

Lin-Wood Newsletter



Dear Lincoln-Woodstock Community,

We proudly reflect on the significant accomplishments and developments in our schools over the past year. These achievements are a testament to the dedication, collaboration, and resilience of our entire community. Alongside our commitment to academic excellence, we have expanded professional development for staff, secured new grants for innovative programs, and launched a strategic planning process to guide our district's vision for the future.

In terms of professional development, staff participated in training on ClearTouch panels and Branching Minds software, and enhanced literacy strategies with experts like Dr. Tolman and Maureen Watson. Our grade 6–12 ELA teachers attended the National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) Conference, gaining valuable insights into research-based practices. Additionally, our Special Education department achieved 100% compliance on critical indicators, reflecting their commitment to exceptional support.

The ongoing strategic planning process consists of four phases: Discovery, Design, Validation, and Implementation (2025–26). This initiative engages community perspectives and seeks to shape our district for the next five years with an actionable plan being put into motion.

We are also thankful for three major grants: a \$50,000 NHDOE K–5 Literacy Grant (Bridging the Gap in the 603), a Hydroponic Tower Grant for sustainability and agriculture projects, and a 3D Printer Grant to enhance our STEM programs.

Furthermore, due to a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with North Country schools, the Advanced Placement (AP) offerings for the 2025–2026 academic year will be significantly expanded. Students can now choose from an extensive list, including AP Precalculus, AP Statistics, AP European History, and more, enabling them to face demanding coursework and earn college credits early.

The Class of 2025 has achieved remarkable college readiness, accumulating a total of 306 college-equivalent credits, yielding a financial benefit of \$144,126 for local families. This success highlights the effectiveness of our rigorous curriculum and dedicated faculty.

In July, we will launch a redesigned district website to enhance communication and improve access to resources for staff, families, and community members. Our achievements are the result of the commitment from educators, students, and community support, fostering an environment that empowers learners to excel. We appreciate your involvement and look forward to continued collaboration in shaping the future of the Lincoln-Woodstock Cooperative School District.

Warm regards,

Mary Steady
Superintendent of Schools
Lincoln-Woodstock Cooperative School District



Fourth graders designed and used the laser cutter to create holiday ornaments for their loved ones.

Strategic Plan Update: Let's take Lin-Wood from *good* to great!

As you know, we have begun constructing a Strategic Plan for our district for the upcoming school years. In this process, we are working to ensure that we hear from as many members of the community as possible.

Through empathy conversations and design studios in the fall, 2Revolutions was able to hear from many students, teachers, board, and community members. They are working to synthesize what they heard thus far, so the next steps of processing and constructing the goals and strategies can take place. This process will be in partnership with what is known as a Community Planning Group, a broad and diverse group of accepted applicants who will partner with Lin-Wood and 2Revolutions to craft the draft of the strategic plan.

The process includes the following steps:

1. **Discovery** (January-February): Gathering information to inform our planning process, including:
 - a. Community Engagement – Listening and learning from voices throughout our community.
 - b. Teacher, Staff, Leader, and Student Engagement– Listening and learning from voices throughout our schools and learning communities.
 - c. Existing Reports – Leveraging the findings of recent past and current studies and grant initiatives undertaken by the District.
 - d. Relevant Models – Learning from other communities that have realized school improvement plans.
2. **Design** (March-June): Collaboration between 2Revolutions and Community Planning Group in exploring, shaping, and, ultimately, making a plan for the future of Lin-Wood.
3. **Validation** (May-June): When drafts of the plan are shared with the community for evaluation, feedback, and validation.
4. **Implementation** (2025-26 School Year): Presentation of our final plan to the School Board for approval, and continued partnership with the District to ensure actualization and monitor progress.

Thank you for your continued support!

News from Athletic Director, Matt Manning

Lin-Wood Under the Lights was a fantastic event for our high school soccer program! It was an incredible evening of competitive soccer, filled with great energy and community spirit. The support from our attendees was incredible, and it was a wonderful opportunity to raise funds for the senior class. We look forward to making this an annual event!



The Lumberjacks had an exciting and successful fall sports season! The boys' varsity soccer team finished with a record of 5-9-2, earning a playoff spot. They fought hard throughout the season, and their determination paid off as they advanced to postseason play.

The girls' varsity soccer team finished 6th in the division, securing a first-round home playoff game. The Lady Lumberjacks triumphed over Epping in a thrilling match, moving on to the second round where they faced a tough loss to Newmarket.

Our Cross Country team demonstrated impressive growth, with many runners achieving personal records. The season culminated with a strong performance at the state meet at Derryfield Park, highlighting the team's dedication and progress.

Overall, it was a season filled with hard work, growth, and memorable moments for our Lumberjack athletes!

Congratulations to the following fall athletes for their outstanding achievements and post-season honors:

- **Kate Clermont** and **Hadi Corey** were named to the **Granite State Girls Soccer Northern Division** team.
- **Division IV Girls Soccer All-State Honors:**
 - **Kate Clermont** – 2nd Team
 - **Kiley Clermont, Hadi Corey, Asha Ivester, and Caroline Hiltz** – Honorable Mention
- **Boys Soccer All-State Honors:**
 - **Wyatt Weeden** – 2nd Team
 - **Mason Clark and Andy Morris** – Honorable Mention



Student Activity Highlights



Lin-Wood Celebrates Veterans & Our Community

Back in November, we hosted local Veterans with a variety of student speakers, poems, and musical selections by the band and chorus. Scott McIntyre was our Veteran guest speaker who shared his experiences from his time in the military. This is an annual tradition and one that our school community is very proud of. We are grateful for our Veterans. Our MS students also participated in community service events.



