



A few notes from our Superintendent's office:

Dear Families,

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We are very proud to share with you the many opportunities that our students have to explore our community, state and other countries as detailed in the latter pages of our newsletter.

May has arrived, and with it comes a full calendar of exciting events, including concerts, sporting events and award ceremonies. Please check our district and school websites for more information, as the list is extensive. With that said, the evening of June 14th will be our 8th grade promotion and June 15th will be our High School Graduation Ceremony. June 15th is the last day of school for all students.

Please note that the Town Meeting for the 23/24 budget is scheduled for 5/2/23 and the subsequent referendum is scheduled for 5/16/23.

If you have any questions about the budget, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Reas



Weekly Update

May 1, 2023

NHRHS



The Hale-Ray Chapter of the Tri-M Music Honor Society held its annual member recital on April 20 in the auditorium. Members played new instruments, created their own arrangements of selections, and demonstrated skills they learned by going beyond the classroom in their music education.



On April 21, 2023, Engineering & Technology students competed in the 21st Spring Energy Efficiency Electrathon Challenge at Lime Rock Park in Lakeville CT. The Electrathon focuses on energy efficiency, where students race for 60 minutes with two car batteries as their power source. NHRHS students designed and built their electric vehicles using CADD, CNC machining, welding, and composite work, and showcased problem-solving skills despite experiencing battery/power system issues and a ballast adjustment during the race. Nathan Hale-Ray finished just a few laps shy of 3rd place and will use the experience to improve for the fall 2023 contest.



The NHRHS and NHRMS Jazz Bands collaborated on April 27th to deliver an impressive jazz performance in the high school auditorium. In preparation for the event, both bands practiced after school since September, rehearsed together on April 22nd, and learned challenging pieces representing diverse jazz styles individually. The night culminated with a mass Jazz Band directed by Mr. Blain. Moving forward, the students will focus on getting ready for their Spring Concerts and the Memorial Day Parade alongside the other instrumentalists in their respective bands.



Save the Date

- AP Exams, May 1 - 5 and May 8 & 10
- HS Spring Band Concert, Thursday, May 18 @ 7pm
- National Honor Society will be hosting a Badminton Tournament, Friday, May 19 @ 3pm
- Jr./Sr. Prom, Saturday, May 20 @ 5:00pm
- Underclassmen Awards Night, Thursday, May 25 5:30pm
- Senior Expo on Thursday, June 1 at 4:30pm
- Senior Awards and Scholarship Night, Thursday June 1 at 5:30pm
- Senior Class Trip, Monday, June 5
- Music Banquet at the Riverhouse, Wednesday, June 7 at 6:00pm
- Graduation, Thursday, June 15 at 6:00pm

60 Hale-Ray 10th graders attended the 2023 Middlesex County High School Career Fair Expo at Wesleyan University on April 27th. The event offered over 100 career options across various industries including business, healthcare, skilled trades, STEM, the arts, and government. The fair provided an excellent opportunity for students to explore potential future career paths, and it was a highly valuable experience for all those who attended.



Students will attend the CT Youth Forum at The Bushnell in Hartford on Thursday, May 4. It is UCONN Nation Night! The evening will be filled with conversations featuring Coach Geno Auriemma and former UConn players Sue Bird and Morgan Tuck about the beloved basketball program, as well as their lives and careers.

Youth Helping Youth members will engage in Empowering Leadership Training on May 9, 2023, to enhance their leadership abilities in preparation for mentoring incoming freshmen. The workshop aims to equip over 40 trained mentors to support and welcome the class of 2027 as they transition to high school.

