

Old Rochester Regional School Committee Equity Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

ORR JHS Media Center or Zoom
133 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Beauregard (remote), Marion School Committee, Cristin Cowles (remote), Mattapoisett School Committee, Kirstin Jimenez (in-person), Rochester School Committee, Frances-Feliz Kearns (remote), ORR School Committee, Margaret McSweeney (in-person), ORR School Committee and Matthew Monteiro (in-person), ORR School Committee.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools, Sharlene Fedorowicz, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Michael Devoll, High School Principal, Lauren Millette, High School Assistant Principal, Kelly Chouinard, Junior High School Assistant Principal, Linda Ashley, Center School Principal, Stephanie Welles, Old Hammondtown School Principal, Lynn Dessert, Sippican School Principal, Greg Thomas, Sippican School Assistant Principal and Heidi Letendre, Rochester Memorial School Principal (all in-person).

Meeting called to order at 4:36pm by Margaret McSweeney. Ms. McSweeney informed everyone attending that the meeting was being recorded and stated this meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format. School Committee, Administrators and public will have the option of meeting in person in the Media Room at the Junior High School located at 133 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739 or via zoom.

The following agenda items were addressed:

I. Approval of Minutes: January 23, 2025

Motion to approve the minutes of January 23, 2025 as presented by Ms. McSweeney

Motion Seconded by Mr. Monteiro

Motion Carried 4-0-2

Roll Call: Beauregard (yes); Cowles (abstain); Jimenez (abstain); Kearns (yes); McSweeney (yes); Monteiro (yes)

II. General

a. Overview of the Equity Action Plan

Dr. Fedorowicz, Dr. Curley, Mr. Devoll, Ms. Millette, Ms. Chouinard, Ms. Dessert, Mr. Thomas, Dr. Ashley, Ms. Wells and Ms. Letendre presented the Equity Action Plan update and highlighted new initiatives this school year. Please see appendix A.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Kearns shared that this is an excellent overview to wrap up the school year and suggested adding the Unified Day at Tabor, the Marion Institute projects and the JHS civics showcase to the plan. She also requested incident data and comparison analysis moving forward. Superintendent Nelson added that relationships between the administrative team and the communities have strengthened dramatically, especially with local police departments. Partnerships with the police chiefs have enabled open dialogue, growth and training opportunities for the schools and students. He shared that REDI trainings he attended this school year encourage school administration and school committees to not have this type of

work be standalone and encouraged districts to share their accomplishments to the greater school community. He questioned better ways to do this, such as maybe sharing the equity action plan out at Joint School Committee and maybe this subcommittee could think about it and discuss in the fall.

Ms. McSweeney added that maybe work the school committee members are doing could be added as well.

b. STEAMapalooza

Ms. Letendre presented an overview of this event at Rochester Memorial School which was held in May, and highlights student voice through presentations, artwork, demonstrations, music ensembles and concerts. Please see appendix B.

c. Feinstein End of Year Review

Ms. Dessert presented a year end review of the different ways the Feinstein Foundation has been a positive influence on the schools and students. Please see appendix C.

III. Public Comment

Superintendent Nelson read the following statement:

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy. Per the committee's policy, we will offer up to 30 minutes for public comments this evening. Public comment is not a discussion, debate, or dialogue between individuals and the school committee. However, the committee takes any public comment made seriously and appreciates hearing from the public. Anyone looking to provide a public comment must be acknowledged by the Chairperson before addressing the committee. Those making a public comment will have up to three minutes to address the committee and must start their comment by stating their name and the town they reside in. For those in person there is a sign in sheet for those looking to make a public comment located on sidewalk and those on zoom, you can send a message in the chat with your name and the town you reside in. The chairperson will alternate between in-person and zoom participants. The school committee reserve the right to address any comment that present incorrect information at our next meeting.

There were no public comments.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:23pm by Ms. McSweeney

Motion Seconded by Mr. Monteiro

Motion Carried 6-0

Roll Call: Beauregard (yes); Cowles (abstain); Jimenez (abstain); Kearns (yes); McSweeney (yes);

Monteiro (yes)

Respectfully submitted,



Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent



Equity Sub-Committee Action Plan 2024-2025 (WORKING DOCUMENT)

9/26/24

1/23/25

6/12/25 (last update)

Vision:

The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 is dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing learning environment that offers inclusive and engaging educational experiences. Through collaborative relationships with our school community members, we strive to foster a respectful culture that prioritizes academic excellence and social emotional readiness. Our primary objective is to provide every student with the necessary skills and developed mindset to embrace future opportunities and become responsible, lifelong learners and contributing global citizens.

Strategic Objectives:

Teaching & Learning:

Implement an equitable, cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Portrait of the Graduate in all schools.

Expand and extend the professional development planning and implementation process to support equitable adult learning with the resources, time, and professional practices to be student-centered and aligned with the Portrait of the Graduate.

Support Systems:

Strengthen the multi-tiered and comprehensive academic, behavioral, and social emotional systems of support in all schools.

Climate & Culture:

Provide an inclusive, equitable, and positive climate and culture in all schools that promotes a sense of belonging for all school community members.

Safe Schools:

Ensure safe, secure, and equitable learning environments in all schools.

