



# Maple Run Unified School District

DEC 2019





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MRUSD Board Meeting

December 4th, 2019 | 6:00-9:00 PM

### SACS Instrumental Winter Concert

December 4th, 2019 | 6:00-8:00 PM

### BFA Experience

December 9th, 2019 | 6:00-7:30 PM

### FCS Winter Concert

December 12th, 2019 | 6:00-7:30 PM

### BFA Holiday Concert

December 15th, 2019 | 2:00-4:00 PM

### MRUSD Board Meeting

December 18th, 2019 | 6:00-9:00 PM

### SATEC Talent Show

December 19th, 2019 | 6:30-8:30 PM

### MRUSD Board Meeting

January 8th, 2019 | 6:00-9:00 PM

### SATEC Band Concert

January 15th, 2019 | 7:00-8:30 PM

### SATEC Chorus Concert

January 21st, 2019 | 7:00-8:30 PM

### MRUSD Board Meeting

January 22nd, 2019 | 6:00-9:00 PM

### MRUSD Board Meeting

February 5th, 2019 | 6:00-9:00 PM

### SATEC Fine Arts Night | 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

February 6th, 2019 | 6:00-7:00 PM

### MRUSD Board Meeting

February 19th, 2019 | 6:00-9:00 PM

### SACS Unified Arts Showcase

February 20th, 2019 | 5:30-7:30 PM

### Town Meeting Day

March 3rd, 2019



## Navigating the Holiday Season with Equity and Trauma Informed Practices in Mind

Celebrations are wonderful for children, but specific holiday celebrations are not best practice for equitable and trauma informed schools. What can appear to be harmless fun can create a triggering or inequitable environment in the classroom despite our best intentions. For some students and families, holidays and vacations are not happy times and it is tempting to share our own holiday joy with the children in our care. It is also important to keep in mind that not all of our students celebrate the same holidays. Some students in our buildings are not allowed to participate in particular religious or secular holidays, and others celebrate holidays that are seldom or never acknowledged. Celebrating what most students celebrate is especially isolating for the few that do not.

How can you navigate this time of year without pretending the Christmas Holiday season isn't happening? Holiday-specific activities should be limited to educational use. Take this time to learn about holidays from various cultural traditions. Avoid Christmas specific decorations, events, music and movies. If you want to decorate, try a multi-traditional holiday display, complete with books to learn about various traditions. Remember that talk of vacations, gifts, or family traditions can highlight inequities between students and can be triggering for students who are not able to spend this time with family. Best of all, have fun celebrating your class/school family and make your own traditions!

Recommendations from the ADL ([click here](#))

## Stone Soup at Curiosity Corners

The Curiosity Corners preschool held its 3rd Annual Stone Soup family gathering on November 20, 2019. A total of 19 preschool students, about 25 family members and a handful of Human Services students enjoyed a delicious Stone Soup prepared under the guidance of the Culinary Arts' Lab Supervisor, Chef Colby Ouellette. A mom and dad said, "It was a lot of fun, interactive and the soup was delicious! Even our one year son ate the entire bowl of soup." The story of Stone Soup fits nicely into the early childhood's Fall curriculum section titled, "Knowing Your Community." Stone Soup is a beloved European folk story that is about the value of sharing. It's about hungry strangers who convince the townspeople to share a small amount of their food in order to make a meal that everyone enjoys. The Stone Soup was made as a community with the preschool students preparing the vegetables, the Culinary Arts students finishing the soup and baking the rolls, and the Human Services students setting the tables, decorating the room, and joining the preschool students and their families for a community meal. A preschool student said, "I had fun eating with my family."



# Bellows Free Academy



The BFA Experience will take place in the BFA Gym on December 9th, from 6:00-7:30pm.

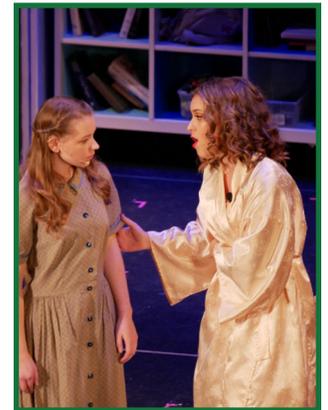


BFA's Fall Choral Concert was held on November 7th. Karah White, Bella Bonasera, and Sophie Thompson were featured soloists. Several other students from the chorus had solos including Hassan Chambers Jr. who performed the rap section from "We Are the World -25."



