

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

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## **At Lancaster Elementary School**

On Friday, June 3rd, fourth graders at the Lancaster Elementary School climbed to the Summit of Mount Washington onboard the Cog Railway! The Mount Washington Summit, located in the heart of the White Mountains, is known for its extreme weather. When students boarded the train at the base of the mountain, their short sleeve shirts and baseball caps reflected the anticipation of summer that was just around the corner. Forty five minutes later, the Mount Washington summit reminded them that summer looks different in some places than it does in others! Students stepped off the train and were greeted by 55 mph winds and a high temperature of 13 degrees Fahrenheit! Students admired the amazing views, made observations about the effects of wind, and considered what it would be like to live at the top of the northeast's highest peak! Following adventure and a cup of hot cocoa, everyone loaded back onto the train to embark upon the downward descent. As the train chugged down the rocky slope, students asked countless questions, wrapping up their adventure in knowledge and a love for their state's inspiring landmarks and history!

## At Whitefield Elementary School

The Whitefield Elementary School Girls on the Run team participated in the 2023 Spring Girls on the Run 5K event in Concord, NH on Saturday, June 3rd. Girls on the Run is a nationally recognized program for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade girls that meets for 10 weeks



and inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident. We had 23 girls participate in the program this Spring. All aspects of each practice focus on a different theme and allow the girls to think, practice and act on that theme with the hope that they are able to carry these skills into their daily lives. The girls set running goals for each practice, which help prepare them for the final 5K celebration.

Our goals throughout the season are that girls will develop and improve their physical, social and emotional competence, feel confident in who they are, develop strength of character, respond to others and themselves with care and compassion, create positive connections with peers and adults, and make a meaningful contribution to their community. We celebrate our accomplishments at the end of the Girls on the Run season with a Celebratory 5K Event. Completing the 5K gives the girls a tangible understanding of the confidence that comes through accomplishment and a framework for setting and achieving goals in life. Crossing the finish line is a defining moment when the girls realize that, with hard work, anything is possible.

## At White Mountains Regional High School

White Mountains Regional High School is gearing up for an exciting end to the academic year with the introduction of a three-day "activity period" from Wednesday, June 14th to Friday, June 16th. Recognizing the challenge of keeping students engaged during this time, the school staff devised a creative solution to make the final days enjoyable and educational.

Traditionally, the last week of school includes the collection of Chromebooks, creating a vacuum for engaging students in their academics. To overcome this, the staff introduced the program during a weekly advisory session, allowing students to view the available activities and prioritize their choices. On June 2nd, the 9th, 10th, and 11th-grade cohorts participated in a school-wide "Spartan 101" session to register for their preferred activities.



Students at White Mountains Regional High School now have a variety of options to choose from. Among the choices are horseback riding, an introduction to sawmilling, watercolor painting on the lawn, embroidering, a chess tournament, a Jam Band for music enthusiasts, field games, exploration of Native American artifacts, behind-the-scenes science experiences, sustainability work, Senior Rock painting, a reading club, and much more.

The aim of this innovative initiative is to ensure that students remain engaged, excited, and motivated until the very end of the school year. By offering activities that cater to various interests and hobbies, White Mountains Regional High School is fostering an environment of learning, exploration, and enjoyment. This new tradition promises to provide a memorable conclusion to the school year and create lasting experiences for the students.