
Waitsfield Elementary School

“It’s Elementary”

Volume 17, Issue 23



March 4, 2010

Dear friends & family,

Thank you to all who were able to make time in your schedules to attend this past Tuesday’s annual school meeting. The school budget was passed, as was the Harwood budget that was voted on by Australian ballot. The School Board welcomes Helen Kellogg and Scott Kingsbury as new members. Thank you to Sandy Tarburton for her 3 years of service and Todd White for stepping in to fill the seat vacated by Missy Shea last fall. Sandy’s attention to detail and careful consideration of all points of view was much appreciated. Todd’s background in legal matters, as well as his financial acumen, were also great assets. Helen and Scott will, I’m sure, bring new insights and skills to our group, which will get right to work with a meeting this coming Monday.

This year, we are once again administering a school climate survey. This survey provides valuable information that is used in the annual school action planning, as well as in general planning by staff, administration and the school board. The more people who take the time to answer this survey, the more representative of the whole school community our data will be. **Thank you for taking a few minutes (it shouldn’t take more than 10 minutes or so) to respond to this survey now. All data will be compiled after March 24th.** Students and staff will be asked to complete a similar survey over the next few weeks. I will be reporting on results in the school newsletter, on the school website and throughout our school planning processes. Again, thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this online survey. Your input is greatly valued.

LINK TO PARENT/FAMILY CLIMATE SURVEY

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KT3D8C6>

Respectfully,
Kaiya Korb, Principal

News from the Art Department

(Submitted by Nora McDonough)

This has been a very busy trimester in the art room! Students at all levels were involved in the Art Auction for Haiti, which took place at the Big Picture Theater during February. Students helped raise funds to help victims of the Haiti earthquake by contacting artists to ask for donations and by creating artwork of their own for the auction. Projects included Japanese brush painting, collage, peace quote pictures, bird oil pastels and much more. Thanks to all who helped to make this event a success!

Kindergarten artists started the trimester by examining artist Wassily Kandinsky’s piece “Squares with Concentric Circles.” They drew their own interpretations of this piece of artwork using oil pastels and watercolor paint. Kindergartners also explored making “invisible pictures” by drawing a snowy day picture in white crayon, then painting over their drawing in watercolor

to reveal their drawings. From here we moved onto artwork with an ocean theme. We read the book "Rainbow Fish" and made beautiful, colorful fish with shiny scales. We also made undersea paintings and created clay fish to put in our paper fishbowls.

The lower unit spent most of this trimester working on color theory. We talked about tints (adding white to a color) and shades (adding black), and each artist painted a grid with squares of tints and shades of one base color. From there we created "hardware store paint strips," complete with creative names for each tint or shade. We also used our color mixing skills to create different skin tones, to underscore the idea that there is not just one "skin color." We read "Skin Again," by bell hooks, and used different skin tones to paint mini portraits, which we assembled into a group project.

The upper unit spent much of the trimester working on a project called Pattern/Color/Object. Each artist had to design a composition that incorporated each of these elements to create a unified piece. A couple of examples include pattern: clouds/color: blue/object: sun or Dalmatian spots/red/fire hydrant. These paintings used our color mixing skills and enforced ideas about how to create a successful, eye-catching composition.

All Waitsfield artists are gearing up for our spring Artist-in-Residence. Local potters Leslie Montalto and Loretta Languette will be joining our art classes for several sessions of clay work. Students will learn hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques for making bowls. These bowls will be used for our culminating event, an Empty Bowls dinner. This event will showcase our talented artists' work and raise money and awareness for hunger in Vermont. In conjunction with creating the bowls and learning about ceramic arts, students will hear from several different speakers involved with anti-hunger organizations. Look for further information over the coming month.

