

**Annual Administrator's Report
2020-2021
Sippican School
Marion, Massachusetts**

The school year began with an enrollment of 409 students in grades PreK through 6. Mr. Sean Persico joined us as the assistant principal. It was a year filled with change. Students, staff and families collaborated to ensure that this unusual year (due to the COVID 19 pandemic) would provide the best education for the students at Sippican School.

During the 2020-2021 school year, our staff and students showed great resilience. Due to COVID 19, we were forced to “pivot” many times. Most of our students began the year in a hybrid model of instruction. As the year progressed we were able to bring back all of our students to fully in person learning. This was truly an unprecedented year for teaching and learning. Our students persevered. MCAS assessments were administered in a modified format state wide.

Staffing

The 2020-2021 school year brought a lot of change to Sippican's staff. Because of the pandemic, our instructional structure was fluid. We provided both remote and in person instruction. We had new staff members, long term substitutes and staff members who covered multiple positions during the school year:

Lisa Horan (Remote teacher)
Marti Medeiros (Remote teacher)
Paula McKeen (Remote teacher)
Chelsey Lawrence (Remote teacher)
Jocelyn Ulloa (Kindergarten Long Term Substitute)
Susan Swoish (Grade 1 and Kindergarten Long Term Substitute)
Janice Proc (Grade 3 Long Term Substitute)
Lucy Lizotte (Grade 4 Long Term Substitute)
Sydney Swoish (Grade 4 Long Term Substitute and paraprofessional)
Isaiah Stewart (Art Long Term Substitute and paraprofessional)

Grace Emmett (Art Long Term Substitute)
Sarah Sirois (Social Emotional Learning Long Term Substitute)
Stacey Riquinha (Reading Specialist)
Jaryd Gioiosa (Special Education)
Elizabeth Machado (Special Education)
Shannon Ahern (part time social worker)
Sarah Jacques (Speech and Language)
Gilly Leonardo (Building Maintenance)

Long time Speech and Language teacher, Ann Vital and Cathleen Sinnott, classroom teacher retired. Our food service manager, Janet Reynolds as well as lunch server, Donna Blanchard, also retired. We are grateful to all for their decades of service to the children and families of Marion.

Curriculum and Staff Development

Professional development is essential to ensure that our staff are prepared to provide the best educational experiences for our students. The 2020-2021 professional development was focussed on focussed primarily on reaching all students during the pandemic. Time was spent understanding and implementing online tools and platforms. We continued our cultural proficiency work as well as finding ways to engage students in project based learning.

Highlights Across the School

Students at Sippican are focussed on the learning that takes place inside and outside of their classrooms. Again, the pandemic changed our ability to do many things. However, There were still many opportunities for students. Band students at Sippican School continued with online lessons. The children were invited to play at the Memorial Day Remembrance. This year it was back in person. Our students did a wonderful job honoring our Veterans. The Garden Club was able to social distance in the spring to prepare and plant the Sippican Garden. Our grade six students were excited to be able

to celebrate their time at Sippican at the traditional beach trip. We were also excited to be able to invite families and friends to an outdoor Grade 6 Promotion Ceremony.

Community Connections

Sippican is blessed to have the Volunteers At Sippican Elementary (V.A.S.E.) members who tirelessly support the Sippican experience. Enrichment opportunities including storytelling and drawing lessons were conducted over Zoom. The ACE program featured Motoko, a Japanese storyteller who even taught students how to create origami animals. In the spring, Toe Jam Puppet Band performed live on the front lawn. We were also able to have our Boosterthon Fun Run which was adapted into a dance party to ensure social distancing.

Conclusion

The 2020-2021 school year was quite simply, an unusual year. The COVID 19 pandemic changed the way our school year looked. As a school community we continued to support each other and we did indeed persevere. We worked hard to preserve as many events and traditions as possible. We are thankful for the community support that we have all felt. The dedication of our staff and the support of the community ensured a successful school year for our students in these truly unprecedented times.

To continue to follow our activities on a continual basis please follow us on our webpage that includes a link to our Facebook page.

<https://www.oldrochester.org/ss>

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Sirois, Principal