



Kennett High School



Principal's Report
December 14, 2015

Identified Improvement Targets in Progress

1. Our school counselors have presented to every freshman class to discuss the importance of school counselors as a resource and how the counselors can help students academically as well as emotionally. They emphasize the short and long term significance of grades; explain leveling (General, CP, Advanced, and AP), how this is reported on their transcript and how a transcript can describe them as a potential student at a post-secondary school and campus, Counselors also start the student's 4 year plan in Naviance and have a one on one interview with each student on their caseload to start to get to know each other and build a relationship.
2. The school counselors distributed the St. Paul's summer program brochures to our top 30 juniors. Two recent KHS alumni of the St. Paul's program shared their experience and how it is a very similar process to the college application process and experience. Both students said they were completely prepared for the college application process from what they learned at St. Paul's last summer. Current application deadline is December 15th.
3. Our school nurses have begun two wellness initiatives. First, we have partnered with the Let's Go program, a statewide initiative, to support healthy eating and physical activity for students and staff. Let's Go is based on the 5-2-1-0 message (5 or more fruits/veggies per day, no more than 2 hours of screen time, 1 hour of physical activity, and no sugary drinks/more water). They have been meeting after-school with our health teacher Emilie French and the program consultant to begin action planning. Secondly, we have the opportunity to host Elaine Millen for a Pilate's class on Friday's after-school starting after the holiday break. This would be an 8 week pilot for staff to participate in a fitness class building colleague relationships while working on their core!! The class would be free through a grant with NHIT!

Student & Staff Accomplishments

4. Eight KHS students, Zach Bradley, Kelsey Bush, Tessa Greenhaugh, Caroline Jaeger, Nora Miller, Taylor Nusbaum, Rachel Yalenizian, traveled to Sanborn High School on November 8th to take part in a student leadership conference ("Beyond the Scoreboard") led by national speaker Craig Hillier. The program was geared towards student leaders, particularly athletes. It was a high energy presentation with lots of student involvement and movement. KHS was one of ten NH schools present. Most but not all of our students who attended were part of our Life of an Athlete program.
5. Finn Van Rossum earned a solo at the all New England Band Festival. Clyne Sullivan was selected to the All-State Band on horn and Brianna Descharnais was selected to the All-State Band on flute.

6. Once again staff members donated articles of fall and winter clothing to create what is known in the school as the Eagle's Claw-set. Every student can select articles of clothing, hats, pants, tops, shoes and jewelry and this preholiday event was predictably a huge success with hundreds of clothing items going to kids.....especially winter coats. A special thanks to all our staff members for their generosity.
7. Olivia Chretien and Abby Olds auditioned and were named to the National Dance Alliance All American Dance Team. They traveled to Orlando, FL December 4-6th to perform in the Disney Holiday Spectacular parade. Only 300 students from across the Nation are selected to be on this team.
8. There were quite a few awards garnered by our student athletes this fall; Nick Brown ran in the New England High School Cross Country Championship (Thetford, VT) and was selected to the New Hampshire All Division Team. The football team once again made it to the Final Four in Division II. Nine football players (Nate Emerson, Aaron Lamar, Drew McDonald, Christian Nestell, Will Pollard, Kherry Rober, Theo Scarlett and Bowen Wales) all received Division II North All-Conference First Team recognition. Ryan Stevens was named Honorable Mention and Coach Vaughn Beckwith was selected as the Division II North Conference Coach of the Year. Juliana Dunlop was selected to the Division II All-State girls soccer team. Kate McPherson and Allison Solomon were chosen Division II All-State girls field hockey, and Leah Canavari was recognized on the second team. Kate also made it to the New Hampshire Twin States team.
9. We had a successful Fall Sports Awards night on November 17th, recognizing the contributions and commitment of 289 athletes and handing out 13 team awards. Our winter sports season started with an impressive 280 students signing up to play a sport, an increase of 27% from last year (205)! We are thrilled to see such a sharp increase in the number of students participating in athletics this winter season.
10. Kennett High will host a Unified Basketball jamboree on December 18th with Plymouth, Interlakes and Berlin sending teams for the event. Kennett students and staff are invited to attend and support all the athletes.
11. We are thrilled to report that two of our cheerleaders, Kayla Ross and Emily Soucy, were selected to attend Cheer Hawaii USA Invitational, which takes place next summer. Cheer Hawaii is an incredible opportunity for those cheerleaders who are chosen. Using a highly selective nomination process, this college-prep camp looks for athletes with the following attributes: Strong basic cheer skills; leadership abilities; desire to learn and improve; excellence in academics; and positive attitude. Kayla and Emily represent all these qualities and are greatly deserving of this honor.
12. The German honor society has been very active this holiday season spreading cheer in the season of giving. The students have donated checks for \$500 each to the Gibson Center for meals on wheels, the Conway Humane Society, and the local chapter of Angels and Elves. Students raised this money through their fundraising efforts this fall. Below is the response we received from the executive director of the Gibson Center, George Cleveland today; *Hi John, A great crew visited us yesterday. Because of your thoughtfulness, there is an older person somewhere in Mt. Washington Valley living alone at home who will NOT have to be hungry; who will be visited every weekday by a passionate volunteer delivering a hot meal and checking on their welfare; who will enjoy a longer and better life and will have their anxiety and fear lessened. THANK YOU guys SO much for the donation.*



