

SANFORD SPOTLIGHT

K & Pre-K Showcases at Margaret Chase Smith



Students, parents, and teachers gathered for two special showcases at Margaret Chase Smith Elementary School this week.

These showcases featured the efforts of students in Ms. Wilson's, Ms. Cote's, and Ms. Devine's classrooms.

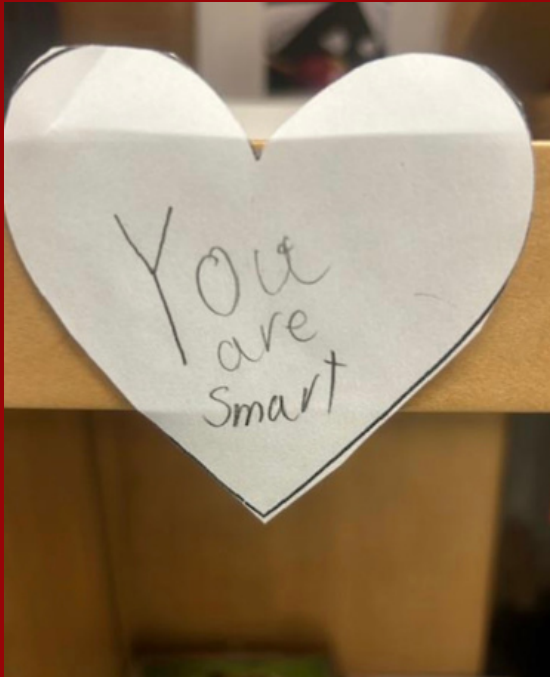
Ms. Wilson and Ms. Cote held their K for ME Unit 2 showcase on Monday.

K for ME supports kindergarten students' learning and their development in literacy and language, science and engineering, social studies, the arts, and social-emotional realms.

The program uses instructional practices aligned with Maine's learning results while building children's ability to learn through meaningful and relevant activities.

Read more [here](#)

The Great Kindness Challenge at Sanford Middle School



Students and faculty at Sanford Middle School came together for a week-long celebration of kindness – The Great Kindness Challenge.

The Great Kindness Challenge is a national movement that promotes students to engage in random acts of kindness throughout the week.

The heart of Kindness Week lies in the interactive checklists distributed to every student. These checklists serve as a guide for students to perform acts of kindness throughout the week.

Read more [here](#)

SHS Senior Named Candidate in U.S. Presidential Scholars Program



Sanford High School senior Lamar Amoakohene was recently selected as a candidate in the 2024 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

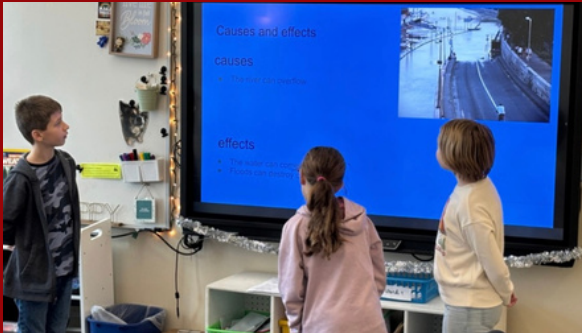
The program recognizes and honors some of the nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Each year, up to 161 students are named U.S. Presidential Scholars.

Lamar is a varsity tennis player and captain of the Math Team.

Read more [here](#)

Sights Around Our Schools

Margaret Chase Smith



Ms. Creech's students presented their informational research on various weather related topics. Students worked in teams to create Google Slides. Throughout the presentations the students completed reflection forms with feedback. Click [here](#) for the school's newsletter.

Carl J. Lamb



3rd graders in Mrs. Lederer's class earned a slime party as a class reward for good behavior. They had to use their math skills to multiply a recipe to figure out how to make enough slime for the number of members in their group. Click [here](#) for the school's newsletter.

Sanford Middle School



Sanford Middle School's aquaponics program was recently featured in the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom's February newsletter. 7th grade students utilized the space with multiple science experiments. Click [here](#) for the school's newsletter.

Sanford Pride



2nd grade students have been working on their math fluency. They've been practicing doubles facts, decomposing 2-digit numbers, and many other addition and subtraction skills through a variety of games and challenges. Click [here](#) for the school's newsletter.

Step Afrika! Performs at Sanford High School



Sanford High School students were treated to a special performance of Step Afrika! on Monday morning.

Step Afrika! is a global show that introduces audiences to traditional African step and contemporary rhythmic dance popularized by historically African-American fraternities and sororities.

The performers captured the students' attention with their synchronized movements and footwork.

