

November 26, 2024

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Simsbury School Staff:

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support and partnership. Our community came together this month to celebrate the completion of the Latimer Lane Elementary School renovation project. I want to thank the Board and commission members who attended the ribbon cutting ceremony on November 12th. The event was yet another example of our community rallying to support education in an enthusiastic way. The following Saturday, an Open House for the community was well attended, with nearly 600 visitors who came through for tours guided by sixth grade students who were the stars of the show!

The third in our series of videos connecting what our students are learning grounded in the Vision of a Graduate can be found [here](#). This video focuses on student collaboration through our music and sports programming. Thank you to our teachers and coaches who go above and beyond in creating a sense of belonging for our students and giving them opportunities to exhibit the attributes of our Vision of a Graduate framework. They instill the skills of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, self-directed learning, innovation, and global citizenship in each of our students.

I would like to thank our families and teachers for their partnership and their participation in our parent-teacher conferences held earlier this month at the elementary level. Parent involvement is crucial to the overall success of our students in school. We are fortunate to have such a high level of participation. Continuing open lines of communication throughout the year around student progress, strengths, and areas of improvement will serve our students well.

Last week, I had the opportunity to sit down with Paul Henault for an interview that will be broadcast on SCTV. Our discussion focused on a variety of topics as they relate to the school system and the superintendency. We will continue to communicate with students' families and the Simsbury community at large in a variety of ways.

Our annual budget process kicks off on December 11th with the Tri-Board meeting. This meeting is inclusive of Board of Finance, Board of Selectmen, and Board of Education members. During this meeting, the Boards have an opportunity to share fixed cost data and discuss contextual factors that will impact overall budget development. We will be sure to communicate our progress to you throughout the budget process.

During this holiday season, let us take a moment to reflect on the many blessings in our lives. May your Thanksgiving be filled with joy, love, and gratitude.

I wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Matt Curtis
Superintendent of Schools