German Honor Society Donates to Meals on Wheels

13. We received a wonderful letter from the White Mountain Community College regarding the Running Start Partnership we have had for a number of years. I am sharing the letter below as an example of a strong working relationship between a secondary school and a post-secondary educational institution:

Dear Mr. Richard,

I wanted to share with you the success WMCC and Kennett High School/MWVCTC administration and staff have had with providing Kennett High School students the opportunity to earn college credits through WMCC's Running Start (RS) program. I have attached a spreadsheet showing the Running Start options available to KHS/MWVCTC students this fall and the number of students who have taken the Running Start challenge.

It is always our hope that this program will allow students, who may or may not be thinking about attending college, to sample college-level work and discover success in doing so. Ideally, our Running Start partnership with KHS/MWVCTC will provide many students the opportunity to earn enough transferable credits so that their time and expense in college is significantly reduced, which has indeed been the case thanks to the advocacy of KHS/MWVCTC's administration and RS faculty.

It is very important for me to note the significance of the influence of the KHS administration, staff, and faculty in achieving Running Start successes at KHS/MWVCTC. For many years I have worked with both Neal Moylan and Cheryl Furtado to expand the Running Start options at both KHS and the MWVCTC. As my RS liaison at Kennett High, Cheryl continues to be a strong proponent of RS start and she and I continue to work closely together to build a strong RS partnership at KHS/MWVCTC. This fall, with the help of Cheryl and Alexa Kimberley-Bryant and the enthusiasm of Cindy Davis, we were able to continue including *College Composition* in our RS options at KHS. Meanwhile, Chris Bailey, Chris Darling, Christine Sears, Jack Hadam, and Dennis Sullivan have been continue to be strong RS advocates and wonderful collaborators in the RS mission. We are so very fortunate to have them as partners. Though Kennett's scheduling this year did not include Marjorie Allan among the KHS teachers offering RS classes, I would be remiss to not mention that in the past she has been a remarkable RS partner, motivating her students and inspiring them to believe in their potential to successfully complete college-level courses. In short, you have a fine Running Start team whose commitment to Conway District students is indeed commendable.

Best regards,

Jody Camile
White Mountain Community College

14. Therese Davison, Holly Fougere and the music and choral students would like to invite everyone to the Holiday Concert on Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 6:30 pm. A variety of seasonal favorites are being performed by instrumental and choral groups. There will be a bake sale at intermission along with a Silent Auction, so you can get some holiday shopping done while enjoying sounds of the season. A good time will be had by all, promise!

