Empowering Students to Achieve Excellence

October 2026

Learning is a Journey

One of the things I value most about education is that learning is truly a journey. Every new lesson, challenge, experience, and relationship gives our students another opportunity to grow. At Lin-Wood, we are working to make that journey meaningful and connected from the first day of elementary school through graduation. As part of our strategic plan, our elementary educators are developing competency-based educational standards that will create a clearer picture of what students should know and be able to do as they move from grade to grade.

Of course, our students do not make that journey alone. Lin-Wood is fortunate to be part of a community that believes in our students and supports them in so many ways. We continue to see that commitment through the generosity of local businesses that donate resources and help make new opportunities possible for our schools. We are also seeing it in the way our students are working together to prepare for the arrival of a comfort dog at Lin-Wood.

From learning about the responsibilities that come with caring for a dog to thinking about how this new member of our school community can support others, students are discovering that learning also means working together, caring for one another, and taking responsibility for something bigger than ourselves.

Sometimes, the learning journey can even take us across the world without leaving Lin-Wood. A recent visit from the Strathallan School Pipe Band of Scotland gave our students the chance to meet peers from another country and learn firsthand about Scottish music and culture. Moments like these bring learning to life. They encourage curiosity, build connections, and remind our students that there is always more to discover—about our community, about the world, and about one another. I am excited to see where the journey takes our Lumberjacks next.

Go Lumberjacks!

Together,

Mary Steady

Superintendent

From Standards to Skills: Building Strong Learners

As part of Lin-Wood's Strategic Plan, we are taking a closer look at how our goals come to life. One important part of our work is competency-based education. Simply put, competency-based education focuses on what students should know, understand, and be able to do. Instead of viewing learning as a list of assignments to complete, competencies identify the important knowledge and skills students should develop at each grade level. Our staff has worked to develop grade-level competencies in English language arts, math, and science, along with learning expectations across other parts of the Lin-Wood experience. These competencies are not chosen at random. They are connected to academic standards and translated into clear, age-appropriate goals.

For example, Lin-Wood's kindergarten literacy competencies include foundational reading skills, understanding literature and informational texts, different forms of writing, speaking and listening, and research. Each competency is further explained through student-friendly "I can" statements that make a broad academic goal much more concrete. A young learner might work toward goals such as participating in a focused discussion, gathering information with classmates, or using details to explain what they understand about a text.

The Journey

STANDARDS
What should students learn?

COMPETENCIES
What should students be able to do?

"I CAN" STATEMENTS
What does success look like to a student?

LEARNING EXPERIENCES
How do students build these skills??

EVIDENCE OF LEARNING
How do we know students are growing?

In math, students build understanding in areas such as counting and numbers, comparing quantities, addition and subtraction, patterns, measurement, and shapes. A young learner might work toward goals such as counting a group of objects, comparing which group has more or fewer, using objects or drawings to solve a simple addition problem, or identifying and describing shapes. These skills provide a foundation that students build upon as they move through the elementary grades.

The elementary science competencies encourage students to explore, ask questions, and make sense of the world around them. In the early grades, students develop knowledge and skills across areas such as physical science, life science, earth and space science, and engineering. A young learner might work toward goals such as observing patterns in the natural world, describing what plants and animals need to survive, investigating how objects move, asking questions about something they observe, or using evidence to explain what they discovered. Through these experiences, students learn science by doing—building curiosity, problem-solving skills, and an understanding of how evidence can help answer questions.

To view the Elementary School competencies, click here.

Homecoming in the Lumberyard

Homecoming was a resounding success both on the field and across our campus grounds. From the large and supportive crowd and lively booths to the fantastic fundraising efforts from all of the classes, it was a memorable event that highlighted the dedication of our student-athletes, the enthusiasm of our student body, and the strong support of our school community. Lin-Wood's athletic teams represented the school with great spirit and skill throughout the day. The middle school girls played a nail-biter against Haverhill in a back-and-forth battle, and while they came up just short, they played with incredible heart. The middle school boys secured a big victory over Lisbon, with goals scored by Riley, Johnny, Hamza, and Bentley. The varsity girls earned an impressive win against Lisbon, led by Caroline who netted four goals in the match. Finally, the varsity boys capped off the athletic events with a hard-fought zero to zero draw against Lisbon in a physical and well-played contest.

Community Donation to Our Lumberjack Pantry

A huge thank you to the Cafe Lafayette Dinner Train for generously donating food items to the Lumberjack Pantry!

Their support directly helps ensure Lin-Wood students have access to additional food when needed in the school setting. Community partnerships like this keep our Lumberjack spirit strong.

This project was a cooperative effort driven by The Dinner Train and The Bridge Project. If you are interested in learning more or supporting the donations consider stopping by for a bite or find their contact information on their website nhdinnertrain.com.

Other questions about this resource? Reach out to Mrs. Bell at the school, ebell@lin-wood.org or 603-745-2214 x20

It Takes A Village

The whole Lin-wood Community is getting ready for a Comfort Dog! At the beginning of the year, Mr. Woods' Grease and Gears class spent two days taking out the old prisoner cage and back seats of Officer Scrafford's cruiser. This prepared the cruiser to have the dog cage put in. Great job Lumberjacks!

