WMRSD Leaders and Learners – Your Community Connection
White Mountains Regional School District

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At the Lancaster School

On Tuesday, January 27, Lancaster Elementary School's fifth-grade students traveled to the New Hampshire State Capitol in Concord for a memorable and educational experience focused on civic engagement and student leadership. The trip coincided with the New Hampshire Kid Governor and Executive Councilor Inauguration, providing students with a firsthand look at state government in action.

A highlight of the day was the swearing-in of Lancaster's own Phia Scott as one of the student Executive Council members. Selected for her platform focused on improving dental health awareness, Phia represented her school and community with pride. Her leadership and commitment to student well-being earned her a place among young leaders from across the state.

During the visit, students participated in a variety of enriching activities. They met with State Senator David Rochefort to learn more about the legislative process, enjoyed lunch inside the historic State House, and toured the building while learning about New Hampshire's government and history. These experiences helped bring classroom lessons about civics and citizenship to life.

This marks the second consecutive year that Lancaster Elementary has participated in the New Hampshire Kid Governor Program. Impressively, it is also the second year in a row that a Lancaster student has been selected as a finalist and sworn in as a member of the Executive Council.

The trip reinforced the importance of civic responsibility and demonstrated how student voices can make a meaningful impact at the state level.

At the Whitefield School

6th Grade Highlights

Reading/Writing:
Whitefield sixth-grade students participate in Walk to Read for their reading and writing instruction, allowing for targeted support and skill development based on individual learning needs.

Math:
Following the first unit on ratios, students completed a unit on area. They learned the formulas for finding the area of squares, rectangles, and parallelograms, as well as triangles. Students are

now working on Unit 3, which focuses on unit rates and percentages. In addition to daily lessons, they complete math practice pages to review and reinforce previously learned skills.

Science:
Students are currently studying matter and its properties. Through hands-on labs, research activities, and model building, they are strengthening their understanding of key concepts. The class has explored matter, atoms, and elements, and is now studying the periodic table.

Social Studies:
Students are applying their knowledge of government, geography, and economics to design their own nations. As part of this project, they create detailed maps, research climate and natural resources for their chosen regions, develop timelines that blend historical and fictional events, establish a government structure based on systems they have studied, and design flags that represent their nations.

WIN (What I Need):
WIN is a 30-minute period during which music lessons and weekly wellness meetings may be scheduled. Students also use this time to work on weekly assignments and are encouraged to manage their time effectively to complete their work.

At White Mountains Regional High School
Students in the Contemporary Communication class at White Mountains Regional have spent the past several months working on what is likely the most demanding academic project of their high school careers: their Capstone Projects.

Rather than completing a single test or paper, seniors design a semester-long research project centered on a topic they genuinely care about. This year's projects span a wide range of interests—from the effects of social media on teen mental health to nutrition for dairy cows, welding, law enforcement, stock car racing, starting a business, logging, gaming, psychology, music, agriculture, and public health. Some students conducted interviews, others analyzed real-world data, and many connected their research directly to careers they hope to pursue after graduation.

The goal of the course is not simply to collect facts, but to ask deeper questions: Why does this topic matter? Who does it affect? What should be done differently? Students are expected to defend their ideas with evidence, explain their reasoning clearly, and reflect honestly on what they learned throughout the process.

On March 18 and 19, from 5:30–7:30 p.m., the public is invited to attend Capstone Nights, where students will present their projects through slideshow presentations. Community members, families, and local residents are encouraged to attend, listen, and ask questions.

These presentations offer a window into how today's students are learning to think critically, conduct research, and communicate effectively—skills that matter whether a student plans to attend college, enter the trades, or go directly into the workforce or military.