



Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

We are pleased to announce our third annual **No Name Calling Week** (NNCW) initiative. During the week of January 25-29 we will participate in this nationally promoted program. Our efforts will be concentrated mostly in K-3 yet will draw on resources at the upper grade levels and parent volunteers as well. NNCW tries to provide schools with the tools and inspiration to launch an on-going dialogue about ways to eliminate bullying and embrace diversity in their communities. While we realize that one week out the school year can not solve this ongoing problem it does complement the curriculums and programs offered by the Guidance Department throughout the district. Katie Campbell, and the Cultural Competency Committee, is once again spearheading the initiative and has worked with various district staff members to provide activities to reinforce the message of diversity among school children. Recess volunteers will once again be offering and assisting with inclusive games at MIW and the GSA will be performing a lunchtime skit. Look for further information as the date draws nearer!

The PTO would also like to highlight the Board of Director's efforts to be inclusive in matters such as the district budget and the Sustainability Task Force. As a district we have reached a crucial point and many important decisions are being made which will have an effect for years to come. Please consider being part of the solution and share your thoughts during the process. Participation and cooperation are key factors in a successful community.

Respectfully submitted,

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## Volunteer

Jen Rohde, Volunteer Coordinator

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### Cultural Competency News:

**No Name Calling Week** is January 25 through 29th and we need volunteers! Parents, older siblings, college students, grandparents, all are encouraged to help us model kindness and tolerance for our children.

#### At home:

1. Talk with your children about name calling and how it can hurt. Be extra aware of how we all do it, "dork!" Come up with a code at your house to gently remind each other when we slip up.

2. Encourage your child to create a poster or write a poem to remind us all that name calling hurts. It will be displayed at school during the week.

#### At school:

1. Play with children during recess at Mabel I Wilson. Please contact Gloria Nicholson at [glrnich@maine.rr.com](mailto:glrnich@maine.rr.com)

2. Read the book *Say Something* by Peggy Moss in a classroom at Drowne Road. Please contact your child's teacher to schedule a convenient time.

3. Bake a Peace Cake (cake decorated with a peace sign on top) to be delivered on Friday, January 29th. Please e-mail Katie Campbell at [kcampbe7@maine.rr.com](mailto:kcampbe7@maine.rr.com).

4. One volunteer each day at GMS. Please contact Bobbi Goodwin, [Roberta.Goodwin@msad51.org](mailto:Roberta.Goodwin@msad51.org) in the Guidance office to schedule the time.

Reminder: Please be sure to complete the volunteer form on the PTO website or in school offices prior to going into the school

Events – Jen Segal, [jendridge@yahoo.com](mailto:jendridge@yahoo.com)

Save the Date! Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM, GMS

Magician – Peter Boie



## Enrichment (en-rich-muhnnt) ~

the act of adding greater value or significance to.

### Enrichment Chairs

MIW Linda Collins, [geolinda@maine.rr.com](mailto:geolinda@maine.rr.com)

DRS/NYMS Amy Saffian, [saffian7@myfairpoint.net](mailto:saffian7@myfairpoint.net)

GMS/GHS Patty Normandeau, [murphpat@maine.rr.com](mailto:murphpat@maine.rr.com)

### Green Team News:

A student initiated Green Team has been formed at Drowne Road. 52 kids chose to attend the first meeting during recess! They are very enthusiastic and are working on their first project. Stay tuned. Also, we continue to look at ways to support all the reducing, recycling and reusing that is happening already! If you have ideas, please send them our way.

### Let's Go! Mini-Grant awarded to MIW

**team!** A mini-grant in the amount of \$1,200 has been awarded to the team at MIW. The funds will be used in a mixed manner for playground equipment (basketball backboards), a collection of play equipment to be used on the playground by the recess volunteers and a selection of toys to be used on special occasions by either the volunteers or classroom teachers, as well as educational resources such as instructional videos on yoga, parachute games and Taekwondo.

### Community Opportunity

The Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Program's *Gatekeeper Training* will be held Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM, at Cumberland Town Hall. Gatekeepers are the "safety net" for vulnerable youth and for students seeking help for their friends. They can be teachers, counselors, ministers, youth workers, parents, or anyone willing to attend a one day training offered by the Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Program. The training is free (lunch will be provided) to any member of the MSAD 51 community due to a Caring About Lives in Maine (CAL-ME/youth suicide prevention) grant received by the district. To register for the program please visit [www.mcdregistration.org](http://www.mcdregistration.org) Select "Current Registrations", Click on "Greely" and fill in the registration. Please contact Peter Scott @ GHS (829-4836 or [peter.scott@msad51.org](mailto:peter.scott@msad51.org)) with any questions. FMI on the Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Program visit, [www.maine.gov/suicide/index/htm](http://www.maine.gov/suicide/index/htm)

## Fundraising

Beth Smith, [gsmith@maine.rr.com](mailto:gsmith@maine.rr.com)

Mori LeFevre, [morilefevre@yahoo.com](mailto:morilefevre@yahoo.com)

## Box Tops

Ann Eisenhart, [aeisenha@maine.rr.com](mailto:aeisenha@maine.rr.com)

At the Box Tops **Marketplace**, you can shop at over 70 online stores like **Oriental Trading Co.**, **GAP** and **Lands' End**. A percentage of purchases goes back to your school - at no additional cost to you!

**Reading Room** - Earn cash for your school simply by buying the books you love. Box Tops and Barnes and Noble have teamed up to offer the newest way to earn cash for our schools. Six percent of the book sales is donated to our schools

The December Box Top Winners are....

MIW: Marshall Fowler and Sebastian Alfreds

DRS: Rachel Smith and Aidan Hayes

NYMS: Sophia Smith and Gabe Palizay

GMS: James Ferrar

The next Box Top drawing will be on **Jan 27th**.

Reminder to Greely Middle School parents, we have a collection container in the office. Just put their name in the bag with the tops so they can be eligible for the drawing.

**GMS PARENTS!!!!** Don't forget that GREELY MIDDLE SCHOOL has a Box Top drop off for the kids. Put their names on the Box Tops or baggie and they will be entered into the monthly raffle.

### OTHER DROP OFF SPOTS:

Prince Memorial Library, Cumberland Town Hall, and NY Town Hall

Ann could also use some volunteers in January to add up all the Box Tops from Oct, Nov and Dec.

Any questions please call, Ann Eisenhart, 829-5917

### Save the date ~ PTO Meeting

Tuesday, January 12th @ 7pm

Mabel I. Wilson Library

