Instruction

Newbury Elementary School has been working to replace the art teacher who resigned in September. Last week the hiring committee chose a candidate. The candidate has accepted the position and is scheduled to begin after the Thanksgiving break. This candidate brings experience from her time with the Smithsonian Museum, creator of preschool art program and substitute art teacher. I look forward to introducing our candidate once all of the hiring process is complete.

With all testing complete at the school teachers will begin the work of analyzing data. By reviewing this data it helps us target interventions with students and identify potential gaps in instruction. A quick look at STAR 360 data in grades 3-6 shows 42% proficient in math and 52% proficient in reading for our fall testing window. These results will be more relevant when we have multiple data points to compare over time.
Facilities

We are pleased to announce that the purchase of the Checkerberry Property is complete. We will begin moving forward with use of the property as an outdoor classroom space soon.

In the meantime, students have been using the Montebello Forest for outdoor learning activities. Principal Cruz and Sim Cook will be viewing the property and speaking with right of way neighbors about students passing by to access the property. In addition, we will be looking into the possibility of some type of structure to be used as shelter.

We are continuing to work on remedying all of the issues that were brought to our attention during our VSBIT safety inspection. Most issues have been addressed, however we are still working to make our playground safer. We are currently seeking the most cost effective source for wood chips to go around our playground equipment. In addition, we still need to have a few safety inspections done by outside contractors which were not budgeted for and can wait until next budget year. These inspections include the stage and hanging gym equipment.

Professional Development

During the October 8th inservice the teachers at Newbury Elementary participated in a Project WILD training with Ali Thomas the Outreach Director with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. This training introduced teachers to outdoor education instructional resources which can be used to enhance our outdoor classroom experiences. We were excited to have a colleague from Bradford join us for our afternoon of training. We hope that this is a start of more collaboration experiences.

The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife offers a week-long in depth course for educators at Buck Lake. After experiencing this training it would be exciting to send a team of teachers to Buck Lake for further training to strengthen our outdoor education programming.
The Newbury Elementary Staff have committed themselves to using Teachers College Reading and Writing Project to deliver literacy instruction. In order to better understand TCRWP Principal Cruz will be attending a three day virtual Teacher's College Leadership Training led by Lucy Calkins.

**Upcoming Events**

Wednesday October 20th K,1,2 Field Trip to Newmont Farm Pumpkin Patch Fairlee
Friday October 22nd School Spirit Green and Gold Day
Monday October 25th 5-6 T-Shirt Fundraiser Due
Friday October 29th 5-6 Field Trip to Tullando Farm
Friday October 29th Newbury Halloween Celebration
Wednesday November 3rd Early Release-Curriculum work with Bradford Elementary
November 8th-12th Parent Teacher Conference Week
Friday November 12th No School Veteran's Day
Wednesday November 17th 3-4 Field Trip Jim Aronsky Bradford
Wednesday November 24th-26th Thanksgiving Break