



READFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



January 22, 2020

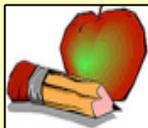


February 3 - Board of Directors Business Meeting, MCMS, beginning at 6:30pm

February 15 - February 19 - February Break - No School

March 19 - No School - Teacher's Workshop

Don't forget to pack all your outdoor gear everyday.



Principal's Notes *by Jeff Boston*

The month of January marks the winter assessments for our students to chart their academic progress. I have listed them below:

NWEA (Northwest Education Assessment): The NWEA is an online assessment, which measures student growth in mathematics, language arts and grammar usage. As students complete the assessment, it is automatically scored for the teacher. It provides the teacher with individual and class progress (data). The assessment window is from January 19th through February 12th and parents will be provided a copy of their child's results.

DRA: The Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) is an individually administered assessment of a child's reading capabilities. It is a tool to be used by instructors to identify a student's reading level, accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. Once levels are identified, our teachers can use this information for the purpose of planning for instruction. The assessment window is from January 19th through February 12th.

The testing windows designated for the 2020-2021 school year in our district are as follows:

Grades K-5: (two times a year) - January and May.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

From the Department of Education:

Read to ME



The *Read to ME Challenge* is a month-long public awareness campaign to promote childhood literacy in Maine held annually during February. This year, we will Celebrate the Read to ME

Challenge with a series of recorded videos by students and adults. We will post the videos and share but if you would like to request the videos be sent to you directly please complete this [form](#).

What is the Read to ME Challenge?

The *Read to ME Challenge* is an opportunity to contribute to a child's literacy growth by reading aloud to one or more children for at least 15 minutes. The steps for taking the challenge are listed below and you can access resources to promote the challenge through the links on the left hand side of this page. You can also read about how the challenge is spreading across Maine by visiting the [Read to ME Challenge articles](#).

Steps for Taking the Read to ME Challenge

- Read to and/or have a child/children read to you for at least 15 minutes.
- Read an engaging book, chapter of a novel, newspaper or magazine article, comics, nursery rhymes or poetry.
- Capture a photograph or short video (15-30 seconds) of yourself reading to the child.

- Use #ReadtoME or #ReadaloudME to post the photo or video on social media with your challenge to others to read aloud 15 minutes to a child or children they know.
- Recommended social media platforms include: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or Youtube.
- If you live a distance from a child you'd like to read to, use Zoom or Facetime to read aloud via digital means.
- If you are unable to complete the challenge you may want to consider:
 - Donating a book to a school or public library, a food cupboard, a homeless shelter or a little free library near where you live. Singing to or having a conversation with a child (these methods build language, too).
 - Visiting the [Read Across America](#) site for additional resources and ideas.

For more information, contact [Danielle Saucier](#), Elementary Literacy Specialist for the Maine DOE.

On January 8th, your child's teacher sent out the following notice via SeeSaw about Valentine's Day:

Dear Parents,

In an effort to support our students social emotional health and let them have some fun we have worked out a way to share valentines. If your family would like to participate in exchanging valentines please send them to school by Friday, February 5th. Valentines will be quarantined and sent home with students on Friday, February 12th. If you choose to participate be prepared to send enough for all students in the class. Please just have them fill out who the card is from.

I just wanted to make our RES parent aware of our RSU #38 Wellness Policy (JL) and strongly encourage parents not to send in food, especially candy. Part of our Wellness Policy states the following:

The District encourages:

- Nutritious foods to be served at classroom parties, celebrations and school sponsored events (including booster clubs), and unhealthy choices will be limited.
- Parents to provide daily healthy snacks from home and food for classroom

parties or events. Notices shall be sent to parents/guardians either separately or as part of a school newsletter, reminding them of the necessity of providing healthy treats for students, and/or encouraging the use of non-food treats for celebrations and rewards.

- Alternatives to food as rewards.
- Administrators, staff and visitors to model nutritious food choices and eating habits.
- Healthy fundraisers as alternatives to fundraising that involve selling food items or limited nutritional value, such as candy, cupcakes, or sugary beverages.

Enjoy your weekend!

Valentines Day Card Exchange



In an effort to support our students social emotional health and let them have some fun we have worked out a way to share valentines day cards. If your family would like to participate in exchanging valentines day cards please send them to school by **Friday February 5th**. Valentines will be quarantined and sent home with students on **Friday February 12th**. If you choose to participate be prepared to send enough for all students in the class. Please just have them fill out who the card is from.

I want to give a shout out to parents and guardians for their hard work and cooperation in keeping our school open and safe. These are trying times and we are all feeling the fatigue and frustration of this lengthy pandemic. I am extremely thankful for the relentless efforts families have made and continue to make on a daily basis. This is a team effort and you all ROCK! Nurse Jada



The **STRENGTH** of the **TEAM**
is each individual **MEMBER**.
The strength of each member
is the team.
- Phil Jackson -