New Strategies and Practices 2024 - 2025:

Strategic Plan Objective	Action Plan	Date	Location	Role/ Responsibilities	Measured Outcomes	Evidence
Teaching & ... ▾ Support Sys... ▾ Climate & C... ▾	New DESE Administrative REDI PD offerings and opportunities (Equity, Inclusion, and Sense of Belonging)	DESE Scheduled for 2024-2025 school year	DESE in-person locations and virtual	Central Office and Principals: - Early Education - Secondary Education	Collaborating with DESE trainers for school-based implementation and checkpoints	Administrative attendance and participation in scheduled Meetings Work with DESE for implementation ideas based on training
Teaching &... ▾ Support Sy... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	Consistent Incident Reporting and Log Entry	Monthly	HS JrHS RMS Sippican OHS/Center PreK	Principals Assistant Principals Designated Staff Teachers	Consistent and regular updates to the Log Entry	Principals provided training in incident reporting to staff on first full PD day 8/27 Administrators and Staff regular use of incident report log entry
Teaching &... ▾	Multi-tiered systems of support	Scheduled for 2024-2025 school year	RMS Sippican OHS/Center	Elementary reading specialists and special education liaisons	Elementary reading specialists and special education liaisons participated in professional development in Tier 2 and 3 literacy strategies and	Attendance and participation in Tiers 2 and 3 literacy instruction professional development and embedded coaching sessions. Hill for Literacy trainers

					interventions. They will participate in ongoing, embedded implementation coaching sessions with Hill for Literacy trainers	
Teaching ... ▾ Support ... ▾ Climate &... ▾ Safe Sch... ▾	Present Project 351 Playbook as a model district at the MASS Executive Superintendents Conference: "Building a Culture of Influences- Embracing Student Leadership and Voice as Catalysts for Change"	July 16, 2024	MASS Conference	Superintendent Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Director of Guidance Two HS Project351 student Influencers	Scheduled Presentation at the Executive Institute	Presentation had 30 attendees with districts interested in visiting to observe the Project 351 implementation Elementary: Student voice is highlighted and used to share cultural awareness through morning announcements, all school/grade level meetings, assemblies Heritage Calendar used throughout the year to highlight various cultures RMS: Project 351 Students will engage in monthly meetings to create inclusive acts of kindness. Task Tuesday, problem solving scenarios, and positive signs and messages throughout the school

Teaching &... ▾ Support Sy... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	William James College Behavioral Health, Equity, and Leadership in Schools	Summer: Three- day Superintendent (and Principal) Leadership Conference July 30-Aug 1	William James College campus	Central Office HR Elementary Principal	Organizational theory to understand one's own district from multiple perspectives Adult social-emotional competencies to reframe practice	Three day Conference attendance and additional followup on January 13, 2025. Learned strategies to discuss and implement at TLC for buildings
Support Sy... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	Responsive Classroom's Fly-Five pilot rollout to ambassadors	Winter/ Spring 2025	In person at buildings; virtual	Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Principals, Teacher ambassadors	Provide professional development for the ambassadors of Responsive Classroom's Fly-Five pilot	Professional Development provided to the ambassadors of Responsive Classroom's Fly-Five

Climate & ... ▾	Menu of Community Service Opportunities will be created and all students in grades 9-12 will choose a service to participate in.	Nov 27 ½ day of Community Service grades 9-12	On and Off Campus Opportunities	Director of Guidance, administrators and committee members (Grades 9-12)	All students in grades 9-12 will engage in a community service opportunity to experience a sense of belonging and experience the importance of good citizenship. Ties into the Portrait of Graduate work in the Strategic Plan	All students in grades 9-12 participated in a day of service on November 27th Students were able to choose from a menu of options - both off campus and on campus. Off campus events began at 8:00 am and on campus events began after a school wide assembly on the importance of service Events ranged from Cards for Kidz, Baking for Good, Cards that Show you Care, Knitting for good, Letters to Soldiers, CPR, Campus Beautification, Blanket Making, Kyle Cares Mental Health, Gardening, Elementary Schools, Darmouth Elders, Gifts to Give, Friends of Jack, Damien's Pantry, Silvershell Beach Clean Up Students/Staff were asked for feedback on the day.
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Teaching &... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	Coordinating assemblies that expose students to various cultures	Scheduled for various dates throughout 2024-2025 school year	School Buildings	Principals Assistant Principals Teachers	The frequency and topic of assemblies	HS: to be conducted in February of '25 during Bulldog Block JHS: Pro-Kindness/Anti-Bullying Assemblies with the SROs RMS: Student assemblies by grade level on Empathy Student assemblies on CARES Motto Ada Ari Assembly 2/12/25 for Prek-2, Focus area: African Storytelling OHS -Daily All-School Meetings focus on kindness, inclusion, celebrating differences, -Use of Feinstein Grant Money to bring Rob Surrette Hero Art Presentation to OHS in March, which includes themes of kindness & equality around the globe Center/Sippican: Assemblies addressing various cultures, kindness, recognition, and anti-bullying Grade-level meetings to
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						focus on expectations and building/maintaining an inclusive school culture Center: Native American Artist in Residence at Center School 1/13, 1/14. Students were immersed in learning about Native American traditional arts and weaving with local natural materials
Teaching &... ▾ Support Sy... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	Credit for Life Fair for grades 11 & 12	Week of April 7th	High School Cafeteria	Guidance Team & Credit for Life Team	Students will engage in financial literacy certificate experiences and Credit for Life Fair	Student participation and feedback

