

Letter to the Team #4

Out and About

While visiting classrooms at Downeast School with Principal Sarah Vickers, I was impressed by the learning targets I observed. Autumn Preble's students were able to discuss the specific language arts learning target she strategically referred to throughout her engaging lesson. At James F. Doughty School, Kari Thurman utilized interactive notebooks with her science students. This best practice provided students with the opportunity to participate verbally, creatively, collaboratively, and tactility in tandem with a well crafted lesson. In each of the classrooms it was evident that the students participated in collaborative discussion and the critical thinking process.

The Send Off

Props to Director Dan Mayo and the Bangor Regional Program staff for sending off two students transitioning back to their sending districts in Old Town and Orrington. The staff and students created a "Victory Formation" to celebrate this momentous occasion for Ciara and Hayden. While looking at the smiles behind their masks I cannot understate the importance of the relationships that the BRP faculty and staff are forming one day at a time. Relationships, relationships, relationships!





U.S. News and World Report

Congratulations to Principal Richard Fournier and staff for the #1 ranking out of 225 Maine elementary schools by the U.S. News and World Report. Principal Missbrenner and staff at William S. Cohen School earned the #3 ranking out of 209 middle schools. These accomplishments are quite impressive and a testament to the hard work of faculty and staff as we enter month nineteen of the global pandemic. For an additional perspective I believe it is important to note the following rankings as well; Mary Snow #6 (36% free and reduced lunch), Abe Lincoln #15 (45%), Vine Street #28 (62%), Fairmount #38 (72%), and Downeast #124 (92%). Fourteenth Street's data is impressive, placing the school near to the top of the chart; however Fourteenth Street did not have enough students in specific subgroups to earn a ranking. James F. Doughty School ranked #18 out of 209 schools with 60% free and reduced lunch. Bangor High School was ranked #28 out of 126 high schools.

When Bangor's free and reduced lunch rates are taken into perspective, all of you deserve applause for the impact you've had on our students.

Just One Word, Gratitude

On November 20th, Jodi and I will be running the Philadelphia Half Marathon. Trust me, no records will be broken; however, rest assured that we will struggle mightily with a goal of running for the entire 13.1 miles. During that rather lengthy jog (run would be an epic exaggeration) please know that I will have a grateful heart for the opportunity to work with each of you.