterport 320, and Frankfort 88. These businesses vary from one person ventures to large corporations in nearly every segment of the economy.

Please mark Saturday, March 18th, 2017 for our first "Keep It Local" Business & Community Expo. The event will take place at the Skehan Recreation Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with setup for the vendors as of 7 am (and the evening before if needed). Exhibitors may choose from a tabletop arrangement or an actual booth space.

Please note that this is not just a business-to-business fair; the event will be open to the public at no charge and ANY business offering goods or services in a retail setting or selling to the general

Looking to give back? Foundation Board seeks volunteers

The RSU#22 Education Foundation is actively seeking new board members and committee volunteers to join a growing non-profit organization that supports the students and teachers in our school district. Exciting new projects await this volunteer group of Board members, serving the towns of Frankfort, Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport, some of which is outlined elsewhere on this page. The Education Foundation funds initiatives with grants that help foster innovative educational

public is encouraged to display. Selling products from your farm? Own a fitness or health-related business? Are you a lawyer or banker? Small engine repair? Art studio? You are all welcome. We'd like to showcase the diversity and breadth of the

projects. If you have a desire to connect with others who share an interest in quality education for children please consider joining the team.

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

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

community products and services we have; encouraging to purchase locally, all the while providing funds to strengthen education in RSU 22.

Interested in becoming a vendor? The Foundation would like to hear about your business and your interest in participating. You are eligible if your business is based in one of the 4 communities or if you are the owner or principal of a local business and reside in one of the 4 towns. Planning is now underway to showcase your business and build relationships with other business right here in RSU 22. Exhibitors will have a choice of a simple tabletop for \$25 or an actual 10x10 booth for \$75. We are also offering a few sponsorship opportunities to cover the event cost. If you are interested in this event please contact either board member Peter Witt (retepwitt@gmail.com) or Gabe Baker (gbake207@gmail.com).



RSU #22
Education
Foundation

Community Partners for Inspired Education



Grandparents observed their grandchildren in class at Smith School . . .



. . . and then joined them in the cafeteria for lunch. About 375 adults participated.

375 adults converge on Smith School for Grandparents Day

What is most exciting and well-attended event at Smith School? You guessed it, GRANDPARENTS DAY!

This year was no exception! Actually, it was the most attended one in the history of our school.

We welcomed around 375 adults on September 22. Many come from hundreds of miles

away just to participate in this special event. This year we had a grandmother come from Connecticut! Some come the day before and spend the night with family so they don't have such a far drive that morning. Grandparents were able to spend an hour in their grandchild's room learning how to play a variety of math games,

read stories, indulge their grandchildren in a book or two from our Book Fair, take family portraits out front and eat lunch.

Speaking of lunch, our amazing lunchroom staff and volunteers helped serve almost 600 lunches!

It is true when they say it takes a village! Here at Smith many people come in specifically to help

in the kitchen on that day, and this year, our parent group (PIE) was able to secure our school with 15 volunteers who served as grandparents for children whose grandparents couldn't attend. It is a true collaborative effort and another reason to make us proud of our school and community here in Winterport.