



News from South School's Starfish

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Principal's Corner

South School's New Vision Statement

Dear South School Families and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you safely and comfortably in a warm and fully powered environment! Last month I wrote about our expanded programming, including our new Social-Emotional Curriculum, as well as some specific skill information about how to provide high-quality feedback to your student. I feel it is important for you all to be aware of the drivers behind our decisions; our Vision and Mission/Values. Our dedicated Team Leaders drafted, and our staff adopted, the following Vision and Mission/Values statements:

Vision: *South School provides a safe, cooperative school where respect and accountability form the foundation of an inclusive learning environment that supports the needs of the whole child.*

Mission/Values: *At South School we value student growth in academics, social/emotional skills, and intellectual curiosity. Our students are motivated, thriving learners with a healthy sense of self and a growth mindset. We foster citizenship and a fearless approach to learning.*

I won't say these statements were "wordsmithed"

painlessly but we are pleased with the result. Our vision describes what we see South School becoming as we progress and improve. Our Mission and Values Statement describes more specifically the outcomes we want for our students. These new statements will appear on our website accompanied by some qualitative descriptions of what this looks like in our school and in our students. Stay tuned!

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Bennett

RSU 13
South School

October Newsletter

Upcoming Events

- ☺ Nov. 8—Early Dismissal
- ☺ Nov. 8—PT Conferences
- ☺ Nov. 10—No school; Veteran's Day
- ☺ Nov. 16—Old Grey Goose Night
- ☺ Nov. 20—Kindergarten Thanksgiving Fieldtrip
- ☺ Nov. 22-24 Thanksgiving Break
- ☺ Nov. 30—2nd Grade Attends the Nutcracker
- ☺ Nov. 30—End of Month Assembly
- ☺ Dec. 5—Mrs. Cowan's Farnsworth Fieldtrip
- ☺ Dec. 8—Miss Brooks' Farnsworth Fieldtrip
- ☺ Dec. 12—Miss Eudy & Mrs. Linscott's Farnsworth Fieldtrip
- ☺ Dec. 13—Mrs. Oliver's Farnsworth Fieldtrip
- ☺ Dec. 14—Miss Wood & Mrs. Joki's Farnsworth Fieldtrip
- ☺ Dec. 21—End of Month Assembly
- ☺ Dec 22-Jan 01—No School



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES
November 8th by Appointment
Sign up now on our website or call the office!

Monthly Awards Ceremony

Celebrating our Students

Well, who would have thought that our end of month awards assembly would have been cancelled due to bad weather? That's typical for the winter but certainly not in October! However, the show must go on and so this week we celebrated!

This week's assembly was kicked off by a spirit challenge by Mr. Bennett. Each grade was tasked with trying to be the loudest. It appears that our third graders have quite the set of lungs!!!

Thank you to the parents who could make the special monthly event. To receive a student of the month award is something special as only 11 students per grade will receive this honor per year!



GOOD JOB!



Weekend Backpack Program in Full Swing

South School Students were invited once again to participate in the Weekend Backpack Program that is organized by our local Area Inter-faith Outreach (AIO) Organization. This program supplies extra food for children whose families feel like they might like it.

Every Thursday, volunteers from the AIO deliver tubs full of bagged food for us to distribute to students. On Fridays, a group of Oceanside High School volunteers help to hand out the bags.

Who is eligible to join this program:

- Any child whose parent or guardian signs a permission form, indicating they would like to receive this food.

- Whether every child whose parent or guardian send in permission will get weekend food will depend on how much food the program has available.
- If there is not enough food to meet the need, the school Principal, Nurse and Food Service Director will decide who is included and who will go on a wait-list.

If you want to help:

Meet on Thursday mornings at 9:00am throughout the school year, at Nativity Lutheran Church, Old County Road, on the Rockport/Rockland line. Park in the left lot and walk around back.

Join 25 to 30 people in a double assembly line and pack food bags for sending nourishing food home for the

weekend in the backpacks of school children whose families need this help.

If you are in the position to help, feel free to donate food items to the program.

For more information contact:

207.596.1043

email@aiofoodpantry.org



Annual Halloween Parade ~ We've got Spirit!



*Merrily, scarily,
The Ghosts on Parade;
Hustling, rustling*

*To the Ghouls' Masquerade
~ By Rusty Fischer*

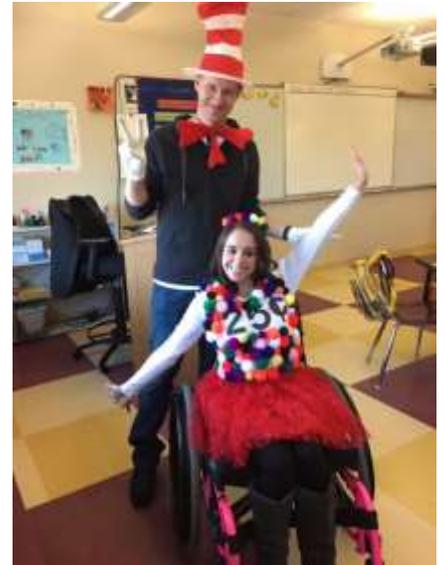
This event is a South School favorite and we hope that parents enjoy it as much.

