

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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May 7, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

One of the challenges when I am immersed in the day-to-day challenges of leading, managing, and supporting a staff of over 100 educators who work to meet the needs of over 700 students, is to step back and recognize the many gifts that are part of being a principal at ConVal High School.

Over the last few days, I have made it a point to step back, to look with fresh eyes at the work that we do, and the impact that these efforts have on the lives of our students. Below are some items that I observed, or that were shared by staff members.

This past week ...

... I heard from many parents and colleagues how impressed they are with the narratives that were shared on the third-quarter report cards. One parent shared that she truly appreciated the time and energy her son's teachers had put into providing him with specific feedback on what he had accomplished and where he could improve. Our teachers' efforts to provide authentic narrative feedback is truly exceptional.

... one of our seniors, Paula Kingsbury-Evans, was named as the recipient of an award by the Red Sox Service Scholarships Program. The program honors academically talented public high school seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to community service. The award involves a \$1,000 scholarship, paid to the college that Paula will attend.

... Amy Theriault and Tina Kriebel came to ConVal to congratulate Destiny Guadagno, Anna McGuiness, and Elizabeth Nute for the collaborative work they put into developing a poster to advertise this year's Children and the Arts Festival. "I am so pleased that the festival committee chose that specific poster because it truly was a collaboration of three students," shared Mr. Bills, the Graphic Design teacher. "And on top of that, each of the three is a student in one of the three levels of the program, that's a win-win-win!"

... one of our juniors, August George was accepted to screen his film "La Nôtre Héritage" at the 2018 New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival which will take place on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at noon at Red River Theatres in Concord.

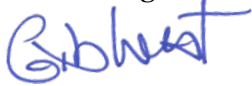
... our AP art students opened an exhibit Friday evening at the Sharon Arts Center in Peterborough. The exhibit will be on display through June 10, 2018.

... our science teachers began preparations for the amazing renovations of four science classrooms over the summer.

... Mary Goldthwaite's high school art teacher, Raegan Russell, visited and spent the day with all of her classes. Mary shared, "I was really floored by how proud of my (our) students I felt (and continue to feel). Students shared with Raegan the things that make ConVal special: how certain teachers make their subjects come to life, the pride they feel about the sports teams that they are on, the collaborative project that we are doing with first graders, the Aesthetics & Ideas class, the narratives that their teachers wrote, the Summer Academy classes they plan to take. I have spent most of the weekend feeling very grateful."

I share in Mary's sense of gratitude. Thank you, as always, for your feedback and support.

Have a great week,



Gib West