



**Sheepscot Valley RSU 12
 June 2023
 Superintendent's Report
 Information, Recognitions, and Celebrations**

Superintendent Report

As we conclude yet another remarkable academic year, we celebrate the collective efforts and innovative thinking that have enabled us to provide our students 175 days of exceptional learning experiences. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our devoted staff members and the supportive community who have played a pivotal role in our success. With great pride, we reflect on our achievements this year, steadfast in our commitment to bridging educational gaps and cultivating a secure and safe learning environment for all. Anticipation fills the air as we eagerly await summer and the upcoming year.

We strongly encourage parents and guardians of PreK and Kindergarten students to register your students as soon as possible so that we can plan for next year!

We extend our sincerest gratitude to all the towns within the RSU 12 community for your unwavering support in funding the 2023-2024 school budget. Your overwhelming approval signifies the recognition of the outstanding teaching and learning that transpires within RSU 12.

The RSU 12 Board of Directors proposed the budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which was subsequently approved at the District Budget meeting on May 24, 2023. We are thrilled to announce that the voters of RSU 12 have overwhelmingly validated this budget. To every citizen of RSU 12, we extend our most profound appreciation for your unwavering commitment and unwavering confidence in the RSU 12 School system. Please refer to the town-specific results below for more details.

RSU 12 School Budget Voting Results June 13, 2023				
Question 1: RSU 12 School Budget				
Town	Yes	No	Total	% approval by town
Alna	38	4	42	90%
Chelsea	153	56	209	73%
Palermo	30	7	37	81%
Somerville	33	22	55	60%
Westport Island	263	44	307	86%
Whitefield	58	14	72	81%
Windsor	123	53	176	70%
TOTAL	698	200	898	78%
Percentage of Approval	78%	22%		

Curriculum and Technology Report

7th grade students from Palermo’s Gifted and Talented program participated in the University of Maine Windstorm Challenge. They designed a floating platform for a scale model wind turbine and presented it to a panel of judges at UMO for testing against other school teams’ models. The students learned a lot about the design process and had an opportunity to gather with middle and high school students from across the state.

Middle school students from several of our district schools attended the Student Maine Technology Learning Initiative (MLTI) conference where they learned a lot about new software, virtual reality, and coding.

In partnership with the Collaborative for Customized Learning and Wilson College, RSU 12 will be hosting a master’s level course in Quality Instruction in the district. Teachers from all of our schools are taking advantage of this opportunity to learn together. The course will focus on the components of our vision of learning. Teachers will learn ways to incorporate Habits of Mind, explicit instruction about complex reasoning strategies, and content in designing learning experiences for students.

Westport Island Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD									1		2		1	4
9-12 Lincoln Academy										1	3	4	2	10
9-12 RSU 01													2	2
9-12 Waynflete School											1		1	2
9-12 Wiscasset School Department										1	3	1	1	6
Chelsea Elementary School			1	1										2
K-8 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD							1		2					3
K-8 Center for Teaching and Learning			1	1				2						4
K-8 Chewonki Semester School			1		3	1			1					6
K-8 Edgecomb School Department	1	3		1			1							6
K-8 Great Salt Bay CSD		1		1		2	1							5
K-8 RSU 01									1					1
K-8 RSU 75/MSAD 75						1								1
K-8 Wiscasset School Department			2	1	1	2	1		1					8
Grand Total	1	4	5	5	4	6	4	2	6	2	9	5	7	60

Alna Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD												1	2		3
9-12 Brunswick School Department														1	1
9-12 Five Town CSD													1		1
9-12 Gould Academy												1			1
9-12 Lincoln Academy											5	5		1	11
9-12 Maine Coast Waldorf School													1		1
9-12 RSU 40/MSAD 40													1		1
9-12 Waynflete School														1	1
9-12 Wiscasset School Department						1					2	1	3	3	10
K-8 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD									4						4
K-8 Brunswick School Department													1		1
K-8 Center for Teaching and Learning		1	1	1	3	3	1	3	2	3					18
K-8 Chewonki Semester School				1	1	1	1	1	1						6
K-8 Damariscotta Montessori School			2		1	1			1						5
K-8 Edgecomb School Department	2	3	1	3	1	3	1								14
K-8 Great Salt Bay CSD		1	1		3	2	2	1	2	2					14
K-8 Nobleboro School Department							1		1						2
K-8 Wiscasset School Department		1		2		1	1	2	1						8
Whitefield Elementary School								1							1
Grand Total	2	6	5	7	9	12	7	8	12	5	7	8	9	6	103

Somerville Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Augusta Public Schools											1			2	3
9-12 Erskine Academy											3	7	4	3	17
9-12 Lincoln Academy											1		1		2
9-12 RSU 40/MSAD 40											1		1	2	4
9-12 Wiscasset School											1				1

Department															
Chelsea Elementary School			1												1
Palermo Consolidated School				1											1
Somerville Elementary School	5														5
Whitefield Elementary School						1			1						2
Windsor Elementary School		2	8	9	4	3	4	4	5	5					44
Grand Total	5	2	9	10	4	4	4	4	6	5	7	7	6	7	80

Chelsea Elementary School Report

This last month has been packed full of learning, testing, and, of course, lots of fun too! Looking back, our 8th graders took their annual trip to Boston to celebrate their years at Chelsea Elementary. They also took trips to the CATC center and signed up for some short classes there to explore what opportunities they might have there in the future and they took a trip down to Portland for a soggy SeaDogs game. It was rainy, but they still had a lot of fun and got to spend some time making memories with their friends before some of them go off to different high schools in the fall. We will wrap up their time here at Chelsea Elementary with a celebration this Wednesday night, June 14 at 5:30.