Read more [here](#)

The Crucial Role of Maintenance and Custodians When Winter Weather Arrives

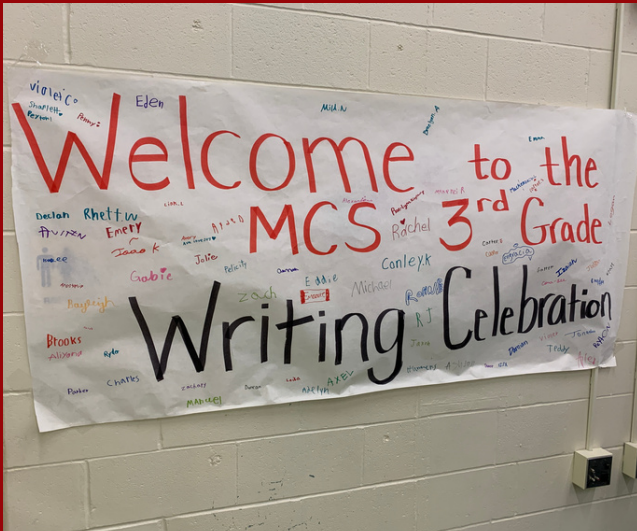


The Sanford School Department's maintenance and custodial teams have an important and often unnoticed role in making sure our schools are ready to open in the winter during stormy weather.

When the forecast predicts an impending storm, Jason Dudley, the Director of Facilities and Maintenance, contacts his maintenance team and each building's head custodian, and provides them with any available details regarding the weather's timeline.

Read more [here](#)

Writing Showcase at Margaret Chase Smith



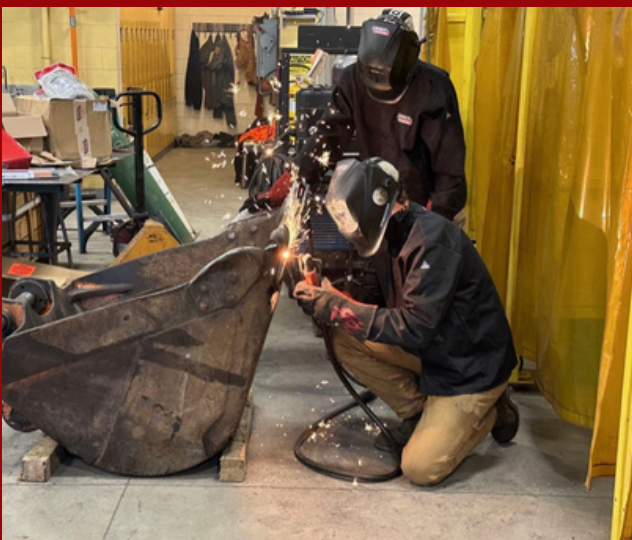
Third graders at Margaret Chase Smith Elementary delighted their family and friends with their learning showcase for the year on Friday, January 26th.

Students focused on information writing skills to prepare for the showcase and worked hard to organize their various topics into chapters.

Students also created introductions and conclusions, expanded their fact-telling by trying different writing strategies, and edited, revised, and published their writing into a book.

Read more [here](#)

SRTC Programs Join Forces to Craft Fire Pits



Engineering Applications with Robotics students collaborated with Welding and Metal Fabrication classmates on graphics and design for constructing fire pits at SRTC.

The welding students were busy assembling their projects while perfecting their welds on these pieces.

The fire pits were sold to raise money that will go directly back into these two programs,

Read more [here](#)

The Spartan Times

The Spartan Times is the high school's online newspaper. The writing staff is composed of reporters in grades 9-12 who are enrolled in or have completed the CCP Journalism Elective course or the School Newspaper Enrichment class. Below is an article on Sanford High School's band preparing for their upcoming performance.



Sanford High School Winter Ensembles, Winter Percussion and Winter Guard, have been working hard to put together their shows “Best Day Ever” and “Car Wash” for their upcoming performance season that begins in March.

Winter Guard, performing “Car Wash” by Rose Royce, will be spinning and tossing flags, sabres and rifles to create a captivating look.

Winter Percussion’s “Best Day Ever” from the Spongebob Squarepants soundtrack is a performance that only uses percussion instruments, resulting in a beautiful synchronized show ...

[Read more here](#)

SCAE Holds Successful Author Visit



“Sanford Community Adult Education’s author visit with Ashlee Ridlon was hugely successful.

Over 30 families attended, and all of them went home with a copy of her book, *Bad Butter*.

Ms. Ridlon read her book and had the children participate and laugh. Ms. Ridlon even agreed to return for another visit and introduce a new book!

Employee Spotlight

The Sanford School Department is spotlighting employees at all of our schools. If you know an employee who you feel should be highlighted, please email Sam Bonsey at sbonsey@sanford.org. This spotlight is on Margaret Chase Smith Kindergarten Teacher Deanna Wilson.



How long have you worked in the Sanford School Department?

I started working in Sanford in January of 2021 as a long-term sub then joined the Kindergarten team the following 21/22 school year!

What's your favorite part about working in Sanford?

