Greetings,

It’s hard to believe the 2012-2013 school year is quickly drawing to a close. Many district initiatives were successfully implemented this year such as the transition to Common Core State Standards, formative and interim assessment training, full implementation of the educator evaluation, new teacher induction, and our infusion of technology throughout the district. I would like to thank the faculty, staff and administrators for their tireless efforts in the classrooms, on the fields, and supervising extra-curricular activities that has led our students to distinguish themselves on so many levels. Finally, I would like to thank the parents and community members for their ongoing support of the Lincoln Public Schools.

Wishing you a safe and relaxing summer. I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday, August 28th!

Best,

Georgia Fortunato
Superintendent of Schools

From the Desk of the Superintendent…

Congratulations to the Class of 2013 as they embark on their journey to colleges, universities, trade schools, the military and the workforce.

POST SECONDARY SCHOOL

American University
Assumption University
Aveda Institute
Becker College
Bentley University
Boston College
Boston University
Bridgewater State University
Bryant University
Castleton State College
Columbus State Community College
Community College of Rhode Island
Cornell University
Curry College
Drexel University
Eastern Michigan University
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Endicott College

George Washington University
Gordon College
Hampshire College
Ithaca College
Johnson & Wales University
Lasell College
Mass. College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Messiah College
Montana State University
Mount Ida College
New England Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Norwich University
Plymouth State University
Providence College
Quinnipiac University
Rhode Island College
Roger Williams University
Salem State University
Simmons College

St. Francis Xavier University
St. John's University
Suffolk University
SUNY University at Albany
The Pennsylvania State University
Universal Technical Institute
University of Dubuque
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of New England
University of New Hampshire
University of Rhode Island
University of South Florida
University of Southern Maine
University of St. Andrews
University of Tampa
University of Virginia
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wheaton College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

MILITARY

United States Army
United States Marine Corps
United States Navy
Central Elementary Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Michelle Carr and Mrs. Roberta McLear, opened their classrooms to next year’s Kindergarten parents and students this month. New parents saw how their children would become scientists, writing in their science notebooks and studying living creatures. During “Writers Workshop,” they saw students sharing their writing through the use of Elmo technology – very impressive! Central students also dazzled their guests with their reading acumen using ‘whisper phones.’ It was a great opportunity to showcase the exceptional education that the Lincoln School system has to offer Kindergarten students.

Students in Kindergarten are studying the differences between earthworms and red worms as part of their science kit “Animals Two by Two.” Some of the young scientists were a little squeamish…

On May 16, fifth graders Cole Guertin and Luke DeStafano and members of the Student Council, under the direction of Mrs. Quigley, held the American Cancer Society’s Relay Recess. The Relay Recess is a unique way to involve elementary school students in the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life cancer awareness campaign. Relay Recess allowed our students to learn how to prevent cancer and provided our school an opportunity to think about our family, friends, and teachers who have battled cancer or are battling cancer.

Students rotated through four student-led stations to learn about ways we can prevent various types of cancer. Each station featured an informative presentation and physical activities. We focused on four areas: anti-smoking, nutrition, sun protection and fitness. Students learned about the dangers of cigarettes through a simulation activity showing how smoke damages the lungs. After the presentation, the students signed a “No Smoking Pledge.”

Each student ran through an obstacle and thought about how they can overcome peer pressure and make positive choices to overcome difficulties. Representatives from Aramark taught the students how to make a healthy vegetable dip.

Each class competed in a sun protection relay race where teams raced to place sun glasses, a hat, sunscreen and a long sleeve shirt. After rotating through each station, the students shared their connections to lessons they learned in their Health classes and what they learned.

