Dear WOCSD Parents/Guardians, Faculty & Staff, and Community Members:

It hardly seems possible that a year has passed since the students and staff at Wells High School were planning the big move to their new building! The 3-year project is now essentially complete with only a few minor areas needing completion. The final product is a modern, state-of-the-art facility that truly reflects our Warrior Pride!

A project of this magnitude would not have been possible without the support of the WOCSD School Committee who were instrumental in the process. We are very fortunate to have a supportive school committee that is dedicated to providing a quality education for our students. At last week’s school committee meeting, and as part of National School Committee Recognition Month, I was honored to publicly recognize our school committee members, Helena Ackerson (Chair), Jason Vennard (Vice-Chair), Karen MacNeill, Stillman Bradish, Miranda Pollard, and Boriana Dolliver, as well as student representatives, Michael Wrigley and Taryn Lambert, for their service and commitment to the District.

Our students are among the best and continue to shine not only at the local level, but throughout the state as well. We recently learned that the Wells High School Engineering/Design class has won the 2017 Samsung “Solve for Tomorrow” Challenge being named State finalists! This is the 2nd time WHS has won this competition during the past few years. Congratulations to Courtland Austin, Marcus Tufts, Lukas Hall, Connor Hood, Tim Martell, Josh McFarland, Charles Oliver, Ryan Sousa, Blair Tweed, Josh Yee, and their instructors, Chrys Demos and Jason Hludik. They will take their winning project, a Human-Powered Submarine, to compete at the national level in New York City this March.

Also among the best are our building secretaries! Terre Webster, Karen Quint, Mindy Staples, Tari Matthews, Vicki Aldridge, Cindy Mitchell, Sheila Jarochym, Chris Yeomelakis, and Holly Wydra, work diligently behind the scenes each day to assure our schools run smoothly. Their assistance, compassion, and dedication is greatly appreciated!

Happy New Year,

James P. Daly
Superintendent of Schools

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Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday – January 16th
NO SCHOOL
**Faculty/Staff**

- **Bonny Esty** (WES) and **Dawn Wentland** (WHS) – for having an integral role in the Teen Trendsetters program at Wells Elementary School. This program, which is funded under the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, pairs high school students with first graders in an effort to build confidence and boost reading skills in the younger students.

**Students** —

Wells Elementary School

- **Congratulations to the recipients of the December 2016 “Core Value Awards”** –

  **Grade 1** - Grady Manning, Addison Greene, Luke Boucher, Mason Gatcomb, Joshua Corbett, Breanna Hill, Camron Chaloux, and Ava Wheeler

  **Grade 2** – Evan Suitter, Tanner Tufts, Francesca MacEwen, Hailey Worthing, and Drew McLaughlin
Grade 3 – Payton Fazzina, Hunter Sturmer, Norah Donnell, Aiden Duell, and Nate DeMauro

Grade 4 – Izzy Leslie, Scarlet Arbelo, Chase Lunetta, Reese Murphy, Claudio Watson, Evan Peterson, Bella Smith, Kendall Ball, Camille Decato, Honey Conley, and Jonathan Martinez

Wells Junior High School –

- Isabel Martin, Negel Martell, Lily Clough, and Colby White – Grade 8 – have been selected to participate in the York County Junior High Music Festival Band on February 4th at Biddeford Junior High School. Congratulations!

Wells High School –

- NHS members – Nate Olsen, Ally O’Brien, Isaac Michaud, Takara McDermott, Kaitlyn Schott, and Taryn Lambert - volunteered their time by providing valet parking at the annual junior high Thanksgiving Dinner on November 20th. The Eighth Grade Team wishes to thank the high school students for their invaluable service in making the day a huge success!

- Allison Jarvis – Grade 12 – received the “Outstanding Student Award” through her studies at Sanford Regional Vocational Center. This award recognizes outstanding leadership, quality of work, consistency of work ethic and teamwork. Allison is enrolled in the Video Production program at SRVC. Congratulations!

- Bailey Marsh – Grade 12 – has been chosen as the recipient of the 2017 Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizenship Award. This award is presented to a student who demonstrates outstanding service, citizenship, leadership, and patriotism in their home, school, and community. Congratulations, Bailey!

