



A newsletter from the Timberlane School Board

STUDENTS TAKE ROOT IN STEM



Students participate in STEM camp at TRHS

Thanks to a \$2,000 grant from Exxon Mobil, 29 Timberlane fourth-graders spent their Spring vacation learning how to make solar ovens from pizza boxes and cars that ran on yeast.

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Camp was the brainchild of Mark Pedersen, the high school's dean of STEM.

"Fourth grade is the best year to get these kids

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First year a success for FLES program

The Timberlane Regional School District is completing its first year of offering foreign language in its elementary schools (FLES).

The program developed students' language proficiency by a content-connected and standard-based program that used an interdisciplinary approach to deliver both language and content-rich instruction through communication. Simply, the students were shown not only were they able to learn a new language, but they could have fun doing it.

These students will continue with the FLES program throughout their elementary years, and is offered to all incoming kindergartners. The program is offered at each of Timberlane's elementary schools — Atkinson Academy in Atkinson, Danville Elementary in Danville, Pollard School in Plaistow, and Sandown North in Sandown.

"Students did such a great job with the language, they were so quick learning new things. I was particularly impressed at the ease of putting full sentences together," said Pollard School Principal Michelle Auger. "We are excited to see how much kindergarten children retain over the summer and just how much more we will be able to teach them in their second year."

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TIMBERLANE ENRICHMENT



SPARKS fly at Timberlane

Students from all five elementary schools competed last month in the first annual SPARKS competition.

The after-school SPARKS program was conceptualized by Sandown North teacher Justin Bentley-Melle and developed by the Timberlane elementary enrichment teachers. The mission for each team was to research the meaning of the word "hero" and answer the question "What is a hero?"

Teams from each school were grouped into two categories — a grade-three team and a team made up of fourth- and fifth-graders. Each team was allowed eight members.

Each team worked up to 10

hours together to create their meaning of the word "hero" and produce a two- to four-minute presentation. Each team was allowed three copy paper boxes to fit their presentation items.

The winning teams were:

GRADE THREE: Hero Hunters from Danville Elementary.

GRADES FOUR AND FIVE: SPARKly Unicorns from Danville Elementary.

Fun was had by all in attendance, but most importantly, students that participated in SPARKS learned a great deal about collaboration, team work, and communication while creatively developing their own answer to "What Makes a Hero."

STEM CAMP continued from Page 1

hooked on science," Pedersen said. "We want to continue that excitement with science and engineering, and everything STEM."

The four-day camp was taught by teachers with help from students from the Timberlane Regional High School National Honor Society.

The kids learned about

chemical engineering by making their own glow sticks and the greenhouse effect by making ovens from pizza boxes. They used a 3D printer to make their own Bristle Bots.

"I think I want to be an engineer," said Danville fourth-grader Sadie Dolloff. "It's fun designing and building stuff. It's fun to have a job building things."

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POLLARD wins projector

The winner of Uno's Get Brighter Timberlane contest and the Epson Brightlink Projector from Epson and CCS New England is Pollard School. The school will also receive a check for approximately \$1,009.

In second place was Atkinson Academy, winning a iPad for its school from Align Credit Union. It will also receive a check for approximately \$401.

In third place was Timberlane Regional Middle School, winning an iPad Mini for its school from Align Credit Union. It will also receive a check for approximately \$396.

All schools will receive a check. TRSD raised over \$2,500 for the district as a whole as a result of this program.

**UPCOMING
EVENT**
TRHS Graduation
Saturday, June
13
10 a.m.

TIMBERLANE HIGH AND ATKINSON ACADEMY

Big Buddies

The 20th annual Big Buddies Day was held last month, linking Timberlane High schoolers with third-graders. This year it was Atkinson Academy's turn to visit. It was a great time had by all.



FLES PROGRAM continued from Page 1

Timberlane's FLES program educates by:

- Teaching words and expressions in context, not in isolation.
- Using a wide range of materials, including visuals, gestures, mime, and context.
- Providing positive reinforcement with low-stress correction of student errors.
- Incorporating many situationalized activities, including conversations, small-group work, role-playing, learning games, songs, and in-class recognition of birthdays, achievements and other events.
- Systematic review and reinforcement of previously taught material.
- Instructing students in the target language with children expected to respond in the same language.
- Assessing their success in three modes: interpersonal, presentational and interpretive.



Auger said parents appreciated the program as well. She told of one student who insisted on attending school on FLES days, even when he was a little under the weather. "His parents were happy that he loved it so much and apologetic for possibly making other students sick," she said. "We are so grateful to be able to offer such an engaging and enriching program for our students and we look forward to extending it to first grade next year."

TRHS takes a bite of the **BIG APPLE**

Students from the TRHS American Studies class experienced course content firsthand last month during a trip to New York City. Students visited the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and the 9/11 Memorial. Breakout groups also visited other prominent New York landmarks such as the Brooklyn Bridge, Empire State Building, Central Park Zoo, and Times Square.



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PRINTING OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS
COURTESY OF

LORAL PRINTING

7B Main St., Atkinson 603-362-5549
www.loralprinting.com

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Timberlane School Business
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