Relay Recess also has a fundraising component. Saylesville families and staff raised over $800 for the American Cancer Society.
This year, Lonsdale Elementary students celebrated reading by “Springing” into a good book and taking full advantage of the beautiful weather to finish off the Lonsdale Courtyard Project. The appropriately themed reading week took place during the week of May 20th. We kicked off the week with a special assembly performance by children’s entertainer “Johnny the K.” Johnny’s message to the students was to read, to be respectful and to be responsible. On Wednesday, we welcomed ten community guest readers to a visit to the new courtyard, and a reception in the library. Two students from each class came to escort our guests to the classrooms, who all read Spring-themed books to our students. Guests included School Committee Chairwoman Kristine Donabedian, School Committee member Mary Anne Roll, Superintendent of Schools Georgia Fortunato, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development Caroline Frey, Director of Student Services MaryAnn Struble, School Business Administrator Lori Miller, Central Elementary Principal Patricia Gablinske, Town Council Member John Flynn, Town Administrator T. Joseph Almond, and Chief of Police Brian Sullivan.

Throughout the week, upper and lower grade classes got together to listen to a story, buddy-read and then spend some time in the courtyard planting annuals and perennials in the cedar planters. The Courtyard looks beautiful! Other activities throughout reading week included the LPT sponsored book fair, “Wear a Word” and “Vocabulary Hat” day, “Guess my Name (characters)”, the homophone tree, and spending some extra time reading in the classrooms or out in the courtyard. Students who entered their nightly reading slips into their class-wide raffle were eligible to win a voucher for a free book from the book fair. Twenty-six prizes were awarded! Lonsdale owes the success of Reading Week to its dedicated Reading Week Committee - Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. Guarino, Ms. Elemo, Mrs. Bernier, Ms. Koczera and Mrs. Magliocco, and the success of the Courtyard Project to the Courtyard Committee - Mr. Angelo Mencucci (Director of Non-Instructional Operations), parents Mrs. Robin Carney, Mrs. Jeanne Michon, Dr. Andrew Mallon, Mr. Michael Richard and Mrs. Emily Garthee. The awarding of a Lowe’s Toolbox Grant in combination with funds raised by student council over five years ago enabled us to complete the Courtyard Project. Lonsdale Elementary School would like to thank Ted’s Paint of Front Street in Lincoln for the generous donation of over $400.00 worth of paint for the beautiful mural painted by Michael Richard and other community artists. The children of Lonsdale will enjoy the courtyard for many years to come!

In the past month Northern Elementary has had many programs that promote, educate and celebrate healthy living habits and physical education.

**Yoga Students Perform at the State House**

On Wednesday May 22nd, the Northern Elementary Beyond the Bell Yoga Students traveled to Providence to the RI State House as special guest/performers for the RIAHPERD Organization. The Yoga students and their coaches, Physical Education Teacher Mrs. Reddy and Third Grade Teacher Mrs. Paluch, performed a fantastic yoga routine in the state house lobby for the members of the state legislature consisting of state representatives, senate, governor’s office and treasurer’s office personnel. The Northern students did such a great job that RIAHPERD has invited them to present next year and are highlighting them as an example on how to build a successful yoga program at other RI schools! Mrs. Kinniburgh’s Super Garden

Located outside in the Northern courtyard nestled between the 2nd grade wing and the 3rd grade wing is Mrs. Kinniburgh’s wonderful garden. Many mornings, cars have been dropping off invited students early - not for a morning program - but to come and dig, weed and plant with Mrs. Kinniburgh. Many vegetables and beautiful flowers are sprouting in this fantastic garden. Some of the children have been fortunate to have the experience of tending to the garden by watering and weeding. Once plants are fully developed, our student workers help pick all the produce and a giant salad is made and served during lunch.

Continued on page 5
Ms. Kim Dorocz, Central Elementary School, Teacher Assistant

Kim Dorocz is the newest member of our Central Elementary teacher assistant team. She is a highly regarded and talented teacher assistant who has made quite an impact in a very short period of time. As a one-to-one teacher assistant, she has made a considerable difference in her young student’s life – he has thrived with her guidance and support. Kim has natural warmth that puts her student at ease, allowing him to grow academically and socially. She reinforces teacher instruction with her student, guiding him in his learning and providing him opportunities for success. Kim goes above and beyond for her young charge. Kim has been a teacher assistant for the Lincoln Public Schools for eleven years; she was previously at Saylesville Elementary School before coming to Central in the fall. We consider ourselves very fortunate to be able to highlight Ms. Dorocz as another wonderful example of the professional expertise here at Lincoln Central.

