



# Link-22

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RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444 March 2019

## Main Road South safer, thanks to RSU 22 bus driver and DOT school bus signs

Main Road South (Route 1A) between Hampden and Winterport is a little safer now, thanks to an RSU 22 school bus driver and a Maine Department of Transportation employee who listened to his concerns.

The bus driver, Bill Hoffman, who has been driving on Main Road South since 2012, said there was a blind corner where the road transitions from two lanes to three near the entrance to Foster Avenue.

He said there were times when traffic wasn't able to see his bus stopped when they came around the corner and had to slam on their brakes.

"Cars usually didn't have

a problem, unless there was ice or snow," he said. "But big trucks—particularly loaded dump trucks—would have trou-

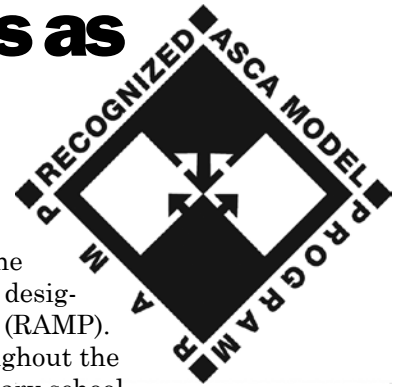


RSU 22 bus driver Bill Hoffman stands in front of the two new school bus signs that the DOT installed on Main Road South in Hampden.

ble stopping. Most of the time they'd stop, but their brakes would lock up."

(Please turn to page 7)

## Weatherbee honored by school counselors as the only RAMP school in Maine



In January, Weatherbee was honored by the American School Counselors Association and designated as a Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP).

The RAMP award is given to schools throughout the U.S. that are committed to delivering exemplary school counseling programs that are both comprehensive and data-driven.

Since the program's inception, more than 820 schools have been designated as RAMP recipients.

"This year's RAMP honorees have shown their commitment to students and the school counseling profession," said Jill Cook, ASCA assistant director.

"These schools use data to drive their program development and implementation so all students can achieve success. The RAMP designation distinguishes these schools and encourages school counselors nationwide to strive for excellence."

Weatherbee is currently the only school in Maine to have



Kelly O'Brien Weaver (center) represented Maine at the American School Counselors Association's 2019 School Counselor of the Year Gala January 31 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts in Washington, D.C., where she was congratulated by Richard Wong (left), executive director of the (ASCA), and Cory Notestine, chair of the ASCA Board of Directors. For more information of Mrs. O'Brien Weaver's selection as Maine's 2018 School Counselor of the Year, see p. 2.

this recognition and will hold its RAMP status for 5 years. It took (Please turn to page 7)

## Graduation speakers announced for HA Class of 2019

Hampden Academy has announced its graduation speakers for 2019. They are Eliot Small, valedictorian; Brady Lobdell, salutatorian; and Andrew Tilley, honor essayist.

\* \* \*

Eliot, son of Scott Small and Diane White of Hampden, is the Class of 2019 valedictorian. He has been accepted at four colleges next year and is waiting to hear from four others.

He hasn't decided on a major, but he says he's leaning towards business administration, finance, and marketing, because he likes working with people and he's not drawn to engineering or medicine.

Eliot is president of the HA Student Council this year, and he's served as class president all four years. He's been a member of the National Honor Society for two years and is serving as co-president this year. He also participated in the HA mentor program for three years.

He's been a member of the HA Junior Classical League for four



Eliot Small, valedictorian

years, and he's held JCL state office for three years, including secretary during his sophomore year, historian during his junior year, and president this year.



Brady Lobdell, salutatorian

He played soccer and tennis at HA for four years. He also played Unified Basketball during his freshman year, and sang in the Show Choir and Acafellas during his



Andrew Tilley, honor essayist

freshman and sophomore years.

Eliot has served as a student volunteer at Eastern Maine Medical Center for two years, volunteered (Please turn to page 5)

## Superintendent's Message

# State law prohibits school boards and unions from negotiating educational policies—we will monitor discussions of L.D. 240, which would change that

By Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 22

For the past 50 years, school boards in Maine have been required to negotiate with labor unions with respect to “wages, hours, and working conditions.” However, for that entire period, both sides have been prohibited by law from negotiating with respect to educational policies.

A bill currently before the Legislature, L.D. 240, “An Act To Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies,” would change that. It would eliminate the prohibition and replace it with language saying that public employers of teachers “may negotiate” with respect to educational policies.

L.D. 240 was brought before the Legislature’s Labor Committee on February 20, where superintendents and school board members told legislators that local control should be main-

tained over things as fundamental as class size, curriculum, and staffing.

Under the current municipal labor relations law, which was enacted in 1969, teacher unions and school boards are barred from negotiating educational policies because doing so would remove the public—including parents, children, and citizens—from the decision-making process. When new educational policies are adopted, school boards have to consult with the union and negotiate the impact of those policies on wages, hours, and working conditions, but the policies themselves aren’t subject to negotiation or arbitration.

Educational policies include a long list of things that affect the way schools operate and the education that children receive—things like the

length of the school day and year, course offerings, class size, what positions will be added or eliminated, and how students will be supervised. In short, educational policies generally impact students and parents, as well as teachers.

Long-standing labor law and subsequent court decisions in Maine say educational policies are so important they they must be decided in open meetings by officials accountable to the voters, and in Maine, that means locally-elected school boards.

Put another way, local school boards represent all of the constituencies involved in local public education—students, teachers, other school staff, parents, and local property taxpayers—and all of those voices need to be heard.

## 2019-20 RSU 22 Budget Development Update

The RSU 22 Budget Committee is underway with the development of the 2019-20 school district budget. Meetings were held in January and February to discuss specific budget articles, including Facilities Maintenance, Debt Service, School Nutrition, and Other Instruction, which includes athletics and co-curricular services.

Recently, on February 15, the State of Maine Department of Education released the preliminary state calculation for school funding. RSU 22 stands to receive an additional \$766,362 in state funding next year. Regionalization efforts contributed to approximately 20% of this state funding increase, while also improving district services. This is welcome news, as increased costs pressure next year’s district budget, including salary and benefit increases, an anticipated health insurance rate increase, student technology purchases and related network infrastructure improvements, and the initial principal payment for the newly installed Hampden Academy athletic turf. The State of Maine provides 68% of the RSU 22 school budget and anticipates providing \$19,690,033.63 for FY 20.

It is important to note that the increase in state funding is based on Governor Janet Mills’ budget, which is currently being reviewed by the Legislature. We won’t know the final numbers until the Legislature votes on the budget later this spring (or maybe early this summer).

As future budget meetings unfold, RSU 22 will be coming ever closer to the total budget figure to be endorsed by the Budget Committee and subsequently the Board of Directors in May. Budget meetings are open to the public and community participation is encouraged. Budget meetings occur at Hampden Academy in the library. Meetings are held from 4:00-6:00 p.m. All meetings are videotaped and are available on the district website. Visit <http://www.rsu22.us/budget-information/> to view additional meeting information.

Meetings scheduled for the remainder of the budget process are as follows:

- 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 5: Articles 1 and 2 (Regular and Special Ed Instruction)
- 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 26: Articles 6 and 7 (System and Building Admin)
- 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 9: Article 5 (Student & Staff Support: nurse, guidance, library)
- 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 30: Article 8 (Transportation)
- 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 7: Overall Budget Presentation
- 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 15: Special Board Meeting for Budget Ratification
- Tuesday, June 4, 6 p.m.: Public Budget Forum

The District Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 6, at 7 p.m. in the Hampden Academy Gym.

The Budget Validation Referendum will be held on Primary Election Day, Tuesday June 11. The polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hampden Municipal Building, Newburgh Elementary School, Wagner Middle School, and the Frankfort Town Office.



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**TEACHERS AND PARENTS:**  
That USB Stick Might Be an *E*-cigarette

E-cigarettes are the most commonly used tobacco product among U.S. middle and high school students.

Some e-cigarettes don't look like tobacco products, so some kids use them unnoticed in schools, including in classrooms and bathrooms.

An increasingly popular e-cigarette, called JUUL, is shaped like a USB flash drive.

JUUL delivers a high dose of nicotine. Nicotine is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development.

TOBACCO PRODUCT USE IN ANY FORM, INCLUDING E-CIGARETTES, IS UNSAFE FOR YOUTH.

LEARN MORE about the risks of e-cigarettes for youth and access tips for talking to youth at:  
<https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/resources.html>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



# Curriculum Office Update

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

## After Maine removes requirement for Proficiency-Based Diplomas, Hampden Academy removes the requirement, too

RSU 22's Hampden Academy will no longer require a Proficiency Based Diploma. Initially the class of 2020 was supposed to be the first class graduating with a Proficiency Based Diploma. Since the State removed that requirement, Hampden Academy is also removing the requirement.

Standards (Learning Targets) will remain the foundational building blocks for all of our courses at Hampden Academy. They are important for assessing what knowledge & skills students will be working towards in each content area. The ability to communicate specific areas

of strengths and weaknesses for students will remain a key component of education in RSU 22.

In order to earn credits (22 credits to Graduate) at Hampden Academy, students will have the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency over a variety of standards in each course. The goal is that students can demonstrate proficiency in all areas, achieving their highest level of understanding, but knowing that proficiency may not be attained in every standard. Still using the 0-100 grading scale, students will have to show a preponderance of evidence towards understanding the standards, while completing

the necessary coursework (assessments) to achieve a traditional score between 70 and 100.

The middle schools will continue with dual reporting as well. Students and their families will see both traditional grades and standards scores.

Kindergarten through fifth grade will continue to report out on students' achievement of standards.



Mary Giard

## Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA) Report Card Release

Formerly known as No Child Left Behind, the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 was reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in December, 2015

The last time our district, and districts across Maine, received a "Report Card" was the year before Frankfort joined our district. Schools were rated A - F. It was not a popular reporting method and did not occur again. Now that the federal government has reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to become ESSA, new report cards are mandatory here in Maine.

ESSA requires each state to choose a minimum of five ways to measure school performance.

Maine has selected the following categories:

### Chronic Absenteeism

- All grades K-12
- The percentage of students who have missed more than 10% of their enrolled days, where the student has been enrolled for at least 10 days
- Students must attend 50% of their scheduled school day to counted as present
- Includes both excused and unexcused absences

### Academic Progress

- Based on each student's proficiency levels in both math and ELA for the previous and current school years (SY 16/17 & 17/18)
- The same test has now been used for three years in Maine.

### Academic Achievement

- Increase of 20% from 2016 school baseline
- State tests are eMPowerME (grades 3-8), SAT (high school), and MSAA (special education)
- Takes into consideration participation rates (expect 95% or higher)

### Progress in English Language

#### Proficiency

- Includes all grades K-12
- Maine's model utilized Delaware's growth-to-target approach
- Currently RSU 22 has such a small subgroup of English Language Learners, the data are not factored into our scores.

### Graduation Rates

- For the high school only
- Factor in 4-year graduation rates and 5-year graduation rates

## Highlights from the RSU 22 Report Card Results

Each school is rated using the following descriptors for the categories listed above:

- Emerging
- Developing
- Meeting
- Excelling

Newburgh and McGraw report cards do not have academic ratings - assessment starts in grade 3.

