



Viola Rand

Elementary School



October 14, 2011

Report for the RSU34 School Board

Bradley, Maine



Last week we had an assembly about bus safety and rules, then followed it up with a lesson on evacuation from a bus in an emergency. Bus driver Nancy had all students board the bus and showed them how to open the windows that push out for emergency egress, as well as the one in the roof. All students then left the bus through the rear door, learning to sit and slide out to the ground. It is quite a drop! Older students learned that part of their role, when they are seated at the back of the bus, is to have two people assist children exiting the bus, and that others need to 'herd' everyone to the side of the road and a safe waiting location.

The 3rd and 4th grade students have finished the NWEA and will be taking the NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) during the month of October. **This is the assessment that replaced the MEA and** is used to look at how well schools are educating students. The letters went out recently that informed schools how they fared on NCLB status. The Viola Rand School was in the 30% of schools in Maine that made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). This becomes increasingly difficult as the percentage of students that must be proficient in reading and math rises each year.

Important Events

- October 16 PRIDE Ten Road 5K Race
- October 22 PRIDE Halloween Fun Night 6-7:30
- October 24-28 Red Ribbon Week
- October 26&27 Parent Conferences
- October 27 MDOT Bike Safety Assembly
- October 28 Movie Day "Spooky Buddies"



Culture Club/Lego Team

Ms. Dawson has started a new club for any interested students. The culture club will explore the food, holidays, language, and culture of countries she is familiar with. They see pictures from those countries, sample foods, learn simple phrases and do projects. So



far they have made a German Ernetekrone and an origami crane. The club meets from 7:30 - 8:00 on Wednesday mornings.

On Thursday mornings, Ms. Dawson will be

Lego
some
older
It is



offering a
group to
of the
students.
exciting to

have these new opportunities available!

PRIDE News

Riverfest –PRIDE sold out of pretzels and candy apples and raised around \$250.

Meadow Farm Fundraiser – PRIDE raised \$1,360 from the fall fundraiser. Many students earned the incentive prizes for sales and helped us to almost double last year's sales: \$50 in sales – coupon for free movie day including pretzel and popcorn

\$75 in sales – movie and coupon for free book at spring book fair

\$100 in sales – movie, book and an invitation to the Minute to Win It Pizza Party which took place after school this past Wednesday.

Ten Road 5K Race/Walk – On Sunday, October 16th, the race will start on the Ten Road, continue down Cram St. to Highland Ave. and will end behind the school. There will also be a 1 mile race, for kids, that starts at the power lines. The registration fee is \$15 for walkers or runners and \$5 for children. The race starts at 8:30 a.m.

Holiday Family Pictures – On Sunday, November 6, PRIDE is offering a opportunity to have family portraits done for \$20 which includes an 8x10 picture. Parents may order more pictures or holiday cards if they wish.

Book Donation!

Mrs. Mildred Petrie's daughter in law, Janice S. C. Petrie, has written and illustrated a book titled The Bumpy, Lumpy Horseshoe Crab. They have kindly donated a signed copy to the Viola Rand School. It is a fun book that is very informative about tidal pools on the coast. The pictures are wonderful! It will be a welcome addition to our school library!

5210

Every Day!

5 or more fruits and vegetables
2 hours or less recreational screen time
1 hour or more of physical activity
0 sugary drinks, more water & low fat milk

*Keep tv/computer out of the bedroom. No screen time under the age of 2.

5210

LET'S GO!

www.letsgo.org

This is a healthy lifestyle plan that is being promoted throughout RSU34.

Professional Development

Teachers have been busy with some interesting professional development opportunities. Cathy Fox and James Wohlgemuth attended the *ACTEM* technology conference and will be bringing ideas for classroom applications back to share with the rest of the staff. Stacy Henry attended the *Already Ready: Teaching Practices that support Young Readers* conference. She will share new information with other K-1

teachers in the district. Laurie Ouellette has signed up to take Sharon Greaney's series of workshops through PREP on writing workshop and the Common Core Standards. Heidi Gifford also attended the Secretary and Administrative Assistant's annual conference.

New logo and motto for VRS!

The Viola Rand School has recently adopted a new logo and school motto. The logo includes paw prints that declare the character traits that we strive to impart to the students here. Students are also awarded bear paws that are displayed in the lobby for acts that really display these core values of caring, respect and responsibility. The fourth bear paw on the logo is for knowledge because that is the main reason we are all here!

Viola Rand Elementary Small School



BIG Footprints



