

Principal's Report: January 2025
Bethlehem Elementary School
SAU35-Wide Goal Alignment

Focus Area 1: Serve All Students to Ensure Academic Achievement by Fostering the Development of the Whole Student

Winter Benchmarking

Winter benchmarking begins in January and into February.

Winter Program

This year's Winter Program offers a variety of Friday activities designed to promote physical activity, creativity, and cultural enrichment. Students can participate in skiing, rock climbing, swimming, gymnastics, French, music, STEAM activities, sledding, and snowshoeing or fat-tire biking. These opportunities provide engaging and inclusive experiences that support student growth and development.

Focus Area 2: Build Culture to Create Safe, Positive, and Inclusive Environments for Students, Staff, Faculty, Parents, and Community

Library/Media Space Renovation

The library/media space renovation is now complete, including new carpet installation over the holiday break. Books have been donated from several organizations. Special thanks to Steven Jimenez and Brooke Smith for their hard work on the carpet installation.

Elevator Update

Otis has replaced the car and is working on control equipment. Although the project is one month behind schedule, Otis reports it will be completed by January 30th. The grant funding the renovation was set to expire on December 30th; however, the grant administrator will accommodate the delays in this case.

Guidance Schedule Update

We have transitioned away from guidance classes for 4th, 5th and 6th grade to allow the guidance counselor to focus more time on providing proactive counseling services.

Greenhouse Update

The greenhouse is ready for trim and we are getting a quote from the company that did the Gear Shed to finish the trim. This funding will come from the greenhouse fund previously funded through grants.

Silverware

The new silverware is here and in the process of being implemented.

Playground

Wood chips were delivered in December but still need to be spread when the weather improves.

Community Engagement

Concerts

The school concert, *Pandemonium*, and the Holiday Concert were great successes. The building was full for both shows, showcasing the talent and hard work of our students and Mrs. Kuntz, the music teacher. During the Pandemonium show, a fire alarm was accidentally set off by the popcorn machine. The school had to be evacuated without incident, the event did continue.

Focus Area 3: Lead with Integrity and Courage, Improving Consistency in Collaboration, Communication, Expectations, and Accountability

Certification Updates

1. I, Bryan Smith, have my oral board for Principal Certification scheduled for Jan. 21 at the New Hampshire Department of Education.
2. Stafan Shapiro's certification plan has been approved for Library/Media Specialist.
3. Christine Greenlaw has passed her Praxis literacy exam working towards her reading writing specialist licence.