Agenda for Waitsfield School Board Meeting
Monday, March 8, 2010, 6:00 P.M., WES Library

- 6:00 Call to Order (by Principal or Superintendent)
A. Reorganization of Board:
1) Elect a Chair
2) Elect a Clerk
3) Elect a Recording Secretary
4) Appoint three Washington West Board Representatives
5) Appoint a Washington West Executive Committee Representative
6) Appoint a Truant Officer
7) Designate Newspaper(s) of Record
8) Set Meeting Date/Time
- 6:10 Approval of Minutes
A. Approval of February 8, 2010 Board Minutes
- Discussion
- 6:11 • Audience and Written Communication
6:15 • Energy Audit Report

	Action Items
6:45	• Preschool Partnership/ Preschool
6:55	• Policy
	F9: Transportation (first reading)
	F14: Admission of Non-resident Students (first reading)
	F25: Student Attendance (first reading)
	H3: Community Use of School Facility (first reading)
	Reports
7:35	• Financial Report
7:40	• Principal's Report
7:45	• Superintendent's Report
7:55	• Washington West Representative Report
8:00	Executive Session - Personnel
8:05	Adjournment

Dates to Remember

3/5: Assembly, 7:45 a.m.
 3/12: Lee Van Dine's Class to HUHS for rock climbing, 9:30-11:00
 3/12: Dan Greenleaf's Class to HUHS for rock climbing, 12:30-2:00
 3/14: Community Contradance and Lasagna Dinner, 2:00-6:00 p.m. (sponsored by OH-ASK)
 3/15: Flynn Theater (Mr. Van Dine, Mrs. Belknap, Mr. Young, Mr. Hubbard, Ms. Phillips)
 3/18: Parent Conferences, 2:30-7:00 p.m.
 3/19: Parent Conferences, 7:30-11:30 a.m. (no school for students)
 3/18 & 3/19: Fifth & sixth grade musical at Valley Players Theater, 7:00 p.m.
 3/24: Early Release Day, 12:00 noon (After School for those signed up) - **No Winter Program**
 3/26: Assembly, 7:45 a.m.
 4/1: Preview of Harwood Union Musical, 8:15-8:45 a.m.
 4/7: Early Release Day, 12:00 noon (After School for those signed up)
 4/9: Assembly, 7:45 a.m.
 4/19-4/23: Spring Vacation
 4/30: Assembly, 7:45 a.m.

Community Corner

1) Lacrosse Registration - Registration for Mad River Lacrosse is open for boys and girls in grades 3-8 (2nd graders may register with prior approval). Mad River Lacrosse will loan out a full set of equipment for the season to the first twenty registered 3rd and 4th graders for no charge (security deposit required). Registration is \$55 for 3/4's, \$80 for all others (\$25 US Lacrosse fee not included). Register online and receive a \$5 discount. Walk-in registration will be held on Thursday, March 11th, at the Waitsfield School gym from 5:30-6:30. For more information or to register, visit the Mad River Lacrosse website at www.eteamz.com/mrvyl or call Neil Nussbaum at 496-5677.

2) The Harwood annual gym show is March 13th, with show times at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for students, and under 4 free.

3) Spring is just around the corner and it's time for Little League registration. The Mad River Valley Little League includes T-ball, softball and baseball and is open to girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 12. The cost is \$45 for kids 9-12 and \$35 for kids 5-8. Scholarships are available. The deadline to register is March 31st, with late registration ending on April 10th (late fee of \$25 per player). Registration forms are available at the school, or electronically at www.eteamz.com/madrivervalley. If you register electronically, the registration fee will need to be paid via credit card. For those who prefer to sign up in person, Little League registration will be held at Bongiorno's Restaurant on Monday, March 15th, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. upstairs. Please email littleleague@midriver.com for more information or to have forms emailed to you.'

4) Family Fun Night at Harwood: The Future Business Leaders of America is planning a fundraiser for a little girl with leukemia. The FBLA is a club at Harwood and every year does a community service project. This year the Fun Night is scheduled for Friday, March 5th at Harwood, from 5:30-9:00 p.m., and is open to all ages. The evening events include volleyball, badminton, basketball, a movie, and more. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for students, and children 5 and under free.

