



RSU23 MEMO

Superintendent's Monthly Update

A Note From Mr. Suttie

Hi Everyone,

My memo next month will be post election day so I wanted to comment on this year's election and how we as public educators view our jobs. As the nation prepares for another presidential election, our staff finds themselves in a crucial position that extends beyond teaching content area skills. We are responsible for cultivating a safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environment for every child that enters our classrooms, regardless of their race, religion, culture, socio-economic status, personal beliefs, or background.

RSU 23 educators remain apolitical in our approach to teaching. We have a moral obligation to ensure that every student has the opportunity to grow, learn, and succeed. This means that our most vulnerable students need our attention and support the most. In this era of political polarization, we must and will continue to uphold the values

of equity and inclusion that are essential in our work.

Public education is, without a doubt, the cornerstone of democracy. It empowers children from all walks of life with knowledge and opportunities, equipping them with the tools to make informed decisions as future citizens. It gives everyone an equal shot at the best life they can possibly live. Regardless of the election's outcome, our commitment to educating and nurturing all students in Old Orchard Beach schools remains unwavering. In these uncertain times, we will continue to provide stability, guidance, and inspiration to every child that gets off the bus. Thanks for reading.



**October
2024**

HIGHLIGHTS

Staff Olympics

Aurora Borealis

State and National
Conferences - Presenters

Jameson School

Loranger School

High School

[School Board Meeting Link](#)
(Meeting Tonight)

District News

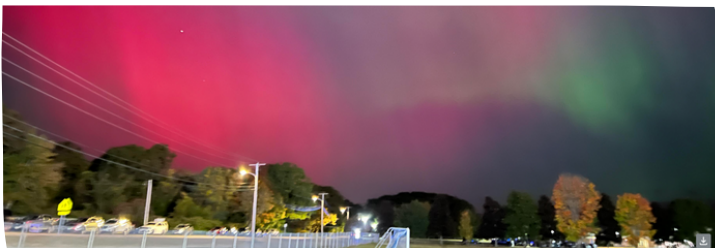
Staff Olympics

The staff held its annual staff olympics last Friday, October 11th. Events ranged from the egg toss to the mile run, to trivia, and Name That Tune. Great fun was had by all! The high school staff defended their title. They have won the championship belt three years in a row. I know Jameson and Loranger staff members are highly motivated to win the title next year. Massive thanks to Food Service Director Caroline Trinder and her committee that organized this great day.



Aurora Borealis

Check out the beautiful Northern Lights over our campus on October 10th!



Presenting at State and National Conferences

Mr. Hanson, assistant superintendent of schools, and I have been selected to speak at the Maine School Superintendents Conference later this month in Augusta, and in March at the National Superintendents Conference in New Orleans, on our innovative approach to incorporating staff wellness programs into our professional development. Below is an example of our scheduled development day earlier this month (take note of the wellness block, that's what everyone wants to learn about). We are very proud to be recognized for our work at the state and national level and are excited to represent RSU 23!

Here is our presentation title and description:

Empowering Growth: Building a Culture of Employee Wellness and Professional Learning

As district leaders, our responsibility is to foster an environment where our employees can excel. This session offers a case study of how a small Maine school district implemented a wellness program to nurture a culture that supports staff learning, personal development, and professional growth.

