

RSU #16 Elementary Principals' Report

October 2023

RSU #16 Elementary School News:

Individual School News:

Elm Street School	Minot Consolidated School	Poland Community School
<p><u>Data point of the month:</u></p> <p>Elm Street School currently has 231 students enrolled in grades PK-6.</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>-As of the end of September, we had 36 students who were considered chronically absent having missed 10% or more of the school year. At this point of the year, this represents any student who has missed 2.2 days of school or more. This represents 15.6% of our population.</p> <p>*Behavior</p> <p>-Average of 1.4 ODRs per day (National Average is 1.07) for the month of September.</p> <p>28 total referrals in September (4 majors/22 minors)</p> <p>-92.2% of students received no ODRs for the month of September, with a goal of at least 80%.</p> <p>*Of note, we did not begin collecting ODR's until September 18th. This allowed us time to teach school-wide expectations and to provide training to staff on the office discipline referral process and collection. I anticipate that our numbers will begin to increase in the coming months as we have more days of data collection.</p> <p><u>Highlights of the past Month:</u></p> <p>-During the month of September, we recognized Attendance Awareness Month. During our morning announcements, we highlighted the importance of regular attendance and gave students tips on ways to ensure they were building positive attendance habits. We also hosted a week-long attendance awareness spirit week with fun dress up</p> 	<p><u>Data point of the month:</u></p> <p>Minot Consolidated School currently has 217 students enrolled in grades PK-6.</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>-As of the end of September, we had 26 students who were considered chronically absent having missed 10% or more of the school year. At this point of the year, this represents any student who has missed 2.2 days of school or more. This represents 12% of our population.</p> <p>Behavior</p> <p>-Average of 4.6 ODRs per day (National Average is 1.07) for the month of September.</p> <p>92 total referrals in September (32 majors/60 minors)</p> <p>-86.6% of students received no ODRs for the month of September, with a goal of at least 80%.</p> <p><u>Highlights of the past Month:</u></p> <p>-Since our last board report, we have had our September Mustang Pride Assembly. Two Students from each class received a Mustang Pride Certificate from their teacher. We had 3 students receive Books-A-Million cards for their work on PBIS.</p>  <p>-We have had a staff member receive the Horace Mann Hootie Award for their dedication to our students. September's recipient was Brian Whittier who is our newest custodian.. We are so grateful for all he does for our school!</p> 	<p><u>Data point of the month:</u></p> <p>Our current enrollment at Poland Community School is 436 students, this includes two FLS middle school students who are part of our school.</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>We have 48 students who have been absent for more than 10% of our school days. This number represents 11% of our population. This early in the year, that only constitutes missing a little more than 2 days. We do not have any truant students to date.</p> <p>Behavior</p> <p>We had 88 ODRs (Office Discipline Referrals) in September. Of the 88, 48 were major behaviors that required administrative management, and 40 were minor behaviors that were handled within the classroom by teachers. The most frequent behaviors that we are having to address are physical aggression and defiance.</p> <p><u>Highlights of the past Month:</u></p> <p>-Pre-K joined our school community! On Thursday, September 7th, they attended orientation with their families, and then had their first official day on Friday, September 8th! Mrs. Patenaude and Mrs. Lavoie have done an incredible job introducing our youngest learners to PCS!</p> 

days connected to positive attendance habits.

*Thanks to our partners at Horace Mann, we will be recognizing two students each



month who have demonstrated positive attendance habits. We will recognize our students on our morning announcements and they will be presented with a gift card to honor their efforts. Pictured here are September's winners, Abel and Aubrey!

*This year, we've begun using our buddy classrooms to build stronger connections between our upper grade level students and our younger students. We announced our buddy classroom partners during our first whole school assembly and the classroom teachers have been finding fun

ways to foster these relationships! Grade level buddies have participated in classroom learning celebrations, partner reading, and with classroom



rewards through our PBIS system. Pictured here are our fifth graders participating in reading with our K



students and our other 5th grade

classroom participating in a PJ/Stuffy/Movie time with a first grade classroom.

*In September, we held our Wildcat Kick-Off assembly where we welcomed back our Wildcats, introduced new staff, and reviewed our whole-school assembly expectations. Mrs. Jenkins also shared some important messages about our goal

-Did you know that Minot Consolidated School has a newly formed Student Advisory Team? This is a group of 8 dedicated 5th and 6th grade students who were either appointed by their teacher or chosen by their peers. We had our first meeting and the students are very excited to start working alongside MCS staff on school improvement efforts!