I work with the most supportive colleagues and team! I also love to see students coming off the bus with a smile in the morning.

Read more [here](#)

SRTC Applications

Sanford Regional Technical Center Applications are now available for the 2024-2025 school year.

SRTC is holding an open house on Wednesday, February 7th, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

You will be able to check out the classrooms and labs to learn more about SRTC. Be sure to apply before the **March 1st deadline**. Click [here](#) to apply.

We Want to Hear From You!

Do you have a story idea that you believe should be featured in our upcoming newsletter?

We're eager to hear from you and showcase the incredible stories within our school community.

Whether it's a tale of community resilience, a spotlight on an unsung hero, or an event that deserves recognition, we want to know about it! Drop an email to our Communications Coordinator, Sam Bonsey, at sbonsey@sanford.org

SPAC: Treat Your Valentine to Frankie Valli Tribute Show



Treat your Valentine to North America's premier tribute to Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Showtime is 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Sanford Performing Arts Center. Created by Jersey Boys star John Michael Coppola,

The Four C Notes deliver an authentic show with their spectacular vocals, matching vintage outfits, and crisp choreography! Backed by a dynamic seven-piece rhythm and horn ensemble,

Read more [here](#)

School Budget Info

The school committee has begun its work for approving the budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

The next budget workshop is scheduled for February 12th. You can view budget information by clicking [here](#).

Budget workshops are also streamed on WSSRTV's YouTube.

Attendance Matters

Thank you for your commitment to your child's regular school attendance. Consistent routines are so important for learning and well-being.

We appreciate your effort to get your child to school ready to learn.

Please maintain your child's attendance throughout the school year. Coming to school helps your child build relationships, learn, and feel stable.

Click [here](#) for the school calendar

Pre-K Lottery

Pre-K lottery registration opens on Monday, February 26th. Pre-K programs are offered at Carl J. Lamb, Margaret Chase Smith, Sanford Pride, and Sanford Regional Technical Center.

There are **NO COSTS** for any of these programs. Children who are 4 years of age on or before October 15th, 2024, are eligible.

For more information about our Pre-K programs, click [here](#).

Free Meals

Have you heard all school meals are free in Maine? This includes breakfast. Don't have time to prepare breakfast in the morning? Let us do the work. We'd be happy to provide your son or daughter with a delicious, nutritional balanced breakfast every day, free of charge.

Breakfast Service Times by School:

CJL: breakfast is from 8:00 to 8:30

MCS: breakfast is from 8:00 to 8:20

SPE: breakfast is 8:00 – 8:20

SMS: breakfast is 7:10 - 7:40

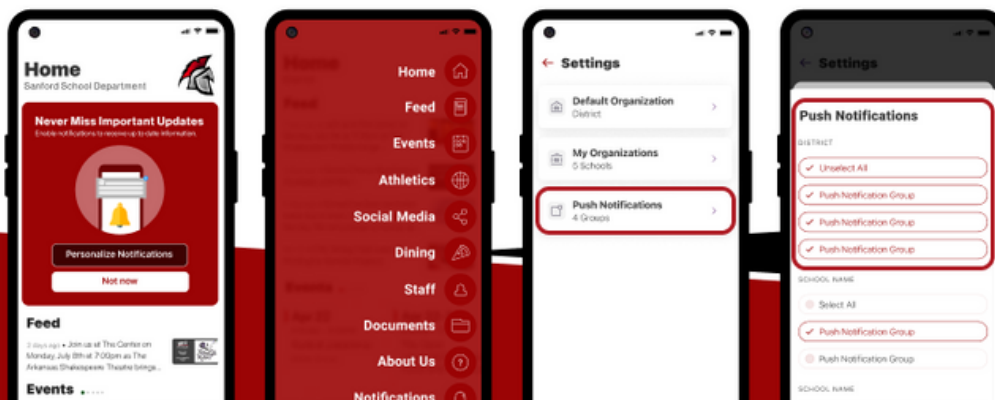
SHS: breakfast is 6:45-8:15

Download the Sanford Spartan App!

Don't miss any updates from Sanford!



1. Search **Sanford School Department, ME** in your phone's app store and download the app
2. Select **'Personalize Notifications'** when prompted on initial download to ensure you receive notifications
3. Open the app and navigate to the bottom menu then tap **'SETTINGS'**
4. Access Push Notifications to select preferred group(s)



Main Street Memo



Highlights from the newest Main Street Memo include:

- Goodall Library updates
- A new health clinic opening in Sanford
- Parks and Recreation relocation and programs

And much more! Click [here](#) to read it.

Additional links to stay up to date with the Sanford Community

- [City of Sanford](#)
- [WSSR-TV](#)
- [Sanford Athletics Instagram](#)
- [Spartan Times Online Newspaper](#)
- [Sanford Springvale News](#)