



Math Night at the Engineering table. The task is to design a box to hold the most sand. Impressed by Kelsey Allen's design are Kassu Kidane, Molly Kidane, and Damick Kinson. In the background Greg Allen concentrates on deigning his box.
Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand

AE/MS Parent-Teacher Organization

By Carmen Bates
AE/MS PTO

A PTO meeting was held on November 13 with our first teacher in attendance. We were happy to have Michael Wiley there and to have his input on some of our thoughts.

We are looking forward to being able to help with the Holiday Shoppe that takes place at the school every year. It will be held on Friday, December 15, this year and is a chance for the children to shop and purchase gifts for their families. Please consider sending in new items or almost new items – we need lots of donations.

We are going to sell Fun Passes as

a fundraiser for the PTO. The passes get children 12 and under into wonderful attractions in New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, and Massachusetts. The cost per pass is \$25 and will be here in time for Christmas gifts. These may be purchased until December 4.

Wreath making will take place on December 2, and all are welcome to come and help – the more the merrier!

Please remember to keep sending in your used ink cartridges and box tops to the school, as these really help us.

There will be no PTO meeting in December. Our January meeting is scheduled for the 8th at 6:30 PM in the AE/MS library.

If you are interested in any of the ideas or would like to purchase a Fun Pass, please call me at 735-5589.

Teacher Highlight:

Mrs. DeMinico and Mr. Hubert

By Josh Bennett, Eighth Grade
and Jane Slayton, Principal
Andover Elementary/Middle School

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches and students list what they are thankful for this year, one often hears the arts at AE/MS included. Andover students are fortunate to have an exceptional art and music program.

All students look forward to art class and have recently noticed the art program integrating more with their academics. Although this seems like a natural pairing, it does take coordination and communication among the instructors to plan and execute lessons together.

Music is everywhere in the school building. Many fourth grade students have taken up instruments this fall. The beginner and advanced bands are bursting with talented performers.

Mr. Paul Hubert and Mrs. Linda DeMinico are the prime movers and shakers behind the successful integrated arts program at AE/MS.

Mr. Hubert is all about music. Music is his mission. When he is not teaching music in the classroom or providing instrument lessons, he is on the road performing with his own band throughout New England.

Mr. Hubert feels that music is a gift he can share with students and audiences. Mr. Hubert's dream is to have band practice five days a week. Of course, it is hard to balance it all. Mr. Hubert teaches music to all eight grades and two kindergarten classes. In addition, he gives instrument lessons for all interested students in fourth through eighth grade. As if that wasn't enough, he also practices with the two bands once a week.

"Art isn't a crayon," states Mrs. DeMinico. "Through art you learn to make different decisions. You push yourself?"

Mrs. DeMinico feels that through art you are able to look at things differently. It is Mrs. DeMinico's dream to have a gallery and display art work for all the townspeople to see and enjoy.

If you have visited Andover Elementary / Middle School recently you might think that her dream of an art gallery is not far from becoming a reality. Wonderful, creative art pieces are everywhere! Middle school classes have taken turns showcasing their work. A photograph of the student artists can be seen among the masterpieces. The visual arts are certainly alive at AE/MS.

Come in and visit sometime and see why we are thankful for the arts!

AE/MS Holiday Shoppe

By Audrey Pellegrino
AE/MS Kindergarten teacher

What is the Holiday Shoppe?

It is a one-day event when AE/MS students are able to purchase gifts at very affordable prices for their families.

Where is the Holiday Shoppe?

The music room in the school magically transforms into the Holiday Shoppe one day a year.

When is the Holiday Shoppe?

Friday, December 15, from 8 AM to 2:30 PM. Each class is assigned a time to attend.

How can I help?

We always need many items. Please consider sending in new items

or almost-new items. If you are going shopping and see a bargain and are able to, please pick one up for the Holiday Shoppe. Last year there were 1,500 items purchased by the children.

What happens to the money?

Any profit supports field trips and student activities.

How can I help that day?

It takes four to six people to run the Holiday Shoppe and to help students make good choices and stay within their budgets. If you are able to donate time that day, please contact Mrs. Pellegrino at the school at 735-5494 or Carmen Bates at 735-5589.

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