We appreciate the large turn out of parents—your attendance makes it that much more special for our students and staff.



We were super excited to hold our annual Halloween Parade this past week.

This year we took it to the football field and were lead by Mrs. Pacheco and her 5th grade band. Students paraded around the track while families lined the "parade route" to watch.



PTF Halloween Door Decorating Contest

The PTF held their annual door decorating contest here at South School. Teachers and students had fun coming up with unique ideas for their doors. Here are the results:

1st place prize of \$100 goes to: Ms. Tochterman's third grade class

2nd place prize of \$50 goes to: Mrs. Joki's kindergarten class

3rd place prize of \$25 goes to: Mrs. Pacheco's music class

Honorable mention goes to: Ms. Barrows' class

Nice job everyone and a big thank you to the PTF!



Looks What We Grew

Check this out—Ms. Lord, Mrs. West and Mr. Wehnke organized this display using a gigantic pumpkin that was grown in South School's very own garden. Pretty Cool I'd say!!



Mrs. McNichol's Class ~ Kind Classroom Challenge

Mrs. McNichol's third grade classroom is participating in the Certified Kind Classroom Challenge. They are listening to the story *Wonder*, by RJ Palacio, and have taken a pledge to be kind.



Their objective is to work on kind deeds every single day. For every kind deed noticed, students place a marble in the jar—they are filling a jar full of kindness! When the marble jar is full, they take a picture of it and submit it to Lionsgate Entertainment Corporation to hopefully win a prize. They are working on becoming a Certified Kind Classroom!

Little deeds may be helping someone with technology, picking up pencils, giving a kind word, or being a good friend. Nice job Mrs. McNichol and students—what a fun idea!

Emergency Cancellations & Early Dismissals

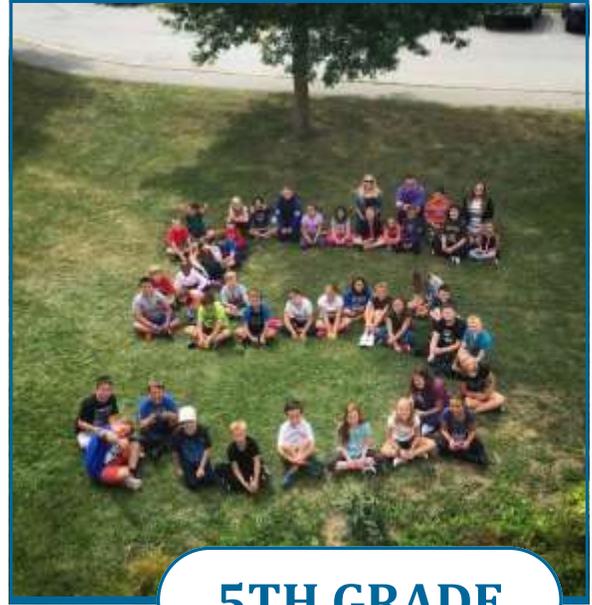


This is a reminder that our district uses the One Call Now System to send information and important alerts via telephone, e-mail, or text messages.

If you wish to receive text messages when school is cancelled or dismissed early due to inclement weather or other emergencies, you need to **text the word ALERT to number 22300** to set that up. If you have previously done this, you are all set however, if you have changed your cell phone number, you'll need to do this again from your new number.



South School
Where all Student
are Stars!



5TH GRADE

A Glance at 5th Grade!

Fundraising for South School



At South School we collect Box Tops for Education. You can find Box Tops on a variety of products in your local grocery store. Just clip them and send them into our school. We turn them into cash and purchase great things for our school! This is a fun project and our students have fun looking for the Box Tops on the products you bring home.

If you are an on-line shopper, start your shopping at www.boxtopsforeducation.com. When you shop at a participating on-line store a percentage of your purchase will be donated to our school!

Mrs. Siletti is our school's Box Tops for Education coordinator. If you have any

questions regarding this great program, please E-mail her at msiletti@rsu13.org or call her at 596-2020.

Thank you for helping us with this fun and lucrative project!



The Hannaford Community Cash program powered by CLYNK is a new fundraising program that allows us to run a year round bottle drive.

HOW IT WORKS:

Each student will receive a CLYNK bag that includes South School's account tag.

When your CLYNK bag is full, simply return it to the CLYNK container located

outside of Hannaford's in Rockland. South School's account will be credited within two business days. It's that simple!

CLYNK is a Maine recycling company with a unique and innovative bottle redemption system offered exclusively in Hannaford supermarkets in Maine. CLYNK's mission is to make recycling easier, to offer educational resources focused on recycling and to show customers how their personal recycling positively impacts our environment. CLYNK also has partnered with Hannaford to create our Community Cash fund raising program for community organizations.

If you wish to have bags sent home, please contact Mrs. Siletti.