Central Elementary School is fortunate to have a cadre of exceptional staff members. One such example of our talented staff is Mrs. Michelle Carr who has been a valuable member of our school team for nine years. She has been teaching in the Lincoln School system since 1998. During that time, she has worked at both Northern and Central Elementary schools as a kindergarten, grade two, grade four, and grade five teacher. Michelle also spent one year as a reading specialist in the district. Mrs. Carr is presently a very talented kindergarten teacher at Central Elementary School. Michelle is a team player and teacher leader serving on our School Improvement Team, collaborating with her grade level colleagues, and designing lessons that reflect the new state common core standards. She also serves on the District ELA Revision Team, the DANA Center Science Team, and the District Report Card Committee. Mrs. Carr is also a busy mom of two: a son, Nathan, who is getting married next year, and a daughter, Alyssa, attending Rhode Island College. Michelle has been married to her husband, Paul, for almost twenty-six years. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have such a talented professional on our team; she is a wonderful example of the educational expertise here at Central. Michelle embodies all the qualities of a true professional – dedication to her students, their families, and her colleagues. Mrs. Michelle Carr, Central Elementary School, Kindergarten Teacher

Ms. Sheila Gonzales, Lonsdale Elementary School, Teacher Assistant

Ms. Sheila Gonzales is a highly valued teacher assistant in Ms. Tayo Elemo’s Pre-K classroom at Lonsdale Elementary School. Ms. Gonzales’ job performance as a teacher assistant goes beyond expectation. She is warm, gentle and kind, and the children respond to her nature very positively. Ms. Elemo describes Ms. Gonzales as highly capable and self-driven. She takes initiative when necessary, and does her job to the best of her ability. Besides serving children in our Pre-K program, Ms. Gonzales volunteers throughout the school in many capacities. She is visible everyday at recess and lunch, and volunteers every Friday in the library. The librarians view her volunteerism as remarkably helpful to the library program. She is a true asset to Lonsdale Elementary School in so many ways. Lonsdale Elementary School applauds the accomplishments and contributions of Ms. Gonzales.

Mrs. Colleen Boisvert, Lonsdale Elementary School, Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Boisvert is a highly respected, expert kindergarten teacher at Lonsdale Elementary School. Ask any of her Kindergarteners how they learned to read, write, add and subtract, and they would describe the diligence their teacher shows in making sure all of them learn. Mrs. Boisvert is creative, enthusiastic, quick on her feet and highly knowledgeable of the best teaching practices for early learners. Mrs. Boisvert was formerly a reading specialist, and her students benefit tremendously from this expertise. Her ability to teach students the habits of good learners and the importance of being a “five-star listener” is commendable. Her students are most definitely ready for First Grade! Mrs. Boisvert also serves on the School Improvement Team and the Crisis Intervention Team, and has been instrumental with the in-depth item analysis of the school’s NECAP scores. During her spare time, Mrs. Boisvert enjoys crossword puzzles, reading and Zumba. Mrs. Boisvert has three sons—Sean, Ian, and Colin and a daughter-in-law, Jessica. She lives in Lincoln with her husband Jeff.
Ms. Marlene Bettencourt, Northern Elementary School, Teacher Assistant

Marlene Bettencourt has returned to Northern as a teaching assistant in Ms. Andrews’ kindergarten. She likes working at Northern because of the sense of a close knit community and Northern’s positive attitude. She says as you walk through the door you can just feel it and everyone is very helpful. She came back to Northern because she has a lot to offer children and she loves the way they give back so much without even realizing it! She loves to watch their successes and feels it is a joy to help them. Marlene is a single parent living in Lincoln with her two children, one who is in college in New Hampshire, and the other who is a sophomore at Lincoln High School. She has been a teacher assistant for fifteen years, all in Lincoln. She received her Associate’s degree from CCRI and is currently working on her Bachelor’s degree to become an English teacher. Marlene also spends time working at Seven Hills Foundation, helping disabled children and their families.

