



Superintendent's Corner

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Interim Superintendent

June 17, 2016

In Our Schools..

I neglected to share some of our recent events in our schools. These events truly exemplify the great happenings in the Amesbury Public Schools...

Ascend to the Top

On Thursday, June 2, 2016 over one hundred Amesbury Middle School students and more than 30 chaperones meet in the Amesbury Middle School cafeteria at 6:30am before boarding busses, for an hour and a half ride to the trail head of Mount Major in Alton Bay, New Hampshire. The students were chosen for this trip because they exhibited C.A.R.E.ing behavior throughout the 2015-2016 school year. These students had been recognized by the teachers and staff of the Amesbury Middle School as exhibiting, good Character, appropriate Attitude and Accountability, showing Respect and Responsibility and displaying Empathy.



After arriving at the trail head the students and chaperones headed up the mountain to ascend to the top. Every single student made it to the summit where they were rewarded with panoramic views of New Hampshire including Lake Winnepesaukee.

All participants enjoyed a hot dog cook out provided by Shaheen Brothers Inc., at the base of the trail before boarding the busses for the ride back to Amesbury Middle School. The cost of the busses was donated by Cumberland Farms.

Coastal Connections – Community Collaborations

A yearlong collaboration with Coastal Connections and an AHS freshman English class ended with a fun-filled experience for all. Ms. Poirier and Mr. Casto, with Mr. Hamond's support, were able to purchase several birdfeeder kits. The students in the English class wrote step-by-step instructions about how to build the birdfeeders. They built some themselves and then shared their skills with their friends from Coastal. Mrs. Young from Coastal (and retired AHS Special Education teacher) along with Ms. Poirier, helped oversee the hot glue, but aside from that, the students were in charge. Every student left with new friends, a sense of pride and accomplishment, AND a birdfeeder!



Amesbury Innovation High School Graduation



On Sunday afternoon, I attended the graduation ceremony for seven seniors completing their studies at the Amesbury Innovation High School. AIHS provides a rigorous academic program for students, while at the same time supporting social emotional learning in a small group setting. This ceremony was very emotional, for both staff and families. I am very proud of the students, many of whom overcame challenges to accomplish the goal of graduating. Six of the seven students will be continuing their education at college in the fall.

City Council Budget

On Tuesday evening, the City Council voted to support the school's proposed budget for the 2016-2017 school year. This budget will help to rebuild some of the programs and supports that have been lost in recent years. I would like to thank the City Council for their support of the schools and our budget.

End of Year

Just a reminder to families that the last day of school is June 24, 2016. It is a half day for students. Dismissal times are as follows:

Elementary Schools: 11:30

Middle/High School: 10:50

Amesbury Public Schools - Strategic Planning Sessions

Students, Staff, Parents, and Community Members are invited to one of our strategic planning sessions. During this time, we will begin to identify our vision statement that will become part of our 3-5 year strategic plan.

Dates: Wednesday, June 29, 2016: 9 – 10:30 am **OR** Thursday, June 30, 2016: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Location: Amesbury High School: Room 129

Please RSVP by June 24th to Ms. Carol Bartlett at (978) 388-0507 or bartlettc@amesburyma.gov

Happy Father's Day

Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there!
Enjoy your special day with your families!



Be well and have a great weekend!

Gary