



Maranacook Community Middle School

Weekly Newsletter

November 1, 2019



MCMS has art everywhere! Check out some of our students projects!



Highlights of the Week

- Monday- Wednesday this week, our wellness center hosted the **Tooth Fairy Program**, which provides students (who are signed up) with dental services.
- Throughout the week, the **Sebago** team did STEM projects using pumpkins in celebration of Hall and fall!
- On Thursday, many of our school community dressed up for **Halloween**. This is a tradition at MCMS. Below are a few photos (from left to right: **Mrs. Tucker, Rocco Scott, Molly Woodford, Natasha Grass, Mrs. Cote and Madelynn Hopper**)



- On Thursday, members of the **Yearbook** went on a field trip to Bangor for a statewide student conference about the best yearbook practices. There were only two groups of middle schoolers at the conference and MCMS was one of them! The group is more confident with the website. Students learned photography techniques. On the right is a photo of some of the Yearbook members with their advisor: **Riley Williams, Mrs. Barley, Olivia Toye and Noelle Braithwood**.
- On Friday, the **Acadia Team** went on a field trip to the Challenger Center in Bangor. At the center, they offer a hands-on exploration and different discovery options that inspire lifelong, scientific learning! To the right is a photo of one of the interactive experiences.
- On Friday, the 6th grade advisors hosted the **Fall Social** from 2:30-4pm. There were many games and activities, including board games, Magic the Gathering, a dance, wii games, and more!



Team Summaries for October

Sebago: Our Sebago students have been working hard on different STEM projects, including the creation of foosball tables, designed and created by the students! They are also engaged in a variety of science experiments in order to grapple with some scientific principles, such as Bernoulli's Principle and volume, circumference and percentage projects using pumpkins. They also have been working on writing and presentation projects.

Katahdin: The Katahdin Team welcomes Mrs. Jewett to the team as their new Reading and Writing teacher! Mrs. Jewett is a graduate of Maranacook, and was previously an occupational therapist before transitioning into the education field in 2018. She resides in Winthrop with her family. We are very excited to have her with us full time! Students on Katahdin continue to work on their Maine studies, with a Maine animal project in Mr. Aspinall's room, and with projects using the book *Finding Katahdin*, in their English-Language Arts classes. Math classes are finishing their first units, which means the 6th grade ratio projects are in! This year's projects came out great! The students also had a big Halloween and pumpkin party this week!

Acadia: Students in 6th and 7th grade have been working ratios and fractions for math class, following along with the appropriate curriculum for each grade. The 8th grade math class is working on their Pythagorean Theorem posters. Students needed to include a right triangle and label the different parts of the triangle and show the solution on the poster. In their literature classes, students have been reading and writing short stories. For their science and design class, students worked on the mouse trap cars. They will also have their annual pumpkin drop! They are also finishing up their solar system proportional projects. *Here are a few of them that are currently hung up in the school!*



Moose: Math on Moose has been busy! The 6th graders just finished up their ratio projects, and have been able to experience how ratios are used in the real world. The 7th grade has been working on linear equations, coordinate grids, and converting fractions to decimals. In 8th grade math, they are beginning our



exploration of linear functions, including slope and intercept as well as the role they play in equations. Students are also learning about gravity and light in their space class. They are learning about the environment and the human impact in their Earth Systems class. On Moose, students also have weekly writing assignments that will be various prompts to which students respond in writing notebooks. In English- Language Arts Workshop, students have been learning about fiction signposts including Tough Questions, Contrasts and Contradictions, Aha Moments, Memory Moments, Words of the Wiser, and Again and Again. Finally, students have been learning about the moon's phases- *check out these projects (above)*.

Royal: In math, the team continues to progress along the grade level curriculum maps, and are wrapping up Unit 1, going into Unit 2. The students have spent time using the recently acquired stream table in Mrs. Tracy's class, as students learn about rivers water properties. The Royal Team continues to work on their Narrative Essays, having taken the next step in their writing by collaborating with peers to transform their chosen narrative into a survival story. Students used a feedback process in order for them to provide peer feedback on the stories that are specific, positive and productive. This feedback is also used by teachers to help them conference with each group as they revise their writing.

Naturalization Ceremony Coming Up

On Friday November 15, at 10 am The Acadia Team and Maranacook Community Middle School are hosting a Naturalization ceremony. At this serious and joyful ceremony people from at least 14 nations will take an oath where they finish their long process of becoming our newest US citizens. To prepare for this event, the students involved have been studying the US history in immigration, current immigration and the situations in the nations these people are coming from. As a part of their integrated curriculum this has been tied to their language arts, history, geography and fine arts learning. Students will be interviewing some of those in the event as a part of their language arts learning and the combined chamber choruses of the middle school and high school will be performing our national anthem. Adam Scarpone our MS music teacher has generously been working with the whole Acadia team, teachers and students, to prepare them to sing, This Land is Your Land as a part of the ceremony. The event is followed by a gathering where the students and new citizens can share refreshments and connect.



MCMS Highlight

In an effort to share the unique and special aspects of our school, we will periodically share information about programming at MCMS. These can also be found online.