In her spare time, Marlene loves to be outdoors and exercising. She enjoys the beach, kayaking, hiking, reading, listening to music and going to the theater. Since she enjoys sports so much, she loves watching her children on the lacrosse field or playing hockey.

As a resident of Lincoln she is happy to be working in Lincoln. To her students she says, “Be true to who you are, as your education is the key to your future.”

Mrs. Susan Pepper, Northern Lincoln Elementary School, Librarian

Why did Mrs. Pepper become a librarian in Lincoln? SHE LOVES TO READ! In fact her favorite type of book is nonfiction. Her library at home is filled with gardening books of all kinds because she also loves to garden. If she is reading a novel it has to be a GOOD novel -- her all time favorite is Jane Austen. Her mom used to take her to the library as a small child and she just loved being there.

Mrs. Pepper attended Rhode Island College for her undergraduate degree and then the University of Rhode Island for her Master’s degree.

Before coming to Lincoln, she was a public librarian in Cranston and a children’s librarian and branch manager in Greenville but left that position to come to Lincoln Public Schools. She has now been here for twelve years. She is at Northern four days a week and at Lonsdale one day per week.

Mrs. Pepper was first at Fairlawn when they still had a card catalog. Her job has totally evolved since then. When she became a school librarian it was a very traditional librarian job. Now it has changed as we access information differently and we even read differently with those changes continuing. Now instead of a librarian, she is a full fledged library media specialist!

Teaching the NASA Before the Bell program last year and she taught a creative writing and digital storytelling course this year. She is also teaching in the Northern Dog Days program this summer which is a Math program incorporating math into an educational environment where children learn about the care and feeding of dogs.

She is from a long line of family educators and hopes her children Mariah (21), Luke (19), Kathryn (16) and Owen (13) will follow their dreams as she did.

Continued from page 3

Jump Rope for Heart

Mrs. Reddy’s Physical Education Classes have raised over $3,000 through the Jump Rope For Heart program benefiting the American Heart Association.

Through Jump Rope For Heart kids learn fun jump rope skills and how their heart works while they help raise money to help kids with special hearts or hearts in need. They have fun, learn how to stay healthy and make a difference in the lives of others! Fantastic job Northern Students!

Meg Heart

Thanks to Lifespan and Mrs. Kinniburgh, on Friday, June 7th, Northern Elementary was given the opportunity to host the MEGA Heart. The MEGA heart was set up in the gym all day until 5:30 PM for students and families to visit. The MEGA Heart provided the students and visitors with a highly interactive educational experience about heart health and preventing heart disease. The MEGA Heart had a real heartbeat that could be heard throughout the main area of the school. Mrs. Kinniburgh also arranged for two Rhode Island College nursing students to do blood pressure screenings. In addition, Marianne Stephanie, RN Cardiac Project Coordinator at Lifespan Community Health Services, offered Hands Only CPR Class and a free Kit to the first twenty parents who attended. Katelyn Mayberry, Community Health Educator did an excellent job teaching all the Northern Classes the importance of good dental health and how it can affect heart health. The American Heart Association materials were available for all visitors. The Lincoln food manager was able to provide a healthy snack of carrots for all the students that participated. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to host the MEGA Heart!
Ms. Heidi Laquerre, Saylesville Elementary School, Kitchen Manager

Heidi Laquerre is the Kitchen Manager for the Saylesville Elementary School cafeteria. She has been working for Aramark for three years and has been serving students at Saylesville since 2010. Prior to working as the Kitchen Manager, Heidi was a Teacher Assistant. She served as one-on-one for a student with cerebral palsy. Heidi explains that she loves Saylesville. “It’s my second home.” She enjoys watching the growth and development of the students over the years. The students who were in second grade when she started working at Saylesville are now in fifth grade. Heidi has been able to form positive relationships with the students as she encourages them to eat healthy meals. Heidi has two daughters ages 22 and 17. She is a lifelong Lincoln resident. In fact, Heidi lives next to the house where she grew up. She has been happily married for twenty-two years. When Heidi isn’t at Saylesville, she enjoys spending time on her pontoon boat or camping with her family or friends.

