



**WMRSD Leaders and Learners – Your Community Connection  
White Mountains Regional School District**

**Issue 16 – December 17, 2019**

**At Whitefield Elementary School**

Whitefield School's PTO has had a busy few months. Back in September, they sponsored the annual Back to School BBQ. Families enjoyed burgers and dogs, some delicious sweets, and an opportunity to reconnect and meet new friends. Much of the fall was spent planning the Jack-o-Lantern Walk, Turkey BINGO, and Breakfast with Santa events. The planning is done by a very small, but dedicated group of volunteers who are invested in creating quality family events at WES. By small, I mean five or less. Over the years, these volunteers have kept the PTO alive and created events that are routinely well attended and enjoyed. They bake, run book fairs, cook pancakes, set up BINGO, and champion the causes. The job is getting tougher, and so the plea for more volunteers again goes out to you. WES PTO needs parents to join the efforts to create and support the family events that we all value. Attending monthly planning meetings and helping to run events are most needed at this time. All of us are managing busy work and family schedules, but slowing the momentum and possibly losing these fun events is something we cannot risk. Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month starting at 5:30 pm and are typically done by 6:30 pm. Upcoming events are a family tech talk, Cabin Fever BINGO, a spring book fair, and Recess Relay. Please join the effort!

**At Lancaster Elementary School**

Lancaster Elementary School's third graders have grabbed their passports and set out on a holiday adventure around the world! In this collaborative group project, students have been studying the holiday customs from Mexico, Sweden, Italy, France, Australia, and Germany. Each group has worked diligently, reading information about their countries traditional meals, holiday feasts, Christmas figures, and history. Along the way, they have been creating holiday crafts, illustrations, maps, and information graphics that will be used to create a beautiful poster display. As an added bonus this year, students will be creating PowerPoint slideshows to be shown along with their posters to add a digital flare to their presentations!

As a culminating celebration, families will be invited on December 19th for a gallery walk where they can check out their children's hard work and listen to student presentations.

**At White Mountains Regional High School**

Once a month, a team of White Mountains Regional High School faculty meet to develop Tier One intervention strategies. Tier One focuses on whole school engagement to support student needs. The Tier One team identifies monthly themes that are rolled out to the students during Spartan 101 on Fridays. Information is presented in a variety of ways from speakers to break-out sessions with opportunities to collaborate with peers and faculty. Throughout the month, themes are interwoven between Systems of Care events, student clubs and organizations, and whole-school activities. Each theme also ties to at least one of WMRHS's four values:

Accepting, Genuine, Motivated, and Respectful.

During the months of November and December, the theme was gratitude with a focus on being genuine. Students explored the importance of gratitude and were asked to share what they were grateful for to display on our gratitude board. Faculty members also spoke about their own gratitude and gave examples of how students can demonstrate gratitude every day. Other events that took place around gratitude included a food drive, Toys for Tots, and homelessness awareness.



Upcoming Tier One supports include a series of student workshops addressing areas of interest that often create a barrier to student engagement in learning. The first series will begin before the holiday break and focus on stress management. Students are invited to come and learn about understanding the types of stress and gain the tools to navigate it. Topics will include organization, the power of positive thinking, and self-care.