

M A Y 1 8 , 2 0 1 8

the Athol-Royalston Regional School District Highlights



Senior Athletes Celebrated

A special thank you to the Athol-Royalston Athletic Association and the Athol Boosters Association for their exceptional support of our athletic program. Last Monday night the Athol Royalston Athletic Association held an award ceremony to recognize all the senior students who lettered in at least one sport. They also awarded two students as outstanding athletes and one coach of the year. The Athol Boosters Association has provided over \$12,000.00 in scholarships to student athletes. The Athol Royalston Athletic Association is in the process of building a pavilion in the high school track area that will cost just over \$18,000.



Superintendents Calendar

5/21/2018

- Aces Student Focus Group
- AHS Site Visit

5/22/2018

- ACES site visit
- AHS Spring Concert

5/23/2018

- New Superintendent Induction Program
- ARMS District Learning Walk

5/24/2018

- Directors Meetings
- Mentor Program Meeting

5/25/2018

- Memorial Ceremonies

Pictures of the Week

AHS Students enjoy themselves at the Senior Prom and After Party



Over the course of the last few weeks, Superintendent Fernandes has been meeting with students from across the district to hear how their experiences in school have been going.

The students have been asked the following questions:

- What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment this year?
- What is your schools greatest success this year?
- What has changed in your classroom experience from last year to this year?
- Is your school going in the right direction? Explain your answer.
- What would you like to see changed in your school?
- Is there anything you wanted to tell me that I did not ask?

Once the interviews were completed the administrators in the building were given a summary of what the students said and the notes from the meetings were passed on to them. There will be one more session at the middle school in the near future. Also, the superintendent will begin teacher focus groups in all schools in June.

Throughout the last few months, the District Literacy Committee has been working diligently to assess the state of our current programming. One question that has come up is how well do we understand the term literacy. The State of Massachusetts has defined Literacy Across the Curriculum expectations in the ELA curriculum frameworks. Below is a summary of what literacy skills should be taught across the curriculum. Highlighted in yellow are areas predominantly supported by Pre K-5 instruction; all grade levels support all others.

Reading	Writing	Speaking/Listening	Language
Key Ideas and Details	Text Type and Purpose	Comprehension and Collaboration	Conventions of English
Craft and Structure	Production and Distribution of Writing	Presentation and Knowledge of Ideas	Knowledge of Language
Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	Research to Build Knowledge		Vocabulary Acquisition and Use
Range of Reading and level of text complexity	Range of Writing		
Print Concepts			
Phonics and Word Recognition			
Fluency			
Phonological Awareness			

As the district moves forward it will be important to ask how are we each supporting the development of literacy in classrooms? How are we embedding these skills in our lessons? How are we assessing where students are so we can lend support?

The work of the Literacy Planning Committee will help to answer these questions along with Keys to Literacy, our vendor partner. The Literacy Planning Committee and Keys to Literacy will give suggestions to the district on professional development and materials we need to move forward. The district will use the suggestions to set a plan of support and improvement across the district.

In the meantime, teachers may want to review the state ELA Curriculum Frameworks. Once accessed look for the pages that address literacy standards in content areas to fully understand the expectations.

ELA Curriculum Frameworks Link:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/ela/2017-06.pdf>