Mrs. Jayne Cahill, Saylesville Elementary, Grade 2 Teacher

Jayne Cahill has been working as teacher in Lincoln since 1999. She has worked at Saylesville, Fairlawn, Lonsdale and Northern as a reading teacher and in 2007 she became a second grade teacher at Saylesville. Jayne started her career in the Orange County Public Schools. She taught in Orlando as a Kindergarten teacher, a first grade teacher, and also as an Early Childhood Resource Teacher. She was with the Orange County Public Schools for seven years and then moved to Massachusetts. Mrs. Cahill worked in the city of Lawrence, MA in the first and third grades. She also worked at the Lowell National Park at the Tsongas Center at UMass-Lowell where she planned and taught workshops related to the Industrial Revolution. Jayne feels extremely fortunate to have worked in the Town of Lincoln. Mrs. Cahill feels so lucky to have been able to work with such caring, talented and creative teachers. Jayne has two children: Kathleen and Chris. Kathleen and her husband Steven are expecting their first child in August. Chris works in California at Google. As she retires, Jayne looks forward to spending more time with family and friends and traveling, especially to California to visit her son.

Mrs. Chrisily Genesse, Lincoln Middle School, Teacher Assistant

Mrs. Chrisily Genesse is a very dedicated teacher assistant at Lincoln Middle School. She has been a teacher assistant for the past eleven years, six of those years in the Town of Lincoln. This was her first year at Lincoln Middle School, and before coming to LMS she worked at Fairlawn ELC, Saylesville and Lonsdale. Mrs. Genesse enjoys helping her students on a daily basis, and finds it very rewarding to watch students mature, solve problems on their own, work towards their educational goals and become independent young people. She has been a resident of the Town of Lincoln for seventeen years, is married to husband Martin and is a devoted mother of two children, both in the Lincoln Public School System. Her son Matt is 17 and currently a junior at Lincoln High School; her daughter Olivia is 13 and a seventh grader at Lincoln Middle School. In her time away from her position as teacher assistant, she enjoys watching her daughter play softball and field hockey, relaxing on the beautiful beaches of Rhode Island, and spending quality time with her family. Mrs. Genesse loves her job and is always seen in the classroom, cafeteria, and corridors with a wonderful smile on her face. She is a valued member of the Lincoln Middle School family.
Mr. Thomas Mellen, Lincoln Middle School, Grade 7 Teacher

TJ Mellen is a seventh grade special education teacher on Team Six at the Lincoln Middle School. This is Mr. Mellen’s thirteenth year of teaching in Lincoln. He is one of four Mellens who currently teach in the Lincoln School System. His mother is a fourth grade teacher at Saylesville Elementary and his wife is a physical education and health teacher at the Lincoln High School. Mr. Mellen has to travel no farther than the top floor of the middle school to meet up with his younger brother, who is a special education teacher in the 8th grade at LMS. Mr. Mellen is a graduate of Lincoln High School. He received his teaching degree at Rhode Island College and is currently one course away from receiving his Master’s Degree from Providence College in the area of administration. TJ has a strong passion for helping all students meet with success and he prides himself in building strong relationships with all of his students. According to TJ, “the best part of this job is seeing students meet with success when they thought they couldn’t.” Mr. Mellen resides in Lincoln with his wife and three boys, who range in age from 2 years old to 8 years old. Besides teaching, TJ spends a considerable amount of time coaching in various leagues throughout the town.

