Principal’s Report
to the
School Board

The last few weeks of school before summer vacation are characterized by lots of energy and excitement. This year was no exception! Students were extremely happy that the sun was shining with forecasts of lots of ice cream eating being planned. Teachers were frantically trying to get projects completed while still keep their classes calm and productive. Parents were anticipating the upcoming vacation with a mixture of emotions, some perplexed with what to do with frolicking children at home but also happy to have their kids close at hand. The administration was just trying to hold everything together and keep everyone happy... and, we all made it across the end-of-school finish line!

Teachers used last month’s professional development day to complete some last scoring requirements the Performance Assessment for Competency Education (PACE) program. The SAU-wide initiative involved teachers double-scoring student work here at Lafayette. Our teachers were also involved in multiple transitional special education meetings with parents. Other, class-wide transitional meetings were held with Profile School as our 6th grade graduates are eagerly anticipating moving to the “big school”.

Spring field trips are always a fun time to take the classroom outside and explore new and different ways of learning about different places. Our kindergarten, first and second graders traveled to the Squam Lake Science Center to explore different animals and their respective habitats. Third graders took trips to the Basin and Flume Gorge in Franconia Notch State Park as well as to the Franconia Heritage Museum here in town. The fourth grade learned how to make butter and timber frame when they visited Remick Farm. The fifth and sixth graders learned about early all things science through a trip to the Boston Science Museum and then the history of some of the historic moments during when the early colonies were being formed by a walk on the Freedom Trail through Boston.

The sixth graders facilitated a day of fun and excitement for the rest of the school during our annual Festival of the Arts day. Their extensive planning started several months ago and it all paid off as each student was responsible for a fun station to engage the rest of the students. The fifth graders were responsible for the groups as they transitioned between each of the nine stations. Everyone had fun, the weather cooperated, and the burgers and dogs were exceptional, or so I was told...
The sixth grade graduation was well attended by parents, friends, and families. Parents exquisitely decorated our multi-purpose room as the theme was “The Oscars”. A great time was had by all with some teary eyes, especially when the graduates sang a surprise song to their teacher, Mrs. Weeden.

I would be remiss not to mention the many factors that go into a successful school year. Our students come to us, eager and ready to learn, which is not to be taken for granted in this day and age. Parents are striving to do their part in preparing their children and our students for the learning ahead. The students are great and the parents extremely helpful.

Our teachers are experts in their field. They can shift easily from teaching content, to differentiating instruction, to managing difficult student behaviors. to academically challenge each student, while meeting parent requests and administrative paperwork deadlines. Lafayette Regional School has a superb set of teachers who are knowledgeable about their craft and nurturing in their delivery of instruction. We could not ask for a better set of staff to educate the children in our community. They are all very different but completely dedicated to our students. It is with great appreciation that we bid a fond farewell to Kathryn Anderson, reading teacher, and Peggy Fujawa, paraeducator, who are both retiring. They embody the commitment to children that the rest of the staff exemplifies.

Thank you for your continuing support of our students and school. We hope that you have a great summer with lots of family fun!

Respectfully submitted,

Gordie Johnk
Principal