

**School and Program Updates**  
**October, 2018**

**Elm Street School**

- We just wrapped up our six week introduction/review of our PAWS Pride Expectations with our students in Grades Pre-K through 5. Students have passports to showcase their work surrounding our building wide expectations.
- 5<sup>th</sup> graders continue to enjoy Genius Hour, which is new to our school this year.
- We have been very successful in collecting non-perishable food items for the community for the holidays. Currently we have accepted over 2000+ goods.
- As part of our library commons, we have started a Robotics program for students in Grades 4 and 5. They are currently designing circuits as an introduction to the program.
- Our Zones of Regulation Pilot is up and running in Grades K-2. Next year, we will expand this to grades 3-5.
- ESS staff took part in Instructional Rounds which was held at PSS. Instructional Rounds is set to take place at ESS on November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- All of our students participated in pumpkin carving for the Laconia Pumpkin Festival. Our fifth grade class brought over 300+ pumpkins to this event that were designed by our students.
- ESS, PSS, and WHS held an informational parent night to discuss ALICE which is a new emergency procedure that this district is implementing.
- On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, we held our annual Staff V 5<sup>th</sup> grade student dodgeball game which was well attended and students and staff had a great time.
- We also held our annual BINGO night this month which is sponsored by VISTESS.

**Pleasant Street School**

**"Won't You Be My Neighbor" Part I**

- Thursday, October 4, 2018: PSS had Wafarer Coffee delivered to Elm Street and Woodland Heights Schools for faculty and staff. Our PSS Team wanted to be good neighbors to our sister schools and offer them a little "pick me up".

**PAWS Program Continues**

- Friday, October 5, 2018: PAWS (Providing Awesome Weekend Support) continued. We are now bagging weekend meals for over 60 families at PSS, nearly 40% of our PSS families.

#### National Distinguished Principals Ceremony

- Friday, October 12, 2018: Mr. Levesque was in Washington, DC representing Laconia and New Hampshire as the Principal of the Year. He visited the White House, US Department of Education, met with other leaders from across the country and received an award at a black tie ceremony.

#### VIPSS Meeting

- Monday, October 15, 2018: PTO meeting with parents. Reviewed new safety precautions, upcoming events, enrichment program and banking. Discussion around conferences and grading took place as well.

#### We Walk Wednesday

- Wednesday, October 17, 2018: Over 40 families participated in our monthly walking event. Approximately 80 students walked more than 5 laps before school. Healthy snack and raffle prizes were enjoyed.

#### Instructional Rounds

- Friday, October 19, 2018: PSS hosted Instructional Rounds and worked on a “Problem of Practice” developed by the Academic Leadership Team. Eric Johnson and Irene Stinson facilitated the day long activity that included teachers from all 3 elementary schools.

#### "Won't You Be My Neighbor" Part II

- Monday, October 22, 2018: PSS delivered snacks to the middle school as part of their on-going project of being good neighbors. The Cereal Heroes delivered the snacks from PSS to the middle school for students who need extra food.

#### We CONNECT Begins

- Tuesday, October 23, 2018: Our Trauma Responsive School-Wide program, We CONNECT began. Every staff and faculty member has a group of 10 – 12 students. Our first day is “ReCONNECTING with our students and the following week our theme is “The Power of YET”.

#### PSS Paint Night

- Thursday, October 25, 2018: PSS hosted its first ever “PSS Family Paint Night”. Over 60 participants joined Mrs. Nicolaisen in painting an evening scene in the Lakes Region. This is part of our “Year of the Family” theme night.

#### Blue Ribbon Award

- Friday, October 26, 2018: Pleasant Street was honored in Concord at the Grappone Center with a “Blue Ribbon Award”. The award is given to schools who go above and beyond in volunteering in their community.

#### Halloween Parade and Parties:

- Wednesday, October 31, 2018: The annual Halloween Parade took place at PSS. The theme for the teachers was “Mr. Roger’s Neighborhood” and the staff dressed as characters from the show.

