

March Principal Report

We kicked off our last trimester two weeks ago after a busy end to trimester 2. Thank you all for your continued support as we passed the school budget and have additional funds for the playground through the town. Our school budget continues to be lean and we supplement that work with a Community Schools Grant through Act 67. This grant has allowed students to have access to high quality materials related to project-based learning. In the spring, it will allow us to take field trips with many of our classes as well. We continue to seek support in the form of donations of materials (a list will come out in the Cabot Chronicle in April) and we will host a volunteers meeting later in April to help coordinate building in the summer.

Part of engaging in a learning community is that our teachers are also learners. Over the past few years, they have been asked to adjust their practice rapidly and within a context of uncertainty. This year marks a turning point in which we are working to take stock of how we engage in school culture and climate as well as how we deepen our engagement in student learning. Most of our teachers will be traveling to Maine this week to visit three schools that utilize the EL Education School model. I'd invite you to check out the EL Education website for more information about what teachers will be learning on Friday.

We have a lot in store this spring for learning. Our Kindergarten classes are studying trees and have tapped trees for maple sugaring. Our first and second graders are working to build our gardens and will be integrating that learning into their literacy learning. They will be exploring seeds, growing salad greens, and preparing and planting our gardens. Be on the lookout for their request for garden caretakers over the summer. Our $\frac{3}{4}$ class has a partnership with a visiting movement artist. They are going to continue a playground study through science and working to read and analyze fiction in literacy so that they can write their own stories for publication. Our $\frac{5}{6}$ class has started their study of the American Revolution and we are solidifying some exciting fieldwork for them at the end of the year. Our $\frac{7}{8}$ class is continuing their study of food and food systems with in depth interviews of farmers, they are continuing to learn the skills for their original graphic zine designed to educate our community. Last, our high school students began their last project studios of the year. Students are currently scouting sites for their independent film projects, engaging in studies of weather, creating a field guide to Cabot, and much more.

Again, we are very grateful for your continued support and we are excited for a great spring of learning!



Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
Cabot School, Twinfield School,
Danville School District, Peacham School District
Caledonia Cooperative School District (Barnet, Walden & Waterford Schools)

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Mark Tucker, Superintendent of Schools
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Superintendent's Report March 2023

1. Open Positions

Barnet School

- Custodian

Cabot School

- Special Education Paraeducator
- Bus Driver
- Executive Assistant (2023-2024)

Central Office

- High School Paraeducator at the St. Johnsbury Academy
- Special Education Teacher (Anticipated) 2023-2024

Danville School

- Secondary Math Teacher 2023-2024
- Secondary Principal (2023-2024)
- Custodian

Peacham School

- No open positions at this time.

Twinfield School

- Bus Driver
- Health paraeducator
- Elementary Teacher 2023-2024
- Art Teacher 2023-2024
- Secondary Principal 2023-2024 year around position

Walden School

- Special education 1:1 paraeducator
- Special education paraeducator

Waterford School

- Special education paraeducator

2. **State of Vermont School Facility Analysis** – At this writing (March 3rd) I have not been notified that any of the CCSU schools are on the March schedule for visits by the AOE's consultant. If that changes, I will update you in the district meetings or by email.

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3. **US Dept of Energy “Renew American Schools” grant** – I received the decision letter on the Concept Paper I submitted in January. Our submission was “discouraged” which means we can go through the effort to apply but it seems unlikely we will get an award. The DOE received over 1000 concept papers in this first round. We will have an opportunity to apply again in FY24.
4. **PCB Testing** – Twinfield PCB results came in and were reported to the community. Peacham is scheduled for airborne testing on Mar 11-12. Cabot will have its second round of source testing in the gym that same weekend.

I testified on 2/28 at a combined session of the House and Senate Education committees on the proposed remediation funding formula. There is now some discussion in the Legislature of deferring additional PCB testing until after the full Facilities Study is completed. That change would take action by the General Assembly, and it is only speculation at this time. Any resulting delay will not stop the process in Cabot, Danville, Twinfield, and Peacham, and I have made it clear that whatever the Legislature decides, they can’t leave us hanging, and they still need to fund remediation work at 100%

Mark Tucker, M.A.
Superintendent of Schools

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Student Services Board Report
March 2023

1. CCSU Updates

- a. Therapeutic placements seem to be harder and harder to find for our students with the most significant emotional and behavioral challenges.
- b. We are preparing for spring transition meetings for students with school choice.

2. AOE Updates

- a. Alternate assessment information has been provided from the AOE, and we are in the process of getting the system set up for those students who need to access this assessment.

3. Professional Development

- a. The ARP IDEA grant was approved, and I'm pleased that we will be providing training in evidence based reading and math intervention programs through Lindamood-Bell. In addition, the grant is able to cover the cost of other professional development opportunities such as Social Thinking and Wilson Reading.

4. Of Note

- a. I would like to acknowledge Bethany Hale, Director of Early Childhood and After School Programs, for all the work she is doing to prepare for Summer Learning Programs and Extended School Year Program. This is a logistical challenge, but she is leading the way forward and I appreciate her expertise and professionalism.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Landry
Director of Student Services