Teaching & ... Support Sy... Climate & ...	Future Planning Events: College Boot Camp Career Fair College Fair	On going	High School Library High School Gym	Guidance Team, Mass Hire, NEACAC	Students and families will have opportunities to engage in a 5 week evening session for college app prep & Financial Aid, attend a Career Fair, and attend a College Fair in the Spring	Student participation and feedback informs event needs
Climate & ...	Feinstein Leadership To cultivate a positive and empowering learning environment that fosters student leadership and social-emotional growth through Responsive Classroom and Feinstein Leadership principles	Ongoing throughout the school year	OHS/Center Sippican RMS	Building Administrators Teachers Staff Students	Enhanced Student Well-being Increased Student Achievement and Leadership Skills Increased opportunities for student voice and choice	Project 351 students RMS student ambassadors Sippican Kindness Crew Continuing to implement a positive and supportive environment (Responsive Classroom) and empowering students to take leadership roles and engage in positive actions (Feinstein Leadership), the objective directly promotes a culture of kindness and good deeds Student-led projects and community service initiatives are tangible examples of good deeds in action

Support Sy... ▾	Norman “Pawsitivity” Award	Started Fall 2024	Sippican Elementary	School Resource Officer, Principals, Teachers, Students	Students are nominated each month and they are notified they have been nominated with a certificate and a visit from Norman The student or students picked to win the Norman award from the nominations will be recognized at the all school meeting and presented with a Norman stuffie and a certificate	The Pawsitivity Award and named after Norman the Marion Police Department Service Dog. Students who excel in academics or have shown significant improvement in classroom efforts Students who are constantly Respectful, Responsible and Kind 3 to Be Students who are good leaders or role models for their classmates. Students who always give their best effort
Teaching &... ▾ Support Sy... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	Participate in Tabor Academy Unified Game Day	April 2025	High School	Administrators, teachers, students	Preparation and attendance at game day	Teamwork through events Participation in provided events as a team and individually

Teaching &... ▾ Support Sy... ▾ Climate & ... ▾	Creation and participation in Unified Sports Teams at ORRHS	Ongoing	High School	Administrators, teachers, students	Participation in Basketball and Field and Track sports practices and games	Attendance to practices and games and awards
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Continuing Strategies and Ongoing Practices:

Strategic Plan Objective	Action Plan	Date	Location	Role/Responsibilities	Measured Outcomes	Evidence
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Teachi... ▾ Suppor... ▾ Climat... ▾ Safe S... ▾	DESE Administrative REDI PD offerings and opportunities (Equity, Inclusion, and Sense of Belonging)	DESE Scheduled for 2024-2025 school year	DESE in-person locations and virtual	Central Office and Principals: - Early Education - Secondary Education	Collaborating with DESE trainers for school-based implementation and checkpoints	Administrative attendance and participation: Equity in Action Leadership: ~~9/27~~ ~~10/9~~ ~~10/23~~ ~~11/22~~ ~~1/7~~ ~~1/24~~ ~~3/24~~ From Vision to Impact: ~~9/23~~ Persuasive Communication for Leadership: ~~11/22~~ ~~12/4~~ ~~1-8~~ ~~2/12~~ ~~3/12~~ ~~4/10~~
Teachin... ▾	MCAS, Aimsweb and Elementary DIBELS Data Analysis Including demographic data All Schools	Fall/Winter 2024-2025	District-wide	OTL Principals Teachers	Data analysis with teachers used to inform instruction Responsive teaching lesson plans highlighting instructional Practices being implemented in classrooms	Establishment of Data Calendar with district MCAS analysis with demographic information completed in schools during fall 2024 MCAS analysis with demographic information presented to all school committees MCAS data shared during fall SC

						meetings Department Coordinators worked with departments on MCAS analysis aligned to ATLAS (ongoing since fall) Elementary MCAS and AIMSWEB data analysis in fall and ongoing after each assessment of AIMSWEB Monthly elementary DIBELS data meetings to plan for small group instruction
Teachin... ▾ Support ... ▾ Climate ... ▾	Curriculum Review Cycle (CRC): Curriculum Bias Review Form	January 2025	District-wide	OTL Building Administrators Teachers Staff	Added component to the CRC Completed review of curriculum by educators to look for biases in curriculum using Curriculum Bias Review Form	Completed by January 2025

