

PCS News 3/17/23

Dear PCS Community,

I hope this week's Friday News finds you all well, with heat and power, and cleared out from the storm. To me, this week's storm and the aftermath were another example of the power of the Putney community - it's truly remarkable to be a part of.

We've had a full few days here! Here are some highlights:

- Forest Fridays were exciting today! Our 3rd and first graders joined up in their classrooms for a fire and sledding, and our K and 2nd graders spent the morning out in their forest classrooms.
- Our 8th graders put on a Science Symposium this morning in which they shared their engineering designs to solve the problem of how to design a flashlight for rescuers to use that does not run the risk of running out of batteries - very impressive! 6th and 7th graders are working on similar challenges
- Our 4th graders are swimming in sap, and deep into their sugaring unit. Today they learned about boiling temperatures of water and syrup, and pushed the temperature up a bit to make hand-dipped sugar on snow lollipops in the classroom. The sap is running strong!

Attached in this week's newsletter is information related to the WSED School Board's annual meeting, including budget vote, on this coming Tuesday at BUHS. Please review that material, and consider attending that meeting if you can - this is one way in which our communities can be engaged and support our schools. I am more than happy to connect with any of you if you have questions about the PCS budget in particular.

Finally, please look for information coming from your child's teacher about parent-teacher conference days coming up. We have half days of school on Friday 3/24 and Monday 3/27 to accommodate these meetings. Looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Surveys:

if you have not yet completed the Parent Climate Survey or the Playground Design Input Survey, please try to take a minute to do so if you are able.

Parent Climate Survey: <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/windhamsevt>. You will need to enter this code, which is specific to Putney Central: 1742796429.

Playground Survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkRpg1-_WJ-VFf7T0YK3tjzL3YdhOp64pn7jQoUaK06FU0w/viewform

Staff Highlight



Jon is thrilled to be in his first year as Principal at PCS and regularly raves about what an incredible school community we are a part of. Prior to coming to Putney Central, Jon was the Assistant Principal at Academy School in Brattleboro for 4 years, and a Special Education teacher for 7 years prior to that. Professionally, Jon is passionate about fostering a holistic wellbeing in students in school; one grounded in self-awareness, a sense of belonging, and confidence as learners and individuals. Personally, Jon spends as much time as he can outside with his wife and three kids (9 year old and 7 year old twins). He is an avid skier and mountain biker, and has a goal of camping in every Vermont State Park before his kids don't want to camp with him anymore.