NHRMS

NHRMS Visits Quebec City!
April 20-22, 2023

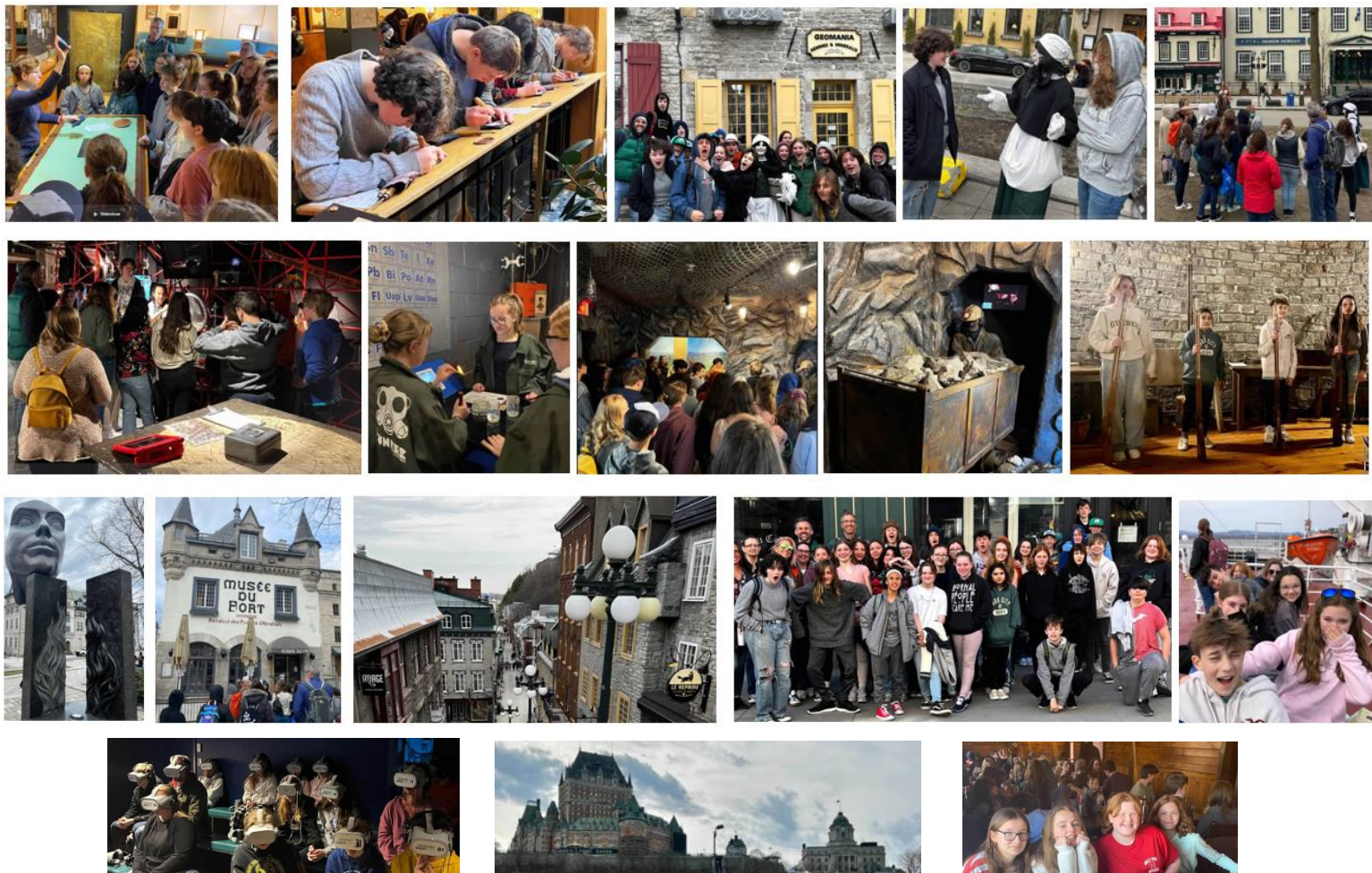
Our group of 47 students, parents and teachers enjoyed many delicious traditional meals at various restaurants throughout the city. In addition to all the other restaurants we visited, we were able to indulge in the best Poutine (fries, gravy & cheese curd) and crepes. We also had our fill of Chocolate and traditional croissants.



Some of the highlights during our excursion were:

- Creating our own art at the Copper Museum after a visit of museum and a demonstration of "Repousse" art form
- Walking Ghost Tour
- Science Bunker Activity where students worked in teams to problem solve
- Learning about the life of a 1812 soldier at Martello Towers at the Plains of Abraham
- Visit the Morin Cultural Center (one time prison and college) to experience the life of a convict
- Ride the Funicular down to lower Quebec for a little shopping at Quartier Petit Champlain
- Visit Montmorency Falls Park to view the falls from the 487 steps up to the suspended bridge
- Experience a traditional meal and maple taffy tasting at the Sugar Cabin "Erabliere du Cap"

We were able to fit so many activities into these four days while in Quebec City. Although students were sad to do so, on Sunday we said "Au Revoir" to our tour guide and Quebec. A great time was had by all!



NHRMS – World Café Cooking Club

In the World Cafe Cooking club, students will have the opportunity to explore the cuisine of French and Spanish speaking countries. Each session will focus on a new dish from a different region of the world, and students will learn about the basics of cooking, following recipes, cooking styles, and language related to the dish. Through this experience, students can expand their knowledge of food and culture from around the globe and share this experience with their friends. The club is open to all 6-8 grade students, but space is limited and sign-ups will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Currently, the club has already hosted three sessions featuring King Cake (Mardi Gras/New Orleans), Churros (Spain), and Crepes (France), and plans to offer two more sessions before the end of the year.



The Cultural Assembly was held on April 27, 2023, organized by the World Language Department and supported by the Student Council. The event featured the Fiesta del Norte Mariachi band, in honor of Cinco de Mayo, which commemorates Mexico's victory over the French in the Battle of Puebla in 1862. Although it is often mistaken for Mexico's independence day (September 16, 1810), Cinco de Mayo has become a popular celebration of Mexican-American culture, particularly in the United States. The students were highly engaged and actively participated in the assembly whenever possible.



East Haddam Elementary School



EHES has been doing Shout Outs this month. Students and staff are able to recognize and celebrate the positive actions or qualities of their fellow community members. While some of these shout-outs have been shared on the daily Morning Announcements, this week, the spirit squad has compiled and posted them for all of us to appreciate.



EHES students continue to demonstrate their SOAR expectations. There were 5,914 tickets. We have acknowledged so many amazing examples of Safety, Ownership, Attitude, and Respect. Look how full Easty's wings are!



EHES announced its 2024 Teacher of the Year, Mr. Ryan Kelly, our Physical Education and Health teacher.



EHES announced its 2024 Support Person of the Year, Ms. Trish Distefano, she helps make our school run smoothly and takes care of us all!



PBIS winners making Peeps Houses with Mrs. Revicki.



3rd Grade Legends and Lore Program was a big hit!



The Legends & Lore program shows many cultures, traditions, and communities that make Connecticut distinctive.