



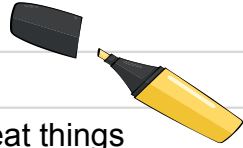
The Superintendent Quarterly

November, 2022

The four communities of MSAD 75 are united in our dedication to develop confident, fluent learners, critical thinkers, and creative contributors to our society.



A note from Superintendent Steve Connolly



The first quarter has passed very quickly. In the following slides, I'm excited to share with you some of the great things that are happening in our schools and departments. I have been out to all of our sites, schools, and departments and am proud of the progress we are making together every day.

I have been meeting with student groups, parent groups, town councilors, employees, and other stakeholders to discover what is working and what needs attention in our district. I'm analyzing that feedback and will present my findings in my next newsletter.

A safe and caring environment is of utmost importance to us. As such, we are undertaking a safety and security assessment of each facility. We will identify areas that need immediate attention, determine budgetary considerations moving forward, and will set goals for staff and student trainings.

We are also examining programming to meet the social and emotional needs of our students. Helping students understand their emotions, applying a common vocabulary to what they are feeling, and providing them with coping mechanisms and replacement responses not only helps each student but also helps ensure the overall emotional and physical safety of our district.

Enjoy the upcoming start of winter!



Join us in
bringing some
holiday cheer to
our neighbors in
our community.

All items donated must
be new in package or
with tags



McDonald's and Crooker Construction
are partnering to provide toys for
local MSAD 75 Families this
holiday season!

Age Ranges

5-12 years

Commonly Requested Items

LOL Surprise Dolls

RC Cars

Brand Items (Nike, Adidas, Puma)

Legos



MSAD 75
TOY DRIVE

Join us Saturday November 19, 2022

from 10-4pm at

McDonald's

1 Winners Circle Topsham, ME 04086

Bits and Pieces of Great Stuff in our Schools!

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Mt Ararat High

Principal Hoffman shared:

Project GROW, our new community garden initiative. Since last spring, various stakeholders from across the disciplines have supported the development of an outdoor classroom space that combines the science of crop growth with 3D natural and human art. Various student groups, including a nascent garden club and our existing Interact Club, have supported the project.

Athletic Director Geoff Godo shared:

Expressing thanks to the MSAD 75 students, parents and the communities as a whole for their enthusiastic support of our athletic teams this season, especially at the playoff home games we hosted the last couple of weeks.

Congratulations to our Fall athletes! For example:

- Sam Betz, Mt. Ararat High School junior –Qualified for MPA Class A Schoolboy State Golf Championship
- Seniors Parker Libby and Luke Spooner and junior Lydia White – Qualified at October 22nd Class A North Regional race to compete in the MPA

Congratulations to Conference Coaches of the Year!

Jack Rioux – Mt. Ararat High School boys soccer

Frank True – Mt. Ararat High School football

Congratulations to Diane Fournier – Maine running pioneer and longtime Mt Ararat Track and Field coach, retiring after almost 50 years of dedicated service to M.S.A.D. No.75

And, congratulations to the following students who qualified for Maine District III Honors Festival! Claire Caton, Jacob Ebert, Lydia Hiltz, Caleb Edwards, Carly Satterfield, Bryce Holden, Rose Tuttle, Brady Yazwinski, Eleanor Young, Ashby Hayward, Mari Schultz, Ryan Schultz, and Finn Dedek

There were numerous other students in our band and choral programs who qualified for state and national competitions. For a full list, please see the November 17 Board agenda [at this link](#).

Go Eagles!

Mt Ararat Middle School


Principal Hayes-Teague shared:

The Parent Academy program began in the fall of 2019, and was shut down in the spring of 2020 due to the pandemic.

The goal of our Parent Academy program is to provide a connection between MSAD 75 families and community experts/resources to support parents in the difficult job of raising adolescents. Our first Parent Academy in three years was held on November 16, and families were invited to attend.

The topic was "**Substances and Their Impact on the Brain**"

Southern Midcoast Communities for Prevention, a local community coalition, shared information on what's happening now with vaping and other substance use in our area, how substances affect the developing teen brain, and ways to prevent teen use.