Teachi... ▾ Suppor... ▾ Climat... ▾ Safe S... ▾	Continue to expand Project 351 Playbook to include additional grades and scenarios Ambassador leaders for equity work and scenarios All Schools	Monthly starting in August	District-wide	OTL Building Administrators Teachers Staff	Project 351 Ambassadors attend statewide conference and lead school based community service projects and scenarios	Project 351 Playbook district-wide workshop dates: ~~October 16~~ ~~November 14~~ ~~February 26~~ ~~March 19~~ Project 351 Ambassadors identified Fall 2024 (also Influencers) RMS has Student Ambassadors and Project 351 Influencers Sippican Kindness Crew																										
Teachi... ▾ Suppor... ▾ Climat... ▾ Safe S... ▾	District-wide Learning Walks (LW) to look for evidence of Sense of Belonging and Inclusion All Schools	Two LW per building per year as scheduled	District-wide	All Administrators	Completion of LW as assigned by building Evidence and collaboration of patterns and trends aligned to agreed upon Expectations, Look Fors, and Sense of Belonging Feedback to Staff	2024-2025 dates: Completed <table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Time</th></tr><tr><td>9/16/24</td><td>Monday</td></tr><tr><td>10/24/24</td><td>Thursday</td></tr><tr><td>11/13/24</td><td>Wednesday</td></tr><tr><td>11/18/24</td><td>Monday</td></tr><tr><td>11/21/24</td><td>Thursday</td></tr><tr><td>12/16/24</td><td>Monday</td></tr><tr><td>1/7/25</td><td>Tuesday</td></tr><tr><td>1/30/25</td><td>Thursday</td></tr><tr><td>2/4/25</td><td>Tuesday</td></tr><tr><td>2/11/25</td><td>Tuesday</td></tr><tr><td>3/12/25</td><td>Wednesday</td></tr><tr><td>3/25/25</td><td>Tuesday</td></tr></table>	Date	Time	9/16/24	Monday	10/24/24	Thursday	11/13/24	Wednesday	11/18/24	Monday	11/21/24	Thursday	12/16/24	Monday	1/7/25	Tuesday	1/30/25	Thursday	2/4/25	Tuesday	2/11/25	Tuesday	3/12/25	Wednesday	3/25/25	Tuesday
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Teachin... ▾	OpenSciEd Curriculum Supplementation Grades 5-8: OpenSciEd instruction begins with the interests and curiosities of students and empowers student voice to support more equitable learning opportunities for all students JHS Sippican OHS RMS	PD and Science PLCs	ORRJHS OHS/Center Sippican RMS	Administration, Department Coordinator, Science Teachers and ES STEM Teachers	Completion of two new pilot units at each grade level for a total of four units at the elementary schools and six at the JrHS Provide teachers with professional development on OpenSciEd to create groups of student problem-solving teams	Observation of OpenSciEd during Learning Walks at ORRJHS OHS/Center Sippican RMS OpenSciEd: OER, high quality, NGSS aligned science materials and professional learning support in Grade 5 - 8 sciences Continued meetings with OEI Consultant
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Teachin... ▾	Recognition of cultural differences All Schools	Ongoing; heritage months	Building-based	Principals/ Teachers/Staff	Across the school year, we have themed bulletin boards, assemblies, and classroom activities that highlight these celebrations	HS: Art Memory Project; Genealogy Course JHS: Investigating History; Book Circles; Famous African Americans Project, Monthly Heritage Bulletin Boards Sippican: Music in the Morning may reflect a particular celebration Center/OHS/RMS/Sippican:: Investigating History, Into Reading Selections, IntoReading Literature selections - High-quality children's literature in various genres representing different cultural backgrounds and experiences
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Teachi... ▾	Assessment data meetings held three times a year Flex blocks added to master schedule for intervention lessons and reinforcement of skills and concepts All Schools	Fall 2024-Spring 2025	All Schools	Principals and Staff	Students identified to receive targeted interventions Assessment data informs instructional planning Flex blocks in Master Schedule Students identified and participate in Intervention and reinforcement of skills and concepts	Elementary: Differentiated instruction to support students' individual literacy progress Ongoing DIBELS assessment informs targeted instruction to meet students' individual skill levels JHS/HS: Pathway Plans-strong data focus All Schools: Master schedule Intervention lesson plans and small group MOY student assessment data is being analyzed to identify instructional focus areas
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Support ... ▾	Weekly student support meetings to assist with academic, behavioral and social emotional needs. All Schools	Weekly	All Schools	Principals, teachers, staff	Students receive support plans to meet individual needs	SRST (Student Resource Study Team) Clinical meetings Guidance Meetings JHS/HS: Pathway Plans strong data focus JHS Teams will analyze results of “Trusted Adult” Activity by 2/1/25 Student Guidance Advisory Meetings Progress monitoring data Flexible intervention plans and student supports Elementary: School-based data teams (SLLT) Building-based Support Team (BBST)
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Teachi... ▾ Suppor... ▾ Climat... ▾ Safe S... ▾	Portrait of the Graduate (POG) Work	June 2024	District-wide	Administration Department Coordinators School Council Community Input	Completed Portrait of the Graduate in June	POG PreK-12 final draft completed to go to school for updates FY25-26 POG: April 28, 2025 May 20, 2025 May 22, 2025 June 3, 2025
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Support ... ▾	Freshman Seminar Work	Write lesson plans and update resources and materials	ORRHS	Department Coordinators Classroom Teachers	Pilot in '25-'26. Two Department Coordinators will lead implementation.	Planning in progress
Teachi... ▾ Support... ▾ Climat... ▾ Safe S... ▾	ORRJHS will pilot CHARACTER STRONG resources and tool kit in Bulldog Block	Completed Semester 2 23-24	ORRJHS	Assistant Principal Director of Guidance Bulldog Block Mentors	Pilot planning in continued progress	Implementation of Character Strong resources and tool kit into advisory groups

Teachin... ▾	Program of Studies Electives Showcase	Completion date anticipated February '25	ORRHS	Classroom Teachers Current Students	Increased student knowledge of diverse academic offerings.	Increased enrollment in elective courses and a better understanding of elective course offerings
Climate &... ▾	ORRHS Students will volunteer to work with Sippican Students on a School Newspaper	Completion date anticipated Winter/Spring 2025	Sippican School	AmbassadORs	Student newspaper production	Online publications

