Principal’s Report
to the
School Board

The month of February is an unusually short month, both in calendar days but also in school days due to vacation week. We had to re-schedule two of our Winter Program days due to the weather but fortunately, we were able to eventually fit in all six Fridays, the last two without Cannon Mountain Snowsport instructors. Thank goodness for our veteran staff members and energetic volunteer parents! We couldn’t have this outdoor winter experience without them.

Every classroom put together a skit, reader’s theater, video tape, or animation to celebrate Civil Rights Day. We held a Friday Community Meeting and presented the whole school (And, approximately 20 parents who were able to attend!) with the final project. A great deal of discussion, writing, collaboration, and creativity were involved in this school-wide effort. It was amazing to see how our students perceive the world around them.

The teachers would like to switch to a different standardized testing program. We have used the California Achievement Testing (CAT) assessment called the “Terra Nova” in the past. We would like to replace this testing with the North West Education Assessment (NWEA) assessment program in the future. A presentation will be made to the School Board regarding the positive and negative implications of switching to this new program.

The fourth graders are at it again! They recently signed up for the “Doodle for Google” project and had to come up with a Google logo that indicated their “Best Day Ever”. As part of this reading, writing, and art project, the students visited the graphic design group at Garnet Hill for suggestions on how to improve their individual presentations. The recommendations from the experts at GH were invaluable and definitely improved the students’ projects that listened to them… alas, some of our young artists thought they had better ideas! The final products are being sent to Google for judging.

The sixth grade teacher Interview Committee was extremely busy last week, meeting three times in five days. We received 31 applicants, 18 of them were completed to our satisfaction. Of those 18, we interviewed six candidates. They were all strong interviewees and had a variety of interesting experiences and accomplishments. The decision for a finalist to be recommended to the Superintendent was an extremely hard one. The Superintendent will be discussing this finalist with the School Board at the March Board meeting. A huge thank you goes out to the Interviewing Committee which consisted of Tom Eyman, Mary Jo Greene, Amy
Venezia, Beverly Frenkiewich, Garret Ferguson, and Erica Sieberg. I chaired this committee and Toni Butterfield assisted in the logistics of coordinating the interviews.

If I can be of any assistance or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. Thank you for your support, time, and efforts on behalf of our community’s children.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordie Johnk
Principal