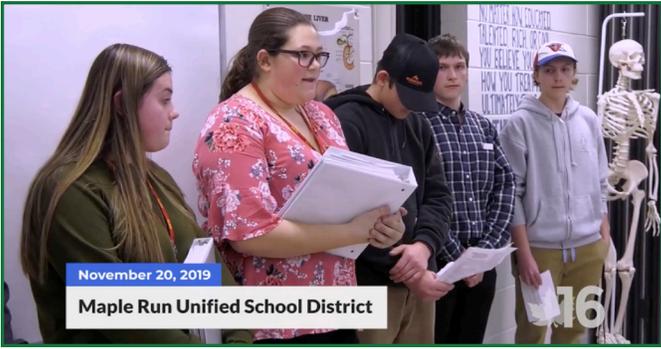
We have collected 450 coats to be distributed next week to the community service organizations in Franklin County including Operation Happiness, CVOEO and the Samaritan House.

Did you have a chance to see BFA's production of Matilda? The performance was breathtaking. A massive effort was put into both the music and set design. We are so impressed with the hard work put in by all the students and staff to produce an amazing show.



Staff and students from BFA marched in the annual Saint Albans Veteran's Day Parade and joined the rest of our MRUSD staff and student body in Taylor Park to celebrate the national holiday.

# Northwest Technical Center



Northwest Technical Center kicked off the last MRUSD Board Meeting with a fantastic presentation from our students. Representing their programs, students spoke about the vast number of credentialing opportunities that they have been presented with throughout the course of their time at NWTC. Additionally, they spoke about dual-enrollment college credits, and how their course curriculum makes it incredibly easy for them to get a head start on their post-secondary education.

Our Public Safety & Fire Services program made their annual trip to local kindergarten classrooms to teach basic fire safety and awareness practices to MRUSD's youngest group of students!



Medical Professions took students on their annual tour of New England colleges in late October. This year's trip included stops at Saint Joseph's College, Saint Anselm College, University of New Hampshire, University of New England, and Southern Maine Community College. These visits give our students valuable firsthand exposure to campus life at a variety of different colleges in our region.



## Saint Albans Town Educational Center



In support of Farm-to-School month, Senator Patrick Leahy and several other Vermont officials made their way to SATEC for a press conference, where additional funding for the program was announced.

\$300,000 in federal grants will be distributed to Farm-to-School producers in Franklin, Grand Isle, Caledonia and Orange counties.



Students have enjoyed access to school gardens, as well as their new Farm-to-School community kitchen. As a result of access to fresh foods and the education surrounding them, students have expressed a genuine interest in this initiative, and the healthy lifestyle it promotes.

## Saint Albans City School

Students working hard on background components for our upcoming production of The Nutcracker in December:



Fresh art goes up regularly in the atrium next to the cafeteria. This space was established as an art display room 50 years ago. The same display boards are used for posting current students' art. Here is one recent piece of work now on display:



Some serious talent went on display at our Unified Arts Showcase on 11/21. Singers, dancers, and drummers took center stage in multiple performances. We're very proud of all these students!



## Fairfield Center School

Our new art and music room have been designed, but that's not the only exciting facility news... Fairfield Center School now has real bleachers in the gym! The community is excited to be able to enjoy our athletic matches and musical productions from beautiful new bleachers. There are seats for 124 people who can all now have a good view of the action. The bleachers collapse inward to extend about two feet from the wall when not in use. They were ordered in the summer and installed on November 22 in a process that began before school drop-off and lasted until dismissal. To get ready for the bleachers, the heating system was relocated and protective wood panels were installed over the lower windows. Thanks to the Fairfield PTO and the Fairfield Recreation Department for donations that helped make this project possible.



Every year, Fairfield Center School donates items for a Thanksgiving dinner to the Fairfield Food Shelf. We collect turkeys, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, and roasting pans. Our students then pass all of the donations from hand to hand before they are taken to the Food Shelf by our Student Government Association. In this way, the children get to actually touch all the items being donated so they can see how much love is shared in our community. Donna Gaffney, who coordinates the Food Shelf, said that "the amount of food donations was extraordinary this year! This amount of support really is heartwarming." Thanks to Kelly Sargent and Shawn Stebbins for organizing the pass-along, and to Faith Cassidy for driving the bus full of donations and student government helpers to the Food Shelf.



