

Concord School Principal's Report

As I reflect upon the last four months of the 2021-2022 school year our students continue to be at the forefront of why I chose this profession over 25 years ago.

This is my fourth year at the helm of Concord School and I continue to be proud to say that I am the leader and collaborator with students, faculty, staff and the Concord community. I am truly honored that you trust, and share, your children with us!

Have you ever seen students pressing apples in a cider press to make home-made apple cider, modeling good citizenship and team-building through playing *Corn Hole*, having Publishing Parties to acknowledge and show-case phenomenal writing, developing skills in collaboration and consensus by participating in state-wide events (The WINNER is... "Pumpkin Plowing the Way"), and participating in team-building/community skills through honoring Veterans (the list goes on)? I hope the answer is yes, but if not, this is only a glimpse of the learning opportunities that are taking place here at Concord School!

When I think about collaboration, connectedness, community and citizenship one of the following events comes to mind... "Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Gregory! Can we, can we please help with the flag?" How could I say no when I had seventh and eighth graders in front of me wide-eyed with excitement pleading to assist the Veterans in taking down the ginormous flag that proudly hung swaying in the breeze from pole to pole over Rte. 2 in Lunenburg. I pulled the sleeve of my jacket up to look at my watch hoping that we could squeeze this extra special privilege into the schedule, "Well of course you can," I said! They ran over to the Veterans eagerly waiting for directions. After helping to take the flag down they were invited to assist in folding the flag (Did you know that there are 13 folds and that each fold has a significant meaning which is read while the flag is being folded?). This is only one example (honoring Veterans at the Common in Lunenburg) of how we have embraced the Merger by providing team-building of Concord/Gilman middle school students..

We acknowledge, and realize, that these have been extremely trying and difficult times for everyone (known to some as *bumps* and *frost heaves*) but please know our Concord School Mission still stands... *Concord School is committed to developing young people with active and creative minds, a sense of understanding and compassion for others, and the courage to act on their beliefs. In partnership with parents and the community, we will provide an environment which supports the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development of students, while fostering an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of good citizenship.*

Your steadfast and gracious principal, Sherri L. Gregory