Principal’s Report
to the
School Board

The month of April often marks the transition between winter and spring in the North Country. Our students are now wearing their shorts and baseball jerseys as they anticipate warmer weather. Many of them will be attending this Saturday’s Track & Field Event in Lancaster with hopefully warmer temperatures predicted than earlier years (It often rains or snows on this date up there!). Baseball, track & field, blooming flowers, and grass that has to be mowed…it must finally be spring in northern New Hampshire.

Kindergarten registration saw 15 students register with two more that could not make this event. Many new families to our community were represented at this registration. A few disappointed preschoolers thought that they would be starting kindergarten the next day and were surprised that they had to go back to preschool the next day. A few other families have toured our school in the hopes of moving to our area this summer. Most of them cite the very positive remarks that they have heard about our school as motivators to move to one of our three towns.

Our wonderful Lafayette Parent/Teacher Organization (LPTO) held their annual Staff Appreciation Week festivities during April. They showered the staff with goody bags, yummy treats, and even took them out to lunch at Polly’s Pancakes. In order to do this, many parents volunteered to provide coverage back at school for our lunch and recess periods of time. The appreciation shown during this week goes both ways as the staff is very grateful to be working at a school with this kind of support. By the time that Friday rolled around, it was time for our annual Art Show & Auction which took place at Chef Joe’s restaurant. Staff members, School Board folks, parents, and the Superintendent showed up for this special occasion. All proceeds went to support our LPTO enrichment opportunities. For those who showed up, it was a great evening socializing, viewing our student’s fantastic art work, and supporting a great cause.

The recent fentanyl drug arrest in our school zone raised some questions regarding student and community safety. Through our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Franconia Police Department, we are able to have conversations with the Chief and his officers about safety items that concern our school. These types of criminal activities can and are happening even in our small community. Please be assured that every available precaution is being made to keep our students and staff as safe as possible in these complicated times in which we live.

On a lighter note, our recent Poetry Night packed the house with spectators and poetry lovers. We delighted in 45 minutes of outstanding poetry readings from our students and staff members. Some were read, some were memorized, but all were heartfelt. Every classroom teacher makes sure that poetry is a part of their language arts curriculum.
A recommendation regarding our breakfast/lunch program would be to outline some needed changes to our Café Services food provider. These modifications would help ensure that the school is getting the best possible service for our students. As we are constantly looking to improve in every department, it is only plausible that we review this program as well before signing next year’s contract.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordie Johnk
Principal