



SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A. Ward Spaulding School

October 2014

Volume 2 Issue 1 Page 1

945 Mountain Road | West Suffield, CT 06093 | 860-668-3826 | <http://www.suffield.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Box Top Fundraiser
September 22nd to October 1st

Innisbrook Fundraiser
October 3rd through 21st

Sped PAC
Tuesday, October 7th
9:00 a.m.
McAlister Portable 4

BOE Meeting
Tuesday, October 7th
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
SHS Media Center

No School
Monday, Oct. 13th
Columbus Day

Trick or Treat for Pets
October 14th - 31st

Bus Driver
Appreciation Day
Thursday, Oct. 16th

BOE Meeting
Tuesday, October 21st
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
SHS Media Center

Early Dismissal
Tuesday, Oct. 28th - 1:00 p.m.
Professional Development

A. Ward Spaulding
Picture Retakes
Wednesday, Oct. 29th

*The power of kindness
is immense. It is
nothing less than the
power to change the
world.*
- Daphne Kingman



A Message From The Principal

Dear Spaulding Families,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! On behalf of the faculty and staff at A. Ward Spaulding School, I welcome you to another positive, productive, and impactful year for everyone. Spaulding School is a high-performing community that celebrates and supports all of its students. We believe that everyone can achieve at high levels and we remain committed to our continuous improvement efforts to achieve that goal.

What a September! Our school year began with our annual Meet and Greet event in which families were able to visit Spaulding and meet their respective teachers. Our first week of school was a smooth and enthusiastic one, complete with a pep rally that grounded our school community in the important character traits of respect, responsibility, and kindness. We thank those families who were able to attend our evening Open House, an opportunity not only to visit classrooms but also to attend a presentation in the auditorium that provided information on our curriculum, academic interventions, and character education efforts. Additionally, we thank members of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and the Suffield Foundation for Excellent Schools (SFES) who also presented valuable information to families. Both of these organizations continue to impress with their generosity and support.

Our library media center has undergone a transformation as a result of the district receiving a \$57,000 Capital Improvement Grant through the State of Connecticut to

assist us in providing a literacy and technology-rich learning environment for all. In addition to new shelving and carpeting, the library media center boasts impressive murals depicting myriad characters in children's literature. We are proud to provide such a student-centered learning environment.

Our highly-trained and enthusiastic staff remains engaged in offering best practices in the classroom. Their dedication to the implementation of guaranteed and viable curricula, effective teaching strategies, and supported interventions promote an environment in which all students learn at high levels.

The Spaulding community welcomes parent and guardian volunteers. Your contributions to the classroom and school as volunteers are valuable and impactful, demonstrating your commitment to education. Our volunteers assist in countless ways, from helping in the classroom, participating on committees, and supporting numerous school-wide projects. Please contact your classroom teacher if you wish to volunteer. We would love to have you join us!

As we enter the school year, please know that we sincerely partner with you in the education of your child. Should you have any concerns, ideas, or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to us.

Here's to a wonderful school year!

Scott P. Dunn



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Volume 2 Issue 1 Page 2

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Virtual Backpack



<http://www.suffield.org/sesvb>

[2014-2015 District Calendar](#)

[School Lunch Menus](#)

[2014 - 2015 Special Services Tri-fold Flyer](#)

[2014-2015 Suffield Elementary PTO Information](#)

[11/06/14 Show & Tell Open House](#)

[CTFSN - 4th Annual One Voice Conference is Wed. Oct 8th](#)

[Developmental Disabilities Resource Fair Oct. 22nd](#)

[Free Learn-to-Skate – Ice Hockey Program Just for Girls](#)

[NCCC - Parent and Sibling Support Groups](#)

[NCCC - Recreational Family Activity Group Calendar](#)

[Parent Letter about Head Lice](#)

[PTO Box Tops Collection 9/22 - 10/10](#)

[School Lunch and Breakfast Payment Information](#)

Wilma's Scoop Du Jour: A Friend to Spaulding!

Spaulding School is proud to be a friend of Wilma's Scoop Du Jour, located on Mountain Road. Last summer, Mona and her staff offered a free scoop of ice cream to students who delivered their earned Spaulding STAR to Scoop Du Jour. Many students eagerly brought their STARS, which were proudly displayed on the wall at this popular local establishment. We appreciate Mona's generosity and her enthusiastic support of our character education program that teaches, models, identifies, and celebrates the traits of respect, responsibility, and kindness. As a token of our gratitude, Spaulding School presented Mona with a framed certificate at a Board of Education meeting. We thank Scoop Du Jour and other local businesses that continue to support our school.



A Shining Parking Spot for the Nikolis Family!

