

TO: SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FROM: ERIC WADDELL

DATE: JANUARY 12, 2018

RE: REPORT FOR JANUARY 16TH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

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For my January 16th report, I asked my Leadership Team to identify 'One Big Thing!' in their arena that I could share with you in my report. That's 'One Big Thing' that has happened or is going to happen in their school or department. The results were exciting!

- In my world, the 'One Big Thing' is my trip this weekend to **New York City** with the student group from Traip Academy. We are excited for the trip! For several, it will be their first NYC experience. We'll see a show and visit museums. I'll have some details to share with you on Tuesday.
- Marilyn Woodside's 'One Big Thing' is the WIDA ACCESS testing for **English Language Learners (ELL)** in the month of January. Maine requires the assessment for all ELL students. We currently have 26 ELL students in Kittery and 6 others who are on monitor status. 36 states in the US use the WIDA for this purpose.
- During the week of January 22 - 26, Mitchell Primary School will be participating in the **Great Kindness Challenge**. The goal is to help children spread kindness and kind messages throughout the school, at home, and in our community. Want to learn more? Read Mrs. Rickerich's blog, Counselor's Corner, on the school's website.
- In the **athletics arena**, Mr. Roberge's 'One Big Thing' is freshman Jason Brengolini's 5th place finish at the recent Spartan Invitational Wrestling Meet at Sanford High School, and junior Isabella Woollacott's 5th place finish out of 48 racers at the first SMAA Giant Slalom race of the season.
- Jane Durgin's 'One Big Thing' is a process that Traip Academy engages in to **support students with identified disabilities**. The faculty has brief, 10-minute meetings (sort of like speed dating!) where regular education teachers and special educators meet to brainstorm strategies to more effectively and collaboratively improve student performance.
- Shapleigh School's 'One Big Thing' involves musical theater. Auditions and rehearsals will begin in January for Shapleigh School's first musical theater production! Over 30

students in grades 6-8 have signed on to participate. The group will be producing **Seussical the Musical**, and opening night is set for March 23rd.

- 'One Big Thing' at Traip Academy is the **Civil Rights Team's effort** to spearhead a dialogue about the 'r' word in Advisory recently. Unfortunately, the word has crept into some vocabulary and the CRT is looking to make the problem visible.
- Mr. Everett, our Facilities Director, reports that his 'One Big Thing' is that **our newest custodian** began her job this week at Shapleigh School. Kayla Hilton will be working with Tom Nudd and Jeff Powell to keep Shapleigh School clean. She comes to us from York Hospital where she had been a member of the housekeeping team there for many years.
- The 'One Big Thing' in School Nutrition is Mrs. Collins's roll out of her new Twitter account. You can follow her at **@KitteryLunch**. You may also follow her through the District's collective Twitter feed (@KitteryDistrict), but prepare to view mouth-watering photos of her team's work in the kitchens.
- In Adult & Community Education, the 'One Big Thing' is the department's **new catalog** which was released on January 11th. It will go out in the mail on January 29th to all Kittery residence. The spring semester begins January 24th.

#### In Other Business...

- I am thrilled by the interest of many Kittery residents to be involved in our **standing and ad hoc committees**. Mrs. Dow will be making recommendations for appointments during our January 16th meeting.
- I also wanted to remind everyone that preceding our January 16th meeting, we'll have a **Public Hearing on the FY19** budget at 6:00 PM. The public is welcome to speak about the next school budget as we begin the budget-building process.
- On Wednesday, January 17th, we will be back together again for our **School Committee Workshop** with Steve Bailey from Maine School Management Association. That will be from 5:30 - 7:00 PM in the Central Office Conference Room.
- At our January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mrs. Dow will bring up the dates for **future meetings** (including the February 20th meeting) and whether or not Committee members' schedules will allow us to keep meeting dates or make some adjustments. For example, February 20th falls on school vacation week. Should we keep that meeting as is, move it, or not have a second February meeting. In 2017, the February meetings were a week apart. In 2016, the Committee met only once in February. You may want to give that some thought prior to January 16th.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

- January 16th ~ School Committee seeks public input on the FY19 budget (6:00 PM prior to School Committee Meeting)
- January 17th ~ MSMA Workshop for School Committee 5:30 - 7:00 PM Council Chambers
- January 23rd ~ Exploring Later School Start Times 6:30 - 8:00 PM Traip Academy
- January 25th ~ PBL Parent Advisory Group Meeting for Mitchell Primary School 6:00 - 7:30 PM
- January 28th ~ Tell Me the Truth: Exploring Cross-Racial Conversations 2:00 - 4:00 PM Traip Academy Gym
- January 29th ~ Community Forum ~ Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey Results Workshop 6:00 - 8:00 PM KCC
- February 5th ~ ACES Workshop ~ Adverse Childhood Experiences 6:00 - 8:00 PM KCC
- February 6th ~ School Committee Meeting/Budget Workshop 6:30 PM

### **Looking Ahead**

- February 20th ~ School Committee Meeting
- March 6th ~ Supt. and Business Manager present budget to School Committee (during regular business meeting)
- March 7th ~ "Shadows Fall North" A Documentary Film 6:00 PM KCC
- March 20th ~ School Committee votes on budget during regular business meeting
- April 9th ~ School Budget presentation to Town Council
- May 7th ~ Town Council votes to adopt school budget as it will appear on the June 12th ballot
- June 12 ~ Town of Kittery School Budget Referendum Vote