All other schools, except Weatherbee, are eligible for Tier I support—regional and statewide professional development will be offered at no cost to the schools.

Smith School received all developing scores.

The two middle schools and the high school received a combination of emerging and developing scores.

When the report cards are released, they will be posted to the RSU 22 website under Resources, the curriculum and assessment pages (Federal Reports) <http://www.rsu22.us/>.

\* \* \*

After reviewing the most recent test scores, each building set some goals for the 2018-2019 school year.

### Weatherbee School:

1. Increase our overall attendance percentage and continue to build awareness around positive attendance.
2. Continue to implement our math curriculum.
3. Continue to refine our RTI (Response to Intervention) data collection that monitors connectedness to school and attendance.

### Smith School:

1. Focus on our population of students who move in and out. We have implemented an attendance protocol to support our students and parents (constant communication).
2. Our special education students struggle. The majority of our significantly below students are also identified as special education students. This work needs to be a focus for us.

### Wagner School:

1. Reviewed and revised our English Language Arts standards to ensure more rigor. Continue to implement our middle level math curriculum and have secured some extra support due to Title I available funds
2. Increasing our time for science instruction

### Reeds Brook:

1. Aligned teachers to their strengths and certification areas. For instance, only teachers who have concentrations in mathematics are teaching mathematics.
2. Increased the amount of science time that a student receives during the week. We have moved from 75 minutes every other day to 50 minutes daily.
3. Identified students who are below expectations, cross-referenced the data with NWEAs

and are in the process of giving students extra assistance where time is available.

4. Instituted a peer tutoring club last year, and we are in the process of starting it up again this year.

### Hampden Academy:

1. Science is adjusting course design & structure, integration of content, graduation requirements, pathways & incorporating released items for the Junior year MEA Science Augmentation.

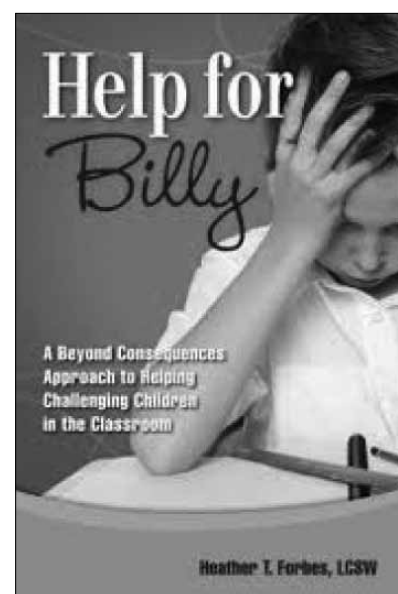
2. Math has adjusted current schedule this year to have Pre Algebra & Algebra 1 as 40 minute classes everyday for the year, instead of 80 minute, every other day for the year. A math teacher will begin participation in the Math Coaching Program offered through the University of Farmington in the summer of 2019

3. English is examining current course offerings, RTI (Response to Intervention) course design, Junior/Senior year offerings to better align with our UTC schedule. English also uses the NWEA scores to help identify and meet student needs.

## Social Emotional Professional Development for RSU 22 Faculty and Staff

On March 8, 2019 many RSU 22 educators and support staff will be participating in a regional Social Emotional Support professional development event in Bangor. Well-known author,

Heather Forbes, will be presenting keynote addresses and small work sessions based on her book, *Help for Billy: A Beyond Consequences Approach to Helping Challenging Children in the Classroom*.



## NEASC accreditation team to visit HA March 10-13

The lengthy accreditation process at Hampden Academy will conclude March 10-13 when a team of educators appointed by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visits the campus to determine how well the school is performing with respect to NEASC's seven standards for accreditation.

The 16-person visiting team will be led by Paul McMillan, a retired superintendent from Massachusetts. The other team members will be principals, administrators, and teachers from school districts throughout Maine.

The NEASC team will arrive Sunday afternoon for a welcome reception at the Performing Arts Center, which will include a panel discussion and introduction to HA.

The welcome reception and panel discussion will be led by HA Principal Bill Tracy, along with faculty and staff, students, school board members, and representatives of the public.

The public is invited.

During the reception, students from various clubs and activities at HA will put on demonstrations to show the visiting team what they're doing.

Joel Hills, co-chair of the Steering Committee at HA that has been overseeing the accreditation



process, says the school has encouraged students to be involved in the NEASC visit.

"We're a student-centered and student-focused school," Mr. Hills said. "We want the visiting team to see that. In the panel discussion, instead of having the principal or Steering Committee members talk for 45 minutes, we want to have students talk about their experiences at HA."

On Monday morning, student docents will offer the NEASC team tours of the school, which will provide more opportunities for the visitors to get first-hand information about what the students do at HA.

On Monday afternoon, the team will meet with groups of faculty and staff to review the 138-page report that HA submitted to NEASC about the school's performance with respect

to the standards for accreditation.

"The NEASC team will be trying to determine if we're actually doing what we say we're doing in our report," says Mr. Hills.

Student volunteers will also be assisting the visiting team when they set up shop in the Multi-Purpose Room behind the dining center.

Mr. Hills says students will be stationed outside to run errands for the visiting team and get them whatever they need. The three HA food classes—Beginning Foods, Advanced Foods, and Foreign Foods—will create snacks for the visitors, as will HA students in the Culinary Arts program at UTC.

All in all, about 100 students will be involved in the accreditation visit, including 25 to 30 who will participate as panel members, be

interviewed by the NEASC team, or serve as docents.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the visiting team will reflect on what they saw and heard on Sunday and Monday and then focus on writing their report and gathering last-minute pieces of information.

In addition to Mr. Hills, a social studies teacher, the Steering Committee was led by co-chair Todd Moore, a technology education teacher.

Committee members and their areas of responsibility were Heidi Corliss, Core Values, Beliefs, and Learning Expectations; Sara Ballard, Curriculum; Bryan Campbell and Dick Balentine, Instruction; Ben Johnson, Assessment of and for Student Learning; Val Maurais, School Culture and Leadership; and Leslie Rosenblatt, School Resources for Learning; Jill Kenney, Community Resources for Learning; Barbara Parent, Site Prep; and Rob Kissinger, Report Writing.

At the end of the visit, the NEASC team will write a report that will go to the Commission on Secondary Schools for a vote on the continued accreditation of Hampden Academy. After the vote, the report will be made public. After that there are two year and five year update reports that will have to be written.

## HA Drama Club to present shortened version of 'Radium Girls' for MPA One-Act competition

Hampden Academy will be presenting the competition version of *Radium Girls* at the Maine Principals Association One-Act Play Regional Drama Festival, which will be held March 8 and 9 at Mt. Desert High School.

A public performance will be held at the Hampden Academy Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 7.

The full-length version of *Radium Girls* was presented at the PAC December 6-8 as the Drama Club's fall play.

Drama Club advisor and director Jenn Guare said the publishing company cut the full-length version down to 40 minutes to create the one-act version specifically for competition.

"It's the same story with most of the same characters," Ms. Guare said. "We're fine-tuning and perfecting our fall show, which has been really fun. It's also been an interesting challenge for the actors, to adjust performances they know so well."

The cast of *Radium Girls* includes seniors Aidan Babbitt, Zoe Ellingwood, Tonia Gonzalez, Ellie Prescott, and Teresa Rebelo; juniors Andrew Barrett, Teodora Blejeru, Garrett Donovan, Denali Eyles, Sarah Gass, Adrien Sholes, Emi Verhar, and Matt Yost; sophomore LillyAnne Keeley, and freshmen Madi Baude, Emma Campbell, Gracie Farrar, and Mallory Parks.

The technical crew includes Isaac Anderson, Gracie Demchak, Jaiden Hanson, Nick Gauthier, and Andrew Tilley.



Sarah Gass, Madi Baude, Denali Eyles, and Garrett Donovan rehearse a scene from *Radium Girls*.



Mallory Parks, Gracie Farrar, Emma Campbell, Emi Verhar, and Teodora Blejeru in rehearsal.

## Children's musical 'Toy Camp' coming to PAC May 1, 2, 3

For the first time ever, the Hampden Academy Drama Club will present a musical, *Toy Camp*, as the children's play for the spring of 2019.

Performances of *Toy Camp* will be held at the Hampden Academy Performing Arts Center on Wednesday and Thursday, May 1 and 2, for students from McGraw, Weatherbee, Smith, Etna-Dixmont, and Hermon schools, as well as PreK students and 5th graders from Wagner Middle School.

Parents, friends, and the public can enjoy *Toy Camp* at the PAC on Friday, May 3, at 6 p.m. Admission will be by donation.

The cast includes: seniors Aidan Babbitt, Audrie French, Tonia Gonzalez, and Teresa Rebelo; juniors Caroline Beckwith, Garrett Donovan, Zoe Ellingwood, Sarah Gass, Grayson Koelbl, and Emi Verhar; sophomore Emily Hatch; and freshmen Aiden Chen, Anthony Cote, and Mallory Parks.

Ellie Prescott will be the student director. The technical crew includes Isaac Anderson, Gracie Demchak, Jaiden Hanson, Nick Gauthier, and Andrew Tilley.

Drama Club advisor and director Jenn Guare says *Toy Camp* tells the story of a boot camp for toys, in which a collection of different toys are trying to learn how to be the best version of themselves so they can go out to stores and be purchased by children. However, if they fail at Toy Camp, they get sent to the toy dump.

"The toys are very scared about the possibility of going to the toy dump," Ms. Guare says. "The result is a lot of intense conflict—but a happy ending."

Rehearsals will start in mid-March.

Ms. Guare said she selected *Toy Camp* for the children's play because she was looking for something a little different.

"I loved the story, and I loved the message of the play—about being true to yourself and who you are," she said. "It's a great story and a great lesson, and doing a musical would be a very different challenge for our cast and a very different kind of show for our audiences."

Ms. Guare said the Drama Club has some students who are very talented musically who will help the cast learn the songs.

"I think it's going to be really fun," she said.

## African Drumming course teaches traditional ‘grooves’—fanga, kassa, kuku

For the past seven years, the Hampden Academy Music Department has offered a spring semester class in African Drumming to provide an opportunity for students who aren't traditional band and chorus student to get involved in music.

Instrumental music teacher and band director Pat Michaud says the class has been filled almost every year.

“We have 16 drums, so that’s the class size,” he says.

The inspiration for the class was Mr. Michaud’s friendship with Mike Bennett, a classmate and fellow percussion major at the University of Maine who made a connection with people in West Gambia, a small country on the western tip of Africa

“He began to study there, spending 4 to 6 months at a time in Gambia for 11 years,” Mr. Michaud says. “He transcribed beats that are thousands of years old. He made a textbook that we use at HA, which was inspired by our African Drumming course, which he helped establish.”

Mr. Bennett comes to Hampden once or twice a month to help teach the class.

Over the years, Mr. Michaud says he’s been able to learn the beats fairly well, although not as advanced as Mr. Bennett.

“We cover the material, and sometimes we’ll culminate the year with Mike performing a



Mike Bennett (seated at right) instructs the African Drumming class.

piece with the band,” Mr. Michaud says.

Some of the traditional African beat, or “grooves,” include fanga, kassa, and kuku.

