

# NED Uses Yo-Yo Tricks To Teach Positive Attitudes, Better Behavior

By Jane Slayton  
AE/MS Principal

The NED Show visited AE/MS in April. The NED Show is an all-school assembly promoting positive attitudes, better behavior, and academic achievement in school.

This character education assembly is based on the acronym NED – Nev-

er give up, Encourage others, Do your best. These three critical skills are reinforced throughout the assembly to bring out the champion in every student by sharing the story of NED, whose name is also an acronym.

Never Give Up – focus and persistence

Encourage Others – kindness and shared learning

Do Your Best – diligence and excellence

The NED Show has lots of active participation for kids, and lots of yo-yo tricks. NED captivates the students with a vast array of yo-yo tricks as a focal point throughout the performance.

There is also storytelling, humor, visuals, and audience participation. The NED Show utilizes a multi-sensory model to motivate, encourage, and inspire students to become champions at school and in life.

Students have the opportunity to buy yo-yos following the NED Show, and the AE/MS playground now has safe yo-yo zones where students can practice tricks.



Colby Jones was the proud winner of the yo-yo and crown at the NED show Friday afternoon in the gym. Photo: Gretchen Hildebrand



Betty Morse and Pat Laliberte judged the preliminary round of poetry. Both are substitutes who work at AE/MS. They are retired teachers and love kids, literature, and a challenge ... which they got when they judged students reciting poetry on April 4 and 5. By the time they were done, their heads were spinning. They were amazed at the amount of effort and interest put forth by our poetry "contest." Photo and caption: Chris Connor

## Poetry Night At AE/MS

By Gretchen Hildebrand  
AE/MS Poetry Night MC

AE/MS held its 18th annual Poetry Night. Students from grades one through eight were judged on a range of features, including:

- Difficulty of poem
- Perseverance in learning a poem (self challenge)
- Poise
- Diction
- Clarity of Voice
- Extras – animation, gestures, etc.

Three students and one alternate were chosen from each classroom/homeroom. From there, these students

performed their poems on the night of Thursday, April 12.

The range of poem choices was impressive – Sylvia Plath, Robert Frost, and Billy Collins, to name just a few. The students' recitations were even more impressive and kept our fine judges in a tizzy.

Many thanks to Sarah Will, Brenda Jurta, and Laurie Zimmerman for taking the hot seats and judging the final round. Thanks to Joanne in the kitchen for the delicious cookies! Thanks to Brenda Lance for doing the lion's share of the planning and organizing. A good time was had by all.

## Notes From the AE/MS Band Room

By Paul Hubert  
AE/MS Band Director

We've been a little bit shy on April showers so far this spring, but there's still music in the air. AE/MS will be presenting its Spring Elementary School Concert on Thursday, April 19, at 6:30 PM in the school gym. Kindergarten through fifth grade will be entertaining with a variety of musical selections. Here's the latest program:

Kindergarten: *Don't You Push Me* by Woody Guthrie, and *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*, an American Folk tune

First Grade: *Round the Village*, a British game song, and *Busy Bees* by Norma Gentner

Second Grade: selections from Peter Pan – *Never Smile at a Crocodile* and *I've Gotta Crow* by Lawrence and Churchill

Third Grade: *In the Jungle*, an African folk song with recorders, and *Oleanna*, a Norwegian folk song

Fourth Grade: *King Carraticus*, a traditional tongue twister, and *Walkin' the Dog* by Rufus Thomas Jr.

Fifth Grade: *Grizzly Bear*, a South-

ern work song, and *You Talk Too Much* by Jones and Hall

### Fisher Cats

The AE/MS Middle School Band played during the seventh inning stretch for the Fisher Cats on Monday, April 16. They played *God Bless America* and *Take Me Out to the Ball Game*. Various band members were seen marching in and around the school at odd times; practice makes perfect, you know.

With the Fisher Cats game as a warm up, the band should be well oiled for the upcoming Spring Band and Chorus show on Thursday, May 24, at 6:30 PM in the gym. Representing the AE/MS Music and Arts department will be the Beginning Fifth Grade Band, the AE/MS Rainbow Vocal Quartet, and the Middle School Band. Group efforts and solos can be expected as well as excellent art work by Mrs. DeMinico's students.

Here's hoping that you can make it to some or all of these fine events. We don't need April showers to bring us flowers – talent is blooming right here in Andover!

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