-We held our first Annual Fall Harvest Dinner in conjunction with the Minot Community Club. Students and families donated items to be raffled off in baskets and families came together to celebrate Fall as a community.

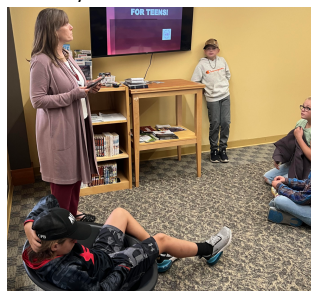


-You may recall that before school started, our staff participated in BARR (Building Assets and Reducing Risks) training. This past month, teachers have started their U-Time (community building activities) as well as the BARR meetings in order to support students!

-After an amazing amount of hard work from our students, families, community members, and Rosanna Goss, MCS has wrapped up an amazing year with our community garden! The vegetables have all been harvested and we look forward to the spring when we can start all over again!



-Students in grades 2 and 6 went on a field trip to the Auburn Public Library. Students enjoyed the teen space, toured the entire facility (including original rooms and architecture dating back to the early 1900s), saw the innovation lab and met foster cat, Bella, from the Great Androscoggin Humane Society.



-The end of September and the start of October brought some formal assessments. Students in grades K-6 completed the i-Ready diagnostic for Reading and Math. Students in grades 3-6 started the Maine State Testing for Reading and Math as well. The students worked very hard on their assessments and we look forward to using the data to support their needs.

September was field trip time for our FLS classes, as well as our 2nd, and 3rd graders! FLS went to Wallingford's Fruit Farm. They were able to tour the facility and pick apples that they later used to bake some delicious apple crisp!



2nd graders went to the Cumberland Fair where they toured all of the agricultural displays and learned how food gets from the fields and farms to our tables.



3rd grade went to Poland Spring Historical Complex where they learned about the local history of Poland Springs.



-We have been enjoying our school-wide U-Times on Thursday mornings. Doing it all together at the same time as a school community has allowed for all staff to participate in classrooms. Some grade levels

for improved attendance this year! We have set a lofty goal of having a daily average of 95% at the end of this year! We ended our assembly with some



fun competition between students. Our ESS Wildcat joined in on the fun too! *ESS/MCS School Counselor, Stephanie Dodge was recognized as September's Horace Mann Hootie Award winner. Stephanie joined our staff this year and has already proven to be one amazing school counselor. She has shown tremendous initiative with our students



and has done a great job building connections at ESS. We are excited to have a school counselor back at ESS after not being able to fill the position with a qualified candidate last year.

*Big Thank-You to our school, SRO, Bernie Westleigh for her help in locating our kindergarten students' missing Gingerbread Man! Bernie returned him after he went missing earlier this month.



This activity was created by our K staff to teach students the importance of knowing their name, address, and phone numbers, and the importance

of using our friends in law enforcement to help us! Thank-you to our amazing kitchen crew for their help in baking our Gingerbread man!

Staff Professional Development:

*ESS staff have participated in a variety of PD opportunities through the month of September. Our teaching staff participated in a district day focused on our literacy and math curriculum and implementation. All staff continued completing their

Staff Professional Development:

This month's professional development started with elementary teachers coming together for a district professional development day centered around literacy and math. At MCS, staff participated in annual training on our teacher evaluation program, reflected on their individual teaching practices through a self-assessment, and participated in goal setting activities. Staff also worked on some team building activities through a staff U-Time (similar to what we do with students through the BARR program) and discussed our school-wide values. Teachers involved in Maine State testing, participated in training around proctoring the assessment. Staff also participated in a "Get Everyone Outside" training which seeks to provide more opportunities for outdoor learning for our students. On our In-Service Day, our special education team had the opportunity to meet with Jo St. Peter-Scott. Teachers in grades 3-6 spent time with our district's literacy coach on the topic of our spelling program. Other teachers analyzed i-Ready data and planned for supporting students based on their individual needs. In the afternoon teachers participated in some additional training to support our work with BARR. It was a very busy month for professional development.

We could really use...

