Florence Rideout Elementary School

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Principal's Report 10/13/16 --Florence Rideout Elementary School/Lyndeborough Central School

- We continue our initiative to become a **Responsive School** and adopt the **Responsive Classroom** tenets within our school. This approach to teaching emphasizes academic, social, and emotional growth in a strong school community. At Florence Rideout Elementary School, we believe that how children learn is as important as what they learn, and academic success is inextricably tied to building social-emotional competencies. A responsive classroom and school strive to teach each student to value learning and develop a student who "C.A.R.E.S.": Students who Cooperate, Assert themselves, are Responsible, Empathetic, and have Self-Control. At Florence Rideout we have adopted these C.A.R.E.S. traits as our "Habits of Learning" and introduced them to the entire school during our first "Olympiad of Character" assembly on Friday, September 30th. Additional whole school assemblies are planned at the end of every quarter where students will be recognized for displaying these traits in the classroom and at school.
- On Tuesday, October 5th and Thursday, October 6th students and staff at FRES and LCS participated in an off-site evacuation drill in coordination with respective Police and Fire Departments. Members of the crisis teams, students and staff at both schools were commended for a job well done!
- Fourth grade students collaborated and problem solved as part of National Youth Science Day on Wednesday, October 5th. As part of this year's challenge, "Drone Discovery" students learned the principles of flight and then designed and built a "drone" to photograph a target area. This was a great example of an interactive learning experience to get students excited about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). This event was planned by 4th grade teachers, Mrs. Bridgette Fuller, Ms. Erin Tierney and Ms. Sandy Reid.
- Beginning Monday, October 17th students will embark on a learning journey through our Odyssey Program. This program, administered by our talented specialist teachers, allows students the opportunities to explore and develop their own interests and talents. This type of school-wide enrichment program nurtures a love of learning and allows students opportunities to develop abilities in demand in the work force: the ability to work collaboratively and independently, self-direction, and creativity.
- Results from the 2016 Science NECAP have been released. This assessment was administered to fourth grade students in May of 2016. Results from this assessment are summarized in the table below.

Science NECAP 2016	Level 4 Proficient w/Distinction	Level 3 Proficient	Level 2 Partially Proficient	Level 1 Substanially below Proficient
FRES	0%	53%	31%	16%
STATE	2%	48%	39%	11%

- October is Fire Prevention Awareness Month. Members of the Wilton Volunteer Fire Department will visit students at FRES on Wednesday, October 19th. Members of the Lyndeborough Volunteer Fire Department will visit students on Monday, October 17th. Students will see firefighting equipment, practice safety techniques and learn fire prevention strategies. Thank you to the members of the Wilton Fire Department for teaching our students how to be safe and prevent fires.
- One of most important and challenging curriculum initiatives this year is the development of a competency-based education system. As part of this change we will be piloting a new report card or Student Learning Profile to reflect these changes. This new system of reporting student progress provides parents a more accurate and detailed profile of a child's learning progress or growth. Our new Student Learning Profile is an integral part of how of progress is communicated. Parent input and feedback will be crucial to development. I will be hosting an informative session for parents regarding competency-based education and the new student learning profile report card on Tuesday, October 18th at 6:00 pm in the Library at Florence Rideout Elementary School.
- On Monday, October 31st, students and staff will march in annual Halloween parades throughout downtown Wilton and Lyndeborough. It is always a great community event when students and staff display their creativity with their costumes.
- We are very proud of 5th grade students Cheri Willems and Chloe Levesque who were named "Students of the Month" for October. Congratulations!

Respectfully Submitted, Tim O'Connell Principal