

UPDATES FROM THE PRINCIPALS

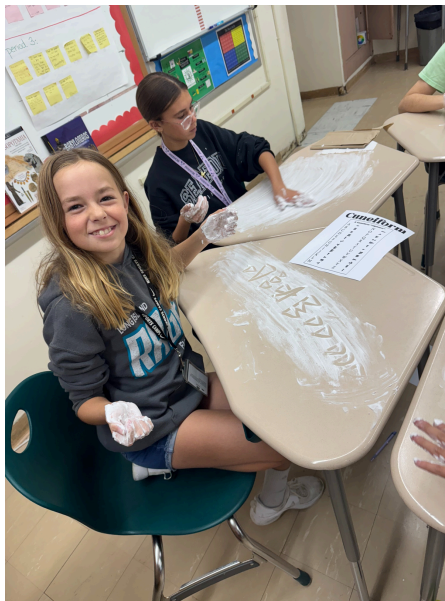


DECEMBER
EDITION



Dear Seaford Middle School Families,

We hope this finds you well and feeling refreshed after our Thanksgiving break! This month, Seaford Middle School students continue taking strides to excel academically and grow as Seaford Scholars. In this month's edition of Updates from the Principals, we would like to highlight a new way that we are elevating and celebrating our students' accomplishments beginning this year and the ways that our awards system will further align to our Seaford Scholar traits.



As first introduced in a Parent Square post in October, we've begun the process of aligning our school awards with our Seaford Scholar profile by rebranding our "Student of the Month" award as the "Seaford Scholar of the Month" award. We made this shift with the intention of creating opportunities within the Middle School to recognize students who embody traits and characteristics that contribute to success both inside and outside of school. The variety and extent of traits reflected by the Seaford Scholar profile also allows us to recognize a wider spectrum of students within our community. To further expand the scope of our awards, we've also opened the nomination process for the Seaford Scholar of the Month award to the entire community. Families, students, teachers, and administrators are all encouraged to nominate students who exemplify a given trait and to provide a brief narrative describing how their nominee embodies the trait.

Over the past 3 months, we have received scores of nominations from the community in recognition of Seaford Middle School students who represent the traits of resilient, principled, and communicator. As you enter the Middle School in the future, you will see the pictures of our winning students and their Seaford Scholar trait on our "Celebrating Student Achievement" wall.

TEAMING EVENTS AT SEAFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL!

The next phase of our awards reconfiguration will be to address the end of the year school awards. Presently, students are nominated for a wide range of awards towards the end of 8th grade and the selected students receive them either at a special 8th grade award ceremony or at graduation. To further align our awards practices to the Seaford Scholar Profile, a Shared-Decision Making Committee will be convened to brainstorm what kind of awards will continue being presented moving forward and what new awards will be created. We believe that a Shared-Decision Making Committee format provides a perfect venue for this work as it brings together stakeholders from throughout the community, including families and students, to generate ideas.

To further align with Seaford Scholars, the intention of the Awards Committee will be to identify what kind of awards should be created to celebrate different aspects of our students. In addition to academic awards, we want to celebrate the soft skills reflected in Seaford Scholars. We aim to create within this committee detailed rubrics and criteria that help enumerate the various aspects of each trait and link them to a clear criterion for winning each award. Through this process, we hope to learn more about how our students exemplify the Seaford Scholar traits and learn more about the wonderful qualities our students possess.

As we continue growing and embracing the Seaford Scholars initiative, we look forward to identifying the ways our students practice and demonstrate these traits in their lives. We believe that aligning our school awards is a productive next step towards these aims and will continue identifying ways for Seaford Scholars to be front and center in the educational and social emotional development of our students.

We hope that you have a wonderful holiday season surrounded by family and friends and we look forward to a great new year ahead!

Yours in Seaford Middle School Pride,

Dr. Morey- Proud Principal of Seaford Middle School



