COYOTE CALLER

April 6, 2026

A Love of Reading in the Library

During Women's History Month, students in the library have been celebrating the achievements of remarkable women. K and 1st grade explored the story of Mahani Teave, who helped build a music school from recycled materials in Rapa Nui, as told in "The Girl Who Heard Music." They also learned about Viola Smith, the fastest female drummer of her time, and Raye Montague, a pioneering engineer who designed the first naval ship using a computer program in "Up Periscope!" 2nd/3rd/4th graders discovered the work of Joan Procter, the English zoologist featured; Yaffa Eliach, a Holocaust survivor; and Temple Grandin, who invented the hug machine to help herself find calm.

Students participated in the Chickadee Book Award voting, with "Luigi the Spider Who Wanted to Be a Kitten" by Michelle Knudsen winning the school and the state competition. Fourth graders voted for their favorite Maine Student Book Award (MSBA) title and are eagerly awaiting the results.

Through these activities, students have learned about many important women and have enjoyed discovering new books and stories.

School Librarian Appreciation

In celebration of Library Appreciation Day, we proudly recognize Mrs. Sullivan and Mrs. Martin for the incredible energy they bring to our school library.



Upcoming Events

- April 6-10: AP Appreciation Week
- April 17: Wellness Fair
- April 22: Administrative Assistants Day
- April 20-24: School Vacation Week
- May 4-8: Teacher Appreciation Week

Mighty Cool Students



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Dance Club

Our Grade 1 & 2 Dance Club lit up the stage at Friday's assembly after three months of hard work and practice! Students proudly showcased their high-energy routine inspired by Rio, impressing the audience with their cooperation and perseverance. It was wonderful to see our pups shine in front of the whole school! A huge shout-out to Ms. Nygren and Mrs. Williams for creating such a fun, engaging opportunity for our students and helping them build skills, friendships, and joy through dance.





Monthly Assembly













We wrapped up the month with an assembly on Friday afternoon. Students were recognized for their hard work and perseverance with special shoutouts to our PACER Test winners and Howling Helpers. We also celebrated several students who earned the "Most Improved" Award from our Sea Dogs partnership, an accomplishment that reflects growth and a positive attitude. To top it all off, our talented Ukulele Club members took the stage with their performance!

SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORNER

Theme of the Month: Cooperation



This month's focus is Cooperation. One way to think about Cooperation is "working together to reach shared goals." As a family, talk about how this definition applies to how you work together at home. What are some goals you share? What is 1 way you used Cooperation to resolve a conflict?