“These are all different beats that have to do with different events in the life of a West African village,” he says. “One is a fishing song—

tomanka. The students end up learning and being very proficient on seven or eight African beats. Later in the spring, as we get greater mastery of the material, the class will perform for elementary students at Smith and McGraw schools.”



Nick Gauthier, Audrie French, Brad Terry (guest artist), Jerdon Kiesman



Zach Scott (Keys) Ty Knappe (Drums)



Cole Blood

## ‘Play It Forward V’ CD release concert raises \$1,000 for ‘Hug It Forward’

Hampden Academy musicians and Pat Michaud’s Music Industry class have teamed up produce “Play It Forward V,” a CD of original compositions written and played by student musicians and recorded in a professional setting with Alfred Clifford at Main Street Music Studio.

The CD release concert was held at the Performing Arts Center on January 11. About \$1,000 was donated to “Hug It Forward,” an organization supported by Hampden

Academy administrative assistant Jeanette Evans that constructs “bottle schools” in Guatemala.

“Play It Forward V” CDs were sold at the concert for \$5. CDs are still available from Mr. Michaud for \$5.

The artists and the songs on the CD are:

- Anna Bishop: “Nasty Woman” (vocal w/ R&B Project)
- Nick Gauthier: “Vanish” (saxophone solo)
- Cole Blood: guitar & vocal

- Bree Rines & Aili Wiseman: “No Rain, No Flowers” (vocal and ukulele)
- Bree Rines: “Guitar Boy”
- Emi Verhar w/Robert Brown and Phoebe Wagner: “Lavender Friend” (vocal, guitar and violin)
- Nick Gauthier: “Fall Through” (electronic composition)
- Robert Brown w/Zach Scott and Jacob Brown: “Blue”
- The HA Jazz Combo, led by Andy Laidman: “D Minor Demeanor”
- Julia Hammond: “Almost”

(piano w/ electronic track)  
Mr. Michaud says he is excited by the variety and quality of music on the “Play it Forward V” CD, which includes folksy stuff, gals with ukuleles, an R&B band, a jazz combo, electronic music, and a breathtaking original piano piece by one of our seniors.”

Channel 5 and Channel 2 ran stories about the concert, and Mike Dow had a nice piece in “The Edge.” About 350 people attended the concert.

## Graduation speakers announced for HA Class of 2019

(Continued from page 1)  
for Big Brothers Big Sisters as a sophomore, and attended the Hobie Leadership Seminar between his sophomore and junior years.

Eliot says his favorite course at HA was AP Language and Composition, which he took last year. He said the course helped him develop both as a writer and a critical thinker.

“What we learned was very valuable—how to write quickly and effectively,” he said.

\* \* \*

Brady, the son of James and Shelley Lobdell of Hampden, earned salutatorian honors for 2019. He says he’ll probably study mechanical engineering at the University of Maine next year, although he’s still

waiting to hear from Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute and Worcester Polytechnical Institute.

He played football as a running back and defensive back all four years at HA. He was on the wrestling team as a freshman, the indoor track team as a junior, and the outdoor track team as a junior and senior.

He also served as manager of the HA basketball team this year.

Brady has been active in the HA music program all four years, playing tenor saxophone in the Jazz Ensemble and the band.

He also sang in the chorus during his freshman and sophomore years.

Brady has been active in Scouting with Troop 41 of Hampden. He received his Eagle Scout award

in May 2018 after renovating the snack shack at the HA turf field during the summer of 2017.

\* \* \*

Andrew, the son of Mark and Tina Tilley of Newburgh, is the honor essayist for 2019.

After graduation, Andrew is planning to study aviation operations at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, about two hours south of Memphis.

He said his interest in aviation was piqued when he took a ground school course called WINGs-Reality EDU at the University of Maine.

“After taking that course and thinking about it for a long time, I decided I want to become a pilot,” he said.

Andrew has been accepted for fall

enrollment by DSU.

At HA, Andrew has been a member of the Junior Classical League and active in the Drama Club for four years. He’s been the lighting designer and operator for both the Drama Club and the Hampden Area Theatre Troupe (HATT).

A native of Baltimore, MD, Andrew’s family moved to Newburgh when he was 7. He was a member of the last class to attend Newburgh Elementary School all the way through 3rd grade before the school closed in June 2010.

Andrew said he’s always enjoyed science courses at HA, but his favorite was AP Biology, which he took as a sophomore from Richard Balentine, who retired last year.



## 12 HA JMG students traveling to Waterville for career conference

Twelve students from Hampden Academy Jobs for Maine's Graduates will be traveling to Waterville on March 26 for JMG's Career Development Conference at Thomas College.

The students are Autumn Beayon, Laura Casey, Bobby Dudley, Jess Jalbert, Jordain Jewett, Brooke Lavin, Christina Lougee, Holly Muir, Darius Ramos, Olivia Ruiz, Damon Sauer, and Patrick Shaw. Alternates are Evan Allen, Breanna Coffin, Justice Pomeroy Tuck and Alexa Grover. They will be accompanied by the Hampden Academy JMG

specialist, Anne Cowin.

The HA students will compete with JMG students from 67 other high schools in Maine in such categories as Group Challenge, Employment Interview Skills, Career Association Marketplace, Know It All, Pitch It!, Public Speaking, Decision Making, and College Interview Skills.

Last year, Hampden Academy students attending CDC brought home three trophies, even though it was HA's first year in JMG.

Jobs for Maine Graduates is in its second year at HA. It is a program for juniors and seniors that

helps them be the best that they can be while in high school.

Mrs. Cowin says JMG started 25 years ago as a career exploration program. Now, it partners with local businesses and colleges to provide choices for pathways for post-secondary education.

"JMG helps students with job shadowing and internships, and it brings guest speakers into the classroom," Mrs. Cowin says. "We partner with colleges, and when a JMG student leaves HA, I follow up with them for a year to offer support and any help I can provide

with respect to college, jobs, and training programs."

This year, 45 juniors and seniors are enrolled in JMG.

JMG at HA is a full-year class that is good for one elective credit. The JMG curriculum includes how to figure out what you want to do for work, how to get a job, how to be a good employee and keep your job, how to manage your money, how to earn more money, how to become a better student, how to pick a college, how to get financial aid, and how to make a difference in your community.

## HA Unified Basketball team undefeated in 1st 6 games; gearing up for tournament

The Hampden-Bangor Unified Basketball is getting ready for the 2019 tournament, which starts with the quarter-final games at the home court of the higher-seeded team.

As of February 22, the Broncos were undefeated at 6-0, with two games remaining (a home game against Bucksport on March 26 and an away game at Foxcroft Academy on March 1), so their quarter-final game is likely to be played at the HA gym.

Jaron Baude, a Unified Team member from Bangor High School scored his 500th point at an away game at Oceanside. It was an exciting moment!!! This is an exceptional feat, as the team only has eight games for the regular season!!!

Andrea Lee, APE Teacher and PE Teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School, is the coach. Linda McDonald, special education teacher at Hampden Academy, is the assistant coach.

The roster includes: Brianna Leneski (1), junior; Joshua Leneski (3), junior; Jonathan Richards (5), freshman; Samantha Quesnel (11), sophomore; Madison Mooers (13), junior; Cordelle Moholland (15), junior; Jaron Baude (20), senior; Sarah Gardella (21), freshman; Adie Hughes (22), junior; Mackay Cousins (24), freshman; Ethan Quimby (30), senior; Josh Stebbins (31), senior; Rachel Gardella (33), junior; Trevor Reed (34), sophomore; Dana Faloon (35), senior; Kyle Prim (41), senior; Michael Samoluk (45), freshman; Ryan Dudley (53), freshman; and Bobby Dudley (54), senior. Selina Turgeon, sophomore, is the manager.

## HA Robotics qualify 5 teams for State Championship meet

The Hampden Academy Robotics team has had a busy year working on their robots.

The team has 27 members this year that make up a total of five teams. Each team has competed in four regular-season events—November 10 at John Bapst, December 15 at Foxcroft Academy, January 26 at John Bapst, and finally February 9 at Monmouth Academy.

All 5 teams—9343A, B, C, D, and E—qualified to compete at the Maine State Championships, which were held in South Portland on February 23. B team qualified by winning the Sportsmanship Award and Design Award and being a tournament finalist at John Bapst. D team was a tournament finalist at John Bapst. E team was a tournament finalist and Design Award winner at Monmouth Academy. A and C teams qualified for States from their Skills Challenge scores.

Teams that qualify at the State Competition will go on to World Championship, which will be held in Louisville, KY, April 24-27.

The individual team rosters for Hampden Academy Team 9343 are:

- A Team—Devin McFarlin, James Mahoney, Otto Pressey, Jacob Brown, and Owen Mathias.
- B Team—Lexi Pressey, Devon Downs, Steven Santiago, Kaelan Dinwiddie, Riley Hamilton, and Nick Gauthier.
- C Team—Matt Southard, Robert Brown, Dillen Lavin, Ryan Dudley, and Felix Moran.
- D Team—Miranda LaHaye,



**HAMPDEN ACADEMY ROBOTICS TEAM 9343**—Front row (l. to r.): Devon Downs, Lexi Pressey, Miranda LaHaye, Kearden Moncrieffe, Riley Hamilton, James Mahoney, and Devin McFarlin; second row: Chris Gray, Hunter Pinkham, Isaac Ernst, Dillen Lavin, Owen Gray, Felix Moran, and Ryan Dudley; third row: Kaelan Dinwiddie, Austin Wilson, Matt Goodrich, Steven Santiago, Nick Gauthier, Jacob Brown, Ryan Scott, Matt Southard, Zach Scott, and Robert Brown.



**B & D TEAM TOURNAMENT FINALIST AT JOHN BAPST**—From left: Brayden Frisch, Zack Scott, Ryan Scott, Austin Wilson, Miranda LaHaye, Devon Downs, Riley Hamilton, Nick Gauthier, Lexi Pressey, Steven Santiago, Kaelan Dinwiddie, Chris Gray.

Austin Wilson, Brayden Frisch, Chris Ernst, Kearden Moncrieffe, Matt Goodrich, and Hunter Pinkham,

- E Team—Owen Gray, Issac

## HA beekeepers watch 3 colonies collect pollen and honey, raise new queens, and store food for winter

By Peter Cowin  
The Bee Whisperer

The Hampden Academy Beekeeping Club has had a fun and informative year under the supervision of "The Bee Whisperer," Peter Cowin.

We started the spring replacing a colony which died over the winter of 2017-18. We enjoyed our three colonies, opening them most weeks in school time between May and October. We have watched as they collected pollen and honey, raised new queens and stored food for winter.

Our bees produced a surplus this summer, and we harvested about 50 pounds of delicious Hampden Academy honey. We even entered a jar of our honey in the Penobscot County Beekeepers Association's annual blind honey tasting competition in December—and our honey was deemed third best honey in Penobscot County!

Proceeds from the sales of our



Members of the Hampden Academy Beekeeping Club tend to the club's three hives, where bees collect pollen and honey and raise new queens.

honey have gone back into the club to buy more equipment and protective clothing. We will also be

dedicating some funds to sponsor a bee hive in Guatemala.

So far, our three colonies have

survived the winter of 2018-19, and we look forward working with them again in the spring.