Poetry Out Loud

Our annual Poetry Out Loud competitions took place in classrooms on December 12th - every high school English student worked hard to memorize their poems; ask your student about their poems! The calibration round for our second place classroom winners was on January 7 in front of grades 6-12, and our school-wide competition was on January 14th at the Woodstock Station. Our winner is senior Dalton Lylyk and our alternate is senior Sarah Jolly. Dalton's journey ended, sadly, at the State Finals in Concord on March 14.



Rotary Speeches

Congratulations to senior Dalton Lylyk for being our Rotary Speech School Champion and also to sophomore Maisie Anderson for being selected as our alternate. Dalton, Maisie, Maha Awan, and Kai Mansharamani competed at the Rotary meeting December 4th, and Dalton and Maisie will move onto the district competition in March. All of our high school students participate in this annual tradition during the month of November as a summative public speaking assessment. This year's topic was about how collaboration helps to make us better citizens of the world.

WMCC

Some juniors and seniors attended White Mountain Community College's open house in November at the Berlin campus. Students picked three career pathways to explore (welding, business administration, health sciences, nursing, massage therapy, diesel mechanics, automotive, culinary...to name a few). Students had a tour of the classrooms and learned about the types of classes they would need to take to complete each degree or certification. Some programs had hands-on demonstrations, and students left with a lot of information.

Thank you to White Mountain Community College for inviting us!



Industry Career Expo Visit

The North Country Industry Career Expo was held at the Lancaster Fairgrounds on September 17, and we sent 45 middle and high school students to explore. Eighty different vendors were in attendance and students were able to learn about career opportunities available in various outdoor fields.



Kindergarten Fashion Show was a stylish success!

Students and staff sauntered down the runway to display their favorite items based on letters of the alphabet.



Kinders at Play



Walk N' Roll to School

Elementary and middle school students participated in our annual Walk N' Roll to School Day on Wednesday, October 9. This national event began in 1997, and now thousands of schools participate every October.



Middle School Students of the Quarter

Middle school students earn this commendation by being helpful, kind, and responsible as well as putting extra effort into class participation and assignments.



Winter Concert

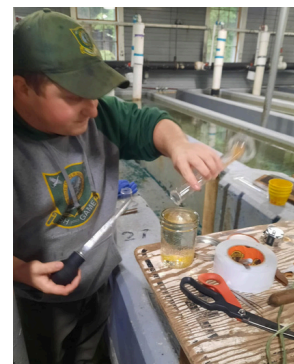


Middle School Ski Team!



Wellness Committee

The Wellness Committee has been rejuvenated this school year and continues to focus on staff and student wellness. In 2024 the Wellness Committee hosted soup and salad lunch events for staff, a month-long abdominal workout challenge for staff and students, and there have been multiple outdoor opportunities for students including middle school hikes and Flume Friday gatherings for staff. In 2025, they hosted Random Acts of Kindness Bingo in February, and will host Meditation March, and will create a new webpage that features healthy living resources for families.



Science Department News

The science department has completed impressive projects and lab work during the first half of the year including dissecting a deer heart, starting to raise brook trout, and experimenting with various materials.



Future Dates

March 19: Novel Engineering Night K-8, 5 to 7 PM

April 1: Visiting author Ty Gagne 4th block for high school students

April 1 - May 30: NH SAS Testing grades 3-5, 8, & 11

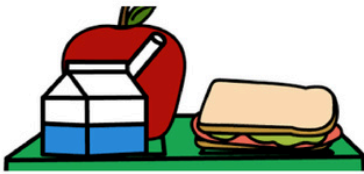
April 10: Student-Led Conferences, 3:00 to 6:00 PM

April 11: Student-Led Conferences, 8:00 AM to Noon

April 23: SATs

April 28 - May 2: Spring Break

Resources



Lin-Wood Food Service

FAQ:

1. Where can I access lunch and breakfast menus?

On the school website. Go to lin-wood.org, click on Parents, click on Foodservice. Scroll down for links to menus.

2. How can I put money on my student's account?

You can send in cash, checks or pay online at MySchoolBucks.

3. What is MySchoolBucks?

MySchoolBucks is an online payment system for your student's school meals. You can pay, see what your child is eating and check their balances. See flyer with information on MySchoolBucks.

4. How does my student(s) qualify for Free or Reduced Meals?

Fill out an application to see if you qualify. Contact bbarnett@lin-wood.org or see the application and instructions on the school website by clicking on Parents and select Foodservice.

5. How can filling out a school meal application help me or my school?

It may help provide: free or reduced meals for students, state and federal funding through grants for our schools, fee waivers for college applications or admissions tests, other resources for our school district. **See "It's More Than A Meal Application" flyer. See our website for more information.

6. What is "Breakfast After the Bell"?

Breakfast After the Bell is offered at the Lin-Wood Elementary School. It is an easy way for your elementary student to have breakfast when they arrive in their classroom at school each day. See your student's teacher for more information.



Special Education News

- ParentGuidance.org provides information, courses, and professional support to caregivers seeking assistance for helping their children navigate challenges, such as: depression, anxiety, and family conflict. Explore their free materials [here](#).
- In December 2024, the NH Department of Education updated the Special Education Procedural Safeguards. The updated handbook can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions contact
Director of Pupil Services
Nancy Bartlett at nbartlett@lin-wood.org.