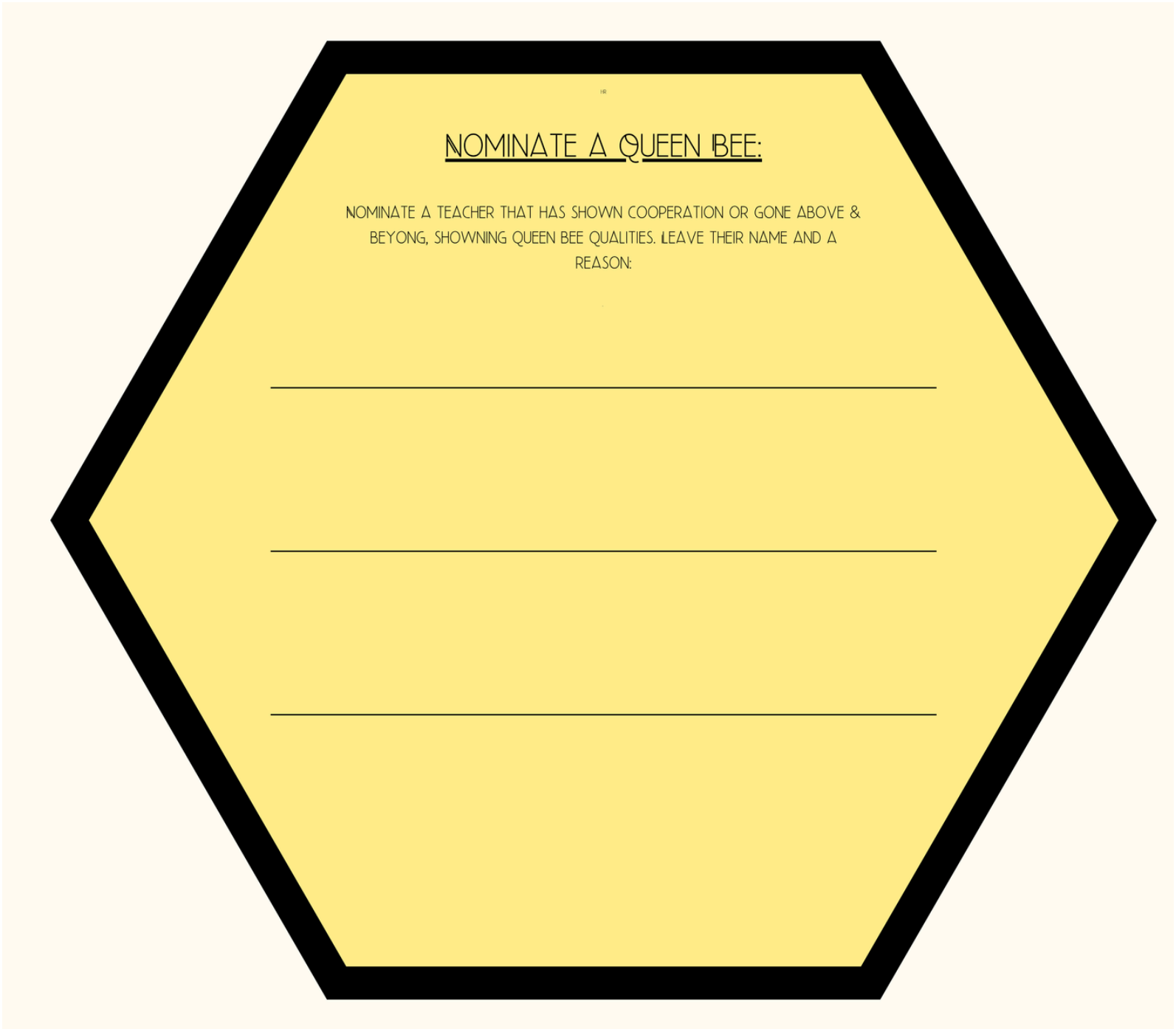
Wellness day April 17th

Our annual MCS Wellness Fair is a chance to expose & teach students to new wellness ideas, practices, & activities. It can include physical wellness & safety, health wellness, emotional/mental wellbeing, and personal wellbeing.

This year we have SO many amazing presenters, including SRTC & JMG students, the school SRO, 5-2-1-0, Dental hygiene, arts & crafts, Fire Department, Planet Fitness exercise session, & more!



At our assembly this week students were encouraged to recongize Queen Bees within our buildings who are using cooperation skills this month. Here is a copy if you too want to encourage your coyote to send one into school.



Together We've Got This — A Parent's Guide to Annual Testing

Each year, students across our district participate in standardized assessments. We know testing can sometimes feel stressful or raise questions for families. This document explains what these assessments are, why they matter, and how the information benefits your child(ren).

What Can You Do as a Parent?

- Encourage your child to trytheir best.
- Make sure your child is present on testing days.
- Encourage them to eat a good breakfast at home or at school
- Ask your child's teacher to help you understand their score report.

Spring Testing Windows

NWEA (Mathematics & Reading)

May 1 - June 5

Specific dates will come from your child's teacher

Maine's Choice: Why NWEA? Maine DOE selected NWEA for math and reading because it puts student growth first — and gives teachers the tools to act on what they learn.

- **Every Child Gets a Growth Story:** NWEA tracks each child's individual progress over time, showing how far they have come and where they are headed — not just whether they hit a grade-level mark.
- **Teachers Can Act Immediately**: Results are available right away, so teachers don't wait weeks to support a struggling reader or challenge a student who is ready for more.
- **Designed for the Classroom:** NWEA data helps teachers plan lessons, form small groups, and make targeted decisions that directly benefit each student every day.
- **Connects Home and School:** Results give families a clear, accessible picture of their child's growth — making it easier to have meaningful conversations with teachers.
- **Meets Federal & State Requirements**: NWEA also provides the grade-level proficiency data required by ESSA, ensuring Maine stays in compliance.

If you have questions reach out to Mrs. Hallissey or the Curriculum Office
blambert@sanford.org
324-2810

Our Goal: These assessments are not about labeling students - they are tools to help us serve every child better.