Integrated Curriculum

All students at MCMS will experience integrated curricula. Integrated curriculum is defined as "student generated thematic units of study which cut across disciplines and focus on essential questions in order to connect to students' lives." The thematic units are determined through a student voice process.

A summary of the process :

- *Themes based on issues identified by young people who are experiencing the curriculum*

- Knowledge and skills that are integrated in the context of a theme and drawn from a variety of sources
- Themes based on real life issues faced by young people or major social problems

Backwards planning to develop integrated curricula:

Backwards planning is used to tie it together, after the process is completed

- Teachers look at student questions to see what common ideas pop out
- Questions are asked of thematic units broken into 3 core classes to divide the labor
- Each core has a scope and sequence with assessments to track student learning tied to standards
- Scales help to track student learning as they increase complexity of understanding from tasks such as "identify" to "analyze" or "create"

Integration as seen through school day:

- **Core classes** are developed based on the questions and how they can attach to the standards. **Health standards** are integrated into the curriculum. Some health classes may be separated, and done age-specific, as appropriate.
- **Reading classes** often include books based on the themes, and are tied to standards
- **Writing classes** have projects based on the themes, and are tied to standards
- **Math classes** are based on grade-level standards. Math classes are not always tied to the standards
- **Tutorial time** is used to support students in completing all assigned work, in all subject areas.
 - Some students will have band or chorus during tutorial. Band is generally on Monday and Wednesday and Chorus is on Tuesday and Thursday
- **Quiet study** is also available as an additional time for students to have support from teachers. This occurs during an activity time and students may self-select to go here, or teachers may sign students up for it

Unified Arts

In addition to these classes, students will also take a yearlong world language (Spanish, German, or French). Students will also take Art, Music and Phys Ed, all each for a trimester. These classes are held every other day for the entirety of the trimester. All students also have the option to participate in band and/or chorus, which meet during tutorial time.



Athletic Update

Winter sports will be starting in a few weeks! Please make sure your child has told their advisor what sport (if any) they are interested in playing.



Music Program Information

The music ensembles are busy preparing for several upcoming events- for more information, please contact Mr. Scarpone.

- 11/07 7th/8th District III Honors Music Festival Auditions
- 11/15 Acadias Naturalization Ceremony where the Chamber Choir will perform the National Anthem with the high school chamber singers.
- 12/03 Annual Winter Concert in the high school gymnasium
- 12/06 Caroling at the Readfield Public Library



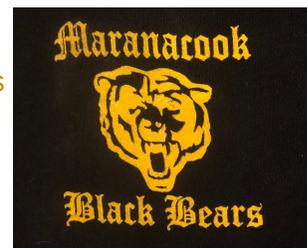
We are holding a Parent Safety Night!



Parent Safety Night, November 14, 6 - 7pm: MCMS will be holding a Parent Safety Night to inform our parents about our Crisis team, the work that it does, and the protocols that are in place to safeguard your students here at our school. Please join us!

Maranacook Apparel

A few families have asked about getting some Maranacook clothing! We have set up an a pending order with DR Designs in Manchester. Here is the order form. All orders are due no later than 11/14/19 and payment must be made at this time. [Here is the link to the order form.](#)



Maranacook Middle School Pampered Chef Fundraiser

Help "pamperize" your kitchen, stock up on gifts for the holidays and help your team earn funds for trips like Chewonki and more!

Ordering runs from Nov 1-30th, 2019

Place your order at this shopping link

www.pamperedchef.com/party/maranacookms2019

Share the link or catalog with friends and family. Orders ship direct to the customer as soon as they are placed- so anyone can help your school and get their products right away!

Pampered Chef will make a 15-20% financial contribution to your school based on sales-

Check the math to see how orders can add up quickly!

200 students collect \$50 order each=\$10,000 sales= \$2000 donation

200 students collect \$100 order each=\$20,000sales= \$4000 donation

Want a full catalog or order sheets? Or have other questions? Please contact

Hannah Flannery 207-446-7865 pamperedchef.biz/hannahthechef

Link for the Facebook group set up for the fundraiser-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/509434476561947/?ref=share>



Reminders

- Please keep lunch balances in the black. To pay online, go to: <https://www.maranacook.org/o/rsu-38/page/e-funds-lunch-payment>
- Please note that personal cell phones are not allowed to be used between the hours of 7:30-2:30pm at MCMS. We have a phone in the front office students may use to contact parents.



Upcoming Events

- November 4: Warning Notices Mailed Home
- November 4: Fall Student Recognition Assembly in the morning
- November 4, 6-7pm: PTO meeting
- November 4: Math Gr. 7 Teacher Team-Teach
- November 6: HS/MS mentoring program field trip to the Alford Center
- November 6, 6:30pm: School board meeting at MCMS
- November 7: District III Music Festival (7th and 8th grade)
- November 11: No School- Veterans Day
- November 14, 9:30-11:30: Cony Showcase (we have a few students presenting at this!)
- November 14, 6-7pm: Parent Safety Night
- November 15 9-12pm: Naturalization Ceremony at MCMS
- November 21: Picture Retake Day
- November 27-December 1: Thanksgiving Break
- December 2: Trimester 2 starts
- December 3: Winter Concert held at MCHS

- For up to date information, you can go to: <https://rsu38.powerschool.com/bulletin/>

