CAVENDISH TOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

P☆TRIOTS

PO Box 236 573 Main Street, Proctorsville, Vermont 05153 802-875-7758 Debra Beaupre, Principal

Report for The Board December 2019

SAFETY

I just finished a two-hour safety audit with Mark Moody from VISBIT. He is compiling a large report that he recommends I share with you in executive session only, as it contains a host of sensitive information. I will let you know when it is complete. He then met with my Administrative Assistant and the Maintenance Supervisor, Jon Beamon. I will create a school safety team to complement the Public Safety team I already have in place. We recently had a lockout drill and as always, I collect feedback from the staff about ways we can improve. A couple of weeks ago, each adult in each room tested the PA system so that we were assured that anyone can call an emergency situation at any time.

MORE SAFETY

I am holding a Coffee with the Principal Wednesday, December 11th to talk a little about safety. It will run from 7:45-8:30. You are invited to attend.

FAMILY FUN PROGRAMMING

This month we have two really exciting opportunities for family fun and they are back to back. We have a circus created entirely by our amazing PE teacher, Christine Landon, who is a trainer at Circus Smirkus. It will be on Wednesday, December 18. (Circus Smirkus is a nonprofit arts and education organization based in Greensboro, Vermont. Their mission is to promote the skills, culture, and traditions of the traveling circus, and to inspire youth to engage in life-changing adventures in the circus arts. Since 1987, Circus Smirkus has been bringing the transforming power of the circus arts to people of all ages.) Then, the very next evening we have our annual Holiday Concert featuring the band as well.

LIBRARY

I have not yet met with the Board and Kate and I have had a preliminary conversation about our thinking as we go forward.

TUCKED IN TUESDAYS

Each Tuesday, I read a bedtime story to all my students and email it to their parents. You can see a few on our website at https://ctes.trsu.org/. Let me know what you think!

CURRICULUM WORK

I went to an AOE sponsored workshop series about local assessment plans with Michael Eppolito. This is helping us refine and really think deeply about why we give the tests that we do.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The CTES staff is thinking a lot about Proficiency-Based Education. We are in the process of a study to come to a deeper, common understanding of what this new way of thinking looks like and how to plan for it. It is hard to learn a whole new way of thinking about how you do your job, so we are taking time to learn about it together.

COMMITTEE WORK

I have joined the Report Card Committee which, like my staff, is grappling with the new way of thinking about the way we assess kids. The most recent sets of academic standards in the U.S. — The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English Language Arts and Mathematics, The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), The College, Career and citizenship standards for Social Studies (C3) and The National Core Arts Standards (NCAS) — call for educational outcomes that demand more than multiple-choice and short answer assessments. The new emphases of the Common Core and Next Generation Standards call for a concomitant shift in assessments — both in large-scale and classroom levels. The widespread use of multiple-choice tests as predominant measures of learning in many subject areas must give way to an expanded use of performance assessment tasks that engage students in applying their learning in genuine contexts.

We have two bids for our sign between \$7-8 K. I have yet to hear back from my potential donor. I will keep you posted.

HOLIDAY CHEER

Each day until vacation, I send out a hint about where the elf on the shelf is hiding. It is a fun competition for the staff. So far, we have had three winners. (One not pictured).



Wishing you a happy new year,

Deb Beaupre