

School Board Report November 2021

Old Town Elementary School UNITED IN KINDNESS

35 Years of Service to RSU 34

We celebrated a great staff member on Wednesday, November 10th---Bob Stinson, aka, "JB" our beloved custodian. For many years in RSU 34, JB has worked to keep our schools clean, safe, and FUN! JB is so ingrained into our school's daily life and culture, we know his retirement will be felt by all at OTES. So many great laughs and fun times with this nut! We have been lucky to have a person so dedicated to our school and helping us make this a place where students love to be. Thank you, JB for your service to our school!

[JB, the Man, the Myth, the Legend](#)



Day of Welcome

On November 5th, our 5th grade Civil Rights Team hosted a Day of Welcome, helping to promote the idea that school communities are for everyone and all parts of their identities. Students were encouraged to wear their community color and classes were asked to create "welcome mats" for their spaces.



Closing the School Garden

A HUGE thank you to all involved with the OTES Farm Stand this year! This crew successfully distributed

pounds of produce to our community!



Walk to School

Next week we will complete the FALL Walk To School Series. We have enjoyed walking with our students every Friday Morning on the Bike Path and starting our day in a positive way!

Remote Learning At OTES 2021-2022

During the 2020-2021 school year, we were fortunate to have three designated staff members as our remote learning teachers serving between 75 to 100 students in K-5 opting to be in the remote learning setting all school year. Some students returned to our school throughout the school year, but the majority of students stayed home and received support by Michelle Brickacek, Bethany Gerrish, and Sarah Melmed.

As we moved to the 2021-2022 school year, we were able to move Michelle Brickacek into our first grade in-person learning position and retain both Sarah Melmed and Bethany Gerrish to support students who were quarantined for various reasons. Bethany and Sarah have continued to work remotely (one in New York and one in Illinois) to support our students and support staff members with developing online assignments and activities. Each week we meet with Bethany and Sarah to develop ideas, sort through problems, and to develop the best possible experience our students can have while in quarantine.

Overall the feedback from families has been positive when experiencing the remote learning process at OTES. The way we have structured our programming to support the students has been developed to keep the students connected to their classroom and lessons missed with quarantine:

- Classroom teachers are still responsible for providing lessons and activities for students in their classrooms.
- IF a majority of the students in their classroom are in quarantine, Classroom Teachers have been providing synchronized lessons and having remote learners join via Google Meets.

- Remote learning teachers have provided "office hours" throughout the school day to lend additional support and tutor students needing help to complete lessons.
- Remote learning teachers have been developing activities and lessons classroom teachers can use to upload to their platforms for teaching,
- Remote learning teachers have been working with families to provide technical support or help with individual needs a student may be struggling with.
- Remote learning teachers have given additional support to classroom teachers in terms of reaching out to a family, communicating with the office about needs, and completing instructional videos to match the OTES math program for all units of study in grades 3-5.

We are lucky to have two very skilled and dedicated teachers supporting our students in stressful situations. Both teachers are working hard to provide a consistent program in order for students to reenter into their classrooms and be successful. The strong connection between the remote learning teachers and the regular classroom teacher has been a key ingredient to the success of this learning situation.

Enrollment at OTES

Pre-K: 24 Students

Kindergarten: 64 students

1st Grade: 63 students

2nd Grade: 67students

3rd Grade: 63 students

4th Grade: 77 students

5th Grade: 80 students

Total: 438





Old Town Elementary School


 Facebook

Our school is located near the University of Maine. We have a PREK-5 program with 600 students. The students at OTES have an enriched environment with academics, social interactions, and many alternative activities to support their developmental growth. We are very lucky to have a wonderful parent organization that supports enrichment activities and provides many exciting experiences for our students.

 576 Stillwater Avenue, Old Tow...

 jeanna.tuell@rsu34.org

 207-827-1544

 rsu34.org