



March 24,
2021

Superintendent's Update March 2021

Kate Clark, Superintendent
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This morning I was greeted by a chorus of red-winged blackbirds as I walked the dog at dawn. It's hard not to get caught up in the joy and hopefulness of early spring. The hardiest flowers are beginning to peek through the dirt, the birds are returning, and I swear I heard peepers on my hike the other day! Yes, there is still snow on the ground in some places, but the days are longer, and the breeze is warmer. Even on the Coronavirus front, we are becoming cautiously optimistic. Many of the teachers and school staff who chose to get vaccinated are either vaccinated or have appointments and we can begin to get the students outside more often as the weather warms.

However, we are not out of the woods yet! We need to continue to follow our Health and Safety Protocols to keep each other safe. Despite the increase in vaccinations, the number of cases in Knox and Waldo county have not abated significantly. As tempting as it is to get together, take of our masks off and hug our loved ones, we are still in the midst of a global pandemic. As Dr. Shah said the other day, those numbers that are decreasing now can easily begin to move back up again without continued diligence. Like many of you, I have not seen my family in person in over a year, and I have had to endure the loss of friends and family without the comfort of hugs or a shoulder to cry on. This has been an incredible year and we continue to need you to keep us all in mind as you go about your daily lives. We are still very much in this together!



PLEASE KEEP

6 FEET APART



OR ONE MOOSE APART

(FROM INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS)

“I live by two words: tenacity and gratitude.”

-Henry Winkler

Student Artwork Featured at Portland Museum of Art for Youth Art Month

From the press release:

For almost 30 years, PMA and the Maine Art Education Association (MAEA) have collaborated to bring National Youth Art Month to Maine. The exhibition is designed to underscore the value of art education for all children and encourages support for quality art programs in Maine schools.

“This annual exhibition showcases the incredible work produced by K-12 students throughout the state, representing a wide variety of youth perspectives and artistic practices in Maine,” said PMA in a statement about the exhibit.

Follow this link to see Maine student artwork in a celebration of Youth Art Month:

<https://www.portlandmuseum.org/yam-2021>.

Are you looking for educational resources for your children? Check out www.communitylearningforme.org for ideas, events and opportunities from organizations across Maine to support students’ academic and social emotional growth!

You may be eligible for emergency broadband support! Follow this link to learn about eligibility and how to sign up:

<https://mailchi.mp/maine/media-release-maine-doe-celebrates-april-as-the-month-of-the-military-child-1322788?e=cf6a7a5947>



As we navigate the ever-changing landscape of teaching in-person in these extraordinary times, please know that we are grateful for your support and care! School Union #69 schools have been able to provide in-person classes for most of this school year and we are proud to provide our students with a safe and healthy environment and to serve the communities of Hope, Appleton and Lincolnville! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to my office: 763-3818

Kate Clark