



AE/MS To Hold Forum On Long Range Plan

By Jane Slayton
AE/MS Principal

In the winter of 2004, members of the school community came together to establish a long range plan for Andover Elementary / Middle School. The group was comprised of parents, teachers, school administrators, School Board members, government officials, local business people, and students. During the three-month period in which the committee met, a set of goals and strategies were developed which served to guide the school district for several

years. The plan was designed to span from 2004 to 2009. Therefore, the time has now come to update the plan.

The Student Leadership has taken an active role the last few years and has been interested in the long range planning process. Student Leadership team members recently did a presentation for the Andover School Board which demonstrated the importance of the individual goals.

The students, with the help of Principal Jane Slayton and Professor Bill Pre-
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A generous donation from Andover High School alumni capped off the AE/MS PTO's fundraising effort, so the new stage curtain is now in place.

Photo: Alan Hanscom

AE/MS NEWS

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Signs of spring are everywhere. Poetry is flourishing throughout the building. Students are memorizing and reciting poetry. Many students are even composing their own poems to share. I have had the treat of listening to several talented poets recently.

Poetry Night is April 15 at 6:30 PM. April is Poetry Month at AE/MS. Many classes prepare poetry anthologies to share, while others display student poetry. Older students share with younger students and vice versa. Poetry Night, before spring vacation, is always the culminating event.

Although creative leprechaun traps were set in the first grade classroom, we still had mischievous leprechauns run amuck, making a colossal mess. Maybe next year we will catch them. Although

we have been trying to catch the leprechauns for at least 10 years, we haven't been successful yet! The creative student writing generated from this activity was quite engaging and captivating.

The Andover One Wheelers finished March in their usual busy manner. They held the traditional Easter Breakfast on the 27th, complete with Easter bunny and egg hunts. The next day they performed in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Manchester.

Another sign of spring is Proctor
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(L-r) Ryan Barton, Colby Benoit, Joel Beauman, Logan Marcus, Keith Davis and Riley Anderson in health education class. Riley and Keith are putting on gloves as they prepare to participate in dissection. Photo: Heather Hill

Health Education Covers Lungs, Emotions, Dissection, And CPR

By Heather Hill
AE/MS School Nurse

Sixth grade students have been learning about the respiratory system, tobacco, and its negative effects on the human body. Students were very excited when they recently had the opportunity to examine healthy lungs and damaged smokers' lungs. Students are currently applying what they have learned by creating anti-smoking brochures using Microsoft Publisher. Ask your sixth grader to share the facts about the harmful effects of tobacco.

Seventh grade students spent the last several weeks learning about emotional health and gaining understanding of themselves as an adolescent. Students read the book *The Knight in Rusty Armor*, answered weekly questions related

to the text, did self-reflective activities, and designed a personal emotional health book. For the final project, students applied what they had learned by creating a three-dimensional representation of themselves.

Eighth grade students experienced learning through technology by participating in a Skype classroom exchange. Eighth grade students from the Ashland school and our eighth graders collaborated to learn about the cardiovascular system. During this experience students were able to engage in learning not only from Mrs. Hill but from Mr. Pollard and Mr. Heath, the health and science teachers from the Ashland school. The culminating activity was a dissection of a cow's heart
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Last month, Andover Rescue Squad members (l-r) Jeff Miller, Steve Fecteau, Heather Makechnie, and Jacob Johnson (not pictured) all responded to a 911 call at AE/MS. Mrs. Hill, our school nurse, and these members worked to help a first grade child and transport her safely to the hospital.

Our first graders were very thankful for the help their friend received, so the emergency responders were honored at a lunch at AE/MS and given thank-you notes and giant Hershey kisses from the grateful children. The child is doing wonderfully!

Caption and photo: Jen Bent

Can You Help with SHARE Day?

SHARE Day has been an annual event at AE/MS since 1988. Students participate in workshops like visual arts, dance, drama, sports, crafts, etc.

Crafts people and artisans: Come share your gifts with the students on

Monday, May 10. We also need volunteers to help in various other ways.

Please let us know right away! Contact coordinator Gisela Darling at 735-5681 or sdarling@tds.net, or speak with Ms. Slayton at the school at 735-5494.