Teaching ... ▾	Building Equitable Supports for Early Childhood Literacy Resources	Ongoing in year 3 of building resource list	Three Preschool Classrooms and Chapter 74 Early Childhood	Preschool Teachers	Ongoing resources for teachers to utilize in classroom	This resource has provided the Early Childhood Team valuable resources to share with each other and families. Children are naturally curious about the world around them, this resource allows the teachers to build upon the natural curiosity.
Support S... ▾	Norman "Pawsitivity" Award	Started Fall 2024	Sippican Elementary	School Resource Officer, Principals, Teachers, Students	Students are nominated each month and they are notified they have been nominated with a certificate and a visit from Norman.. The student or students picked to win the Norman award from the nominations will be recognized at the all school meeting and presented with a Norman stuffie and a certificate.	The Pawsitivity Award and named after Norman the Marion Police Department Service Dog. Students who excel in academics or have shown significant improvement in classroom efforts. Students who are constantly Respectful, Responsible and Kind. 3 to Be Students who are good leaders or role models for their classmates. Students who always give their best effort.
Teaching ... ▾	Innovations Career Pathway	Spring 2025	ORRHS	Administrators, Teachers, Students	Grants received to plan and implement the Career Innovations Pathway in Manufacturing and Business and Finance	Purchase of supplies for students Stipends for teachers to implement projects with students

Rochester Memorial School



May 2025 Student Presentation Highlights



A Night Celebrating S.T.E.A.M. at RMS

STEAMapalooza

III

Science Projects

Inventions

Technology Demonstrations

Art Show

Music Ensembles

3rd Grade Recorder Concert

Book Fair

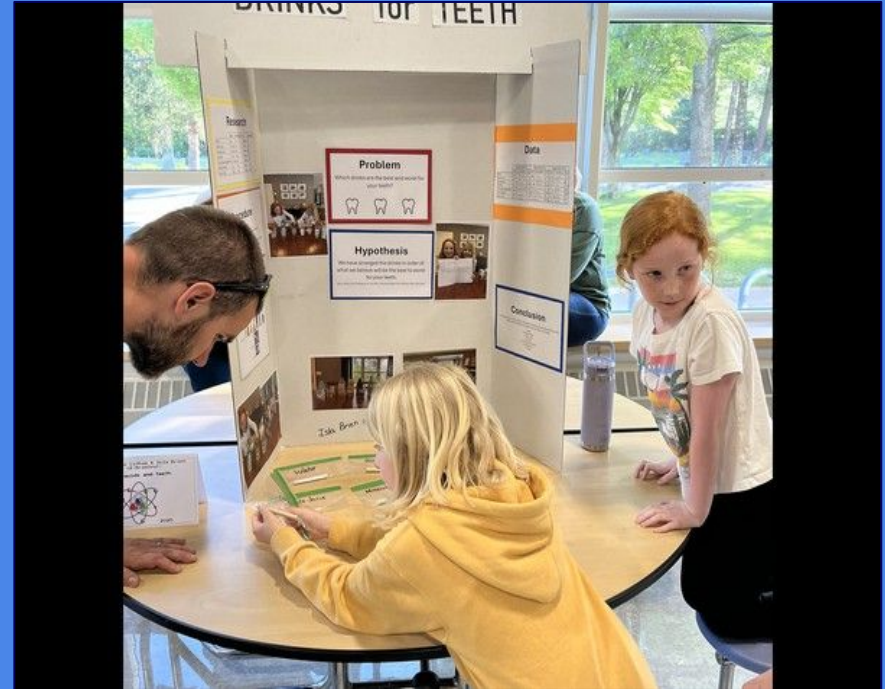
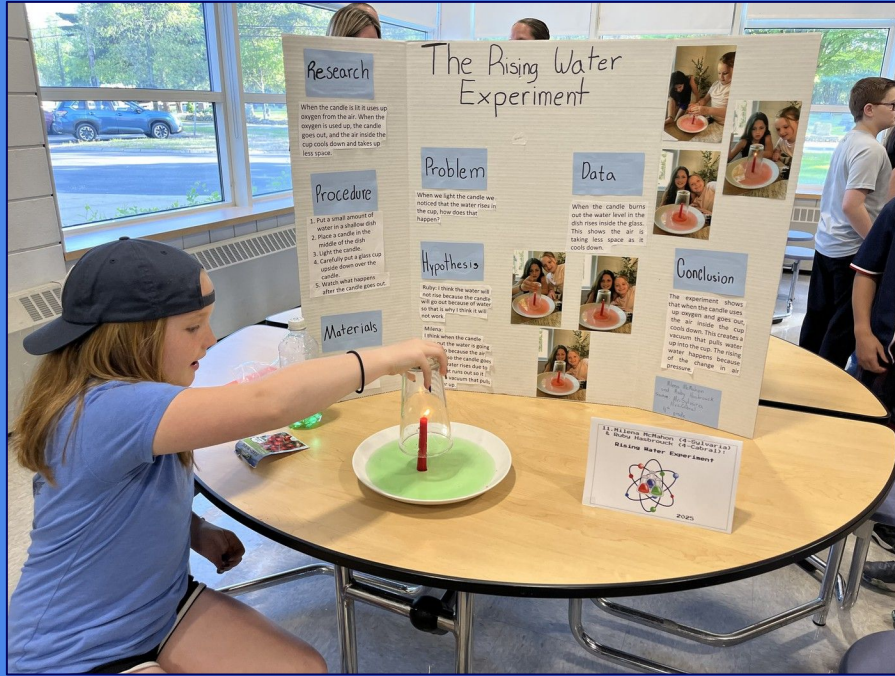
Join us on May 15, 2025

