



# Alton Central School

## Principal's Report to the School Board

June 11, 2018

It is amazing to think that we are already closing in on the end of the school year! It feels like yesterday that I was writing my first report back in August in anticipation of meeting my new students, staff, and community! It has been a really busy and productive year here at ACS and I am still in shock that we are well into the month of June.

The kindergarten students recently went on a field trip to the Dover Children's Museum. Students were actively engaged in fun hands-on discovery focused on creative thinking. In first grade, students are learning to distinguish between non-fiction and fiction in reading. They are also working on place value to 40 and subtracting. In science, students are studying animal and human traits and identifying mammals.

Second grade has completed their chick unit! The students in both classes were very excited in anticipation of having the chicks hatch. They were curious to see how the chicks looked. Eggs were donated from local families that had chickens and the eggs stayed in the incubator for 21 days. When the chicks started to hatch, they were put in a separate container where the students were able to help take care of them, learn about them, and their needs. The chicks stayed in the classrooms for 1 week. On the last day with the chicks, the students said their goodbyes outside. The chicks were able to roam in the circle and visit the students.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is currently participating in Project Lead the Way and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students raised \$400 dollars through their seed sale. The money was donated to the Senior Center to purchase chess sets. The additional money raised was donated to the Fire Department who received stuffed animals and to the Police Department who received art supplies to help children that they encounter in crisis situations. Students are working on place value and operations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. In writing, students continue to focus on self and peer-editing skills, and taking their work to final draft form and strengthening their vocabulary. In Social Studies, they have been researching famous people in New Hampshire as well as New Hampshire History.

The fifth and sixth grades are completing their environment PBL projects. Fifth grade students have been busy observing and collecting trash around the school grounds. Sixth grade students gathered trash, collected data and other materials along Mount Major. The PBL project focused on creating statistics and making future predictions (both positive and negative) regarding how we can take care of our environment.

In 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies, students are finishing the year with a short unit on the Renaissance, exploring the contributions of Leonardo da Vinci, examining the artistic changes that swept through Europe, and ending with the Age of Exploration so that they can pick up there next September with the exploration of the New World unit. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in ELA are coming to the end of their TED Talk project. Each student chose a topic they were passionate about and had to write a TED talk speech with evidence to support their arguments. They will present their TED Talk to their classmates next week. In addition the



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7th graders will be reflecting on their individual reading throughout the year and set summer reading goals as well as reading goals to get them started in 8th grade.

In grade 8, students are completing their study of the Civil War with focus on the troubles that the Union had with leadership, the Battles of Gettysburg, Vicksburg, Chancellorsville, and Petersburg. William T. Sherman will get much of their attention as he marches from Atlanta to the sea, and Grant will finally force Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse.

Finally, Trimester 3 ACS students that have been participating in the fishing elective will be filmed for a spot in an upcoming episode of "North Woods Law." This elective is co-taught by Russ Perrin and David Miller and there elective is being filmed to demonstrate the New Hampshire Fish and Games outreach program that teaches young anglers the rudiments and rules of fishing.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. MacArthur, Jr.  
Principal, Alton Central School

Upcoming Events @ ACS	
6/14/18	Last Day of ELT/ Late Bus
6/15/18	ACS Field Day
6/19/18	Grade 7/8 Olympic Day
6/20/18	Grade 8 Graduation 6:30
6/21/18	Last Day of School ½ Day Early Release 12:30