### **Woodland Heights School**

- We had our Harvest Festival on October 11<sup>th</sup> and delivered 358 pumpkins for Pumpkinfest the next day.
- 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade have been participating in the global read aloud Amal Unbound .
- Red Ribbon Week for the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>. We focused on the themes of being drug free and on kindness to fight bullying. Various art projects and classroom projects as well.
- Starting a kindness project on October 31<sup>st</sup> and a delivery to LRGH on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November. More to come on that!
- Thank you Putnam Fund for providing a performance by Mr. Odd Bodkins- his theme was The Golden Rule. That was on the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Teachers working on providing choice to students throughout the curriculum i.e. 5<sup>th</sup> grade studying world regions students get to pick a region to learn more about. Various projects like that through social studies and science throughout the grades.

### **Laconia Middle School**

- Recycled Percussion came to Laconia Middle School for a “school takeover.” Students participated in a school wide scavenger hunt, a talent show, and a staff vs. student dodgeball game. Recycled Percussion taped our own edition of “Chaos and Kindness” while they were here, and each student will receive a code to access the episode.
- We celebrated students who successfully completed their Summer Bingo Challenge. Students earned a Bingo for completing several tasks, including math, reading, and fitness challenges. Students attended an assembly to celebrate their success, and their names were entered into a raffle. We had several donations for prizes, thanks to area businesses and Gear Up NH.
- We have completed our PRIDE rollout. Staff and students participated in lessons that taught and reviewed the expected behaviors in our building. This concluded with a special assembly about setting goals, working hard, and not giving up.
- Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teachers, Shannon Siegler and Lindsay Middleton, presented at the annual conference for AMLE (Association for Middle Level Education). They are becoming well known and respected for their work with technology in the classroom.
- We contributed more than 200 pumpkins to this year’s pumpkin festival, thanks to generous donations from Foley and Agway. Students enjoyed carving and delivering pumpkins.
- The Active Shooter training on October 20<sup>th</sup> and our ALICE information night on October 22<sup>nd</sup> were both positive opportunities to work with our city’s emergency responders.

### **Laconia High School**

#### **Guidance**

- On October 10 all sophomores and juniors took part in the College Board’s PSAT day. During the day freshmen took a field trip to NHTI as part of a GEAR up initiative. Seniors participated in one of three options of their choice a college visit, job shadow or community service.

- On October 23<sup>rd</sup> forty parents and students attended a NHHEAF presentation on the college application process “Applying for College 101. The representative from NEIF gave an in depth discussion on strategies, costs and decision making in choosing a college.
- On October 25<sup>th</sup> we had 55 college representatives along with recruiters from our armed services visit as part of a college fair held in the gym. Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores were able to spend time visiting with representatives of each institution to help plan for their futures.

## **Band**

- The Band finished up their regular marching season on October 19th. We ended with our strongest performance. We are busy transitioning into concert season and preparing for the Laconia Holiday Parade. One of our Band teams won the Spelling Bee this month as well.
- Five Band students have been selected to represent Laconia at the All New England Band festival in November at PSU - Rylie Treat, Faith Pakasuk, Noah Mousseau, Jillian Goyette and Destiny Medici.
- Jazz band, mixed chorus and treble choir held their first concert on October 30th to a full house.
  - Jazz Band had their first concert on Tuesday October 30th. One of our Jazz Students - Bryden Wright was the third highest score for the Jazz All State Audition earlier this month. He will be attending Jazz All State at Pinkerton Academy in February.
  - Mixed Chorus performed the following pieces on Tuesday’s concert- Somethings Coming/Tonight (from West side story), You Raise Me Up, and Blades of Grass (which will also be performed at the Veterans Day Assembly).
  - Treble Choir showcased two pieces in the fall concert on Tuesday October 30th. Fly Away Home and Autumn Vesper.

## **Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation Spelling Bee**

- Three Laconia students won this year’s spelling bee, keeping the championship in Laconia for another year. The “Treble Clefs” with members Joey Bailey, Noah Mousseau and Bryden Wright “out spelled” the Gilford High School’s team “Three Blind Mice” in the finals.