One of our Spaulding families has a prime parking spot this year! The Nikolis Family had the winning bid as part of an on-line auction sponsored by the Suffield Foundation for Excellent Schools. SFES is an educational foundation that provides support for innovative and exceptional educational programs and opportunities beyond the tax-supported School budget for the benefit of Suffield students. You may learn more about this generous organization by accessing their website: sfes.org. Congratulations to the Nikolis Family for being able to park in that spot whenever they wish during this school year!





Spaulding Principal Conversations

An opportunity for parents to :

- Meet with Principal Scott P. Dunn
- Hear about the latest school and district initiatives
- Discuss important events
- Solidify the home-school connection that is so important to the success of our students.

Please join us for
our next
meetings:

Wed., November 19th
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Wed., February 4th
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Tues., May 12th
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Spaulding Library
Media Center

Happenings in our Library Media Center

Welcome back! My name is Shannon Insero and I am the new library media specialist at A. Ward Spaulding School. The beginning of the year is off to a great start after a busy summer, as our Spaulding library underwent significant renovations including vibrant painted murals, new carpeting, the creation of a reading nook, and the purchasing of new shelves. Please come check it out!

Over the past few weeks of school, students have been busy in the library learning the new layout along with responsibilities and procedures. They have been exploring the new print materials, using shelf markers, and checking out books. Together we read books such as Stella Luella's Runaway Book, I Am Going, Pete the Cat, The Library Lion and Library Manners. We have also spent time talking about manners in the library and how to take care of the books to help us become Spaulding Stars. Our lessons in the library media center are grounded in state and national standards and I work in strong collaboration with classroom teachers relative to their curricular units. With the new rotating ABCD schedule, students have increased opportunities to come to the library.

As a result, they will not bring their books back on a particular day. However, we welcome library books at any time. If anyone forgets their book(s), they can bring them in the next day and pick new ones. At this time, kindergartners are checking out one book each, while first and second graders are each checking out two.

The rest of September will have students focusing on the skill of fiction versus non-fiction and the organization of the library. Kindergartners and first graders will look at abc books and alphabetical order (first grade only). They will also learn to identify facts in non-fiction text. Second graders will take a closer look at story elements in fiction text and begin using databases to research information.

If you are interested in volunteering in the library, please contact me at sinsero@suffield.org. I look forward to our partnership.

Take a Look at These Books:

A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip Stead- An excellent book about friendship!

The Dot by Peter Reynolds- A great book for finding your creative talent

Trick or Treat for Pets is back!

Our school will be collecting unopened cans and bags of cat and dog food as well as treats, toys, and kitty litter. The drive runs from October 14th-31st. All proceeds will be donated to the pet food pantry of the Newington Humane Society. For the past three years, the students of Suffield have done a phenomenal job collecting food and supplies. We are looking forward to another great year! Thank you in advance for your support. Trick or Treat!





Spaulding Stars Shine



Our Spaulding Stars program continues to thrive due to the enthusiasm of the staff and students. Only with the participation of everyone can such a program be so successful. This year our Stars program begins to be organized within the PBIS framework. Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports is a systems-based approach to adopting and implementing evidenced-based practices in order to improve the academic and behavioral outcomes for all students at Spaulding. PBIS utilizes data to determine effective behavioral practices and develop a school-wide system to add to the school climate, maximizing achievement and success for all.

To that end, we were able to hire a PBIS Specialist who will assist us in continuing our successful and popular STAR program. Cali McGinn, our specialist, comes to us from the West Hartford Public Schools as a teacher where she led this work successfully. Ms. McGinn spent the month of September getting to know our Spaulding Star students and engaging the faculty and staff in this meaningful work. Of her first month at Spaulding School, Ms. McGinn commented *I'm impressed with the STARS work that has been done and look forward to working more with the team. I love the eagerness on the part of the students demonstrating respect, responsibility, and kindness on a daily basis!*



Ms. McGinn facilitates a workshop for teachers on the Stars program and how it fits into the PBIS model.



Already our Spaulding Star Wall of Fame is covered with stars demonstrating respectful, responsible, and kind actions on the part of our students. We are excited to continue our Stars program and observe our students being successful in the classroom, cafeteria, playground, bus, and all areas at Spaulding School.

Teacher and Paraprofessional of the Year

We are pleased to honor Kris Pryce, the district's Teacher of the Year, and Michelle Urch, the Paraeducator of the Year, both colleagues at Spaulding School. Mrs. Pryce and Mrs. Urch exemplify a high level of professionalism, a dedication to children and their learning, and a positive energy that impact our school community. Mrs. Pryce will be honored at a state ceremony at the Bushnell Theater in Hartford on December 2, 2014. Mrs. Urch will be honored at a similar ceremony at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell on November 6, 2014. We thank both of them for their meaningful contributions to our school and its students and staff.



Friendly Reminders



Have you updated your child's emergency information yet? This is a yearly update done via infosnap in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Login now so we have accurate emergency information on your child.

<https://powerschool.suffield.org/>