$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

And... Eighth Grade Will Agius writes:

On Thursday, November 3, MAMS Student Council, led by Mrs. Marks, attended the Maine Youth Leadership Day at the Hyde School. There, they joined fellow student leaders throughout the state for a day of workshops aimed at exploring the importance of perseverance, determination, and the skills necessary to lead.

The Student Council had the chance to cultivate their leadership skills, as well as share their unique perspectives and ideas. Additionally, they connected with role models in Maine businesses and nonprofits. The Student Council is grateful to have had this opportunity and will use these skills to advance the needs of students in our school.




Harpswell Community School

Principal Hopkins shared:

The Water Safety/Learn to Swim program has returned to HCS, with every student having the opportunity to participate in once-a-week lessons for a seven-week session at the Bowdoin College pool.

Also, HCS has started a Civil Right Team with interested 4th and 5th graders. The Civil Right Team Project is coordinated in Maine through the Attorney General's Office, with the program offered in Maine schools since 1996. More than 200 schools are currently participating. The Civil Rights Team Project supports the Maine Civil Rights Act, which protects people from threats, property damage, and violence when motivated by bias of various sorts.

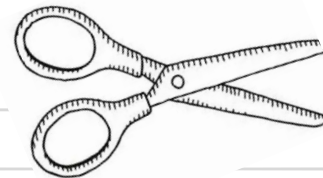

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Williams Cone School

Principal Rineer shared:

WCS has a vibrant and active parent/community group, Friends of Williams-Cone, that is dedicated to meeting and supporting the needs of the school community through a variety of fundraisers, activities, and projects including an upcoming Potluck Dinner/Basket Auction.

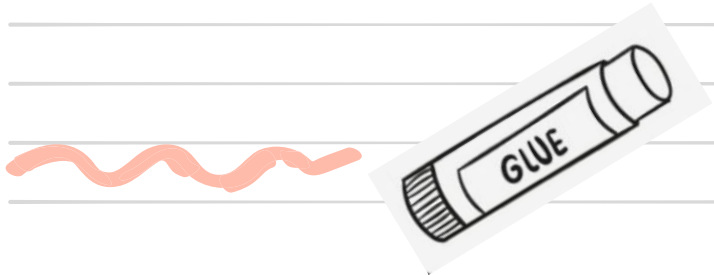
FOWC also has several subcommittees including a playground committee that recently completed a weekend-long playground clean up and is currently finishing its third and final phase of a playground construction project. The phases have included an Earthen Crawl structure, Cupola structure and a Tire Pyramid.



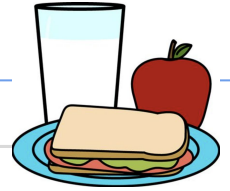
Bowdoinham Community School

Principal Lajoie shared:

Continuing a BHM tradition, students participated in a mock election on Monday, November 7th. Fifth grade students received some training to serve as election workers. As K-5 students arrived to vote, our election workers checked names off our rolls and handed out ballots. They assisted younger students who needed help reading the names on the ballot, and oversaw every completed ballot getting safely into the ballot box. Then election workers counted the votes in pairs, and tabulated the percentage of the vote each candidate received. And in the afternoon one of our fifth graders announced the results over the intercom. Throughout the process we emphasized the important right and responsibility voting is in America.



Food Service



Food Service Director Milliken shared:

The Food Service Department is an amazing staff of hard working, caring individuals who everyday strive to provide great food for all of the children throughout the community.

Adult Education

Merrymeeting Adult Education Director Lampert shared:

Adult Education continues to expand its partnerships in the Topsham and Harpswell communities. We are working with the Village Clubhouse to provide more classes and with the Town of Harpswell to add more community-based programming for the residents there. In addition, Merrymeeting offers many classes at both Mr. Ararat HS and Mt Ararat MS. If you would like to access our brochure, please [click this link](#).

Bowdoin Central School

Principal Keith shared:

This Fall has been both busy and invigorating at Bowdoin Central School. Our third and fourth-grade classes partnered with Piti Theater and Friends of Merrymeeting Bay on a film project. This exciting project documents Northeast history and helps to teach students about how their towns developed. BCS students learned about how boat building, fishing, logging, and transportation shaped our town. They were also interviewed by News Center Maine as part of the project and during their trip to the historic Jellerson Schoolhouse.