5:30 - 6:30

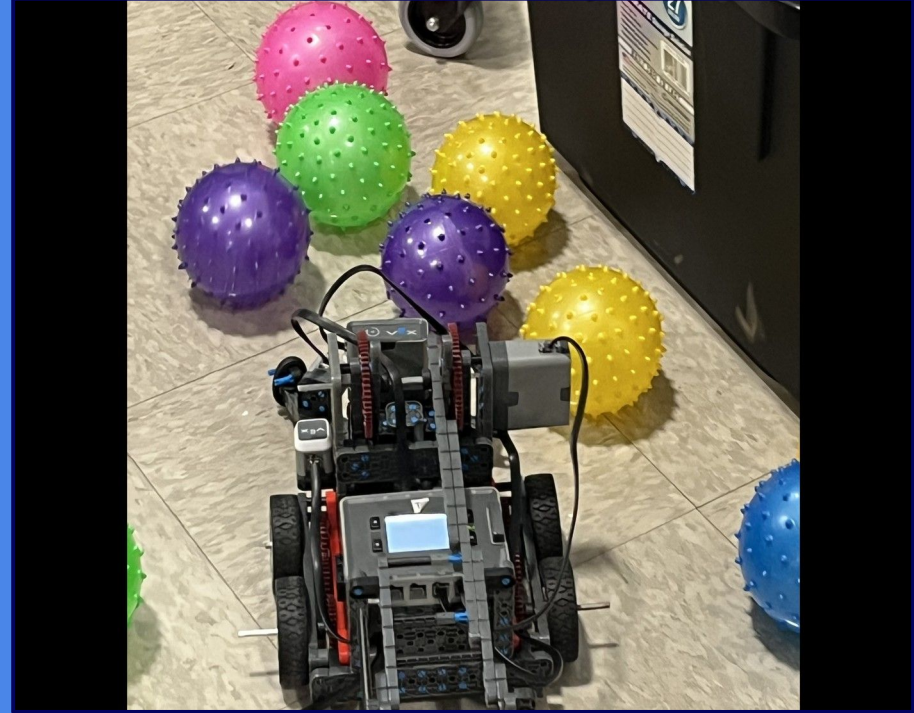
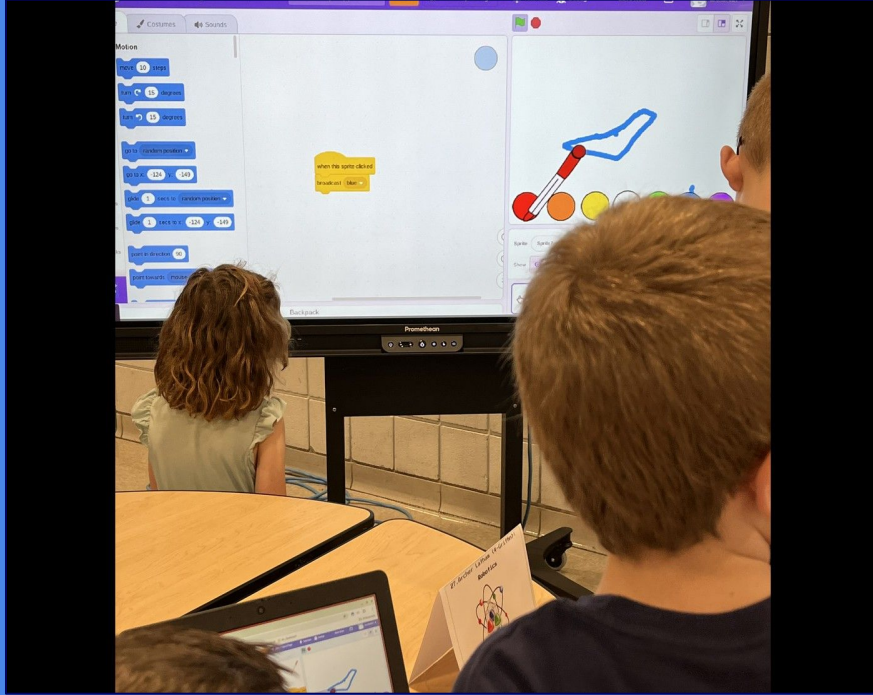


A special night
that highlights
student work and
talents in various
platforms.

Investigating Their Hypothesis



Programming/Coding to Make a Game



Student Acts on Display~Performing for Families



Music Ensembles consisted of singing and instrumental acts.



Artwork





Artwork



A large, colorful collage of hand-drawn graffiti-style names. The names are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with some names appearing multiple times. The backgrounds are varied, including brick walls, grids, and solid colors. The names are written in a stylized, bubbly font with thick outlines and some dripping paint effects. The names include: Cole, Jackson, Tom, Erin, Natalie, Sam, Zach, Kate, Norah, Ruby, Andrew, Jack, Cara, Natalie, Hailey, Noelle, Ava, Harry, Gabi, Ben, Jackson, Nick, Grace, Ben, Mic, and Min.