It has been hard to fit in the traditional end of year activities with the weather the last couple of weeks, so today (Monday) we held our last PBIS Pride assembly of the year, and are hosting a field day for grades PK-5. For the Middle School kids, we celebrated their filling up their office pride bucket by cooking them a picnic lunch and having a big kickball game and some time to enjoy themselves outside. Miss Andrea, Miss S and myself put our grilling skills to the test and served up food to the middle school. They were all very grateful and polite and it was a nice way to kick off the last short week of the school year.

This summer Chelsea Elementary will host both the Windsor and Chelsea CLC program for 6 weeks, our Title I summer program and our ESY program as well as our Boys and Girls Club kids. It will be summer break, but the building will certainly still be an active, safe place for kids to come and spend some time learning and having fun.

Palermo Consolidated School Report

The end of the year comes so fast. There are so many things to plan while taking care of all the normal day to day needs. Summer is bittersweet because we hear of all the students who are looking forward to having the summer off but we also hear from students that they aren't that excited. The summer time seems so short for us adults - but it seems to last forever when you are young.

Graduation is an important event at Palermo. One of the favorite parts when the students make a video of growing up. They pick out their baby pictures and other pictures throughout their school years and put the video to music. The music is always something about how they've grown through the years and all the parents cry that their babies are growing too fast! Graduation is such a wonderful way to reflect on how the kids have matured and have grown.

Recently we have had a few field trips. The k-5 group of students went to the Marine Museum in Searsport. They learned a lot about Maine maritime history and lighthouses. They offered fun activities and a chance to see what a huge sailboat is like. Our 6th grade students spent a day at Camp Wavus. The most challenging part of the day was the ropes course. Many students challenged themselves to walk high in the trees on ropes and platforms. It was an amazing experience for them! Similar to that experience, the 8th grade students had to dodge rain drops while visiting the ropes course at Monkey See Monkey Do. Ya, they weren't successful in avoiding the rain!

Palermo School has been very lucky to have received an amazing gift of a portable stage. Our old stage was in need of some serious repair or replacement. One of the parents of our 1st grader found stage pieces for us for free. We will be using our new stage for the first time this week at our music concert and graduation. We are so thankful for our community!

Whitefield Elementary School Report

The end of any school year is earmarked by a number of traditional events and the 2022-2023 school year is no exception. Over the past month our 8th grade students enjoyed an exciting, educational 16 hour day in Boston including being transported from Brunswick on the Downeaster, a visit to the Franklin Park Zoo, an elongated visit to the New England Aquarium. We capped the day, before boarding the train back to Maine, with dinner and shopping at Quincy Market. Given that many of the trip participants had never traveled by train or ever visited the city of Boston, it was a memorable experience for all.

Our 8th annual Day of Caring, supported by the United Way, featured all WHES students participating in a variety of community service activities around the school grounds and the town of Whitefield. Given the intense heat of the day, students' enthusiasm and commitment was never in question. This event was followed up a few days later with our annual WHES Field Day, which required dodging multiple rainy days, but all aspects of this fun and active day engaged students and staff alike and the spirit of participation far outweighed simple competition.

The final week of school hosted the End of the Year Awards Assembly and Annual Parents' Luncheon. We did this in two shifts and had excellent participation from our parents. Our school nutrition staff put together a delicious pizza and pasta salad menu and all of the parent lunches were paid for by the Whitefield PTA. The final major event of the school year was our 8th Grade Celebration, a final recognition of our Class of 2023. All of these traditions at WHES supply excitement and completion of a very full school year. It also sets an optimistic tone for the upcoming school year. A great way to end one year and begin another.

Windsor Elementary School Report

I almost don't know where to begin in describing our last month of school. It has been full of activity. Windsor Staff goes above and beyond to create special experiences for our students to end the year on a high note and celebrate learning.

Fifth grade students went back to Tanglewood Science Camp for the first time in several years. This is a three day experience that can't be replaced, so we are happy they were able to return this year.

The entire school got together for our second annual Windsor Pride Outside Day. Students and staff planted gardens, including raised beds, corn in the field, and sunflowers. We

also weeded and mulched, watered the orchard, created rock art, and cleaned up the new gazebo area. Our students love to be outside, contributing to the overall beauty of the campus.

We also had another second annual event; the Art Show. Every student in the school had three artifacts in the show, including one clay object. Like last year, it was well attended.



Our sports team had great seasons. The track team enjoyed many personal bests and several athletes who ranked in the top five at states. The softball team had a building year, including fifth graders on the team. The baseball team was a combination of Windsor and Palermo kids, and they went undefeated in the regular season. The championship game will be played next week.

Robbi Portela, a former staff member and Windsor parent, volunteered a day to help students create their own hand tile that will be on the walls of our school for many years to come. This is a wonderful

tradition that also makes our school a happier place to be.

Our Title I program is well-known for their family outreach, knowing a connection with families makes all the difference. They invited families in for an ice cream social, and the k-2 teachers served up sundaes for all. Students were awarded certificates and lots of prizes.

The 8th grade trip to Winthrop YMCA camp was a success. Students were able to kayak, canoe, swim, and learn about other camping activities. This two-day trip is something they look forward to all year. They also ventured off to CATC to see the vocational side of school, and took a trip to play frisbee golf. Our middle school students also go to the beach on the last week of school as a behavior reward.

Dirigo Lodge members presented twenty students from Windsor and Somerville with a bike. Students earn tickets for reading, and teachers choose one boy and one girl to win the bikes. We are so thankful for this wonderful program.

To close out the year, we will do middle school awards on Monday, June 12 at 8:30. Eighth grade promotion is Monday evening at 6pm. We also have beach day, 3-5 movie day, and k-2 fun fair next week. On Thursday we will enjoy field day before the students leave at 11:30. It has been a wonderful year at Windsor School, and we appreciate your support.