We are excited to have many events back at school. Extended school-day math sessions have been going on since October and will continue throughout the school year. Imagination Club is starting after Thanksgiving. PTC Trunk or Treat was bigger and better than ever with exciting plans for 2023. Girls on the Run returned to BCS with our team making a strong showing Sunday, November 13th at the State GOTR event.

We are in the planning phase to bring back Bowdoin Arts Day on December 16th. This fun-filled day of Arts brings volunteer art projects into the school to share with our students. Finally, we continue our work on our School

BCS Core Values:

We are committed to helping students become, strong learners with this character education that focuses on Safety, Respect, Responsibility, being Hopeful and Curious about the world around them. Having Honesty and Integrity while working together in Unity to Persevere to do challenging things.

Great start to School Year 20223-23, Bowdoin Bears!



Woodside Elementary School

Principal Dedek shared:

Woodside School is actively supporting arts and enrichment programs for students this year. Recently the Woodside PTO in partnership with Music Teacher David Olsen-Pietrowski contracted with the **Gawler Family Band** - a fun-loving, folk-singing, fiddle-playing family from the heart of Maine for a whole school concert and a series of classes to enrich music appreciation and performance with our students.

Additionally, the Woodside **One Wheelers**, a student unicycle, and circus arts performance group is back in full swing this year. Their first indoor performance in three years was held recently at the Maine Celtics halftime show in November. The group is gearing up for a special invitation to this year's Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade on November 24th where about 45 students and their families will gather to travel, perform live for thousands, and enjoy a thanksgiving dinner together as a group.

Thanksgiving Break

The Thanksgiving break officially begins on Wednesday, November 23rd and extends through Sunday, November 27th.

We hope you have a peaceful holiday with your loved ones. Should any family have concerns about food insecurity:

Here is a [link](#) to Topsham area resources.
Here is a [link](#) to the Bowdoinham Food Pantry.
Here is a [link](#) to the greater area for Bowdoin.
Here is a [link](#) to a mobile food bank outreach in the Harpswell area.



Interested in Pitching in?



Please click [this link](#) to a short video to find out how you can help!





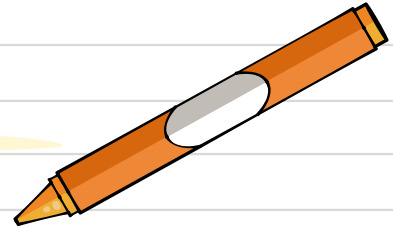
School Cancellation Reminders

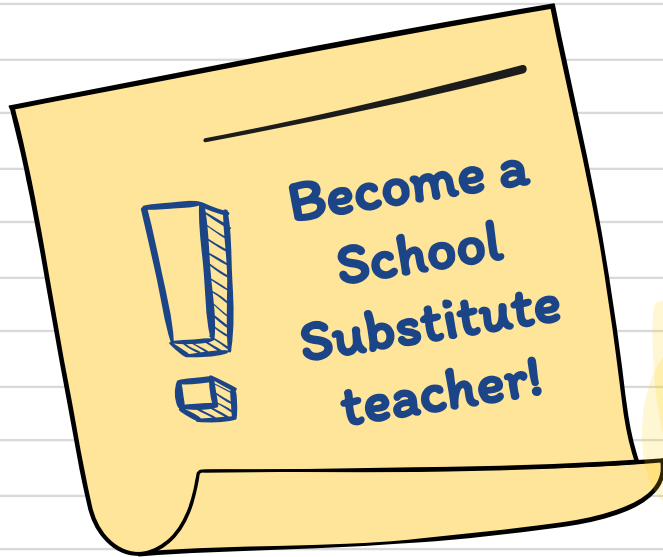


School cancellations will be posted on:
WCSH 6, WCME radio, WGME 13,
WMTW 8, WMME (92 MOOSE) radio, and
posted on the district website.



You may also receive direct phone call and text message via School Messenger. Not signed up? [Click this Link](#)





Are you interested in getting involved in our schools beyond the role of a volunteer? Or are you curious about getting into the field of education? How about becoming a **substitute teacher**? It's a great way to get involved! And you set your own schedule!

If curious, please contact HR Director Jessica Factor at 207-729-9961 or click on this [link](#).