## New menu items, taste testings, and other school nutrition topics

By Kathy Kittridge, School Nutrition Director, RSU 22

### Menus

We continue to try new menu items and have been doing some customized items such as scrambled egg bar, noodle bowls, chicken fajitas and will continue to offer more scratch cooked menu items. A new addition is “What’s that Wednesday” at our elementary schools where we are offering a fruit or veggie that they may not be familiar with and asking them to try some.

### Taste Testings

School Nutrition collaborates with Wellness to do taste testings. Recently we taste tested chicken and veggie stir fry with ginger rice. The kids loved it and voted to put it on the next menu so look for it in March.

A chili taste test was held at Hampden Academy on February 26, offering vegetarian, traditional and white lightning chicken chili. These were on the menu on February 28.

### Upcoming Events

**March 4-8—National School Breakfast Week.** Give school breakfast a try! It is only \$1.50 and includes whole grain cereal or a daily menu item along with juice, fruit and milk. We will be trying some new items that week.

**March 15—Maine Day at Weatherbee School.** Featuring a Maine lunch including blueberry smoothies!

**Maine Farm to School Cook-Off—Evan Preston,** 6th grader at Reeds Brook Middle School will participate in the farm to school cook off on March 26 at Eastern Maine Community College.

During the competition each team prepares a breakfast and lunch meal within a specific time frame using at least two ingredients that are grown, raised, caught, or manufactured in the State of Maine and meet National School Breakfast and Lunch Program requirements as well as one USDA food. Local black beans and apples will be used as challenge ingredients in the competition this year.

### Bills

We are trying a new system to send automatic emails home for billing. If you don’t have an email address and your bill is over \$5.00, we will mail one home. Please help us save time and money and keep your student’s meal balance up to date, instead of relying on a bill. Payment can be sent in to the schools with the students full name on the envelope or electronically through *myschoolbucks.com*.

### Free and Reduced Meal Applications

You can fill out a free and reduced meal application at any time during the school year and a new one needs to be filled out annually.

### Food Service Subs Needed

Applications can be filled out at the Superintendent’s office.

## Weatherbee honored by school counselors as the only RAMP school in Maine

(Continued from page 1)

Weatherbee three years to complete its RAMP application.

Weatherbee School will be honored at a recognition ceremony at

ASCA’s annual conference in Boston, Massachusetts on July 1, 2019. For more information on the RAMP program, visit [schoolcounselor.org/ramp](http://schoolcounselor.org/ramp).



**WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY BEE FINALISTS**—From left: Paxton Stetson, Payton Stetson, Raeven Chapman, Lilliana Faloon, Isaac Leamer Stephanie Clisham, Margaret Metzler, Allie Corriveau, Hannah Spahr, Zachary Walsh, Aaron Donovan, Brock Grove.

## 8th grader Stephanie Clisham wins Wagner Geography Bee

Wagner Middle School held the school Geography Bee on January 25, and Stephanie Clisham, an 8th grader, is the champion.

Stephanie will take an on-line geography test provided by the National Geographic Society to determine if she proceeds to the State Geography Bee, which will be held in April.

Maggie Metzler, a 6th grader, finished second in the Wagner bee,

and Paxton Stetson, a 7th grader, finished third.

Preliminary bees were held in each social studies classroom in grades 5-8 to determine the three representatives from each grade who advanced to the school finals.

Ian Hall, 5th grade writing and academic studies teacher, organized the Geography Bee at Wagner.

## Main Road South safer, thanks to RSU 22 bus driver and DOT school bus signs

(Continued from page 1)

Last fall, Bill said a dump truck driver was surprised when Bill’s school bus made a routine stop at 428 Main Road South. The dump truck’s brakes locked up, leaving a lengthy pair of skid marks. A week or two after that, a dump came from the opposite direction, locked up his brakes, and left a second set of skid marks.

At that point, Bill talked with his boss, Melanie Michaud, manager of the John T. Cyr & Sons’ school bus operation in Hampden. He returned to the site with a co-worker who took a video, which Melanie showed to Assistant Superintendent Regan Nickels. Mrs. Nickels then went to the DOT, using the video to explain why she thought the DOT should install signs warning drivers that a school bus stop was close by.

The DOT employee she talked to agreed, and a pair of signs were put

in for northbound traffic on Main Road South.

“We were very happy,” Bill said, “but there’s still work to be done. We’d like to see signs in the opposite direction—for traffic coming out of Hampden towards Winterport.”

Bill says another safety improvement for this area would be to move the 50 mph speed limit sign (an increase from 35 mph) from just before the entrance to the Foster Ave subdivision to the straight section of Main Road South, where the roadway expands to three full lanes. The corresponding 35 speed limit decrease sign should be moved to be across from the relocated sign just prior to the lane merge. These changes would greatly reduce the stopping distance for loaded trucks, as well as make it easier for traffic pulling out of Foster Ave onto Main Road South.

## Principal Jennifer Cyr on Kelly O’Brien Weaver, Maine’s 2018 School Counselor of the Year: ‘We’re lucky to have her represent us’

Kelly O’Brien Weaver, School Counselor at Weatherbee School since 2013, was honored as Maine’s 2018 School Counselor of the Year in ceremonies at the Legislature’s Hall of Flags in Augusta on February 6, 2019.

Principal Jennifer Cyr participated in the Augusta ceremony with the following comments about Mrs. O’Brien Weaver:

\* \* \*

It is my pleasure to speak on behalf Mrs. Kelly O’Brien Weaver for the distinction of Maine School Counselor of the Year. Kelly is a rare gem. She is a gifted teacher, consummate professional, leader, and advocate for students. Do not let her modesty fool you, she is powerful leader who is moving our school, district and state forward.

Kelly consistently leads by example. Her work ethic, common sense, and integrity are beyond reproach. She has earned the trust of colleagues, parents and students as a result. As a former classroom teacher, Kelly fully understands the demands of teaching and never asks her colleagues to do something she wouldn’t herself, or hasn’t done already. Her high standards (and the rationale for those standards) are always in evidence; as a result, teachers strive to meet those standards. This year, she earned her National Teaching Board Certification, and it’s my belief that her excellent instruction coupled with best practices directly impacts our students’ identity and agency.

Parents, colleagues, administrators, and students deeply appreciate her

thoughtful approach, diligent planning, follow-through and communication. These abilities make her an adept agent of change. She recently led our school through a 2½ year process to apply for a RAMP designation. We earned this recognition as a school not only because of the phenomenal work she does in the classroom, but her work to collaborate and communicate with all stakeholders.

Mrs. O’Brien Weaver is a consummate professional who is a guiding force in our school and leader in the district. Professionally, she not only sets a high bar for herself, she achieves it. Social and emotional learning is paramount to learning. Kelly is dynamically programming curriculum, policy and a culture to support students emotional regulation, social skill, identity, problem solving and spirit. She is an exceptional counselor who goes above and beyond. Weatherbee, RSU 22, and now Maine, are lucky to have her represent us.

—Jennifer Cyr, Principal, Weatherbee School



*Kelly O’Brien Weaver in the Legislature’s Hall of Flags in Augusta.*





Colby Gott (center) and Evan King took 1st and 2nd in the Alpine Advanced Slalom event.



Kyle Prim (right) took 2nd in three Speed Skating events.



Hampden-Winterport Special Olympics athletes at the Opening Ceremonies at Sugarloaf.

## Special Olympics Winter Games

Twelve members of the Hampden-Winterport Special Olympics competed in the Maine State Winter Games January 27-29 at Sugarloaf.

The athletes collected eight Gold Medals, eight Silver Medals, and five Bronze Medals.

Four of the athletes competed in Alpine skiing—two at the Alpine Advanced venue and two at the Alpine Novice venue. Six athletes competed at the Snowshoe venue and one at the Speed Skating venue.

The athletes and their results were:

- Colby Gott, homeschool, Alpine Advanced: Giant Slalom, 3rd; Slalom, 1st; Super G, 1st.
- Evan King, Reeds Brook, Alpine Advanced: Giant Slalom, 1st; Slalom, 2nd; Super G, 3rd.
- Dillen Lavin, Hampden Academy, Alpine Novice: Giant Slalom, 3rd; Slalom, 4th; Super G, 3rd.
- Keller Naughton, Weatherbee, Alpine Novice: Giant Slalom, 4th; Slalom, 5th; Super G, 3rd.
- Lauren Leonard, Reeds Brook, Snowshoe: 100 M, 4th; 200 M, 1st.
- Garold McCullen, Weatherbee, Snowshoe: 50 M, 3rd; 100 M, 1st.

- TJ McCullen, Reeds Brook, Snowshoe: 200 M, 3rd; 400 M, 1st.
- Hailey McPherson, Reeds Brook, Snowshoe: 100 M, 1st; 200 M, 2nd.
- Jonathan Richards, Hampden Academy, Snowshoe: 200 M, 2nd; 400 M, 4th.
- Devin Twitchell, Wagner, Snowshoe: 200 M, 2nd; 400 M, 1st.
- Allison Vande Bogart, Weatherbee, Snowshoe: 50 M, 4th; 100 M, 2nd.
- Kyle Prim, Hampden Academy, Speed Skating: 500 M, 2nd; 777 M, 2nd; 1000 M, 2nd.

Many of the athletes received hand-knitted scarves, which have traditionally been sent to the Maine Special Olympics by local volunteers (see photo of Jonathan Richards and Allison Vande Bogart wearing their scarves at right). This year, however, the story about volunteers donating scarves was picked up by Associated Press, and scarves were sent in by people from across the country. As a result, Maine Special Olympics had so many scarves that they were donated to Special Olympics groups in several other New England States.



Jonathan Richards and Allison Vande Bogart show off their new hand-knitted scarves.

## Gardens, orchards, and other Health and Wellness news

By Brittany Layman, Health and Wellness Coordinator, RSU 22

### Gardens and Orchards

Garden season is right around the corner, and we are excited to get out into the dirt. Students at McGraw Elementary are anxiously awaiting the first signs of spring and are also looking forward to seeing their 360 fall planted bulbs bloom. RSU 22 is continuing to work with the organization ReTreeUs to bring apple orchards to our district. Smith Elementary School's pear and apple orchard is looking to expand, and we hope to add trees to Wagner Middle School. Newburgh PreK has been learning a lot about gardening and agriculture this year, and they are excited to set up their very own garden tower. Students will be able to plant over 50 seedlings, and, as an added bonus, they will be able to start a worm composting bin!

### Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Grant

PreK students and staff have been participating in the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Agriculture Awareness grant where they have been sampling a variety of local products. The students have also met the farmers who grow the crops or make the cheese! Some of the participating farms include Winterport's Souder Station Farm,

Hampden's the Bee Whisperer, and Bangor's Pineland Farms' cheesemaker. It has

### Fuel Up to Play 60

Weatherbee Elementary School is partnering with Fuel Up to Play 60 and the National Dairy Council to bring a couple of great health initiatives to our students. Recently, we have been participating in taste testing sessions to promote Farm to School. Students have had an opportunity to try a local product, such as carrots and Hampden Academy honey, in hopes the product can be added to the lunch menu. We will continue with the taste testing sessions throughout the year and will be enjoying a delicious blueberry smoothie during Maine Day.

The second initiative is a campaign to promote outdoor play during the wintertime. It is our goal to encourage play during recess that can be translated to home play. This will be



been a pleasure having local experts share their knowledge with our students.



