RSU 9 District Newsletter

October 23, 2024

Message from the Superintendent ~ Christian M. Elkington

As we continue to navigate our school year, I want to emphasize the importance of communication and your involvement in our schools. Parent & Guardian support plays a vital role, and fosters a more trusting, positive, and nurturing learning environment for our students. Just as importantly it fosters the significance of "we", "us", and "TEAM" in our efforts to work for our children!

Thanks to those who find time to be involved in our schools! To those who have not, please consider one of the following ways to get more involved:

- Support Your Children: Help your children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews with their schoolwork and to problem solve. Encourage them to be responsible, respectful, and safe to their classmates.
- Collaborate with School Staff: Work closely with teachers, administrators, and other school staff to support your child's success.
- Attend Fun Events: Participate in school and non-school sponsored events and activities.
- Volunteer in Our Schools: Share your time and talents by volunteering in our classrooms or at school events.
- Read School & District Newsletters and Communications: Keep up-to-date on our schools.
- Join the PTA/PTO: Become a member of your child's PTA or PTO and help support school programs and activities.
- Attend Sporting Events: Cheer on our student athletes by showing your support for their hard work and dedication.
- **Apply for School Positions:** Consider applying for teaching, subbing, coaching, or other school positions. Your expertise and passion can make a significant difference.
- Attend, Watch, or Read Information From School Board Meetings: Stay informed about district decisions.

Family involvement makes a tremendous difference in the lives of our students. By actively participating in our school community, you help create the positive and supportive learning environment our students and school must have to be successful!

Thank you for your continued support.





Nationally, school buses are recognized as the gold standard of safety, and school bus drivers are rightfully hailed as the unsung heroes of our transportation system. They deliver the most precious cargo – our students – to and from school every day.

During National School Bus Safety Week, October 21-25, we have the opportunity to reflect upon the outstanding work of our school bus drivers. These dedicated professionals transport students across our district, covering over 30 million miles annually on both urban and rural roads. In Maine, a remarkable 80 percent of students rely on school buses, surpassing the national average of 50 percent.

While we celebrate our school bus drivers, let's also acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our mechanics, van drivers, aides, and custodians. Their tireless efforts ensure the safe and efficient operation of our transportation system.

As we express our gratitude to these dedicated individuals, I encourage you to join me in offering a smile, a thumbs up, or a heartfelt thank you to our entire transportation team.

Their commitment to the safety and well-being of our students is truly commendable.









Gina Rondinone's 5th grade class at Cascade Brook School was awarded a grant from the Build-A-Bear Foundation through First Book Marketplace! They received a class set of teddy bears and books to assist with reading fluency and engagement. Students chose their own books and were excited to discover their new reading buddies on their desks when they arrived at school!

Well done Ms. Rondinone & students!

FLAT STANLEY TRAVELS AROUND THE WORLD!!



Melissa Brown's Class at Academy Hill School (AHS) has had a long-standing partnership with the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, spanning 8 years.

This past year, her class participated in a
Flat Stanley project with them, and this
project, as a result of the class'
involvement, contributed to the AMVETS
post in Jay winning the Carol King Show
and Tell for Child Welfare Award. This
award was received on Friday, September
6th., Ms. Brown and AHS Principal, Keith
Acedo, both attended the ceremony to
celebrate this achievement.