RMS Talent Show Ambassadors Take the Lead

A Variety of Acts and Commentary by Ambassadors



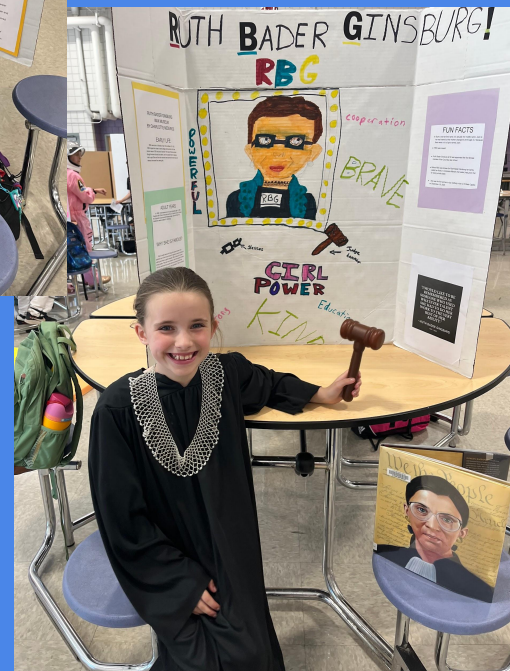
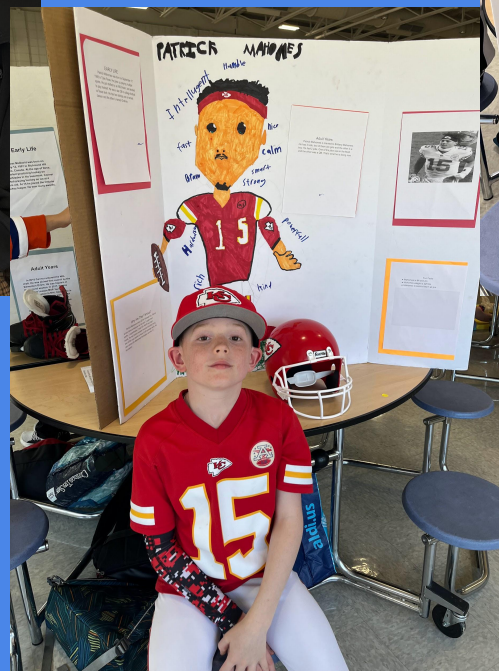
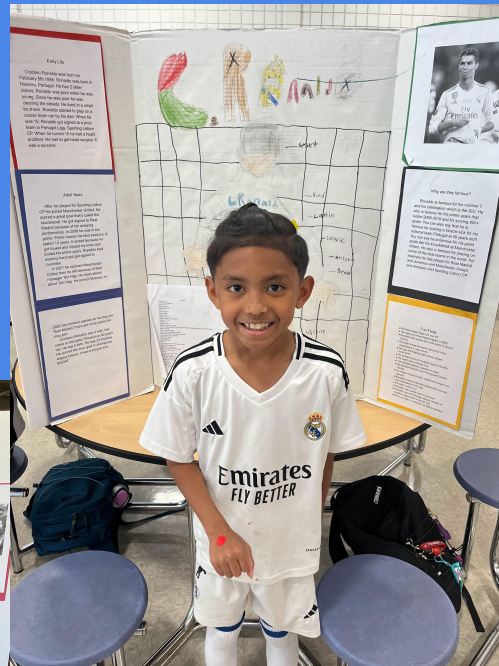
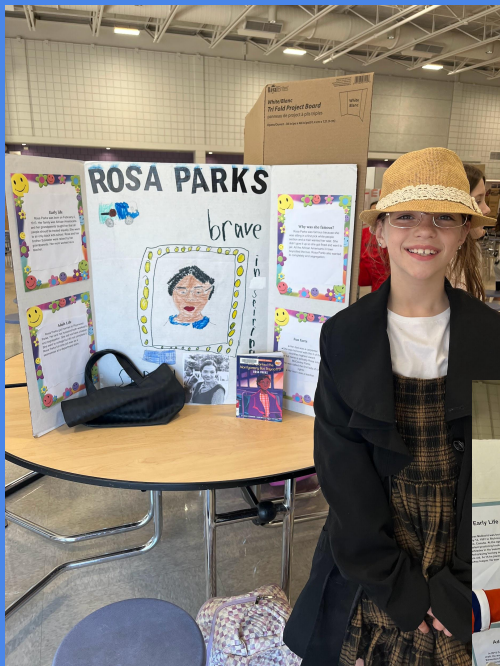


**An Original Script Dedicated to
Mr. Forns**

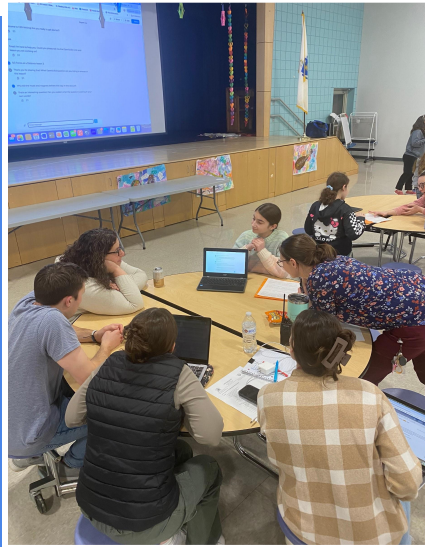
Family Act



3rd Grade Wax Museum



RMS Highlights of Student Choice and Student Voice





Feinstein Foundation Leadership Program 24-25

*The Feinstein Jr. Schools-
Center, OHS, RMS, & Sippican*

Feinstein Foundation empowers kids to help others through kindness and good deeds in their schools and communities.