Staff members at Smith School Wear Red for Heart Health.

done by sharing fun outdoor games, encouraging students to wear appropriate cold weather gear, and sparking an enthusiasm for being outside!

We live in Maine so we need to embrace the warm, sunny spring days along with the cold, cloudy winter days. University of Maine students will be helping promote outdoor winter play during Maine Day on March 15th!

### Wear Red for Heart Health

Faculty and staff in RSU 22 participated in Wear Red for Heart

Health on February 1st. Schools competed against each other for the most people wearing red. McGraw Elementary won the challenge with 100% of their faculty and staff in red! They won a healthy snack supplied by our nutrition department! Thank you to all that participated!

### 5210 Let's Go!

RSU 22 is partnering with 5210 Let's Go! to promote physical activity and good nutrition. We have recently conducted a couple of taste tests across the district including a fantastic Chicken Stir Fry with ginger rice down at Smith Elementary. We tested chili on February 26th at Hampden Academy!



## Wagner 6th graders catch comet's tail at Challenger Learning Center



Iassc Leamer, Tony Foster, Maria Edwards, and Eva Cherry at the Challenger Learning Center in Bangor.

Sixth graders from Wagner Middle School visited the Challenger Learning Center in Bangor on February 13 and 14 to complete a mission to catch a sample of a rare comet's tail.

Students had to use mathematics, engineering, technology, science, and communication in order to complete this mission. Constant teamwork had to be used in order to communicate via email and radio from the space shuttle to mission control. At the end of the day, students were very successful collecting a sample from the rare comet.

Students also had the opportunity to go to the Emera Planetarium at the University of Maine in Orono. At the Planetarium they learned about the different technologies created by NASA that we use in our everyday lives. Students were also exposed to the different constellations in our February sky.



Charles Smith with Challenger Learning Center volunteer.

**WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Richard Glencross, Principal, 223-4309



## Wagner 8th graders raising funds for June 7 trip to Boston

Eighth graders at Wagner Middle School will be working hard in the coming months to raise funds for their trip to Boston on June 7. Brianne Smith, 8th grade social studies and math teacher, said a number of events are planned for March, including:

- **March 9—Indoor Golf Tournament**, sponsored by the Wagner Pride Pack. Eighth graders will be volunteering at the event, and a portion of the proceeds will support the Boston trip.
- **March 14—Staff Basketball Game**, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the gym. Both teams will be made up of Wagner staff members; a former teacher, Sharon Baker, has agreed to be the referee.
- **March 20—Paint Night** at the Wagner Middle School cafeteria, from 5:30 to 8 p.m.
- **March 22—School Dance** for grades 6-8, 7 to 9 p.m. in the gym.
- **March 26—Spaghetti Dinner** with 8th grade waiters and waitresses, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Other fundraising projects are still being organized, Ms. Smith says.

One parent has organized a coupon book, with coupons for goods and services being donated by local and Bangor-area businesses. The coupon books will be sold by the entire school, and funds generated by each grade will go into their respective Boston trip accounts.

Ms. Smith said the 8th grade may organize a "tag day," where 8th graders stand outside local businesses and ask for donations to help fund the Boston trip.

In addition, the bottle trailer has been collecting bottles in the Wagner parking lot since December.

"We've collected about \$400 so far," Ms. Smith says. "We're well on our way to meeting our goal."

The Boston trip is a "one-day, all-day" trip scheduled for June 7. The bus will leave about 5 a.m., with breakfast at the the Kennebunk rest stop on the Maine Turnpike.

The 8th graders will arrive at Quincy Market about 11 for lunch and shopping. Some sort of activity will be planned within Boston for the early part of the afternoon. In past years, the 8th graders have visited Fenway Park, the USS Constitution and museum, and the New England Aquarium. This year's activity hasn't been determined.

Most of the afternoon will be spent at Canobie Lake in New Hampshire, an amusement park with rides and food. After Canobie Lake, the student will board the bus and get back to school about midnight.

"It's a really good way for the 8th graders to wind up their middle school years," Ms. Smith says. "They always have a really good time."

*Wagner Pride Pack*

*2nd Annual*

*Indoor Golf Tournament*

Are you tired of the snow... want to think Spring?  
Come and join us for a round of mini-golf at  
Wagner Middle School!

When: March 9th 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.  
Children ages 3 and under FREE  
Children ages 4-9 \$3.00  
Ages 10 & up \$5.00

(all children must be accompanied by an adult)

Enjoy unlimited playing time on a new 9 hole course with holes designed by Wagner students & parents!

Concessions will be on sale, so come grab lunch with us!

Try your luck again this year at the hole-in-one shot...one shot is included with your admission fee but additional shots can be purchased for chances to win cool prizes!\*\*

Check out more details on our Wagner Pride Pack page on Facebook.

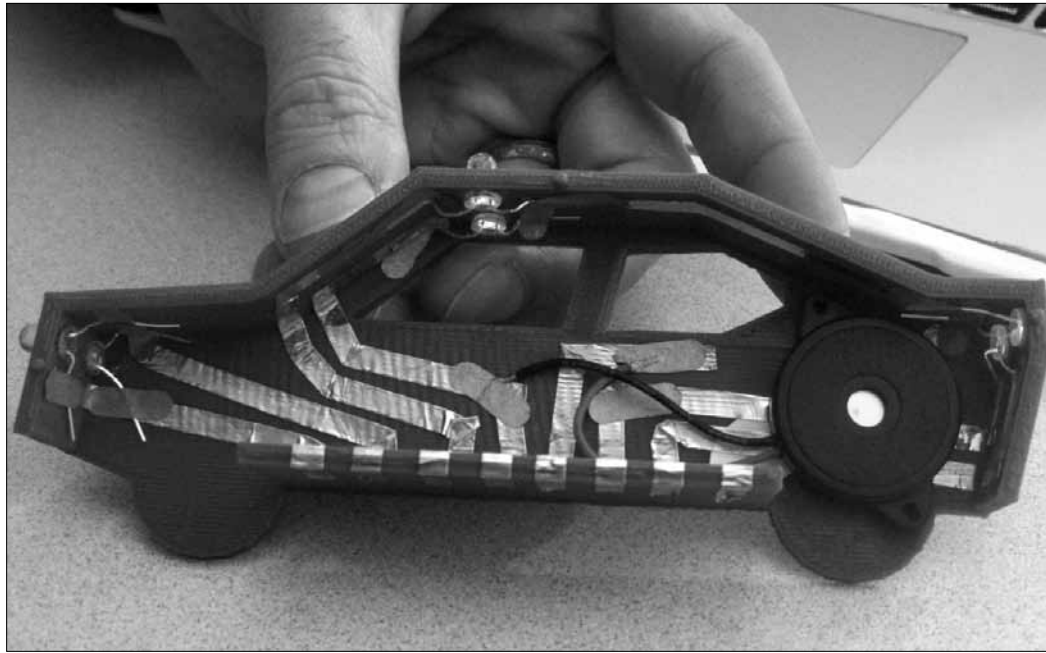
A portion of the proceeds to benefit the 8th grade class trip to Boston!

\*\*For this event, the hole-in-one shot is limited to one prize per person









Technology integrator Chris Beckwith demonstrates the model police car that he equipped with flashing blue lights, red tail lights, and high-low beam headlights using “Chibi Chips.”

## Technology making gains in middle school as younger students start coding earlier

Interactive artwork.  
Wearable technology.  
New uses for the 3D printers.

Those are just some of the technology-related activities that RSU 22 students can look forward to in middle school—especially since they’re starting to learn about coding as early as kindergarten.

Chris Beckwith, technology integration specialist at Reeds Brook, said he went to a workshop in December put on by a company called Love to Code, which had a booklet that gave instructions for coding in the form of a story book with little cartoon characters.

“The story book made it easier to understand how we do coding,” he said.

Mr. Beckwith said he’s excited because the elementary schools in both Hampden and Winterport have received an army of robots through a grant requested by curriculum director Mary Giard.

“The elementary schools have



Owen Hanson and Kolby McLeod use the 3D printer to create a mold for making their own fishing lures.



The 3D printers at Reeds Brook were donated by the Perloff Family Foundation. Above, Dave and Sandy Perloff visited the technology room at Reeds Brook on February 8 to see how the printers were being used.

### Andrew Logan new 6th grade ELA teacher

Andrew Logan has joined the staff at Reeds Brook Middle School as a 6th grade English Language Arts teacher.

His first day in the classroom will be March 11.

Mr. Logan comes to Hampden from the Dr. Lewis Libby School in Milford,



Andrew Logan

where he taught 4th grade this year.

Previously, he spent two years as an education specialist at Acadia Hospital.

Mr. Logan grew up in Bangor and graduated from Bangor High School in 2010. He received his B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Husson University in 2016. While at Husson, he was a football coach at Bangor High School and volunteered at the Challenger Learning Center in Bangor.

Mr. Logan and his wife Danielle live in Bangor.

lots of robots for the kids to use,” he said. “They’re learning programming and coding much earlier. I’m hoping that this will trickle up, and that when students reach middle school, they’ll have a pretty strong background in coding with blocks, and that they can start doing text-based coding without having to start from the beginning.”

Mr. Beckwith has had some fun with Love to Code, which uses “Chibi Chips”—made by Chibitronics—for programming.

The company says it makes circuit stickers and other tools for paper circuits, which blend circuit building and programming with arts and crafts.

Love to Code says circuit stickers are LED circuits on peel-and-stick stickers, which allows a user to build circuits without soldering, plugging wires, or clips. Instead, the stickers can be used with conductive tapes to draw circuits on paper and other crafts.

Mr. Beckwith used colored LEDs with a plastic model of a police car with 2 white LEDs, 2 red LEDs, and 2 blue LEDs, representing the headlights, tail lights, and the police emergency lights, with coding to tell the chip when the car’s headlights should switch from low-beam to high-beam, when the brake light should be activated, and when the police emergency lights should flash.

Mr. Beckwith added a siren, after asking Love to Code whether its circuitry would accommodate a sound signal to a speaker. The company said that in theory it should, but it had never been tried.

It worked. When Mr. Beckwith

hooks up the car to the Chibitronics, the headlights, tail lights, emergency lights, and siren all flash in the sequence that the Chibi Chips tell them to do.

Combining the circuit stickers with LEDs opens up a number of possibilities, including interactive artwork and, taking it a step further, wearable artwork.

“Students can use circuit stickers to make interactive artwork,” Mr. Beckwith said. “We could wire up a circuit with students making an overlay of art—maybe the person’s heart is flashing red, maybe it’s fireflies or the phases of the moon.”

Mr. Beckwith says he has a costume at home that he’s working on that will use circuit stickers to provide code instructions for LED lights.

Another area where students can use their coding and programming skills is designing objects using the 3D printer, which was donated to Reeds Brook Middle by the Perloff Family Foundation.

Mr. Beckwith said a couple of students who are avid fishermen approached him early in February about making a mold on the 3D printer so they could make their own fishing lures.

They had acquired some rubbery worms, and they wanted to melt them down and pour the material into a mold so they could make the artificial worms.

“I told them that it was a really cool idea,” Mr. Beckwith said. “As long as the melting point of the material is below the melting point of the plastic mold, you can pour anything into it—molten rubbery worms, chocolate, melted crayons.”