Mr. Jeremy Morin, Lincoln High School, Custodian

Jeremy Morin has worked for the Lincoln Public Schools for the past two years as a second-shift custodian at Lincoln High School. Right now, he is responsible for the area known as the “north wing” or more commonly, “the old middle school.” Jeremy approaches work with a seriousness of purpose that makes him an outstanding member of the Lincoln High School team. As a Lincoln High School graduate and parent of two sons in the school system, Jeremy wants to do his best everyday to ensure the faculty, staff and students come to school in a clean and tidy environment. Before working for the Lincoln Public Schools, Jeremy worked for many years for a local pest control company. Jeremy has perfect attendance so far in his career. He takes great pride in working hard at LHS and doing his part to help the students and teachers of LHS. According to Assistant Principal Marc Cobb, “Jeremy’s work makes a difference for the students and teachers that work in his area of responsibility. He’s always willing to help.” In his spare time, Jeremy organizes the Lincoln Johnny Lightning Race Club which meets the second Sunday of the month at the MacColl Field YMCA.

Mrs. Susan Kolenda, Lincoln High School, Art Teacher

Mrs. Susan Kolenda has been an integral member of the LHS Art Department for many years. Her passion for art and love of her students is apparent to any visitor to her room. Students who come in with little confidence in their artistic abilities soon find themselves amazed at what they are able to create under her tutelage. Mrs. Kolenda approaches teaching with kindness, patience and energy. Mrs. Kolenda has been a key part of many district initiatives as well. Mrs. Kolenda coordinated the art work that was collected for the Gift of Art award presented to the Lincoln Public Schools in May of 2013. Mrs. Kolenda also teaches Asian Art as part of the Lincoln Public Schools’ Confucius Classroom program. She has been a part of the Chinese New Year celebration at Bryant University for the past several years. At the ceremony, many people stop by the display from LHS and comment on the high quality work that Mrs. Kolenda’s students produce. She also regularly has students create art that is donated to the Tomorrow Fund’s annual raffle. She advises Club Design with Family and Consumer Science teacher Mrs. Roseann Santopietro. The club gives students a vehicle to express their creative thoughts. According to Administrative Liaison Charlotte Tavares, Mrs. Kolenda, “is a consummate team player that is always willing to go the extra mile for the students and the school. She is extremely dedicated to her students.”
The school year is quickly wrapping up, and along with that comes our favorite 8th grade events of the year: 8th Grade Social, National Junior Honor Society induction, and the 8th Grade Celebration! This year’s celebration was a rousing success. Over 500 students, parents, other family members and faculty enjoyed dinner, dancing, and the presentation of awards. One of the most prestigious awards of the evening is given to each of the three students with the highest GPA. This is called “The Principal’s Award”. This year’s recipients are: 1st Brandon Bisbano, 2nd Ross Lancaster, and 3rd Michael Matkowski. Congratulations to them and all of the 8th graders. They will certainly be missed, and we wish them all the best in high school and beyond! A special thank you goes out to the Social/Celebration committee (Mrs. D’Angelo, Mrs. Gould, and Mrs. Mellor) and Awards committee (Mr. Clegg, Mr. Hoppe, Mr. Martel, and Mr. Slattery) for all of their hard work.

Spring at Lincoln High School

On Friday, May 31, 2013, 72 Money Management students attended the 2nd Annual Financial Success Luncheon hosted by Navigant Credit Union. Lincoln High School’s Applied Learning Department has partnered with Navigant Credit Union and for the past two years. A primary initiative of this partnership has been to promote and educate students so that they are more financially literate; Friday’s luncheon was a testament to this goal being met. Those invited to the luncheon had to earn a B+ or better in Money Management or complete 10 Everfi modules. Due to the generosity of Navigant Credit Union and as part of the partnership, those students that earned a B+ or better were given $10 when they open a checking account at Navigant. Randy Sacilotto and Kelley Schimmel, representatives of Navigant, spoke at the ceremony and helped pass out the awards.

Money Management or complete 10 Everfi modules.

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