

School Board Report for OTEs

March 2019

Outdoor Classroom Gets BDN Coverage

We were pleased to be featured in the Bangor Daily News this month for the Outdoor Classroom Experience we are providing our students in Grade K-5. The article illustrated our school's focus on connecting students to nature and finding ways for students to explore the outdoor setting for better connections to the curriculum.



We plan on extending the Professional Development Opportunities for our teachers this summer with 8 classroom teachers attending Project Learning Tree Training, a curriculum guide to use the environment to engage learners. We are excited to send these teachers to the Libby Camp's up north for four days of intensive learning, collaboration, and planning for the 2019-2020 school year.

This spring, we will be hosting an event on April 27th from 9 am to noon for garden clean up, art installations, and tours of the garden and outdoor learning classroom. Please feel free to join us for this day.

D.O.G.S. (Dads of GREAT STUDENTS)

This year we started our DOGS group and have been excited about the participation of our fathers at OTEs. We are pleased with the effort they are making to enhance our school environment and activities. For the past few months, the DOGS have been showing up on the playground to interact with our students and pass out munkins at the end of recess.

Just the presence of these dads makes our students excited. Last week, the DADS showed up for inside playground duty, snapped on the music, and danced in the lobby. After a tough week of emotions, it was just the right pick me up on a Friday Morning.



The DOGS are sponsoring our Glow Dance on March 22nd for our Family Dance here at OTEs. We are excited about their ideas and how to make the event even more fun for our students. They will also play a large roll in our April 27th Art/Garden Day in spring. Each of the DOGS have shared their ideas, time, and energy to make our school an even more exciting place to be!

Probationary Teacher Reviews

We have started the process of the PG AND PE documentation for our Probationary Teachers this month. We have 13 teachers on the probationary three-year cycle. This period of review is critical to the overall success of a professional teacher. During this time, the new teacher must be given a level of support by the administrators, colleagues, and other support staff to achieve continuing contract status. Each review takes about an hour for a meeting and another hour for the final feedback form. The feedback is used to make new goals for the upcoming school year. The process of reflection can provide teachers with a powerful change agent and additional professional growth.

Achievement Hall of Fame 2019

As a by-product of my work with OTES, I am the chair of the Achievement Hall of Fame for OTHS. We wanted to extend an invitation to the School Board for this event to honor the following graduates of OTHS:

Eileen Griffin
Patty Griffin
Jeff Miller
Matt Weber
Sam Hess
William Milliken, Jr
Bernie LaBree
Greg DuFour
Ted Mitchell
Mark Chevaree

The event will be held at the Buchanan Alumni Center on May 17th from 5:00 to 7:00. As a result of some feedback from last year, we are working with a couple of high school students to develop some oral history projects using our inductees. We are also going to film and broadcast the induction ceremony to allow the entire community to view the evening and to honor the accomplishment of our graduates.

Upcoming Events at OTES

March 19-22 5th Grade Empower Testing
March 22: Family Dance
March 25-29: 4th Grade Empower Testing
April 1--5: 3rd Grade Empower Testing
April 2: Family Book Fair Night
April 3: PTC meeting 6 pm