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## Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment School Board Report Dec. 5, 2024

We are proud of our core academics and know that they were key to our recent designation as one of the top 10 public schools of New Hampshire (Messier, 2024). An often overlooked aspect of the quality of a student's educational experience, however, is the learning and growth that happens outside of core academics. North Hampton School has a history of focusing on the whole child as evidenced by our guiding beliefs:

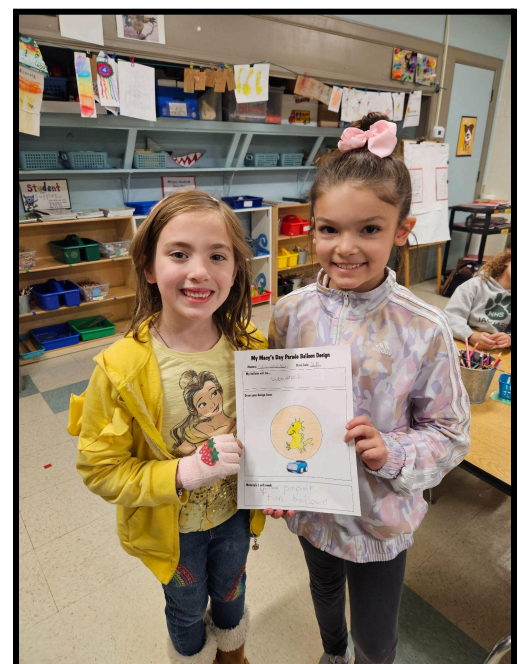
- We believe our school must provide a safe and joyful environment in which our students will learn and grow as individuals.
- We believe in respect for human differences and creating a school environment where everyone belongs.
- We believe we are educating individuals in the areas of academics, arts, civics and wellness; we will support and challenge each student to achieve his/her highest potential.
- We believe there is a shared responsibility among students, parents, educators, school board members and community members for advancing the school's Mission, Guiding Beliefs and Vision with a commitment to continuous improvement.
- We believe in promoting each individual's commitment to making a positive difference in our school, our community, and the world.

Our unified arts programs are key to supporting these guiding beliefs. This month's CIA report highlights the collaborative work happening in some of our non-core classes.

### Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Second Graders recently completed a Technology and Art project and hosted their own mini version of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. In Technology class, students learned about how the real Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade balloons are made with a little behind the scenes video tour. With a partner, students engaged in the design process, sketching an original model and listing out the needed materials. They also had to consider how their balloon would attach to the Indi robot car pulling it.

Every parade needs a great route, so the students created a scaled-down replica of the NYC Parade route. In art class, they studied the architectural elements of NYC buildings and created their own building designs with scratch art techniques. The buildings they created were placed along the parade route to create a 3D element. Each class then determined the



appropriate color code needed to build the program so that the Indi car robots would follow the established route.



On parade day, the partnerships brought their designs to life and attached each of them to an Indi robot. They tested it on the parade route before the big parade at the end of class. The excitement was high, and some students even wore colors and NYC t-shirts to match their balloons. It was so much fun to see their balloon and building designs come to life in our NHS Tech & Art version of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. We are looking forward to continuing this STEAM project next year! Thank you to Mrs. Herlihy and Mrs. Nardone for their enthusiasm and collaboration!

### **Community Building through Fitness**

Mr. Guidi and Ms. DiPietro are creating fitness activities to bring together different grade levels in PE this year. Inline with our SIP goals for building community, the lesson plans blend two grade levels together as the students engage in fun fitness activities. The older students are often assigned leadership roles to support the successful completion of the activities by all students.

As an example, on a recent Friday 1N and 3C combined their PE classes for indoor and outdoor activities. Inside, Ms. DiPietro facilitated a gym-wide obstacle course and a climbing wall challenge. Outside, Mr. Guidi had students riding scooters and playing a competitive team bean bag challenge. Students had a great time supporting each other, engaging in challenge by





choice, and building their confidence with some new athletic skills.



### Performances

This year Mr. Singer and Ms. Schmardel are planning two nights of holiday performances.. Our fifth and six grade band and chorus students will be showcasing their pieces on Mon., Dec. 16th at 5:30. The seventh and eighth grade band and chorus students will be performing the next night at 6:00. We value this opportunity for our students to share their developing talents with our community!

Becca Carlson

Messier, C. (Nov. 19, 2024). USA TODAY NETWORK - New England.

<https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/education/2024/11/19/best-elementary-and-middle-schools-new-hampshire-us-news-and-world-report/76400029007/>