School Board Report

Windham Elementary School

2-4-2019

**Academic Proficiency:**

-The winter summative assessment administered through the Aims Web platform was completed this past month. This assessment is part of our local common assessment plan in the supervisory union(SU) that all the schools are required to follow. Every student in the SU took this assessment in the fall then again in the winter, and will take it one final time in the spring. The results are used in a variety of ways to hold teachers accountable, to alter an entire classrooms program of studies, to identify areas of weakness with specific students, or to reinforce that what is being taught is actually what is being assessed. I am unable to share out the full results as we do not have enough students at any grade level to do so, but I can share some data with you about the 5th grade class. The average increase for the fifth grade class is 13 percent compared to the national norms. The greatest single student increase is 37 percent! The highest score in the 5th grade this winter is an 88 percent from a student that improved 16 percentage points. The lowest score is 66 percent by a student that increased 17 percentage points. The average score for all seven 5th grade students is 78 percent. The goal for the SU is to have all students at or above the 50th percentile, so we are well beyond that for the largest class in the school. The 6th grade is only three students and has special education implications that heavily impact the results, so there is not anything that can be shared without possibly giving away some anonymity of those students. Antje, perhaps you may want to use some of this data in your report at town meeting.

-On the language arts assessment this winter, the results were even more exciting for the 5th grade class. The average score for the seven 5th graders is the 77th percentile. The average increase from fall to winter is a whopping 26%. The lowest score is the 60th percentile, while the highest is an astonishing 96th percentile. This puts all seven students above the 50th percentile as well for LA. The entire 5th grade class is above the 50th percentile in both math and LA. I could not be more proud of their effort and results.

-Grade level meetings this month are scheduled for February 5th and 7th. Sally goes on the 7th and Mr. PJ on the 5th.

-On February 7th and 14th the trauma cohorts will be meeting again. The 7th is for the administration team and the 14th is for the champions group. Mr. PJ is scheduled to be at both.

**Personalized Learning:**

-Now that we have the Winter Aims Web results, we can begin to work on specific areas of weakness for individual students. These results can be analyzed to find areas of overlap that might benefit multiple students or topics that are isolated to just specific students.

-Report cards were sent home on Friday, January 25th for all students.

**High Quality Staffing:**

-The Green School Energy Challenge continues to evolve with Sally and the older students working on narrowing down their focus for an all school energy or environment related goal. Julian, from the Vermont Energy Education Program, was here again on January 17th to support Sally and the upper grade students in their quest to finalize a project.

-January is school board recognition month for the state of Vermont. As a result, students in the upper grade class have written letters to the school board. First, we spent time talking about what the school board is and who the members are. Then we spent fifteen minutes brainstorming ideas about what they do, why they do it, and why that is important to the students and this community. Finally, the students all gathered that information to create their own letter to the school board members. I would like to read one or two here as a public acknowledgment of all your service to this school and community.

**Safe, Healthy Schools:**

-The winter sports program has begun with students going to Stratton and Grafton Ponds.

-February vacation is the week of the 18th-22nd.

-This month we will do a clear the halls drill.

**Financial Efficiencies:**

-The science materials we ordered with the REAP grant have arrived. The students each have a kit to work on from KIWI company that provides intricate hands on activities to learn about the next generation science standards. Every month a new kit will arrive for the students to work on various science concepts doing these hands on experiments that span a variety of science related concepts. More updates to follow about the specifics of the kits as we start using them.

-Many students in the school were treated to a free dental visit here in the principal’s office on January 14th and 15th as the Stratton Foundation donated this service to a few different schools. I am not certain if any other schools in our SU participated in this or not, but it was a treat to see the kids coming out of the principal’s office with ear to ear smiles for once…and clean smiles at that!