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 10/7 - Walk to School Day
  Lakes Region Math Competition
- 10/9 - No School, Teacher In-Service Day
- 10/12 - No School, Columbus Day
- 10/13 - VT State University Visit
- 10/14 - Policy Committee Meeting
  School Board Meeting
- 10/21 - PSATs - Sophomores & Juniors
- 10/22 - Financial Aid 101
- 10/23 - Middle School Dance
- 10/27 - Picture Retake Day
- 10/28 - Facilities Committee
  School Board Meeting

Lin-Wood School Hosts Strathallan School of Scotland

The NH Highland Games started a day early on the back hillside of Lin-Wood Public School Thursday as the Strathallan School Pipe Band of Scotland performed for the K-12 students. Their set included six songs interspersed with information about how bag pipes work as well as the competition they face later in the weekend at the actual Highland Games located at Loon Mountain. Surrounded by mountains, while listening to Amazing Grace, one would never have known these students arrived late with their chaperones and teachers after a 24-hour journey to New Hampshire.

Following their concert, the students joined our 8th-12th grade students and staff in the gym where they taught us three traditional Scottish dances. The Lumberjacks, both students and staff, participated with gusto. But the best part was watching and listening to the students chat and mingle afterwards. The seniors wanted to teach them "Cotton Eyed Joe," an American Line Dance they all love. The students from Strathallan were heading up Mt. Washington on the Cog Railroad following their morning here at Lin-Wood School.

When the group was in the big circle at the end, Lukas Scambio, a freshman, looked around the Auld Lang Syne circle that took up our entire gym. "Look," he said, "there's everybody...young, old, teachers, kids..." as he scanned the circle, Lin-Wood community and Scotland guests, holding hands, for a few moments, taking it all in as the music started. We learned that the traditional New Year's Eve song, sung at midnight, was originally a Scottish poem written by Robert Burns. This circle dance where everyone holds crossed hands is a tradition that completes every Scottish wedding or celebration that involves dancing.

Seamus Fadden, a Lin-Wood sophomore, shared afterward that he "could not stop smiling," and he made a pen pal where they are going to write actual letters on paper. Kenna Troup, a teacher and organizer for the trip, shared, "The Strathallan Pipe band was thrilled to be able to share traditional Scottish music with Lin-wood School students, and were especially pleased to see so many teachers and pupils taking part in a reel. The Band is especially appreciative of all that the NHScot Committee has done to support them, and they are excited to participate in the Games this weekend.

Stuart Anderson, Board of Advisors for NHSCOT, shared he was thrilled to connect the Strathallan School with the local Lin-Wood Public School embracing the heart of their mission of "preserving and promoting Scottish culture for future generations". However, even more so, as a father (and local pro-active Scot) to three Lin-Wood students, Maisie, Camden, and Ian, he was "delighted to hear the pipes and drums of his homeland on the sports fields his kids have grown up on. Partaking in some Scottish country and ceilidh dances brought him back to his childhood of learning these in school some 40 years ago."

International Walk to School Day

Lin-Wood students, families, and staff put their best foot forward as they celebrated International Walk to School Day! The event was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the fresh air, get moving, and come together as a school community. Beyond promoting healthy habits, the morning reminded us of the importance of connection, community spirit, and looking out for one another. A special thank you to the Lincoln and Woodstock Police Departments and Mrs. Krill for helping make this event safe, fun, and memorable for everyone who participated!

Playing in the Pemi

Ms. Steeves and members of her grade 7 classes traveled to the Pemi River to collect water quality data as well as organisms for the Fish & Game Warm Water classroom tank. It was a fun morning for all!

Game Schedule:

10/1 - MS Soccer v Profile: Away

10/3 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Lisbon: Away
Girls Varsity Soccer v Lisbon: Away

10/5 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Gorham: Away
Girls Varsity Soccer v Gorham: Away
MS Soccer v Littleton: Home

0/6 - MS Soccer v Gorham: Away

10/9 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Newfound: Home
Girls Varsity Soccer v Newfound: Home

10/11 - MS Soccer at Soccerfest in Haverhill

10/13 - MS Soccer v Littleton: Away

10/14 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Colebrook: Home
Girls Varsity Soccer v Colebrook: Home

10/16 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Groveton: Away
Girls Varsity Soccer v Groveton: Away
MS Soccer v Profile: Home

10/17 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Moultonborough: Home
Girls Varsity Soccer v Moultonborough: Home

10/19 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Pittsburg: Away
Girls Varsity Soccer v Pittsburg: Away

10/20 - MS Soccer v Gorham: Home

10/21 - Boys Varsity Soccer v Littleton: Home
Girls Varsity Soccer v Littleton: Home

The World's Game, Our Lumberjack Pride

From small villages to the world's largest stadiums, soccer brings people together like few other sports can. Played and celebrated in nearly every country, soccer crosses borders, languages, and cultures, creating connections through a shared love of the game. Whether it's a neighborhood pickup match or the World Cup, the sport teaches lessons that extend far beyond the field: teamwork, perseverance, respect, and the importance of working toward a common goal. Soccer reminds us that, no matter where we come from, we have more in common than we might think.

Here in Lumberjack Country, that same spirit is alive and well! Soccer is more than a fall sport at Lin-Wood; it's an opportunity for students to build friendships, develop confidence, and learn what it means to be part of a team. On the field, our Lumberjacks demonstrate the determination, sportsmanship, and teamwork that make our school community special. Along the sidelines, families, friends, and neighbors come together to cheer them on, creating a sense of pride and belonging that reaches beyond the final whistle. From the world's biggest stages to our own fields in the White Mountains, soccer shows us the power of community and the connections we build when we play, learn, and grow together.

Support Your Lumberjacks!

Click to Purchase Lin-Wood Spirit Gear