EARLY RELEASE DAY	
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE	
RSU 23	
DATE : WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2	
SCHEDULE	
11:40 AM- 12:00 PM	
PK-5 FACULTY TIME- STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL OVERVIEW (PROTOCOL LINKED)	
WELLNESS BLOCK (INCLUDES TRANSITION TIME & LUNCH)	
12:00-1:45 PM - WELLNESS ACTIVITIES RUN FROM 12:30-1:15PM	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CARDIO KICKBOXING - EVOLUTION ATHLETIX GYM • RUN, WALK, JOG - RSU 23 TRACK • PERSONALIZED FITNESS - OOBHS WEIGHT & CARDIO ROOMS • PORTLAND POWER YOGA - JES GYMNASIUM • FALL MANDALA ART MAKING - JES ART ROOM • CHAIR MASSAGE (SIGN-UP REQUIRED & LINKED) OOBHS LIBRARY • RELAXATION ROOM- JES ROOM IV • OLYMPICS TRAINING CAMP- LMS GYM 	
1:45-2:25 PM HEALTH & SAFETY SESSION 1	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS 101-YORK COUNTY EMA (HS LIBRARY) 2. STOP THE BLEED - OOB FIRE DEPARTMENT (HS CAFETERIA) 3. FIRE EXTINGUISHER 101 - OOB FIRE DEPARTMENT (HS STUDENT & STAFF PARKING) LOT) 4. AED BASICS - RSU 23 SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM (HS ROOM 108) 5. ACUTE EMERGENCY CARE (ANAPHYLAXIS, DIABETES & SEIZURES)-RSU 23 SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM (HS ROOM 106) 6. SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION - (HS ROOM 204) 7. INTERNET SAFETY & SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS (HS ROOM 202) 	
2:35-3:15 PM HEALTH & SAFETY SESSION 2	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS 101-YORK COUNTY EMA (HS LIBRARY) 2. STOP THE BLEED - OOB FIRE DEPARTMENT (HS CAFETERIA) 3. FIRE EXTINGUISHER 101 - OOB FIRE DEPARTMENT (HS STUDENT & STAFF PARKING) LOT) 4. AED BASICS - RSU 23 SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM (HS ROOM 108) 5. ACUTE EMERGENCY CARE (ANAPHYLAXIS, DIABETES, & SEIZURES)-RSU 23 SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM (HS ROOM 106) 6. SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION - (HS ROOM 204) 7. INTERNET SAFETY & SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS- (HS ROOM 202) 	
3:25-3:45 PM	
GRADES 6-12 FACULTY TIME- STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL OVERVIEW(PROTOCOL LINKED)	
NOTES: *All staff must sign-up for Health & Safety Sessions 1 & 2 (Sign-up Linked)	

Jameson Updates

Pre-K

Our students have been learning about families. We loved drawing pictures of our families, taking care of babies in dramatic play, and reading stories about families!



Loranger Updates

Composting



We were thrilled to have Scott Guzman from Diggers Cooperative join us at Loranger Memorial School to present to our entire student body about composting. We have slowly been rolling out composting in the kitchen and with the students, but we are now officially all in!

We've been filling a 64 gallon receptacle each week this school year with food scraps. This food is diverted from a landfill and is instead taken by Scott's team and composted off-site into healthy soil. It is very exciting to take part in this grant-funded initiative and teach our students how to compost by actually doing it every day in the lunchroom.

4th Grade- Olympic Motivation

Ms. Boyer's 4th grade class created some motivation for the LMS teachers for the staff olympics.



Click to the video play button to watch the special video and to read the poem click here:

[Dear, Loranger Olympians](#)

Loranger Community Science News

It's been a busy community science month at Loranger! Fifth graders participated in International Coastal Cleanup by picking up LOTS of trash as they walked various routes on their way to the beach. Fifth graders also took a field trip to Saco Heath, where they identified species that are part of the heath's unique ecosystem. During Time With Teachers, some students looked for signs of fall at the Ballpark pond. The science enrichment group visited the Nature Center at Ferry Beach State Park in Saco.



High School Updates

Sophomore Trip

The sophomore class will be heading to Salem, MA for the annual field trip on October 30th. They will be taking a coach bus down and participating in a guided walking tour while exploring the setting of the play we are reading in class, ***The Crucible***.



CALENDAR

October 17th - TONIGHT
Town Hall 6 PM
[School Board Meeting](#)

November 5th
Election Day - High School
Remote Learning Day

November 6th
Early Release

November 11th
Veteran's Day - No School

November 27th - 29th
Thanksgiving Break

