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

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At the Lancaster School

Lancaster Elementary School has transitioned to a podcast format for its weekly *Leaders and Learners* article, in which guests are typically asked three questions: What are you proud of? Why are you proud? and What's next? In episode #012, the format shifts slightly as students and staff share what they are thankful for. The school hopes listeners enjoy this special holiday-themed episode.

The podcast is available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeart Podcasts, and Amazon Music.

- Apple Podcasts: Search *The Big 3 – Lancaster School*
- Spotify: Search *The Big 3 – Lancaster School*
- Amazon Music: Search *The Big 3 – Lancaster School*
- iHeart Podcasts: Search *The Big 3 – Lancaster School*

If community members outside the school district are interested in participating in future episodes, the school would love to hear from them.

At the Whitefield School

The first graders at the Whitefield School have been busy exploring new ideas, practicing important skills, and engaging in hands-on learning across all subjects.

In science, students have been diving into the fascinating world of living things through their Mystery Science unit. They have been studying the characteristics of plants and animals, observing their features, understanding what they need to survive, and identifying how they are alike and different. Students especially enjoyed participating in hands-on activities, such as learning about camouflage by creating their own paper moths designed to blend into the classroom environment.

In math, the focus has been on building addition skills through a variety of domino-based games. These activities help students recognize number patterns, strengthen fact fluency, and develop strategies for combining numbers. The games have been a big hit—students love the interactive and playful approach to practicing their math facts.

In writing, first graders have been learning how to craft strong opinion pieces. They have practiced stating an opinion clearly, providing reasons to support their thinking, and writing closing sentences. Their thoughtful ideas on topics such as favorite candies, pets, and winter activities have been wonderful to read and hear.

It has been a wonderful few weeks of learning, and the staff is very proud of the curiosity, effort, and enthusiasm the first graders bring to the classroom each day. Everyone looks forward to more exciting discoveries ahead.

At White Mountains Regional High School

On Wednesday, November 19th, White Mountains Regional High School held its annual Spartan Exhibition Night. This year's theme, *"Pathways to Possibilities… The Spartan Way,"* was evident throughout the event. A true highlight was the collaborative learning experience between the Diversified Agriculture and Culinary Arts programs, known as "Field to Fork." Diversified Agriculture raised a pig, had it processed at a local farm, and then Culinary Arts fabricated the pork into a variety of delicious bites. This full-circle experience showcased one of the extraordinary opportunities available to students at White Mountains Regional High School.

Visitors also enjoyed drone demonstrations from the Geospatial Technology program, while Spartan Robotics showcased an array of technology in action in the gym. Yoga and Pilates students offered guided meditation sessions, and Vocal Fusion held an open rehearsal. The freshman class hosted a silent auction fundraiser, and the Alpine Ski Team organized a raffle for tickets to Bretton Woods. Diversified Agriculture also highlighted its projects in the shop and led tours of the barn and sawmill. Criminal Justice students facilitated VR training sessions and set up a mock crime scene.

Throughout the remaining hallways, students shared glimpses into their learning as Spartans, presenting projects such as a student-created magazine on the Cold War, JROTC service-learning initiatives, sculptures, *Día de los Muertos* ofrendas, poems, and essays. "Field to Fork" Spartan-raised pork creations, along with cookies and refreshments, were complimentary for all guests.

Exhibition Night exemplifies the dedication to learning demonstrated by both teachers and students—another outstanding example of Spartans in action.