
Florence Rideout Elementary School

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Principal's Report: 5/9/2017

Lyndeborough Central School/Florence Rideout Elementary School

We are in full spring assessment mode at Florence Rideout Elementary School. Students in Grades 3, 4 and 5 are completing ***Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC)***. This assessment is taken online and measures student performance on both English Language Arts and Mathematics Common Core State Standards. Students are demonstrating excellent test-taking strategies and completing the assessment in a timely fashion. The ***NECAP Science Assessment*** will be administered to all 4th grade students at Florence Rideout beginning the week of **May 15th**. Beginning **May 17th**, students in all grades will begin the spring ***NWEA –MAP assessment***. This assessment is given three times a year as a way to determine students' progress in math and reading. This assessment is adaptive so it matches questions with the students' abilities and their results are recorded into a database for future reference.

Kindergarten Parent Orientation was held on Thursday, **May 4th** at Lyndeborough Central School. The orientation-included introductions of several school staff members followed by an informative presentation for parents, conducted by the kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Nicole Dane and Mrs. Vicki MacPherson, depicted a typical Kindergarten day. Information regarding the Extended-Day Program was provided by Mrs. Theresa Waller.

Staff Appreciation Week was held the week of **May 1st-5th**. The PTO organized an amazing daily breakfast and lunch throughout the week for all staff. Chair massages, courtesy of Deb Medic, LMT were available for staff on Wednesday and Thursday.

Our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students have been hard at work preparing and rehearsing for our annual ***Spring Concert*** under the direction of their music teacher, Ms. Kristi Levick. This year's concert "Drums Alive!" will have students demonstrating their percussive talents on various household items. It is a must see event! Students will perform on Thursday, **May 12th**. Shows start promptly at 6:30 pm in the FRES Gymnasium.

Several ***field trips*** are planned for the month of May: **May 3rd**: 5th grade field trip to Museum of Science; **May 5th**: 4th grade field trip to NH State House & Salmon Fry release; **May 16th**: 3rd grade field trip to Squam Lakes Natural Science Center; **May 24th**: 5th grade field trip to Sturbridge Village, **May 31st**: 2nd grade field trip to Seacoast Science Center.

We are beginning our partnership with TLA (Teacher and Learners Alliance) as they assist us in implementing our new balanced literacy program and ***Reader's Workshop***. On **May 3rd** Lynn Schade and Stephanie Maze-Hsu met with members of our Literacy team and again later with all staff to introduce themselves and the Readers' workshop model of literacy instruction, and to discuss our first steps in moving forward with this initiative. Next steps include a needs assessment when members of TLA will visit each school and every classroom to view literacy instruction on **May 16th**. Our work will continue on **June 19th** when staff will receive training in how to organize and set-up their classroom libraries to support this new program.

Our literacy partnership with our local library continues to grow. All students in grade K, 1 and 2 will be visiting the ***Gregg Free Library*** on **May 16 and 17th** to receive their library card, listen to a story, and check out books. Ms. Stephanie Loiselle, Youth Librarian, is scheduled to speak to students on Tuesday, **June 6th** about the ***Summer Reading Programs*** at the Gregg Free Library. A special interactive performance by a magician is planned that afternoon to kick-off the summer reading program and to encourage our students to participate.

The annual ***Celebration of Learning*** is planned for Florence Rideout Elementary School on Thursday, **May 18th**. Each classroom will contain artifacts that demonstrate student knowledge of curriculum in writing, technology, math, science and social studies. 5th grade students will present their "Wax Museum" biography projects in the gymnasium, 4th grade students will be trading their homemade products during the Economics Fair in the Library, student art will on display in the Art Show. The event is coordinated with the annual PTO Potluck Dinner.

To show our appreciation for all who support our schools we will be hosting a ***"Thanks-a-Bunch!" Brunch*** on **May 23rd**. Invitations for this special event will be sent May 9th.

Several events have been planned to assist students with the process of transitioning to their new schools. Kindergarten students will have ***Step-up Day*** on Thursday, **June 1st**. Students will tour Florence Rideout Elementary School, meet their new teachers, enjoy a snack in the cafeteria and play on the playground. Incoming Kindergarten students are invited to attend Lyndeborough Central School on ***Welcome Day***, Friday, **May 26th**. The purpose of this day is for the incoming Kindergarten students to become acquainted with the kindergarten classroom, teachers and expectations. Students will be able to visit the playground, enjoy a snack, and tour the school. The fifth grade students will spend ***Step-up Day*** on **June 7th** touring Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Middle/High School and meeting with their teachers.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy O'Connell- Principal