- Nolan Potter and Michael Wrigley – Grade 11 – both athletes finished in First Place in their respective weight classes at the recent Atlantic Invitational Wrestling Tournament at WHS. In addition, Mike was named recipient of this year’s Sean Sheehy Award at the event.

- Courtland Austin, Marcus Tufts, Lukas Hall, Connor Hood, Tim Martell, Josh McFarland, Charles Oliver, Ryan Sousa, Blair Tweed, and Josh Yee – WHS Engineering/Design class has been named a State finalist in the 2017 Samsung “Solve for Tomorrow” Challenge. This is the 2nd time WHS has won this competition.
PERSONNEL UPDATE

Currently posted positions:

- Substitutes – grades K-12
- 2nd Shift Custodian - WHS
- Custodian subs – District wide

- Food Service Specialist – WJH
- Spanish Teacher – WHS
  (for remainder of the 2016-2017 school year)

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Maine Department of Education has announced that the Read to ME Challenge is scheduled to begin on February 2, 2017. This campaign challenges adults to read to children for 15 minutes, capture that reading episode via photo or video, and then post it on social media to challenge others to do the same. (use #ReadtoME and/or #ReadaloudME)

The Read to ME Challenge will run for the month of February leading up to Read Across America Day on March 2, 2017.

Maryanne Foley will be looking for volunteers to read at our Wells Elementary Celebration of Reading Day on Friday, March 3rd!

HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT

Wells Elementary School

- Twenty-two classrooms donated items for holiday care packages that were sent to troops deployed overseas. In all, 29 care packages (weighing almost 300 lbs!) were sent to ten units – each having a local connection to the area.

Additionally, four Wells families (whose fathers are deployed with the US Coast Guard and may not receive physical mail on their ship) received gift baskets in appreciation of their sacrifices.

Care packages being readied for shipment to troops deployed overseas.
WES teachers donated the shipping costs!
Wells Junior High School

• Students at the junior high participated in the first-ever “Chili Challenge” during December. Participants were given samples of chili for five days (Mon-Fri) with the heat intensity progressively increasing each day. Those that completed the week received a prize!

Congratulations to: Isaiah Sandoval, Garner Holdsworth, Tanner Douglas, Nicole Perkins, Indigo Looper, Zoe Clark, Spencer Carpenter, Gabriel Ordway, Jared McDonough, Luke Keniston, Jonah Curly, and Braiden Bowden.

• Several Grade 5 students were guests at the annual Ogunquit Rotary Christmas Luncheon on December 8th. WJHS has been represented at this event for many years, randomly selecting two students from each classroom to attend. This year, 10 students were joined by teachers Don Abbott and Cheryl Turner. Students attending were: Brooks Fox, Colby Sevigney, Eli Roy, Miles Doucette, Sophia Davis, Oliva Boutot, Rylee Ducharme, Kameron Tufts, Katarina Hoffman, and Jasmine Cogliano. As a holiday gift, the Rotary Club generously donated several books to the 5th Grade Library!

• The annual WJHS Spelling Bee will take place on Friday, January 13th.

Wells High School

• The Wrestling Team achieved 2nd Place at the annual Atlantic Invitational tournament held on December 23rd. The Team competed against 13 other teams. Congratulations!
HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT (cont’d)

- Mr. Hludik and Mr. Demos's Engineering/Design class has won the 2017 Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest being awarded $25,000 in Samsung technology items for the school. As a state finalist, Wells High School will now compete against other high schools in a nation-wide contest judged on Originality, Sustainability, Community Involvement/Impact, Need for Technology, and Application of STEAM studies/procedures.

  They will be presenting their HUMAN POWERED SUBMARINE project with other competing schools in New York City in March. **Good luck!**

Join the Lady Warriors this Saturday, January 14th!

If you would like to make a contribution to support **Shootin’ For A Cure** and the Living Well With Cancer Fund, please make your check payable to York Hospital and send to:

**Shootin’ For A Cure**  
Wells High School  
200 Sanford Road  
Wells, ME 04090.

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**Adult Education**

**Coming Soon - New Spring Offerings!**

We have lots of new courses for your learning and enjoyment, along with many of your regular favorites.

Our **Spring 2017 Course Catalog** will be available in early February. You may also find our full catalog on our website at [adulted.wocsd.org](http://adulted.wocsd.org).

**Stay tuned for updates!**