



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

Issue 14 – December 6, 2019

At Whitefield Elementary School

The next week and a half will be busy at WES. This Saturday morning, December 14th, WES PTO is hosting Breakfast with Santa from 9:00 to 11:00 am. There will be a tasty breakfast prepared by the Elves, beautiful music, crafts, cookie decorating, stories, and of course lots of photo opportunities with Santa. Reservations are required by today, Wednesday the 11th, so please call the school to save your spot. Our annual Holiday Concert series kicks off on Tuesday the 17th with our Pre-K through grade two performance and on Thursday the 19th, with grade three through five. Both concerts start at 6:00 pm. These are special evenings for our students and community and we look forward to the Pre-K and K debut every year. Just before we break for the holidays, WES will be visited by WMRHS's Progressive Styles band. This is a nice new tradition in the district. They will entertain our students and staff with some original music as well as some classic covers. Students and staff will head off for the holiday break at 3:00 pm and we will all return after the New Year on January 6th; a long break this year.

At Lancaster Elementary School

On Tuesday December 10th, students in grades second through fifth presented their annual Winter Concert. This year's theme was Holidays Around the World. Second grade started the program with two pieces about Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights. Following their performance, the third grade entered the gym with a candlelight procession, followed by an upbeat hip hop tune all about Santa's elves. Fourth grade then took the stage to tell the Mexican story of the poinsettia, followed by two songs in both Spanish and English that celebrated the holiday season and the fun that winter brings. Finally, the fifth graders presented a piece about Kwanzaa, followed by a narrative description of the holiday that was accompanied by African drumming performed on buckets, and a traditional Swahili dance. The newly established choruses in second and third grade and fourth and fifth grade performed "Where Are You Christmas" and "Glow" respectively.

At White Mountains Regional High School

This past weekend, the White Mountains Players performed their production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, written by Rachel Sheinkin, conceived by Rebecca Feldman, and Composed by William Finn. The musical is about 10 spelling bee finalists competing for the county championship with the hopes of moving onto the state finals. It's hilariously relatable, and touches on some of the difficulties of being a competitive pre-pubescent kiddo in any day and age. The production was directed by Lancaster Elementary School's music instructor, Catherine Carter. It was the second show she's directed here at WMRHS, and she said, "It's been an amazing experience directing the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee production at WMRHS." Because of the show's intentional adaptability, students were able to interpret their characters in a very personal way. Cat says, "All of these characters are designed to be stereotypes in a way, but they're also so endearing because what they go through is so relatable. It's a unique challenge for an actor to balance these two things and create a character that's both funny and relatable." It might have been a challenge, but the WMRHS actors stepped up and did just that to create an amazing production!