

FLORENCE RIDEOUT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Timothy O'Connell, Principal

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Principal's Report: 10/9/2018

Florence Rideout Elementary School/Lyndeborough Central School

During the week of **September 17th – 21st** all students in Kindergarten through grade 5 were assessed using the STAR 360 assessment. Students who are below benchmark or are not making adequate grade level progress will be targeted for more specific intense intervention. During the week of **September 24 -28th** grade level classroom teachers and Michelle Locke, RTI Coordinator, met during our first PLT of the year. The group reviewed student data and agreed upon appropriate interventions for students and established goals to ensure learning and progress for all students. An informational "Open House" event for parents will be hosted by our W.I.N. staff on **Thursday, October 11th**.

At Florence Rideout Elementary School, we believe that *how* children learn is as important as *what* they learn, and academic success is inextricably tied to building social-emotional competencies. As a responsive school we strive to teach each student to value learning and develop a student who "**C.A.R.E.S.**": Students who Cooperate, Assert themselves, are Responsible, Empathetic, and have Self-Control. At Florence Rideout we have adopted these C.A.R.E.S. traits as our "Habits of Learning" and introduced them to the entire school during our "*Kingdom of C.A.R.E.S.*" assembly on **Thursday, September 26th**. A video of this event can be viewed on our website.

On **Wednesday, September 25th** the PTO hosted Bonnie Harris of Connective Parenting and author of *Confident Parents, Remarkable Kids* for a parent education presentation titled "Helping the Worried Child". This presentation focused on how parents and teachers can support the anxious child. This event was well attended by parents and teachers, not only from Wilton and Lyndeborough, but also neighboring school districts.

On **Friday, September 28th** I joined other members from our district UDL (Universal Design for Learning) team at the Grappone Conference in Concord, NH. Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all students based on scientific insights into how humans learn. This day we joined other districts across the state to discuss how to incorporate these practices in our classrooms and schools.

Beginning **Tuesday, October 9th** students will embark on a learning journey through our Odyssey Program. This program, administered by our talented specialist teachers, allows students the opportunities to explore and develop their own interests and talents. This type of school-wide enrichment program nurtures a love of learning and allows students opportunities to develop

abilities in demand in the work force: the ability to work collaboratively and independently, self-direction, and creativity.

Our annual visit from T.I.G.E.R. (Theater Integrating Guidance, Education, and Responsibility) will take place on ***Friday, October 19th***. T.I.G.E.R. is a professional theatre company, from Plymouth State University. Performances are designed to help children, schools, parents, and communities deal proactively and positively with social issues and concerns facing children in schools today. Based entirely upon the anonymous writings of school children, a TIGER performance incorporates live actors, theatre, movement, and music to engage school audiences. This year's performance titled, "A Brand New Day" focuses on resiliency and children standing up for themselves and others.

Ann Mordecai consultant from Demonstrated Success will continue her work with teachers during our early release day on ***Tuesday, October 30th***. Our goal will be to continue to examine our current practices and instructional strategies particularly those focused on math fact automaticity.

On ***Wednesday, October 31st***, students and staff will march in annual Halloween parades throughout downtown Wilton and Lyndeborough. It is always a great community event when students and staff display their creativity with their costumes.

Congratulations to our October Students of the Month, Nathan Gill and Ainsley Potter, fifth grade students at Florence Rideout Elementary School. Both of these students have consistently demonstrated success in the classroom during the first few weeks of school and exemplify our C.A.R.E.S. Habits of Learning.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim O'Connell

Principal