



CENTER DRIVE SCHOOL

HOME OF THE EAGLES

To: Members of the School Committee

Fm: Judy Marvin, Principal

January 27, 2017

As always, January has been a busy month. With basketball games, cheering competitions, snow days, and then all of the fun with rescheduling when necessary, we have been kept on our toes!

On Wednesday evening, January 25th Brewer High, John Bapst, Hampden, Bucksport and Bangor visited CDS to do presentations to our current 8th graders and their parents. Students and their parents rotated through the classrooms, hearing each presentation and then had the opportunity to speak with individual schools about questions pertinent to the individual student afterwards. Information was shared on academic, club and sport programs that each school had to offer. We had many of our students and their parents participate! I would like to congratulate Mrs. Ludden on her first high school information night and its success.

This past Friday, 5 teachers and I attended a math presentation by Michele Mailhot and Cheryl Tobey from the DOE. This is a two day training that focuses on the k-12 progression of learning for math. As we work through our strategic plan with reviewing the current math curriculum, this will hopefully assist with this process. Our first day was very informative, encouraging us to reflect on how important it is to have students work through problems, find solutions and work in groups with the problem solving. We were encouraged to continue our work with the learning progressions of the math standards, doing the vertical planning necessary to understand the standards that come before and after within our grade levels. As always, our task will now be to find the time to get this information out to our teachers in a meaningful way.

A few months back I reported on the success of our students with the NWEA assessments and last year's Empower, specifically to the amount of students at either expected grade level or having made a year's worth of growth. Winter is a busy season with sports, clubs and co-curricular activities. I am pleased with the amount of participation in school based activities, most of which are beyond the school day that our students take part in. 65% of our middle school students participate in at least one extra-curricular thing. 35% of those students participate in more than one thing! Being able to maintain school work, while participating in things outside of the school day, can be stressful for students. I think this affirms what we know about this school community. We have students, teachers and parents who all work hard for their children, wrapping around them to help them be successful.

Keep your fingers crossed for warm days ahead!