

Idol from page 52

bass a little old-school blues – *Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out* – followed by Alyson Mullett and her tender version of *Love Story*.

Will Cox and Max Barrett rapped their way through *I Made It*, and Hannah Veinotte sang a heartfelt *Breathe*. Brandon Jackson delivered a positive message with Michael Jackson's *We Are The World*, followed by Kelsie Berry's stunning *Beautiful*.

Next up was a musical comedy skit, *Pants On The Ground*, featuring Erin Hanscom, Kelsey Allen, Shelby Pereault, and Olivia Henriques. Thaddeus Bicknell threw a curveball with a lip-synched *Naturally*, and Emily Lance

overcame some technical difficulties to perform a beautiful *True Colors*.

Finally, Max Barrett and Logan Marcus sang a wonderful *Eenie Meenie*, followed by Brooke Ellis and Company with *Halo / Walking on Sunshine*. So much talent in one place in such a short time!

Now the judges went to work making some hard choices, and the "Math-ter Blathter's" calculator was blazing. When the dust settled, the results were: third place went to Alyson Mullett; second place to Will Cox and Max Barrett; and first place, your 2010 Andover Idol, is Kelsie Berry.

Congratulations to all participants, and a huge thank you for sharing your talents with us.

Grads from page 52

Merrimack Valley High School, Proctor Academy, and Bishop Brady High School. We wish the students luck as they move on to their new schools.

In addition to our eighth grade graduates, we are also sending off some significant adult members of our AE/MS community. Mrs. Hill will be missed day to day, but we know she will still be a frequent visitor, and we wish her luck in her new endeavor. Mr. Anderson is retiring, but don't be surprised if you see him back as a custodian substitute from time to time. Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Wagner lost their positions through budget reductions, and we are hopeful they will find new jobs. Nonetheless, we will miss them.

The last school day was June 15. Outdoor field events were enjoyed by all. The AE/MS PTO and the school kitchen staff grilled burgers and hot dogs to be enjoyed with fruit and salads provided by school families. Snow cones were enjoyed by students, staff, and guests while they were entertained by the Long Tail Monkeys (LTM). Logan, Max, Sam, and Tyler were absolutely amazing as they rocked the enthusiastic crowd into summer vacation.

Kelsie Berry and Alyson Mullett wowed the group with their beautiful voices accompanied by LTM. After the entertainment, several students were honored for academics and perfect attendance. Following the entertainment and awards was the traditional seventh grade catapult competition. It is always fun watching eggs fly on the last day of school!

The eighth grade students immensely enjoyed their end-of-year trip to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. After spending the night in Connecticut, the students had a hearty Dunkin Donuts breakfast and headed off to ride the roller coasters at Six Flags before returning to Andover.

Whale watching was entertaining for fifth grade students. Although the sea was a bit unsettled in the morning, the excursion ended well. Lots of whales were spotted.

As always, the parents of the eighth grade students did an outstanding job decorating the gym and providing refreshments for the semi-formal dance. The transformation of the gymnasium was amazing! Everyone had a great time. The students and the chaperones would like to send all the parents involved a huge "Thank You!" for a job well done.

Eighth grade advisors Mr. Tucker and Mrs. Lemeris would also like to say a thank you to chaperones Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Slayton, Mrs. Bent, Mrs. Keezer, Mrs. Hill, and Mr. Anderson. A special thank you to Ms. Connor for once again providing the music. Rock on, Ms. Connor.

Summer Math Practice packets were offered to all incoming sixth through eighth grade students. The material can also be located on the school Web site. Students will be acknowledged in the

fall for completing the packets.

Summer math tutoring is being offered. Twenty-four students will take advantage of this opportunity.

All students in grades six through eight planning to participate on any AE/MS athletic teams including soccer, basketball, or track must have a current yearly physical on file in the health office. If your child has a physical during the summer months, please send a copy to the school. Any student that is a member of the traveling unicycle team must have a current physical on file.

Registration for the town's fall soccer program for next year's first through sixth grade students needs to be completed by July 15. You can access the registration materials at MVSL.org. Call Alan Hanscom for more information.

We are already enjoying our school garden. Lunches the final week included lettuce, kale, and Swiss chard. School families and staff members are taking turns weeding over the summer months. If you are in the neighborhood, feel free to pull a few weeds. We are looking forward to the late summer, early fall harvest!

AE/MS staff members met for technology training the day after the students started their vacation. What sounded like a potentially long morning in the computer lab turned into an exciting training session. Smart Boards (interactive whiteboards) are being purchased for use in kindergarten through grade eight.

Every teacher at every level was excited about the educational potential for use within their curriculum. Students will certainly be caught up in the enthusiasm of this new technology when they return in the fall.

Mrs. Christine Frost will be the school nurse when students return in August. We are excited to have her join our school community. Mrs. Frost is currently a school nurse in the Winnsquam School District. She has worked at both the elementary and high school level. Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Frost have been working together on the transition.

The school will be under construction most of the summer. Lead is being abated and repairs made to windows in the older building, and a new bathroom is being constructed near the kindergarten classroom. The usual cleaning, painting, and repairing will consume June, July, and August.

Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Monday, August 23. The morning class should arrive at 8 AM and the afternoon class at 9:30 AM. Children and parents will be able to visit the kindergarten classroom, tour the building, become more comfortable with the teachers, meet other kindergarten families, and, of course, *ride the bus!* Parents will be given handbooks and paperwork for the start of the year at that time.

The AE/MS school doors will officially open again on Wednesday, August 25, to welcome a new school year!

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