He said students hadn’t made molds yet in the 3D printer, but it’s pretty simple.

“We started working with the students, Owen Hanson and Kolby McLeod, in early February,” he said. “They had the design of a segmented worm that they found on line. They had to figure out where to set the pegs and holes so that the two halves of the mold would snap together. They also had to make a hole for the material to be poured through and into the mold.”

Mr. Beckwith said if they wanted something more organic—they could have something sculpted out of clay and then, using an app called qclone (pronounced “clone”) made into a mold.

Another student sculpted a fish out of clay, and Mr. Beckwith took the qclone app and scanned the fish model all the way around, putting it on a piece of paper with a grid so that the app would recognize it and take pictures from all directions.

Since then, the file has been downloaded into the 3D printer, which has produced a mold.

The students using the 3D printer, 8th graders Owen Hanson and Kolby McLeod, said their goal is to make rubber worms to use as fishing lures. They’d also like to use the molded fish as a lure.

They say the molds—both the worms and the fish—can be made in different colors and with glitter.

Owen and Kolby said they’ll probably use the lures to catch bass.

“We’ll fish anywhere—wherever we can drop a hook,” they said.



## RB 7th-8th grade band, chorus to compete in Music in the Parks Festival June 1

The 7th and 8th grade band and chorus will be traveling to Springfield, MA, to compete in the Music in the Parks Festival on June 1.

As of early February, 44 schools had signed up from all over New England, as well as Pennsylvania and New York. Schools will perform competitively against schools their size, and they'll receive comments

from judges outside of Maine.

"For the past three years, we've gone to the music festival at Funtown [in Saco, ME]," said band and chorus director Rebecca Mallory. "This year we wanted to go bigger and give the students a chance to experience a festival out-of-state."

Mrs. Mallory said the students

will be paying for the trip, but the band and chorus are fundraising to defray some of the costs.

The biggest event will be the Music Department's Carnival Fundraiser, which will be held April 10. People attending the Carnival buy tickets at the door and then use those tickets to participate in a variety of Carnival activities, including game booths, face painting, raffles, a cupcake eating contest, a photo booth, and numerous other concessions.

"There's really something for everyone," Mrs. Mallory said.

The Carnival will also have a silent auction. Auction items are being donated, and the list will grow as April 10th approaches.

However, a partial list auction items includes:

- \$100 in Shell gift cards

- Artwork from Feldmus Photography

- Photo session package from DAS photography

- \$200 snow removal certificate from Ledge Hill Custom

- \$15 Sweet Frog gift card

- Four \$15 iTunes gift cards

- Smokey's ride passes

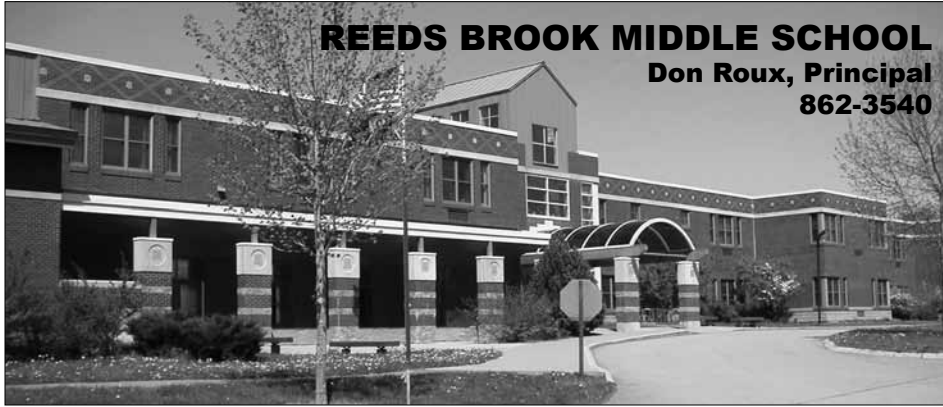
- Several themed gift baskets

\* \* \*

The Music in the Parks Festival has given Reeds Brook performance times for June 1 at Westfield High School.

The chorus will warm up at 10:40 and perform at 11. The band will warm up at 11:45 and perform at 12:10.

Students will have the entire afternoon at Six Flags and meet for an awards ceremony at 5:45 p.m. in the picnic area before departing for home.



**REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Don Roux, Principal  
862-3540

## RBMS Show Choir adopts 'home' theme, will raise funds for Sarah's House

The Reeds Brook Middle School Show Choir has adopted a "home" theme for this year, with songs like "Take Me Home, Country Roads," by John Denver, and "Our House," by Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young.

The Show Choir performed at the District Festival on Thursday, Feb. 28, at Stearns High School in Millinocket, and it's preparing for the State Festival on Friday, March 29, at Lawrence High School in Fairfield.

Show Choir director Matt Madore said he selected the home theme after reading an article in Down East magazine about Sarah's House, the hospitality house in Holden for cancer patients at Eastern Maine Medical Center's Lafayette Cancer Center in Brewer.

Sarah's daughter, Morgan Robinson, was featured in the article for her volunteer work at Sarah's House.

She is also a student at Reeds Brook and a member of the Show Choir.

Mr. Madore said the Show Choir is partnering with Sarah's House in several ways this year.

Sarah's House agreed to provide its logo for t-shirts, and the Show Choir will use Sarah's House t-shirts as its costume for performances.

He said the Show Choir will collect donations for Sarah's House when it performs at the Hampden Academy Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, March 27, two days before the state festival. The performance will include all of the music groups in RSU 22.

In addition, the competition t-shirts (with the Sarah's House logo) are often purchased by friends and family members to wear at competitions as a means of showing support for the group.

"We'll share all of the proceeds beyond the cost of the shirts with Sarah's House," Mr. Madore said.

\* \* \*

Currently, Morgan, a 7th grader at Reeds Brook, volunteers at Sarah's House during the summer and school vacations, prepping meals and baking treats, usually cakes, for the guests.

She says she enjoys getting to know the guests. "I try to interact with them when they come," she says. "It feels really good to know that I can be helping them."

Morgan also helps with the daily cleaning chores. She says the volunteers have a checklist of things that have to be done in each room to make it sanitary for each patient.

Actually, Morgan has been volunteering for Sarah's House since she was a young child—selling lemon-



Sarah's daughter, Morgan Robinson, is a 7th grader at Reeds Brook who volunteers during vacations at Sarah's House.

ade, fresh eggs, and hand-painted pumpkins to raise funds to achieve her mother's vision.

## 7th-8th grade band invited to perform at Champion the Cure 'Concert for a Cause'

The Reeds Brook Middle School 7th and 8th grade band has been invited to perform at the Champion the Cure Concert for a Cause at 7 p.m. March 12 at the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine.

The band will perform along with the Leonard Middle School (Old Town) band and the University of Maine Concert Band.

The three bands will perform separately, with Reeds Brook and Leonard Middle School playing two numbers each, followed by the UMaine band.

Then, all three groups will come together and combine to close the concert with a rendition of "Call of Champions," a dynamic fanfare composed by Rob Romeyn, followed by the Maine Stein Song.

All proceeds from the concert will benefit Champion the Cure, which supports cancer research in Maine.

Rebecca Mallory, Director of Music at Reeds Brook, said it's an honor for Reeds Brook to be selected.

"We were initially selected for 2020, but then the UMaine band director called up and asked if we would be interested in doing it this year, as they wanted to have two middle school bands perform," she said. "Of course, we said yes."

She said the concert will give the students an opportunity to play at

the Collins Center, and also to meet and perform with other musicians.

"Combining all three groups will fill the stage with over 200 musi-

cians and should be a very powerful, moving experience that the kids will remember for years to come," Mrs. Mallory said. "We also get to

serve our community and support the fight against cancer, which unfortunately hits many of us close to home."

## David Haggan honored by Maine VFW

David Haggan, who teaches 6th and 8th grade Social Studies at Reeds Brook Middle School, has been honored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars as the 2019 Middle School Teacher of the Year for Maine.

He was presented with his award at the VFW's 2019 Awards Banquet on January 12 at the Bangor Motor Inn, where about 300 people packed the reception hall.

Also recognized at the banquet were the teachers of the year for grades K-5, Sarah Nelson of Ames Elementary School, and grades 9-12, Toby Cole of Calais High School, and the first place winners of the VFW's Voice of Democracy essay contest for high school students and the Patriot's Pen essay contest for middle school students.

Mr. Haggan says he has organized VFW essay contests every year for the past 25 years—the Patriot's Pen contest at Reeds



David Haggan

Brook and the Voice of Democracy contest when he taught at Hamp-

den Academy.

He also helped organize the Veterans Appreciation event at Reeds Brook on November 11 last year, and he brings his students to participate in the Cole Land Transportation Museum veterans interview program.

"I think our youth need to be taught to welcome the people who have gone before them to secure their rights to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness," Mr. Haggan says. "Veterans have always had a place in my heart. As a social studies teacher, I'd be dropping the ball if I didn't follow through in a strong, positive, patriotic way."

Mr. Haggan's nomination as Grade 6-8 Teacher of the Year was sponsored by the VFW Hampden Post 4633.

The keynote speaker at the Awards Banquet was the national commander of the VFW.

## School Counselor works to strengthen connections with students

Sometimes a minute or two of time is all it takes to make a big impact. Kim Raymond, School counselor at Smith School in Winterport, has recently implemented a new strategy to help build stronger connections with all students in the school. She has started holding “Minute Meetings” with all students Pre-K to 4th grade. These “Minute Meetings” usually run about 3-5 minutes and provide Mrs. Raymond with an op-

portunity to check in with a large number of students in a relatively short amount of time. She began these at the beginning of February starting with 4th grade students and has continued to work her way down through the grade levels to connect with everyone.

For these meetings, Mrs. Raymond finds a quiet space in the hallway outside the classroom and away from distractions. She takes the time to listen to and get to know all her students. Even the youngest students are able to be engaged in conversation as they play with some small toys, putty or a stress ball that Mrs. Raymond has available while they talk. According to Mrs. Raymond, these meetings have helped open the door to make connections with students who don't always reach out or seek help on their own.

Mrs. Raymond added that: “Sometimes there is a lot of conversation during these few minutes, sometimes laughter or sometimes more silent moments of reflection. Regardless of the topic of conversation or what actual words are spoken, I hope to show students that I'm here for them, they are valued and that their voices matter.”

With a caseload of over three hundred students, Mrs. Raymond explained that it can be a challenge to make sure all students feel connected and comfortable reaching out if

they need support. As part of her comprehensive school counseling program, Mrs. Raymond already teaches weekly lessons in classrooms and sees many students in small groups. These “Minute Meetings” allow Mrs. Raymond to do a brief check in with every student on a more personal level regardless of whether or not the student is experiencing an urgent need or challenge in that moment. During these brief interactions, Mrs. Raymond is able to check in to see if students are struggling with anything, give students an opportunity to share new or exciting things that are happening in their lives, as well as allow for general conversation about how they are feeling about their school year, their friendships and themselves.

“My goal as a school counselor has always been to help make sure all students feel important and understand that they matter,” explains Mrs. Raymond. “I may not see every student everyday but I want all students to know that I am available to guide and support them when they need it.”



