

Principals' Reports for March 2021

Please have completed by April 10th

Celebrations

ALBANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

We got second trimester report cards out a day early and they were the best ever! I personally read each one and handwrite a little comment to each student. Our teachers went the extra mile to provide quality, personalized comments for each student.

We arranged the purchase of 60 cedar trees, with the advice of state forester Jared Nunnery, which we will pick up from the 2020 OCNRCD Tree Sale on May 1. These trees will be planted along the Route 14 side of the playground to provide privacy, wind screen, and wildlife habitat. I have been hoping to do this for years. Last year the tree sale was cancelled because for COVID. This project will be a big improvement for our school.

BARTON ACADEMY AND GRADED SCHOOL

We continue to be grateful to be able to offer in-person instruction for students in grades K-8. We have welcomed five students back to Barton from our Orleans Remote Academy and one more will be joining us on April 12th.

BROWNINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

We held a fantastic door decorating contest at the end of March. Homerooms chose a Dr. Seuss book and created some amazing decorations. [See it on our Facebook page](#). By the end of the month, students were making great progress in showing Safe, Respectful, and Responsible behavior.

GLOVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Glover recently raised money for a community member who had a structural fire. Classes had a Penny War. Richard Epinette, who drives one of our buses, added to the fun by donating a Penny War Bomb, valued at roughly \$45.00. The 5th grade class won the bomb and used it to their advantage. The Glover Fire Department has agreed to bring in pizzas to the winning class. The Penny War ended last Friday and we know based on bills, checks, and rolled coins that we've already raised over \$400, but now we have to count all of the change in the buckets. It's going to take a bit of time to announce the winner.

IRASBURG VILLAGE SCHOOL

The middle school students and teachers have just returned from working remotely and were very successful.

At the beginning of each week, we have our whole-school Monday Morning Meeting and recognize our Eagles of Excellence. Recent recipients of the Eagle of Excellence were our kindergarten class for their hard work and Rose Stone, teacher for grades 1&2.

ORLEANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OES is proud to celebrate Kyle Chadburn and Andrea Gratton, our UVM Outstanding Teachers! Their collaboration and work in humanities is commendable. We all benefit from their leadership in the areas of equity and anti-bias education.

Our middle school is finishing the SBAC this week.

OCSU REMOTE ACADEMY

Each Wednesday afternoon, the 3rd-5th grade teachers host a Game Day for their students so that they can connect with one another on things unrelated to school.

Focus on Learning & Equity

ALBANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

As part of our Needs Assessment for the Consolidated Federal Grants, Albany faculty performed a complete audit of our data systems with respect to three categories: Student Achievement, Student and Family Engagement, and Social Emotional Learning/Climate. We identified holes. Staff expressed an interest in having data days, to do a deep dive into our data.

One step we took in light of this audit was to give the PBIS climate survey. Jen Simpson, our SEL Specialist is working as PBIS coordinator for the school. She organized this work. We will have data from students, family and staff for the first time concerning school climate. As a PBIS school, we can give this survey every year going forward and develop longitudinal data to guide our planning in the areas of Engagement and SEL.

BARTON ACADEMY AND GRADED SCHOOL

Students in 7th grade have been participating in a Genius Hour block with Mr. Bonneau. During this time students are exploring self-interest projects that are student-driven and exploratory in nature. Students have been working on projects that include designing websites, creating instructional videos and tutorials using Minecraft, writing books, blogs, and even a script for a movie.

Annie O'Shaughnessy has been a valuable resource for staff professional development around restorative practices. Annie is a consultant, with over 25 years of circle work experience, extensive Restorative Practices training, a M.Ed. in Mindfulness for Educators, Advanced Training in Trauma Informed Practices, 180 hours of clinical training at a therapeutic high school

for challenging youth, eight years as a classroom English teacher, and two years in school leadership. During our inservice, she facilitated a 2-hour training called *Taking Care of Ourselves and Our Students* and also joined our monthly restorative team meeting.

Sean Perry, co-founder of We R Hope facilitated a two-hour professional development with our teaching staff. This training was an introduction to Emotional CPR (eCPR), an educational program designed to teach people to assist others through an emotional crisis by three simple steps:

C = Connecting

P = emPowering, and

R = Revitalizing.

BROWNINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

In the month of March, BCS students learned about: the sun and the length and angle of shadows, what “-ly” does at the end of a word, lots of fractions, reading and writing poetry, multi-digit multiplication using the area model, how to show respect to peers and adults, the ways that animals use adaptations to protect themselves, preserving the rainforest, perpendicular lines, and musicians who advocate for social change.

GLOVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

In March, our teachers met virtually with teachers from ORA, Irasburg, and Brownington to unwrap standards. They broke these down into skills and concepts and then wrote learning targets and learning scales to accompany each. Bill Rich and I planned and facilitated this work. Mike Moriarty joined us to provide feedback. There is still a lot of work to be done, but we’re off to a great start.

IRASBURG VILLAGE SCHOOL

We purchased two STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) carts earlier in the year and students have been enjoying the lessons that go along with them. Recently, the 8th grade students were making and testing electromagnets.

During the inservice on March 19th, teachers analyzed data working toward the recovery plan for OCSU. The three areas that teachers concentrated on were student achievement, students engagement/attendance, and social-emotional health and well-being.

ORLEANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The OES staff have been working their way through an equity audit. Teachers have been reflecting on their classrooms and instructional practices and discussing positive changes with their colleagues.

OCSU REMOTE ACADEMY

ORA teachers have continued unwrapping standards and were able to serve as group leaders in March when they met with teachers from Glover, Brownington, and Irasburg to do more of this work.

ORA students have been working on modeling fractions, literature circles, early literacy skills that include choosing the right strategy at the right time to figure out the meaning, providing evidence from the text that shows understanding of the characters and plot of high quality texts, practicing simplifying fractions, and drawing prepositions.

Staffing

ALBANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Jen Schoen (middle school humanities) intends to request a leave of absence. I am monitoring a couple of other situations that might lead to a teacher leaving. I am considering dividing the new intervention position among existing qualified staff in order to add a middle school social studies teacher. This would reduce the number of intervention positions we need to fill in OCSU.

BARTON ACADEMY AND GRADED SCHOOL

Karen Sayles (Middle School Science) is retiring this year.

We are advertising for a full time interventionist.

Meghann Roberts has given her resignation as our part-time librarian.

BROWNINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

John Rockwell resigned; Samantha Rosenbaum to be hired

Chet Devarney to be hired

GLOVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

We are currently advertising for two k-4 teachers for next year. We never replaced Melissa Hall for the 20-21 school year and intend to for the 21-22 school year and Peter Flaherty will not return next year so we need to replace him. We had 4 interviews lined up and all 4 candidates backed out because they took other positions. I've reached out to 3 other candidates to schedule interviews and none have accepted.

A team interviewed a few candidates for next year's administrative assistant position. We are hoping to fill this soon.

Glover is also looking for a full time math interventionist and a full time literacy interventionist for next year and we recently interviewed an SEL specialist.

IRASBURG VILLAGE SCHOOL

Theresa Peura has been a long-term substitute for Bridget Carbonetti and doing wonderful job. Bridget will be returning on April 29th. Sam Carbonetti will be going on leave again at the beginning of May and we will be fortunate to have Frank Daigneault here again as a long-term substitute.

We are currently advertising for an SEL specialist and a math/literacy interventionist. We are also advertising for a classroom teacher. Sue Cloutier will be returning to the preschool next year.

ORLEANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Hired Adam Guyette for SEL Specialist

Nicky St. Jean resigned - advertising for Special Educator

Jessica Petty resigned - hired Mariana DeBonville to replace

Advertising for full time interventionist

Advertising for .5 classroom teacher

OCSU REMOTE ACADEMY

John Rockwell resigned as of June 2021. He'll finish his position in ORA.

Hazing, Harassment, Bullying Investigations

ALBANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Two HHBR investigations, substantiated for bullying

BARTON ACADEMY AND GRADED SCHOOL

One HHB investigation- substantiation for harassment

BROWNINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

Two HHB investigations; one finding of bullying, one with no finding

GLOVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

No HHB investigations in March

IRASBURG VILLAGE SCHOOL

No HHB investigations in March

ORLEANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1 investigation - substantiated for bullying

OCSU REMOTE ACADEMY

No HHB investigations in March