

# Celebrations of the Fairfield Public Schools

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## Superintendent's Message



Dear Faculty and Staff:

As we return from the February break, we have much to celebrate within the Fairfield Public Schools and this newsletter highlights only some of it. The combination of a highly skilled faculty and staff, capable students and a high level of parent and community support makes Fairfield one of the premier school districts in Connecticut.



Secretaries from the **FAEOP** filled stockings that were donated to *Women in Crisis* in Bridgeport for the holidays. These stockings went to women who are struggling to make ends meet while overcoming the physical and emotional effects of abuse. **Karen Pioli**, CO Human Resources Administrative Secretary, facilitated a large donation of products from Avon. **Christine D'Ascenzo**, FWMS Secretary and **Vicki Duguid**, FWMS Secretary, collected the stockings for distribution to the women in various shelters.



**John Reisert**, FLHS Math teacher & Girls Tennis Coach, is a finalist for the *2012 National Coach of the Year* sponsored by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA). This award recognizes outstanding coaching longevity, win-loss record, championship years, awards received and services to the coaching profession and to the student athletes. John will be honored at the National Awards Banquet at the Holiday Inn in Fargo, North Dakota in July. John is the winner of the Eastern Region (New England and New York). Congratulations!



**Fred Vital**, FLHS Chemistry teacher, published his article, "Creating a Positive Learning Environment with the Use of Clickers in a High School Chemistry Classroom", in the *Journal of Chemical Education*.



**Jennings** - Jennings School held its *First Annual Adopt-A-Child Program* in conjunction with the Brownie and Girl Scout Troops. Twenty-seven families in the Fairfield area benefited with holiday gifts.



**Jennings School**, in partnership with the PTA, was the recipient of a \$2,900 grant from *Lowe's* for the *Jennings Garden*, which will be used during the springtime.

**Osborn Hill** - The *Osborn Hill Beautification & Garden Committee* conducted one "Project Purple Hill" venture. They purchased and planted a thousand purple, lavender, and white crocus bulbs on the hill by the entrance to Osborn Hill School which will now be covered with first bloom flowers.



**Tomlinson MS** - The *Student Leadership Council* organized the purchase, wrapping and delivery of gifts for families at the Cesar Batalla School in Bridgeport.



**Jennings** - Grade 5 students donated a total of 230 books and over 60 handmade bookmarks to the *Bridgeport Children's Hospital*.

**McKinley** - **Brandon Moutinho** won *Best in Show* at the New England Carousel Museum sponsored Annual Art Contest. Congratulations!

**Riverfield** - Grade 2 students studied the differences between urban, rural and suburban communities. In order to learn about different community members in Fairfield, each student selected a community worker to interview. After all of the interviews were done, the students compiled their information

along with a picture to create a Power Point presentation for parents.



**Sherman - Kate Daly and Jane Ransone** raised \$15 from a lemonade stand that they donated to Sherman School.

Sherman student **Andrew Laroche** raised almost \$900 toward *Cancer Care* at the *Blocks of Love* event at Fairfield Ludlowe HS. Andrew worked with his brother, **Will Laroche**, Tomlinson MS student .



**Fairfield Woods MS** - Grade 6 students, under the guidance of **Sue Tamagni**, Grade 6 teacher, baked cookies after school for medics stationed in Kandahar and Afghanistan. They also brought in items that are considered "touches of home" to include in the care packages.



FWMS student **Kayla Krasnow** was a finalist in the student reader competition, *Nutmeg Book Award*.

FWMS students: **Donny Battimelli, Tyler English, Kevin Finn, Will Gilbert** and **Tyler Henchcliffe** participated in a hockey tournament in Port Huron, MI. They competed in a field of 64 teams from the USA and Canada.



**Roger Ludlowe MS** - The following eighth grade students auditioned and were selected to participate in the eighth and ninth grade orchestra in the *Fairfield County String Festival*: **Lindsey Belkin, Kaylie Minogue, Henna Mohamed, David Nam** and **Maggie Restrepo**.

The following sixth and seventh grade students have been selected to participate in this year's *Fairfield County String Festival* in the sixth and seventh grade Orchestra: **Patrycja Bazylczyk, John Chelstowski, Marion Conklin, Anna Fedoryk, Francisco Guillen, Timothy Kane, Margaux Meilhac, Jeremy Page** and **Stuart Smith**.



**Benjamin Crosby** and **Leila Mishalani** auditioned and were accepted for the *Honors Orchestra in the Fairfield County String Festival*.

The following Orchestra Students are members of the *Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra*: **Benjamin Crosby, Ayana Jain** and **Laura Yanez**.

The following Orchestra Students are members of the *Norwalk Youth Orchestra*: **Anna Fedoryk, Margaux Meilhac, Leila Mishalani, Henna Mohamed** and **David Nam**.



**Cynthia Fryman's** grade 6 class at RLMS were shown on News Channel 12 with weatherman Paul Piorek, conducting weather experiments with their class.



The Grade 8 students in Computer/Tech Ed teacher **Jeff Iwanicki's** *Transportation Technology* class have completed

building the *SeaPerch ROV Robot* as part of a pilot program provided through a grant awarded by both the State and the Department of the United States Navy Office of Naval Research. SeaPerch robotics is also being offered as an afterschool club at RLMS thanks to PTSA grants. Go to [www.seaperch.org](http://www.seaperch.org) for more info on the program.



**Fairfield Ludlowe HS & Fairfield Warde HS** - Music students from both high schools performed at the *Oath of Office Ceremony* for Elected Town of Fairfield Officials in November. This event began with a string quartet playing "entrance music." The FWHS Jazz Ensemble played next, with 2 pieces featuring several soloists. Finally, members from the Choral Departments sang patriotic tunes. FWHS students sang *The Star Spangled Banner* and FLHS students sang *America the Beautiful*.



The *Scholastic Art Awards* are the longest running and most prestigious regional and national art awards for secondary students. The following Fairfield students were recognized for their outstanding artwork: Fairfield Ludlowe HS - **Josh Archer, Kathleen Csizmadia, Kayla Delventhal, Breanne Ferrara, Rachel Finlaw, Emma Fitzsimmons, Mia Peru, Aliza Schaffer, William Speno, Jonathan White, Eliza Wiant, Cooper Winterson** and **Lindsay Zilling**; Fairfield Warde HS - **Diana Brisca, Ryan Crudgington, Epiphanyblu Diaz, Bianca Guzman, Elizabeth Hark** and **Marisa Hom**; Fairfield Woods MS - **Julia Crews**; Roger Ludlowe MS - **Aoife Cahill, Caroline Delangelo, Sullivan Desmond, Eliza Elliot, Alisa Korneyeva, Katherine Montanez, Nicole Pierpont** and **Rachel Schaffer**; and Tomlinson MS - **Tara Boyd, Brooklyn Curtin** and **Camille Nizet**. Congratulations to all!



At the end of January, 128 string students grades 5 - 12, performed with the group, *Barrage*. Barrage is a high-octane fiddle-fest that features an international, multi-talented cast of 8 musicians performing an eclectic mix of music, song and dance. These shows are part of the *Barrage Educational Outreach Program* to inspire and excite young string players.