About Feinstein

The Feinstein Leadership Program and Responsive Classroom share a common goal: to create positive, supportive and caring learning environment.

Here's how they can complement each other:

- Responsive Classroom is like the foundation of a house. It creates a safe and nurturing atmosphere where students feel valued and respected.
- Feinstein Leadership is like building a strong roof on that foundation. It teaches students important skills like communication, teamwork and problem-solving, helping them to grow and succeed.

You can find more information about this fantastic program at www.feinsteinfoundation.org.

Video: <https://feinsteinfoundation.org/index.html>



Feinstein Jr. Scholar Card Partnerships

Mystic Aquarium

Providence Children's Museum

Mastery Martial Arts

Rock Spot Climbing

Slater Park Looft Carousel

Golden Ticket

For the 2024-25 school year, every student received a Jr. Scholar Card and Golden Ticket, giving them the opportunity to make a difference. After completing a good deed and selecting a charity, Feinstein will donate \$500 to their chosen organization. The school also received \$5,000.

- *It teaches us that even young people can make a big difference in their community by giving back.*



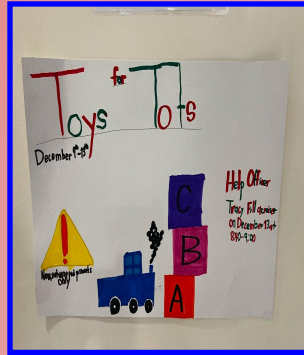
Rose said she wants to donate to the elderly in her community. She helps to take care of her grandmother and she and her family always talk about taking care of the elderly as they once cared for us.

Kindness and Giving Back: Our Feinstein Projects

Helping Others: The main idea behind Feinstein is doing good deeds to help people in need.

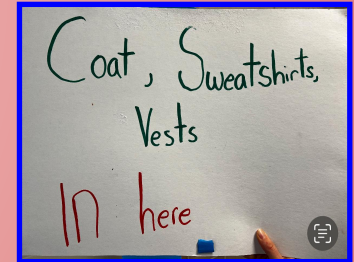
Kids Can Help Too: The Feinstein Jr. Scholar program encourages kids to find ways to help in their schools and communities.

Kindness and Giving Back: It's about being kind, showing compassion, and giving back to make the world a better place.

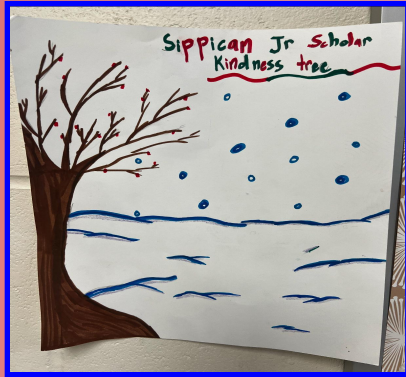


Feinstein Jr. Scholar Pantry:

- **Empowering Students:** This program emphasizes providing resources and fostering a sense of community.
- **Nourishing Minds and Bodies:** Students have access to healthy food items outside of school hours.
- **Supporting Our Community:** The pantry is stocked with non-perishable food items, and other essential items to support students and families.



Sippican Kindness Crew in Action



Dear Classroom Teacher,

We are working on the 2024-25 Kindness Tree, and we need your help! Following are the instructions for your class to contribute to the tree:

1. Pass out a leaf to each student.
2. Students should write their name on the back.
3. Have students write an experience in which someone has been kind to them.
4. Return the leaves to Mrs. Lawrence by December 1, 2024.

-Kindness Crew



By participating in the Kindness Tree, students develop essential leadership skills, such as empathy, compassion, and initiative. We are truly thankful for the opportunity to apply for the Feinstein Jr. Scholar grant. If selected, these funds will allow us to support and expand our Kindness Tree program, fostering a culture of kindness and compassion throughout our school community.



24-25 SY EOY Update: The Feinstein Jr. Scholar Leadership Academy: Cultivating Kindness and Community Impact

The first year of The Feinstein Jr. Scholar Leadership Academy has been a resounding success across Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester, bringing a total of **\$27,000** into the districts to fund school-wide kindness initiatives, activities, and resources. This remarkable achievement was driven by student leadership and ownership, particularly through the "Golden Ticket" program.

Throughout the participating schools (Center, OHS, RMS, and Sippican), Golden Ticket winners were empowered to direct a **\$500 grant in the total of \$1500.00 was donated** to either a non-profit organization of their choice. This unique opportunity fostered a sense of responsibility and philanthropy among the Jr. Scholars.

Key outcomes included:

- **Kindness Tree Program:** Fostering empathy, compassion, and initiative among students.
- **Community Support:** Stocking school pantries and creating calming/reset rooms.
- **Inclusive Play:** Funding for Gaga Ball pits to promote participation and cooperation during recess.

The Academy has empowered students to cultivate kindness, leadership, and tangible community impact.