

This year, Mr. Smith co-taught TGS's senior expedition, *Our Place by the Sea*. As a member of the grade 12 expedition team, he managed the science portion of this project, while Ms. Nora Pace, another of our Greene School educators, focused on English. In addition, Mr. Brendan Haggerty, Greene School Science Teacher and Educational Guide, handled logistics by coordinating four field work events with *Save the Bay* to allow our students to visit the beaches and Salt Ponds of Rhode Island.

This semester-long expedition focused on coastal resilience and sustainability engaging students as environmental leaders through detailed data collection and analysis. The expedition curriculum followed a process of scientific research modeled after the practices of the professional community. Students were challenged to explore urgent environmental issues and remediation efforts. Through research and fieldwork, science instruction facilitated data collection and analysis to examine ecological threats impacting coastal areas. Students progressed from a point of research and analysis to authoring a scientific research paper.

On Friday, December 16, the expedition culminated in individual student presentations, followed by opportunities for interactive dialogue. This event was held at the URI Bay Campus Coastal Resource Center.



Recently, Mr. Smith taught the school's aviation intensive. A primary goal of this course was to underscore the career opportunities that exist in both the military and private sectors for those who have aviation skills. During afternoon sessions, students viewed and reflected on military aviation-themed films such as *Midway*, *Devotion*, and *Top Gun*.

Reflecting on his work at TGS, Mr. Smith said, "Starting a new career is a humbling experience. I'm very appreciative of becoming an educator at TGS because it is a mission-driven school with a strong commitment to science, the environment, and community leadership development. It is particularly rewarding to have the opportunity to learn and grow with my students every day. The most significant difference I've noticed in moving between my Air Force career and my career as an educator is that I must motivate students and provide opportunities for them to learn. Luckily, students have an abundance of natural curiosity when it comes to science and

the environment and that is one of the reasons that I consider myself fortunate to teach this curriculum.”



Mr. Smith's credentials are extensive and include the following degrees:

- United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO, BS Environmental Engineering
- American Military University, Charleston, WV, MS, Environmental Management
- U.S. Naval War College, Newport, RI, MA, National Security and Strategy
- Air War College, Montgomery, AL, MA, Strategy
- St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, MS, Secondary Education (General Science)

TGS is truly fortunate to have an educator of Mr. Smith's caliber working with our administration, teachers, and students and we look forward to continuing our relationship with him!