## **Athletics**

Three teams made the NHIAA play-offs in fall sports.

- Boys’ soccer who was defeated by Hopkinton in the first round finished a successful campaign at 8-7-1.
- Girls’ Volleyball made it to the quarter finals after defeating St. Thomas High School. They finished at 12-4 after falling to Gilford on Tuesday.
- Football finished at 6-3 and will be playing Campbell High School at 1:00 in the first round of the play-offs.

## **The Huot**

- Huot LNAs have started their clinicals for the year
- The Huot Center will be hosting the state meeting for NH Teacher Prep instructors in November and recently hosted the meeting of Health Science teachers
- A number of HTC students participated in Operation Triple Threat at LMS earlier this month
- Many HTC students have already earned their CPR certification this year. Allied Health students are working on BLS for Healthcare Providers and Mrs. McGuire is bringing "Stop the Bleed" training to several classes.
- Building Trades are wrapping up a shed project and the next Tiny House will soon be under way
- There are currently 102 Huot students participating in a total of 123 dual enrollment/concurrent enrollment courses
- Culinary Arts has put on two breakfast functions, donated food to annual Humane Society fundraiser and provided refreshments for several other events
- The first HTC Regional Advisory Board meeting was well attended by our partner schools. The Regional Agreement has been signed by all member districts and is now in Concord awaiting the Commissioner's signature.

## Program Updates Part 2 – October Edition

### Office of Extended Learning

- On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Christine Gingerella, Beth Vachon and two site coordinators, Aja Montague (LMS) and Meredyth Rolland (WHS) presented at Plymouth State University to students enrolled in the Education/Youth Development program. The OEL has a partnership with PSU where students intern in our programs to learn principals and practice of youth leadership and extended day programming.
- Work continues with the middle school youth-to-workforce program, the REAL INITIATIVE, funded in part by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and New Hampshire Reaching Higher. Current programs that expose students to possible future career options include Cooking with Mike Soucy of the Soda Shoppe, smART with Belknap Mill artist in residence Larry Frates, and Robotics at the Belknap Mill, just to name a few. The Youth Leadership Team has identified some incoming sixth graders, and now includes high school students. They have begun planning the annual REAL Collaborative event, to be held April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Belknap Mill. There are some exciting plans in the works!
- At the high school, there are currently 22 Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) in progress.
- Nationally, October 25<sup>th</sup> is recognized as Lights On! Afterschool Day. Each program held celebrations on site to raise awareness of afterschool programming. Please visit the schools to see the student displays.
- We are looking forward to the Office of Extended Learning Advisory Board meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Office of School Wellness

- The OSW in conjunction with Jennifer Maloney has been sponsoring a six-week *Whole 30* nutrition program that 19 staff members at WHS have been attending. All staff members who complete the full six weeks will have half of the program fee paid for by the OSW.
- During October the four week fitness program offered at no cost to staff was *SHINE*. November's fitness program is *Body Pump* and December will be *Better Posture*. The 4-week fitness programs are all onsite at the Downtown Gym and require commitment from staff. Tami Horan has been providing *Boot Camp* every Wednesday morning at 5:30am at Studio 151 for district staff at no cost. For more information on any of our fitness offerings please contact Janet Brough or keep an eye on your emails.
- OSW will be posting *Wellness Weekend* tips every other Friday for staff. If you have any wellness tips or requests you want to share with us please contact Janet Brough.
- The OSW is hosting a free screening of the film *It's Criminal* on 11/8/18 at 3:30pm at PSS open to all staff in the district as well as the Belmont and Gilford School Districts. We will be raffling off gift cards at the end of the screening for audience members. To register for this event please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4bada62da3f85-its>. For more information on the film please go here: <https://www.itiscriminal.com/about/>
- The OSW presented at the US Department of Education's annual meeting for states involved in their various competitive grant programs in Chicago, IL on our Multi-tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B) that includes PBIS and Trauma Sensitive Schools.

- The OSW presented at the National Conference for Promise Neighborhoods in October in Washington, D.C. about the Laconia School District's work to support students and families affected by the opioid crisis.