

SANDOWN NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



From the Desk of Jo-Ann Georgian, Principal

Another year has drawn to a close. Our students have grown in so many ways! Their vocabularies are larger; they can solve more complex problems; they care about protecting the environment; they show empathy for what their friends may be facing. Education is about whole child development and with the support offered from all the adults in our building, our children are flourishing.

It will be difficult to say good-bye to our fifth graders. This is the first group of students who spent all five years of their elementary experience with us. We know them as learners for sure, but we also know them as individuals. It will be fun to follow them now as they start the next leg of their journey and be able to see all that they will accomplish in the classroom, on the field, in the PAC,

etc. It's a new beginning for them and I speak for all of us when I say we wish them the very best.

As the year ends, we say good-bye to some of our dear colleagues and friends. We have three retirees this year: Maria Vanderhoof, Kathy Low, and Mary Beth Sharp. They have all been valued members of the Timberlane School District and will be missed. They are embarking on a new phase of their life journey and we wish them all much happiness in their retirement. Victoria Kennedy, our school psychologist this year, is relocating to North Carolina where the commute would be a little tough 😊 . We wish her and her family happiness in their new home.

Senorita David will be teaching FLES at Atkinson Academy in the fall. We will miss her and Lindsay Elias as well. Lindsay has been working in third grade this year. Both women have skills that will be difficult to replace along with daily warm smiles and positive attitudes.

Laura Hughes will be returning as the FLES teacher. She has been out on maternity leave so she is familiar with our staff and school. We also have some new staff members. Teresa Bolduc will be a fifth grade teacher. She is coming to us from Memorial School in Newton, where she has been teaching fifth grade. Cali O'Sullivan will be a new first grade teacher. She comes to us from Golden Brook Elementary School in Windham where she has been the Literacy Success teacher.

Sherry Bollhorst is moving to second grade from fifth grade and is happy to once again work with the younger students. Amy Difeo will no longer be in first grade. She, too, is joining the second grade team where an additional classroom has been added.

Two people are transferring here from other elementary schools in the district. Kristen Seymour is coming from Pollard School as our Psychologist. Jennifer Robinson has been working at Danville Elementary and now will be a first grade teacher at North.

Every ending has a new beginning. We are happy to welcome these new staff members and know that we will all grow from having them on our staff. As you know, our staff works so collaboratively together, sharing ideas and

knowledge that we all learn from each other on a daily basis. Our new staff members will now be part of our learning community.

As we go forward, you will see some changes in our building. We are moving classrooms and offices to better accommodate the needs of our students and staff. Although our student population is growing and space needs are becoming more evident, our staff is so creative in how we can make the best use of the space we have that they have come up with better ways to use the existing space. We'll keep you posted and will direct you in the right direction if we see you wandering in the halls. 😊

I wish you a fantastic summer with your children! We'll see you in August.

Curriculum Notes:

One of the things I love about working in a school is we have set beginnings and endings to the school year. The end of the school year is always an exciting time because the school community is excited to be starting summer break. However, we also feel sad as we say goodbye to our 5th graders who are moving on to the middle school. This 5th grade class is the first class to go all the way through Sandown North, from K-5. It is a special group of students and I look forward to hearing of their accomplishments as these students move through Timberlane.

In terms of curriculum work this year, we continued using the Envisions math program. Teachers noticed a difference in student understanding after students began using the Envisions program for a second year. Much of teacher professional development this year was spent looking at ways we can integrate curriculum and focus our work around competency based learning. In March, the Timberlane Parent Advisory Forum (TPAF) discussed the topic of competency based learning and reporting, updating parents on how this is being implemented in Timberlane. In order to provide information that better reflects how students are learning and being assessed, our report card is changing. Next school year, parents will be receiving a new on-line report card. Information regarding the new report card will be rolled out in the fall so that parents have the opportunity to learn and better understand how to interpret the new report card. There will be an informational brochure

as well as TPAF meetings to address parent questions. For this year's final trimester report card, parents will have the option of receiving it online but will also be receiving a hard copy.

Similar to last year, each child is being given a summer reading book. This week, our students in grades K-4 spent time as a grade level, meeting with next year's grade level teachers, hearing about expectations and receiving a copy of their summer reading book. When students return, there will be some follow up activities teachers will be doing in their classrooms around the particular grade level summer reading books.

In addition, the NH Libraries offer a summer reading program. This year the theme is Build a Better World. I encourage you to have your child participate and visit the Sandown Public Library throughout the summer.

Have a wonderful summer! We look forward to seeing you the end of August.

Nancy Stafford, Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator



Summer Reading, 2017

We know how important it is for children to play outside, relax and spend quality time with friends and family during the summer, but we also know how important it is to continue reading! Research shows that children can lose one to three months of learning during the summer if they do not read on a regular basis. They can forget reading skills they have worked so hard to acquire during the school year and then have to work even harder to catch up in the fall. You can help prevent this learning loss by encouraging your children to read over the summer. Attached is a “**Summer Literacy Fun Calendar**” for the months July and August. There are lots of fun literacy activities for your whole family to enjoy!

In addition, a district goal is the celebration of diversity. We are inviting you to be part of this process, by sending home books, for students to read over the summer. Each grade has a specific book to read that highlights some form of diversity. This book can be read independently, or with you, if it is too challenging. Sometimes diversity can be difficult to talk about. Books

are a nice way to initiate this conversation, because the focus is on the characters and what is happening in the story. The expectation is to have all students reading their summer books so they can participate in classroom literature discussions when we return in the fall (2017-2018 school year). We encourage you to embrace this opportunity of sharing reading and learning with your child.

Thank you for helping your children become life-long readers!



Diane Chauvette,
Literacy Specialist

Title I



We have had another successful year in Title I and have thoroughly enjoyed working with your children. Students read fiction and nonfiction books, poems, and plays. They worked hard to develop their reading skills using a variety of strategies they have learned. Students worked diligently on improving their phonics skills too.

In math we worked on building fact fluency and number sense. We played a variety of engaging games that made learning math facts meaningful. Students also worked on place value by using manipulatives and participating in hands on activities.

We are proud of their hard work and progress. Please encourage your children to read during the summer and play math games. Have a great summer!

Mrs. Dubois, Mrs. Howell, Mrs. McKeen
Title I Educators



Dear Families,

A big "THANK YOU" to all the volunteers who assisted in helping to make our staff appreciation celebrations so wonderful! The appreciation days were as fantastic as our school staff! We are lucky to have each of them and supportive families like you! Our last PTA meeting of the school year will be held on Wednesday June 14th @ 6 pm at Sandown North. It is hard to believe the year is coming to an end...we wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer vacation! See you in September!



Happy Summer!

Ashley Smith



Sandown North Book Exchange Program

I want to say, "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" Lots and lots of books were donated again this year to our Book Exchange Program, allowing students to bring plenty of books home to enjoy with family members! This program is truly successful because of all your donations and support!! Thank you so much!

Diane Chauvette
Literacy Specialist