



# WELLS-OGUNQUIT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

James P. Daly

## SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

May 2, 2017

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



US News & World Report has published their 2017 annual list of top performing high schools in the United States. Once again, I am pleased to announce that Wells High School has been designated as a **Silver Medal School – ranked #3 in the State of Maine** (up from #5). Additionally, this ranking places WHS as #801 of high schools nationally. These rankings are based on student performance on proficiency assessments, graduation rate, and college readiness. On behalf of the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District School Committee, I would like to congratulate the students, faculty, staff, and WHS administration on this tremendous recognition!

Recognition, whether locally or nationally, is an integral facet of student success. Each spring, many students are recognized as new members of our local National Honor Society. Induction is based on Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. Congratulations to these students who represent our school and communities in the highest light! --

- |                 |                 |                  |                    |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| -Charlyn Achola | -Olivia Clay    | -Kaylee Hollins  | -Sarah Strange     |
| -Kylie Belanger | -Charles Clough | -Madison Lavalle | -Benjamin Stevens  |
| -Emma Bernhardt | -Emily Cottis   | -Mitchell Libby  | -Madison Szczygiel |
| -Owen Berry     | -Claudia Davis  | -Wesley Moody    | -Matthew Szczygiel |
| -Allison Brann  | -Riley Dempsey  | -Kathleen Perry  | -Leah Tufts        |
| -Anya Chase     | -Olivia Durfee  | -Estelle Reardon | -Channing Wang     |
| -Samantha Chase | -Raven Goodell  | -Megan Schneider | -Michael Wrigley   |
| -Erin Clawson   | -Bryn Heyland   | -Isabelle Sossei |                    |

Although the end of this school year will soon be upon us, we are already planning for the next. With that in mind, I have enclosed the 2017-2018 District School Calendar. As you will note, we will once again utilize the one-hour early release schedule each Wednesday to provide opportunities for professional development workshops, student meetings, and other activities.

In addition to formulating the school calendar, we have also developed a fiscally responsible school budget for the upcoming year. On Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our annual School Budget Meeting where community members will have the opportunity to speak to, ask question about and, hopefully, vote to accept the proposed 2017-2018 school budget. The meeting will be held in the Wells Junior High School Gymnasium beginning at 6:30pm.

The following Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, residents will have the opportunity to approve the school budget through the Budget Validation Referendum included in the Town of Wells ballot. Polls will be open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Wells Junior High School and the Dunaway Center in Ogunquit.

We hope you will be able to join us at these and the many other school events planned in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

James P. Daly  
Superintendent of Schools

## *A Special Note to Parents.....*

As you know, the safety and well-being of our students - whether at school or home -is our #1 priority! With that in mind, we would like to make you aware of a recent national publication and mini-series that is causing concern among junior high and high school-aged children. The young-adult book entitled, **13 Reasons Why** *Why* by Jay Asher, as well as the corresponding Netflix series, may have a detrimental effect on young people, especially those most vulnerable.



Below are several recommendations from the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) as guidance for families:

- Ask your child if they have heard or seen the series **13 Reasons Why**. While we don't recommend that they be encouraged to view the series, if they choose to, tell them you want to watch it with them or to catch up, and discuss their thoughts.
- If they exhibit any warning signs, don't be afraid to ask if they have thought about suicide or if someone is hurting them. Raising the issue of suicide does not increase the risk or plant the idea. On the contrary, it creates the opportunity to offer help.
- Ask your child if they think any of their friends or classmates exhibit warning signs. Talk with them about how to seek help for their friend or classmate. Guide them on how to respond when they see or hear any of the warning signs.
- Listen to your children's comments without judgment. Doing so requires that you fully concentrate, understand, respond, and then remember what is being said. Put your own agenda aside.
- Get help from a school-employed or community-based mental health professional if you are concerned for your child's safety or the safety of one of their peers.



## ON-THE-SPOT RECOGNITIONS

*Students, teachers, staff, and community members exhibiting "Warrior Pride"  
Thank you for making our schools shine!*

### Faculty/Staff-

- **Melissa Stapleton – WES Teacher** – empowered students to not only write poetry but to recite their poems in front of an audience at the Poetry Reading event at Wells High School.
- **Kim Bohn – PTSA President** – worked diligently to set up a waiting room for parents during Kindergarten screenings. She also provided a parent's perspective of Wells Elementary School.
- **MaryBeth Clason –WES Teacher-** for providing Professional Development to her colleagues. She has been teaching a series of morning sessions on literacy and the Daily 5.