Kim Raymond, School Counselor holds a Minute Meeting with 4th grade student Ava Black



## Civil Rights Team organizes 4th annual “Welcome Week” at Smith School

Everyone deserves to feel safe, welcome, and respected in school. At Leroy H. Smith School in Winterport, the Civil Rights Team (CRT) works hard to help all students feel welcome everyday. The team is part of a state-wide program called the Maine Civil Rights Team Project which is out of the office of the Attorney General. In February, CRT hosted the schools 4th annual “Welcome Week.” This week is all about making everyone feel welcome regardless of differences such as: Race and Skin Color, Ancestry, Gender, Disabilities, Religion and Family Structure.

This year during welcome week, CRT members read special messages during morning announcements and held an assembly for the school about why the week is important. During the assembly, CRT members shared posters they had made and talked with the whole school about things that make us special such as: our religion, beliefs, gender, abilities, our families and our appearance. Students also learned about ways they can have a positive impact on other people and help make them feel included.

Another important part of Welcome Week is having conversations with students throughout the school to spread CRT's message of inclusion. CRT members shared books and read in classrooms throughout the school.

Students and staff also participated in fun theme days such as Sunglasses day, where students got to wear sunglasses to symbolize having empathy and viewing the world through someone else's perspective. Classrooms decorated their doors to portray the themes of Family, Gender, Race, Skin Color, Disabilities, and Religion and students got to decorate a bee (Smith School's mascot) to display in the lobby as an extension of the CRT bulletin board.

A new addition to Welcome Week activities this year included a Mix It Up lunch where students were mixed up and got the opportunity to sit with people who they may not usual spend time with. During lunch, CRT members led an activity where students got to share information about themselves with others. This was a great opportunity for students to learn more about each other.

CRT advisors, Kim Raymond (School Counselor) and Hannah Boss (Kindergarten teacher) work with the Civil Rights Team two or three



Some of the CRT members hold signs the team created for Welcome Week.

times a month after school to help students understand why the team is important and help students think about ways they can make everyone feel welcome everyday. The team of 3rd and 4th grade students work together to brainstorm new ideas.

Although Welcome Week is over for this year, CRT is already busy planning Welcome Week for next year. CRT is also working on other

activities to help support their mission of making sure everyone feels welcome. The students know that it is important to keep their message going all year. As long as there are people in the world who don't feel included, or get teased because of who they are, the team's work is never finished. And as their bulletin board says: “Our ROOTS may be different but we all GROW together!”



## Smith School introducing robots to grades K-4, along with Dash, Dot and Blockly for coding

Smith School is excited to be introducing grade K-4 to coding/robots! In grades 3 and 4, we have been using a program called Scratch that was developed by MIT. (Each student has their own account, and with internet access they can use it at home.)

This program teaches the basics of programming/coding. We get to solve challenges that involve various math concepts in a way that is easy and fun. Students get to apply their problem solving skills every time they write an algorithm. We are moving forward with grades K-4, working with the Wonder Workshop Robots, Dash and Dot.

The older students use the block coding style we learned in Scratch, and a Wonder Workshop app called Blockly to make the robots perform a series of activities. The younger students, K-2 will be controlling the robots with a series of apps available through the Wonder Workshop program at a more basic level. From robot races, to obstacle courses, to synchronized robot dancing and much more, the students are having fun learning these skills and through the context of code, kids build essential 21st Century skills for life that empower them to become creators using technology.



Smith students practice with robots in the main hallway.



Map showing location of students who have sent postcards to Smith 1st graders.

## Smith 1st graders exchange postcards with Classmates Across the States

First grade students at Smith School are on an adventure to learn about the 50 states this year!

Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Baker's classes have participated in a postcard exchange called Classmates Across the States. This project began with an idea from Mrs. Nicole Baum, a second grade teacher in Yorkville, Illinois. She reached out to her fellow teachers via Twitter and came in contact with Mrs. Davis. By the end of the summer the Classmates Across the States Project (#Classmates-AcrossTheStates) had 49 participants, with only 3 states not yet represented.

Each classroom wrote a letter that was printed on 48 postcards, then teachers or students individually addressed each postcard to the other participating classrooms across the country.

First graders at Smith School have been receiving postcards since the first week of school! There is quite a large stack that the students are working through by reading one or two postcards per week. The students have listened to, read about, and identified 16 states through this postcard exchange so far.

The first graders chart each postcard on a map in the hallway to show off the classrooms they have connected with. Many students have named states they have visited, states where extended family lives, and they were even able to connect with a class taught by Mrs. Davis's friend in Connecticut! First Graders are excited to continue the journey of connecting with their "classmates across the states" and learning about our country state by state.

**March 1 through April 2**  
**at Waterfall Arts:**  
*the third annual*

**Midcoast Maine's largest collection of work by artists under age 18**  
**Over 200 original works throughout the building, including both galleries**

**At Waterfall Arts, 256 High Street, Belfast, Maine 04915**  
 View the work Tuesday-Friday between 10am-5pm all month.  
 207-338-2222 for more info. [www.waterfallarts.org](http://www.waterfallarts.org)

## March provides opportunities to display art

The month of March provides a couple of opportunities to show off artworks from some of our Winterport and Frankfort students at Smith School and Wagner Middle School.

The first opportunity comes with an invitation to the "Young Artists' Gallery Takeover" held at the Waterfall Arts in Belfast. This ends up being Midcoast Maine's largest collection of works by artists under the age of 18, with over 200 original works throughout the Waterfall Arts building, including both galleries.

This show runs the entire month of March (March 1-April 2) with an Opening Reception held on March 1

Waterfall Arts is located at 256 High Street in Belfast. The regular hours for this show will be Tuesday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. all month. For more information call 207-338-2222 or go to [www.waterfallarts.org](http://www.waterfallarts.org).

\* \* \*

The other opportunity to display student artworks will be as part of the "Art in the Heart's Student Art Show" at the Bangor Mall, which traditionally happens towards the middle of March.

Posters for the Bangor Mall Art Show will be posted at RSU 22 schools as the date grows near.

## Reeds Brook Student Council coat drive nets 162 items for local shelters

The Reeds Brook Middle School Student Council led a coat drive at the school during November and December that resulted in 162 items being donated to the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter, the Penquis Community Action Agency, and other individual local donations in the community.

In addition to coats, donated items included hats, mittens, boots, scarves, and other items.

The items were brought to school

and placed in a cart in the hallway, with Student Council advisor Jason Kash and a Student Council representative available to answer questions.

The cart was also brought to the Student Council dance on December 14, so students could make donations there.

Isabella McLaughlin, Student Council president for the first semester, said "thank you" to students for supporting the drive.

"It is difficult to express with

words how grateful I am, the student council is, and the recipients will be," she said. "Giving back to our community is a very vital part of being a good school, especially around this time of year, and we can all confidently say we have done so in the last few weeks."

In addition to the coat drive, Isabella said the Student Council donated \$300 to the Engineering Club, which has brought engineering graduate students from the

University of Maine to Reeds Brook with materials and lesson plans once a week for eight weeks for the past eight years.

The club is advised by 6th grade science teacher Georgiana Piete.

"They've been doing this for eight years, and they've never asked for donations," Isabella said. "It was the least we could do. They're taking time out of their day and helping us learn about science and engineering."



## Coding, robotics bring Dash, Dot, Blockly, Makey Makey to Weatherbee, McGraw

By Stephanie Shteirman  
Technology Integrator

Coding and robotics have taken off in RSU22 and that is certainly evident at Weatherbee and McGraw.

Kindergartners were taken through a series of unplugged activities to understand algorithms and sequencing before learning rudimentary coding using Beebots. Beebots are small robots that look like bees and students can input up to 40 commands of code via buttons on the robot's 'back', or surface. Students learned math facts while working in groups to practice their new coding skills.

First and second graders also used unplugged activities as a coding foundation before venturing into



Weatherbee teachers (above) and students (below) learn about coding and robotics.



self paced coding lessons using the Code.org curriculum. At the same time students are learning how to

code Dash and Dot robots using the Wonder Workshop block coding app called Blockly.

Third graders at Weatherbee started off the year learning Scratch Jr. and have now moved into block coding with Dash and Dot robots as well. They played with electrical circuitry by creating electric bongos out of ordinary items using the Makey Makey kit and the programming language Scratch. Makey Makey is an electronic invention tool and toy that allows users to connect everyday objects to computer programs, according to its manufacturer.

Many thanks to the PTO for purchasing a Makey Makey kit that, combined with other kits at Weatherbee, allows an entire class to invent.

Fourth graders started the year learning code through Code.org and have also moved into working with robots Dash and Dot. They are going through a series of puzzles and challenges that teach students working in groups of three the ins and outs of making the robots do what they want them to do. Students are also learning the 'soft skills' that help people work better and more effectively together, as well as computational thinking and problem solving.

Fourth graders also used the Makey Makey kits and Scratch programming to turn their author studies into interactive museum ex-



hibits in which visitors could touch buttons and hear details about an author's life and career.

Fifth graders started the year off with three months of learning the block coding language Scratch. They were the first in the school to start using Dash and Dot and have quickly progressed to working on actual missions of the robotics competitions put out by Wonder Workshop, the makers of Dash and Dot.

Teachers Matt Lindemann and Dorothy Dawson are coaching their students through the process but students are essentially learning on their own and from each other to complete the challenging missions.

Weatherbee is hoping to hone all this talent into two robotics teams next year at the fifth grade level that will compete outside the district in the First Lego League.



**GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL**  
Jennifer Cyr, Principal  
862-3254

### 3rd grade parents invited to Weatherbee March 14 for wax museums, folk music concert

Parents of third graders at Weatherbee School are being invited to visit the school on Thursday, March 14, for a music and reading collaboration that will focus on American history and folk music.

The collaboration will include a "wax museum," with students dressed in costumes representing Americans that they have chosen to study in their biography unit in reading.

It will also feature the annual third-grade concert, with the students singing American folk songs that they have been learning during the year, including "America the Beautiful," "Oh, Susannah," "I've Been Working on the Railroad," "All Day Long, All I Do Is Work," and "Icka Backa Soda Cracker."

In reading, the third graders are learning about biographies, and they have each selected an inspiring

American to research. When they returned from February vacation, they started gathering information about their inspiring American's early years and families, how they are inspiring, interesting facts from later in their life, and how America is different because of that person.

The concert will include all five third grade classes and take place in the Weatherbee Gymnasium from 1:45 to 2:15 p.m.

The Biography Wax Museums will be held in two sessions, one before the concert and one after.

The Arsenault/Thompson Team will hold their wax museums before the concert—from 1 to 1:30 p.m. in their homerooms.

The Starrett/Adams/Libbey Team will hold their wax museums after the concert—from 2:15 to 2:45 p.m. in the gym.



Emilynne Christiansen won 1st place in the Smokey the Bear poster contest.



Amelia Brickell with her 2nd place poster.

### Garden Club announces poster contest winners

The Hampden Garden Club has announced the winners of the 2019 Smokey the Bear poster contest.

The first place poster was created by Emilynn Christiansen and the runner-up was Amelia Brickel, both 4th graders at Weatherbee School.

Emilynn's poster will continue on

to the state competition in Augusta.