- Additional Volunteers to cover a few more duties or to have back ups in case we have a day when one is not able to attend.
- Our special ed programs across the district are in need of additional ed techs in order to provide the level of support that is required for our students with IEPs.
- Candy donations for our Annual Truck or Treat

You're Invited:

- You are invited to volunteer in our school during any time that is convenient for you! (We appreciate the school board members who have already committed to supporting our school through volunteering!)
- You are invited to attend our Mustang Pride Assembly on October 27th at 2:15pm.
- Trunk or Treat sponsored by the Minot Community Club on October 31st from 6:00-7:00 pm. (Please let us know if you would like to host a trunk.)
- Minot Community Club Meeting: November 7th at 7:00pm at MCS.

have even chosen to do the U-Times together as a grade, while others have opted to keep it as a classroom activity.



Staff Professional Development:

-Denelle Gendron and Lacy Rechisky have been working closely with BARR coaches Lia Watts, and Amy Halstrom on the implementation of the BARR program. Lia and Amy made their first (of 4) visits to PCS on Oct 3rd. They toured the school, observed some Small Block meetings and gave great feedback on our schools implementation of the BARR model.

- The GEO (Get Everyone Outside) committee members, Deb Conley and Kim Simpson presented on ways to start incorporating outdoor education into PCS classrooms.
- During the workshop day on October 6th, Amy Eastman led PCS staff in PBIS and CICO training. She also provided refresher training on the procedures of our MTSS team.



We could really use...

- We are still looking for a 1st grade interventionist.
- We are always looking for substitute teachers and volunteers.
- Custodial help!

You're Invited:

- To join us for a U-Time any Thursday morning from 9:00 to 9:30.

<p>required mandatory training through our provided video series.</p> <p>*We also completed training on our BARR (Building Assets, Reducing Risks) implementation and schedule. We have been able to implement all of the essential components of the program (small block, big block, community connect, and U-time) within the first month of school. The staff have been giving positive feedback on the program, especially the U-time curriculum. Our school completes their U-time, we call it Wildcat Huddle time, each Wednesday. Since we complete this whole school, it allows all of our staff to be involved in the teaching!</p> <p>*During the month of September, the leadership team completed focus groups with our staff. We are using the information gathered during our focus time to help guide the essential work of our school based committees and the work of our Leadership Team. Our first two focus group topics were behavior and school culture/climate.</p> <p>*Teachers were provided an orientation on our Teacher Evaluation Program.</p> <p>*A representative from Pink Feather visited our staff to provide an orientation to their non-profit and ways it can benefit the students in our school.</p> <p><u>We could really use...</u></p> <p>*Bus drivers! Our new transportation director has done a great job trying to mitigate the impact of our driver shortage! Unfortunately, we have been impacted by having to do double runs with one of our buses which results in late arrivals and longer bus rides, as well as delays in getting home!</p> <p><u>You're Invited:</u></p> <p>Girls on the Run: I can't believe we are already halfway through our Girls on the Run (GOTR) season! It has been a truly amazing experience to watch these girls grow and become their best selves! Our season ends with two culminating events that we need volunteers for!</p> <p>Thursday, November 2nd right after school is our 5k practice. This is when the girls will get their first taste of running/walking/moving forward for 3.2 miles. We will need volunteers to help us keep eyes on the girls and of course, cheer them on as they complete the practice 5k!</p> <p>Sunday, November 12th, is our celebratory 5k! This is the official 5k that the girls have been working so hard for and will take place in Brunswick at Brunswick Landing! The Girls were IN SHOCK when I told them that there would be people they knew cheering for them</p>		<p>-Fire Safety Day, October 10th. PFRD will be hosting presentations throughout the day in the PCS gymnasium.</p> <p>-Our next Panther Pride Assembly on November 2nd @ 9:45 am.</p>
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<p>and running with them. I know it will mean so much to them if people participate in some capacity. If you are interested in running/walking/moving forward in the 5k follow this link https://www.pinwheel.us/register/index/GOTR-Maine-Fall23-5k-Registration?sid=78375b077af34113a06563b50593bf0d&fh=0 and register as a 5k supporter!</p> <p>Fire Prevention/Safety Day: We have our Mechanic Falls FD coming on Friday, October 13! We will kick off the day with a fun assembly at 9:00 in the ESS gymnasium.</p>		
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