Principal’s Report
To the
School Board

It has been a rather chilly month with far too many indoor recesses around here. We try to go out as often as possible; however, these below zero degree days are a bit too much for our youngest students. We also had to cancel two Winter Program days due to the combination of very low temperatures and extremely high winds at Cannon Mountain. We will be “making up” one of these ski days but will have to rely on staff members and chaperones to supervise the students as the ski school will not reschedule their classes due to inclement weather. The bright side is that we will finish our Winter Program in March which is sure to be a much warmer month!

Lafayette’s New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) results were returned last week. These tests were taken in October; nevertheless, our teachers will use these results to differentiate their instructional strategies and focus on areas of study where improvement is needed. A presentation of our NECAP results will be made to the School Board at our next meeting. Our weekly Primary and Intermediate Team meetings will focus on ways to improve these scores over the next several months. Parents will be mailed a copy of these results next week.

Our Lafayette Parent Teachers Organization paid for and facilitated a wonderful enrichment program for all of our students recently. The “No Strings Marionettes” troupe came to our Multi-Purpose Room and put on the play, “The Three Big Pigs”. This play had an anti-bullying theme and was highly engaging as the performers and puppets were mesmerizing. The puppeteers did an excellent job of being interactive with the audience and even entertained us through our lunchtime! Great fun was had by all, thank you, LPTO!

Teachers are busy writing competencies for each subject in every grade level. These competencies are based on the Common Core State Standards and will be assessed in next year’s Smarter Balance testing (These assessments will take the place of NECAP’s, starting next spring.). The conversations regarding the standards are instrumental in furthering our teachers’ understanding of the standards and how they should be implemented at each grade level. We are ahead of the curve in this area of standards implementation and will be ready for the new assessments next year.
Our Heating System Project is moving forward with a recommendation for switching to a propane plant model to heat our school. A presentation will be made at our Budget Hearing that will help everyone understand why this Warrant Article is needed. Please contact me with any questions that you may have regarding this expensive but greatly needed capital improvement project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments you may have regarding this report or any other school-related item. Thank you for continually supporting our school through your hard work and time commitment.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordie Johnk
Principal