The Garden Club sponsors this contest every year for 4th grade and said this year's entries were of especially good quality, which made the judging challenging.

Congratulations to Emilynn and Amelia!

### Todd Simcox of TV5 talks about the weather

Students have been reading nonfiction and are participating in research teams. Each team is responsible for reading, note taking, synthesizing and summarizing subtopics they assigned themselves on a natural disaster or extreme weather.

Students generated a list of question for meteorologist, Todd Simcox of WABI TV5. Mr. Simcox answered the students' questions and showed



Meteorologist Todd Simcox of TV5 answers questions.

pictures of the TV studio and tools he uses to forecast the weather.

Students are creating their own Google slides to share their research learning and hard work.





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



One of our kindergarten friends displaying his jammies and crazy socks!!



More jammies and crazy socks!!



A first grade student adding coins to our Coins for Kindness

## Kindness Week Challenge at McGraw

Students and staff at McGraw School took on the Kindness Week Challenge!

During the last month of January, students celebrated kindness in everything they did! Each day had a particular focus:

- Monday was "Hats off to Kindness," so everyone wore their favorite hat.
- Tuesday was Team Kindness, so students and staff wore their favorite team shirts or any other shirt that represented kindness.
- Wednesday's focus was "Dreaming of Kindness," so students were scheduled to come to school in their pajamas!
- Thursday's theme was "Crazy for Kindness," so everyone wore their favorite crazy socks!
- Friday's focus was "We LOVE Kindness." Students and staff wore red, not only for kindness, but also to celebrate Wear Red for Women's Heart Health!

Due to the snow day on Wednesday, the school combined the PJs



Second grade students add coins

and crazy socks on Thursday!

McGraw School principal Kristin Briggs said she was proud of her staff, which had 100% participation wearing red for Go Red for Women on Friday.

During the week students also collected Cans for Kindness and Coins for Kindness. The coins and cans were donated to the Hampden Neighborhood Food Cupboard.



Antonio Rocha, award-winning storyteller and mime, at McGraw School.



## McGraw welcomes Antonio Rocha

McGraw School welcomed Antonio Rocha, an award-winning storyteller and mime, on December 4th.

Students and staff enjoyed his sound effects, especially the hyena!

He began the presentation while wearing a beautiful, traditional outfit from his native Brazil. Antonio told stories that taught lessons, as well as entertained!

## RSU 22 ADULT EDUCATION - SPRING 2019

[www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com](http://www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com)

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 spring academic season. To contact us directly you can call our office at 862-6422 or email our program director at: [mtardie@rsu22.us](mailto:mtardie@rsu22.us)

### Hampden Academy Fitness Center

We will, again, be opening and supervising the Hampden Academy Fitness Center until the end of April. The fitness center is open, free of charge, to all RSU 22 staff and residents on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. We will have an adult education on-site supervisor available to introduce folks to the exercise equipment and to assist you with your individual workout programs. Please note, that the fitness center will be closed on days when RSU 22 schools are closed because of poor weather or when Hampden Academy cancels after-school activities that night.

### Personal Enrichment Courses

Once again, this spring, we will offer a variety of personal enrichment courses and workshops. Our paper flyers will be in homes by mid-March, but our course catalog is now available online.

Dance and Music	Personal Wellness	Health and Fitness
Crafting and Art	Technology	Cooking and Baking
Languages	Hobbies, Special Interests	Motor Coach Bus Trips

To view our complete Spring 2019 course schedule go to:

[www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com](http://www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com)

### CNA Training

Certified Nursing Assistants help patients or clients with healthcare needs, working under the supervision of an approved nurse. Demand for CNA's in the healthcare industry is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations! Our next CNA class is scheduled to start in May 20. Classes are projected to run Monday and Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings to be more accommodating to students and folks who are working. The cost for this next class will be only \$695. We offer students convenient payment plans and possible course reimbursement options.

Contact us at 862-6422 for an application or to find out more information about this popular training program. We expect that the deadline for applications to be received will be May 10.

### High School Diploma and HiSET (GED)

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 22 and neighboring communities. All classes are instructor-led, fit into convenient six-week formats and are affordably priced. A complete list of all courses can be found at: [www.ed2go.com/rsu22](http://www.ed2go.com/rsu22). Some of the more popular course titles include:

A to Z Grant Writing	Introduction to Interior Design
Become a Veterinary Assistant	Blogging & Podcasting for Beginners
Beginner's Guide to Getting Published	Introduction to JavaScript
Business and Marketing Writing	Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint
Computer Skills for the Workplace	Adobe / Acrobat Photoshop
Buying & Selling on eBay	Accounting Fundamentals
Grammar Refresher	QuickBooks
Test Prep: GRE, LAST, SAT, Praxis	PC Troubleshooting
Real Estate Law	Writing for Children
Introduction to Statistics	Music Theory Made Easy

### Online Health Occupations Courses

In 10 to 20 weeks, you can become nationally certified in these portable, high demand healthcare jobs through our partnership with the Academy of Medical Professions. Students who complete their program also receive assistance with job searching and resume writing.

Dental Assisting	Medical Transcription	Medical Coding & Billing
Medical Office Specialist	Pharmacy Technician	Hospital Coding & Billing

For more information about any of these courses, including payment plan options and specific certifications awarded per course, please contact us at 862-6422.

### Free Online Courses and Trainings

Through a partnership with Hoonuit, formerly Atomic Learning, we are again able to offer our residents free access to over 250 online courses and over 10,000 tutorials and individual trainings. To receive a password and login information to these courses email us at: [riversideadulthood@rsu26.org](mailto:riversideadulthood@rsu26.org) or call 862-6422. Some of the newer courses are listed below.

Tech for Students w/Dyslexia	SketchUp for 3D Printing	Kid Px Deluxe
Career Skills Trainings	Google Sheets	Minecraft in the Classroom
Moodle Instructor Training	Boardmaker Plus!	Google Calendar
Microsoft Office Applications	HTMLS & CSS3 Basics	Cyberbullying
Flash CS5	Internet Safety	Dreamweaver CS5
Classroom Mgt. Strategies	Podcasting Workshop	WordPress
Creating Digital Portfolios	Being Successful in College	Office for iPad
Anime Studio Training	SharePoint Basics	Photoshop
Moodle for Students	Using Gmail	Supporting Gifted Students
Geometer's Sketchpad	Flickr Training	Adobe Lightroom
iBooks Author Training	Using iTunes	Real-World Geometry
Being Savvy Online	Textease CT	Using SMART Boards

### College Transitions

Our College Transitions Program is designed to help students successfully prepare for college. We help adult learners who are earning their high school diploma or their HiSET certificate successfully transition to college. We also help students who already have a diploma prepare for their college experience. We also offer this spring, a course, The College Experience: Year One. This is a 24 hour blended (live and online) course which allows students an opportunity to earn one free credit from Eastern Maine Community College. Contact us if you would like to discuss with us some of the following College Transitions services that we offer.

Career Exploration/Planning	Academic Advising Services	College Readiness Course
Accuplacer Prep & Testing	College Application Assistance	
Academic Courses: Algebra / Biology / Writing for College		

Like us on Facebook

**Riverside Adult Education**



# 3rd annual 'KEEP IT LOCAL' COMMUNITY & BUSINESS EXPO coming to RSU 22 March 23

Please mark Saturday, March 23, 2019, for our third "Keep It Local" Community & Business Expo. Due to the further increase in size, the event will again take place at Hampden Academy in both the Gymnasium and the Dining Commons, offering space for up to 90 vendors. Attending the Expo is free to the general public. Opening Hours for the Expo are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with setup for the vendors as of 8 a.m.

This is not just a business-to-business fair; the child and family-friendly 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 public is en-



RSU #22  
Education  
Foundation

Community Partners for Inspired Education



couraged to display. Selling products from your farm? Own a fitness or health-related business? Are you a lawyer or banker or medical professional? Looking to hire new staff? Small engine repair? Art studio or church? You are all welcome. We'd like to showcase the diversity and breadth of the community offerings we have; encouraging to purchase

and network locally, all the while providing funds to strengthen education in RSU22.

This event was held for the first time in March of 2017, and last year's event had 52 different vendors showcasing their products or services and over 200 community members attending or participating. The most prominent categories represented

were Wellness & Health, Services, Food & Farm, Industrial & Construction, and Education & Nonprofit. Of note is also the fact that at least 3 companies were exhibiting primarily to attract full-time or part-time employees for their business.

Rates for becoming a vendor start at \$40 per tabletop booth with returning exhibitors from prior years receiving discounted rates. Non-profit and community organizations are free.

If you have questions about the event or would like to sign up to become a vendor or exhibitor, please contact either board member Peter Witt ([retewitt@gmail.com](mailto:retewitt@gmail.com)) or Gabe Baker ([gbake207@gmail.com](mailto:gbake207@gmail.com)) or contact the Foundation directly at 207-852-2138 or [rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com).



RSU #22  
Education  
Foundation

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 'Keep It Local' Community & Business Expo Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

**Expo hours: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Exhibitor setup: starts at 8 a.m.**

**Hampden Academy, 89 Western Avenue, Hampden, ME**

**Cost:** No cost for attendees - this is a public event.

**Exhibitors:** \$40 per tabletop (8'x6' space). \$80 for a 10'x10' booth, \$100 for 10'x15'.

Some booths offer electricity (+\$10). Discount for returning exhibitors (please inquire), free to non-profit community organizations and school clubs.

Sponsorships are available (see back for details). Lead Sponsor: \$500 - Sponsor: \$250

**Proceeds benefit the RSU#22 Education Foundation & Mini Grants Fund.**

Send registration with checks payable to RSU#22 Education Foundation:

RSU#22 Education Foundation, PO Box 115, Hampden, ME 04444.

For more information: e-mail [rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com) or call 852-2138.

### Registration form for Exhibitors

*Note: Registration fees are non-refundable. Booth & tabletop spaces will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Priority is given to organizations or principals within RSU#22 district.*

Name of business or organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorships: I am interested! (see back for more): lead sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Desired space: # of 8'x6' tabletops \_\_\_\_\_ Need 6' table: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

# 10'x10' booth spaces \_\_\_\_\_ Request electricity (booth only +\$10) \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhibitor Release (must be signed by participant or parent of guardian if under 18):** I consent to appear in any photography or videography at this event. I am a voluntary participant in this event. I assume full and complete responsibility for any injury or accident that may occur during my participation in or while on the premises of this event. I hereby release and hold harmless and covenant not to file suit against any organizers, sponsors, workers and any other persons or entities associated with this event from any loss, liability, or claims arising out of my participation in this event.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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.

The Education Foundation funds initiatives with grants that help foster innovative educational projects.

Interested citizens should email us at [rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:rsu22educationfoundation@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.rsu22foundation.org](http://www.rsu22foundation.org).

### 3rd Annual 'Keep It Local' Community & Business Expo

#### Sponsorship opportunities

The RSU#22 Education Foundation is looking for sponsors to help offset the cost for this event as well as advertising, mailing & printing expenses. The total expense budget is \$7000. Sponsorships are available as follows:

**1 Presenting Sponsor: \$2,500**

**4x Lead Sponsors: \$500 ea.**

**10x Sponsors: \$250 ea.**

Details about the benefits for each level can be obtained by contacting the Foundation.