

RSU #16 School Board  
Administrative Report  
Shawn Vincent  
Principal, Bruce M. Whittier Middle School  
May 7, 2018

**Staffing**

- Erica Swenson was a finalist for the Androscoggin County Teacher of the Year.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**

- April release time was limited to about 90 minutes each Wednesday. The majority of the release time was focused on our BARR Big Block meetings, assessing students' needs and creating goals and plans for the students. Additionally, we met for a full faculty meeting and staff members shared examples of formative assessment they are using in their classrooms.
- With the additional hour on Wednesdays, we have elected to add an extra block at the end of the day. Each week we rotate through a different block in the schedule. For example, this Wednesday the students will have an extra A block. This may mean that the students could have two math blocks on this day. The teacher may choose to use the second block of time for full group instruction or small group instruction based on the needs of the students he or she has scheduled during the extra time. We felt this was the best way to get back some of the instructional time lost on snow days.
- Grade 8 students completed the Maine Educational Assessment Science testing at the end of April.

**Events**

- Tyler Robbins, Evan Kelly, and Willa Galipeau-Eldridge qualified for National History Day in Washington, D.C. The three students are currently working with their families to fundraise for their trip.
- Grade 7 students attended Camp Kieve: The Leadership School in Nobleboro, Maine from April 25-27. While we encountered more rain than we would have liked, the camp staff provided excellent programming and our students seemed to make the most of the soggy conditions.
- For the second year in a row, the Androscoggin Career Fair event was canceled due to snow. In its place, School Counselor Bonnie Robbins is organizing an event at Whittier that will feature professionals from the community. The event will take place on May 25<sup>th</sup> and will include a variety of careers that often attract students' interest.
- Students in Ms. Sirois and Ms. Kennedy's Language Art classes and in 7th Grade GaTE have taken part in an online academic challenge program called Meridian Stories. The standards-based challenges ask student teams to create and submit videos addressing the specific requirements of their chosen challenge. Elijah Alexander, Abigale Bsullak, Graison Cote, Ashley Niemi, Mckenna Murphy, Jessie Hall, and Logan Fogg won third place,

**Facilities:**

- There is nothing to report at this time.