### Students –

#### Wells Alumni –

- **Michael Curtis –Class of 2015** – has been recognized by the New England Wrestling Association following the 2016-2017 campaign and was named an Academic All-NEWA. Michael attends Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, MA. *Congratulations!*

#### Wells Elementary School

- **Congratulations** to the following students who will be honored at the **Breakfast of Champions** celebration on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>:
  - Grade 1 – **Sophia Dupuis, Joshua Haeberle, Hannah Lilly, Clavin Lakowica, Allie McDonough, Robbie Bates, Elena Batchelder, LilyBeth Ward, Amelia Lucas, and Rhys Sullivan**
  - Grade 2 – **Noah Babich and Alivia Collin**
  - Grade 3 – **Ella Ciorra, William Martinez, Alden Pelletier, Elizabeth Boulger, Norah Donnell, and Megyn Mertens**
  - Grade 4 – **Claudio Watson, Nathan Malloy, Elana Vennard, Shawn Haggerty, Maya Connor, Molloy Tavares, and Landon Jacobson-Therault**

#### Wells Junior High School –

- **Emma Keniston - Grade 8** and **Sophie Killam - Grade 7-** have earned 1<sup>st</sup> Place at the State level in the National Garden Club Poetry contest.



This year's contest theme was "We Three: Bees, Butterflies, and Me".

Their winning entries will now be submitted to the National level competition. *Congratulations!*

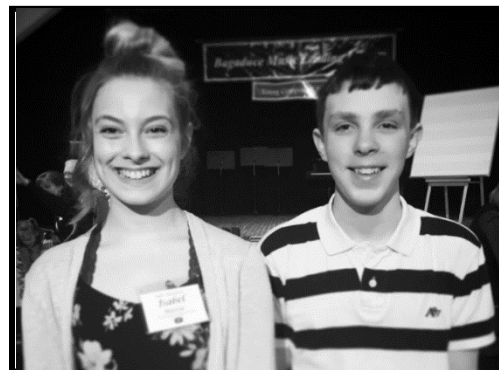
*Principal Griffin, Emma Keniston, Sophie Killam and the Garden Club representative.*



## ON-THE-SPOT RECOGNITIONS (cont'd)

### Wells Junior High School –

- **Isabel Martin** and **Sam Norbert** – **Grade 8** – recently competed at the *Bagaduce Composers Competition* in Blue Hill, ME. Sam earned first place in the competition with his piece, "China", that was written for the piano. Isabel performed her piece, "The First Snow of Winter", on the flute in front of the audience and also volunteered to sight read another piece for the key note presenter.



*Congratulations!*

*Isabel Martin and Sam Norbert – winning composers!*

### Wells High School –

- **Brianna Christie** – **Grade 11** - has been chosen as the only representative winning essayist from Maine to attend the prestigious *Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference* in Washington, DC in June. In addition to the conference experience, she will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.



*Congratulations, Brianna!*

*WHS Junior, Brianna Christie – will represent Maine in Washington DC in June.*

- **Austin “Storm” Knight** – **Grade 12** –has been chosen as *Student of the Month* at the Portland Arts and Technical High School (PATHS) where he is enrolled in the Commercial Art class. His exceptional classwork has qualified him for the National Technical Honor Society! *Congratulations!*



*Storm creating a drawing in his class*

## PERSONNEL UPDATE

### Currently posted positions:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ➤ <b>Substitutes</b> – grades K-12            | ➤ <b>French Teacher</b> - WJHS                               |
| ➤ <b>Custodian subs</b> –District wide        | ➤ <b>English Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher</b> – WJHS |
| ➤ <b>Food Service subs</b> –District wide     | ➤ <b>Ed Tech III - Special Education</b> – WES               |
| ➤ <b>Ed Tech III - Special Education</b> –WES | ➤ <b>Ed Tech III - Special Education</b> – WHS               |



## **DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION UPDATE**

- Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) individual student results from 2015-2016 school year are finally available from the Maine Department of Education, however, because these scores are over a year old, we decided not to mail them out to parents at this time. We hope the results from this school year will be more timely. Please contact your child's principal or Stacey Schatzabel if you have any questions.
- MEA and SAT are complete. We easily met the state requirement of 95% participation.
- Vertical Teams met on April 26. ELA completed a protocol around assessment and Math worked on scope and sequence with our new curriculum.
- WOCSD is accepting public comment for the FY 2018 ESEA consolidated application. Please contact Stacey Schatzabel, at 641-6903, or at [sschatzabel@wocsd.org](mailto:sschatzabel@wocsd.org).

## **HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT**

### **Literary Achievement Awards recognizes young writers**



On April 27<sup>th</sup>, winners of the 2017 Literary Achievement Awards competition gathered in the Olenn Performing Arts Center at Wells High School where they were awarded their recognition certificate and prize.

In addition, all 1<sup>st</sup> Place winners had the opportunity to read their winning selection in front of the entire audience!

*Congratulations to all the winners!*

*Kindergartner, Robert Roche, reads his 1st place winning selection while LAA Program Coordinator, Maryanne Foley looks on.*

### **Wells Elementary School**

- Playground Leaders will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Mark your calendars for the annual "STARZ 4 Broadway" shows – June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>!

## HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT (cont'd)

### Wells Junior High School

#### Lip Sync benefits Veteran's

- The annual Lip Sync was held on Friday, April 28th, sponsored by the Student Council. Proceeds from the show (along with additional funds from Student Council) will be donated to the **Honor Flight of Maine** - an organization which honors America's Veterans for their service and sacrifices. *Honor Flight* transports these heroes free of charge to Washington, D.C. to tour, experience, and reflect at their war memorials.



*Participants in the 2017 Lip Sync*

*Wells Jr. High School is honored to donate \$1,000 to this great organization.*

#### Grade 6 Students attend Naturalization Ceremony

- On Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, the entire 6th grade (*and Mr. Griffin*) attended a Naturalization Ceremony at Middle School of the Kennebunks. This was an amazing connection to their Social Studies curriculum around citizenship and government.



*Grade 6 students observing the final step in becoming a citizen of the United States.*



*Two new US citizens are sworn in at the ceremony*

#### Take 'em out to the Ballgame!

- Several members of the WJHS the softball and baseball teams participated in the Wells/Ogunquit Little League Opening Day ceremonies on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.



*Wells Junior High baseball and softball teams during the WOLL Opening Day festivities.*

# HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT (cont'd)

## Vocabulary Bowl names WJHS Maine State Champion of the Month

- Every month, thousands of schools across the US and Canada compete in the **Vocabulary Bowl**.



This month, Wells Junior High School was named Maine State Champion for the month of April! Congratulations to all students that participated!

## Wells High School

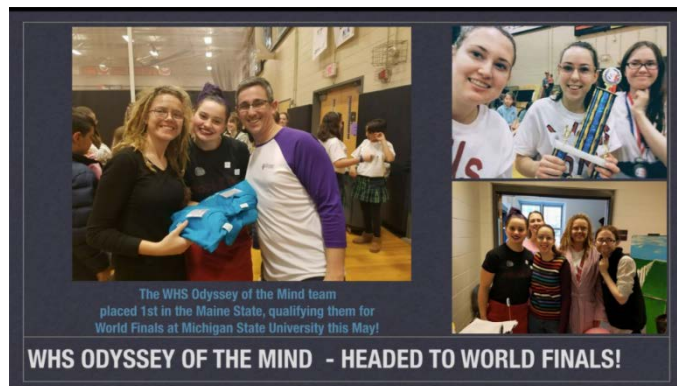
### Softball Team gets ready for the season.....



- Members of the WHS Softball Team recently attended Spring Training in Orlando in preparation of the upcoming season. The Team has the opportunity to compete against others from across the country and learn new ideas and techniques.

*Pictured at left are members of the WHS Softball team with Coach Fox*

Good luck to the  
Odyssey  
of the Mind  
Teams!



## Adult Education



To register for your next Ed-Venture,  
call 207-646-4565.

or register online at

<http://wells-ogunquit.maineadulted.org/>

and select "Courses".

## Wells-Ogunquit Community School District 2017-2018 School Calendar

July 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				
T = 0		S = 0		

January 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
T = 21		S = 21		

- HOLIDAY
- Teacher Workshop - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- Parent Contact Day -(comp) Dec. 22 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
Parent Contact I - (comp)- Apr. 13- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- NO SCHOOL
- First/Last Day 9/5-1st Day - (9/7- First Day BK / K) - 6/13-Last Day
- EARLY RELEASE WED - 1 HOUR early  
WHS - release at 12:49 pm  
WJHS - release at 1:00 pm  
WES - release at 2:00 pm

August 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	
T = 1		S = 0		

February 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28		
T = 15		S = 15		

**177 student days  
184 teacher days**

September 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
T = 19		S = 19		

March 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
T = 22		S = 22		

- July 4 *Independence Day* Holiday
- August 31 Teacher Workshop - NO STUDENTS
- September 1 No School
- September 4 *Labor Day* Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- September 5 First Student Day Grds 1-9 (9/6 for Grds 10-12)
- September 7 1st Day for K-BK

October 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			
T = 21		S = 21		

April 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				
T = 16		S = 15		

- October 9 *Columbus Day* Holiday - NO SCHOOL
- November 10 *Veteran's Day* Holiday Observed
- November 22 Thanksgiving Recess begins -NO SCHOOL
- November 23-24 *Thanksgiving Day* & day after -NO SCHOOL
- December 22 Parent Contact (comp) - NO SCHOOL

November 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	
T = 18		S = 18		

May 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	
T = 22		S = 22		

- December 22-29 Holiday Recess
- December 25 *Christmas Day*
- January 1 *New Year's Day*
- January 15 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Holiday-NO SCHOOL
- February 19 *President's Day* -NO SCHOOL
- February 20-23 February Vacation -NO SCHOOL

December 2017				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
T = 16		S = 15		

June 2018				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
T = 9		S = 9		

- April 13 Parent Contact Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- April 16-20 April Vacation -NO SCHOOL
- May 28 *Memorial Day* Observed -NO SCHOOL
- June 10 WHS Graduation
- June 11 Adult Education Graduation
- June 13 Last Day of School (tentative) - HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS