

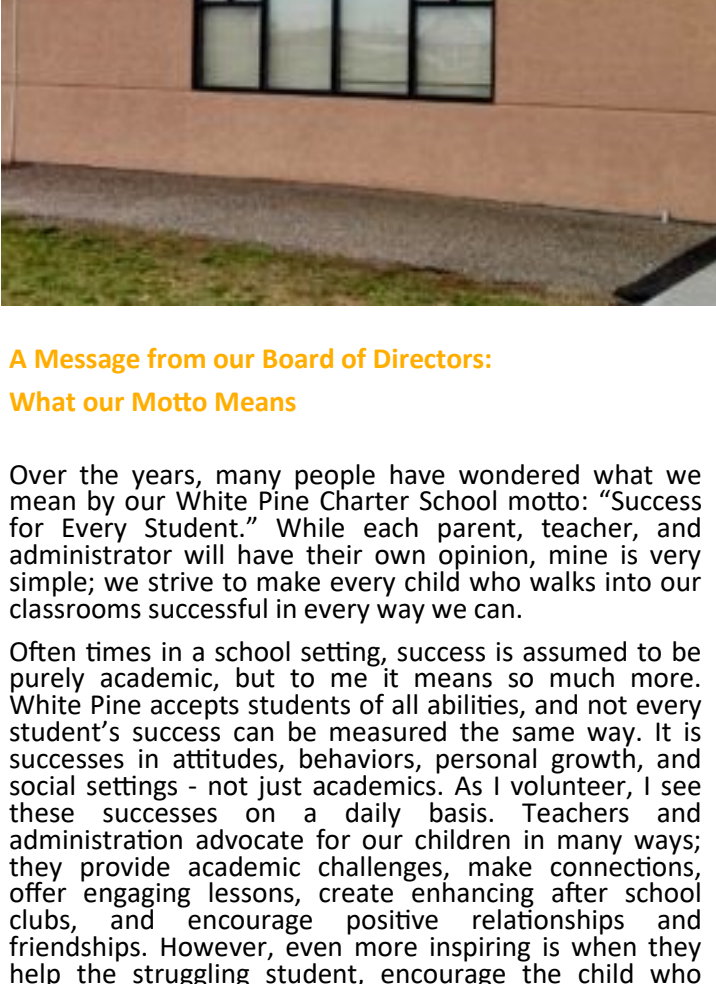
White Pine Charter School Newsletter

White Pine K-6 Charter School and White Pine STEM Academy

Success for Every Student

November 2019

Vol. 13



A Message from our Board of Directors:

What our Motto Means

Over the years, many people have wondered what we mean by our White Pine Charter School motto: "Success for Every Student." While each parent, teacher, and administrator will have their own opinion, mine is very simple; we strive to make every child who walks into our classrooms successful in every way we can.

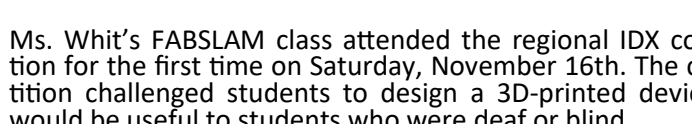
Often times in a school setting, success is assumed to be purely academic, but to me it means so much more. White Pine accepts students of all abilities, and not every student's success can be measured the same way. It is successes in attitudes, behaviors, personal growth, and social settings - not just academics. As I volunteer, I see these successes on a daily basis. Teachers and administration advocate for our children in many ways; they provide academic challenges, make connections, offer engaging lessons, create enhancing after school clubs, and encourage positive relationships and friendships. However, even more inspiring is when they help the struggling student, encourage the child who needs a boost of confidence, or notice the child who is sitting alone.

What is more important to me than test scores and being the top academic school is seeing that every parent and student has a successful and positive experience. In doing so, we will become the number one school of choice: a school that parents and students choose to attend because the way we personalize education helps every child reach their potential. I believe academic success will be a natural byproduct of this.

Volunteers are a huge asset to White Pine and they truly help foster success for every student. All my volunteering in the school is with this purpose in mind. As I walk through the halls or into classrooms I greet children and take interest in what they have to say. If you take the opportunity to listen, you will hear about their accomplishments as well as their struggles. If you watch, you will see outstanding school citizens. If you haven't volunteered yet, I encourage you to find the time; your children and their classmates will benefit greatly. If you already volunteer: Thank you, you are spending time helping the most important cause; creating confident, successful young people who - because of your example - will thrive and give back to society in every way they can. We are all part of "Success for Every Student."

- Joanna Stark
Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors

STEM Academy Makes Big Impact; As Newcomers They Take Third at Regional IDX Competition!

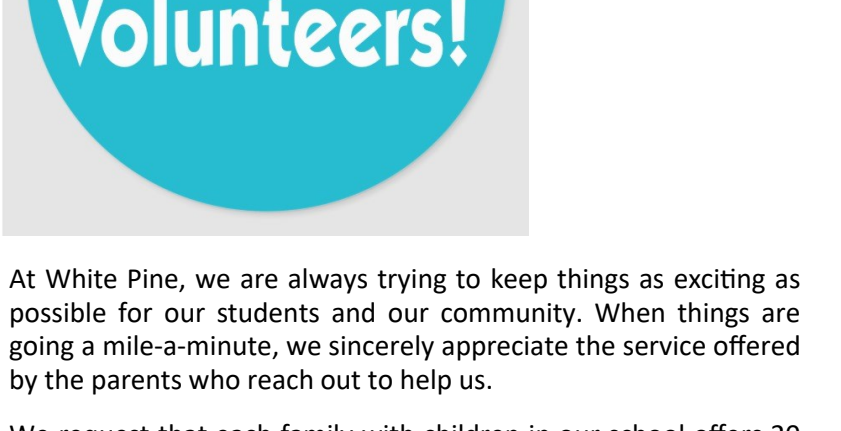


Ms. Whit's FABSLAM class attended the regional IDX competition for the first time on Saturday, November 16th. The competition challenged students to design a 3D-printed device that would be useful to students who were deaf or blind.

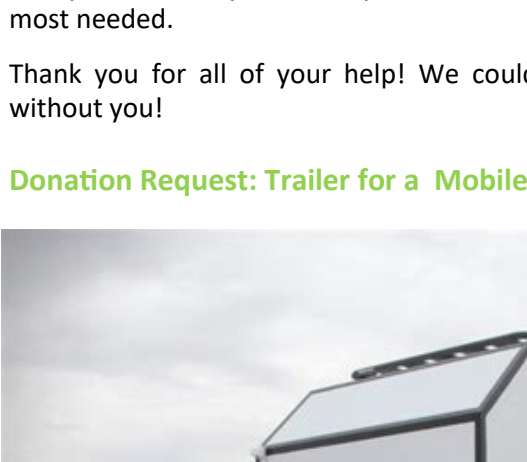
The White Pine team submitted a 3D-printed measuring cup designed to help blind students take accurate volume measurements. They won the 3rd place prize of \$250 and, appropriately, a 3D-printed trophy.

We're very proud of Ms. Whit's classes; in October, their submission won first place in the Ammon Pumpkin Walk, with their theme: *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (see below).

Go, Cougars! Let's keep those wins coming!



Parent Volunteers Always Needed!



At White Pine, we are always trying to keep things as exciting as possible for our students and our community. When things are going a mile-a-minute, we sincerely appreciate the service offered by the parents who reach out to help us.

We request that each family with children in our school offers 20 hours of volunteer service each school year. This can be in the classroom, on a field trip, or at a PFA event. Hanna, our PFA President, is diligent in sending out sign-up sheets for events so that you can always be sure you are volunteering where you are most needed.

Thank you for all of your help! We could not do what we do without you!

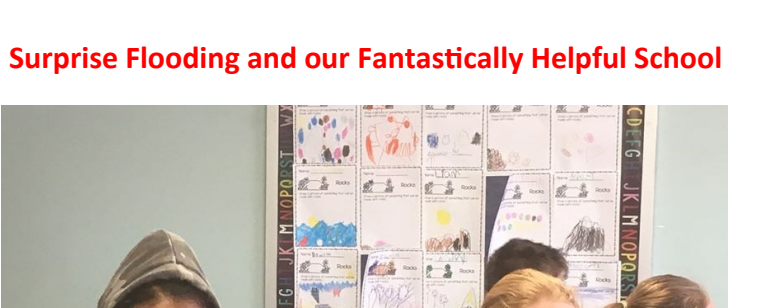
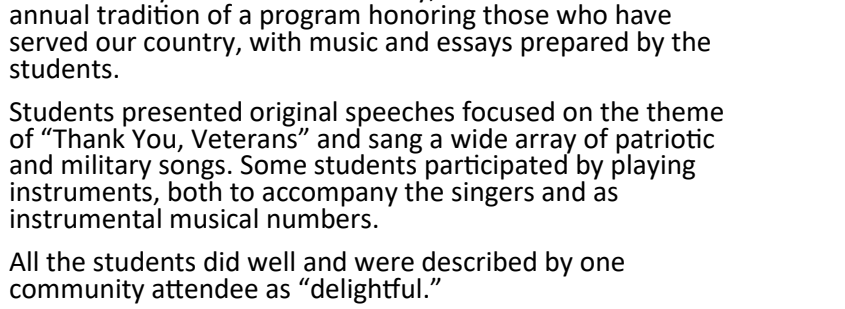
Donation Request: Trailer for a Mobile STEM Lab



This is a great opportunity for a tax write-off! White Pine STEM Academy is developing a mobile STEM laboratory for our students. If you have a camper or trailer with roof and walls, please consider helping our students experiment for years to come.

Since the school is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, this donation will count as a tax write-off.

The "Thank You, Veterans" Program : A Great Success

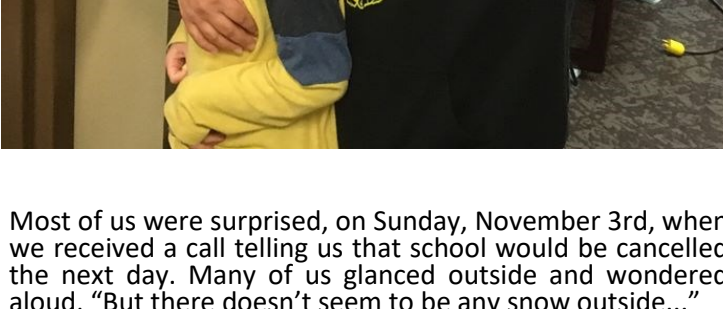


On the Friday before Veteran's Day, we continued our annual tradition of a program honoring those who have served our country, with music and essays prepared by the students.

Students presented original speeches focused on the theme of "Thank You, Veterans" and sang a wide array of patriotic and military songs. Some students participated by playing instruments, both to accompany the singers and as instrumental musical numbers.

All the students did well and were described by one community attendee as "delightful."

Surprise Flooding and our Fantastically Helpful School



Most of us were surprised, on Sunday, November 3rd, when we received a call telling us that school would be cancelled the next day. Many of us glanced outside and wondered aloud, "But there doesn't seem to be any snow outside..."

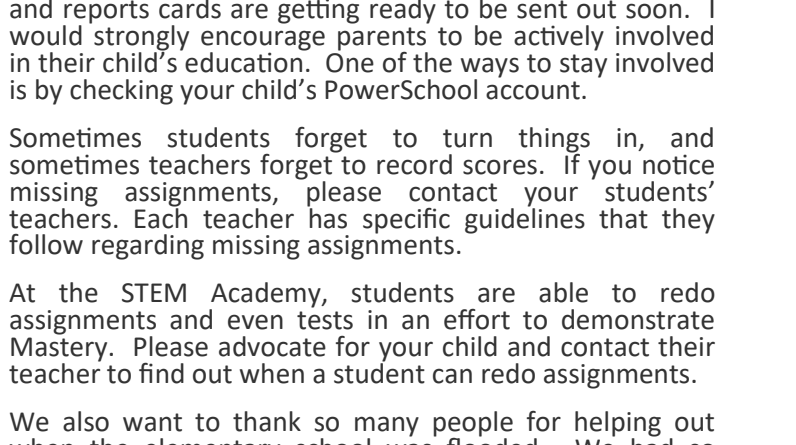
As future e-mails and text messages came out, our situation became clear: a valve had burst on our K-6 campus and consequently the building had flooded. School was cancelled Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Although we all enjoyed the unexpected break in different ways, many parents, staff members, and even students, arrived to help move furniture in order to dry the floors and examine the walls. Our STEM Academy's Civil Air Patrol Cadets had an especially high turnout.

A big thank you to all those who helped. Furthermore, we appreciate everyone's patience with the sudden turn of events.

The State Department of Education assures us that our unforeseen developments will not require make-up days.

A Message From Mr. Clarke



Welcome to November. Our first trimester ends this week. Our students have been working hard since August and reports cards are getting ready to be sent out soon. I would strongly encourage parents to be actively involved in their child's education. One of the ways to stay involved is by checking your child's PowerSchool account.

Sometimes students forget to turn things in, and sometimes teachers forget to record scores. If you notice missing assignments, please contact your students' teachers. Each teacher has specific guidelines that they follow regarding missing assignments.

At the STEM Academy, students are able to redo assignments and even tests in an effort to demonstrate Mastery. Please advocate for your child and contact their teacher to find out when a student can redo assignments.

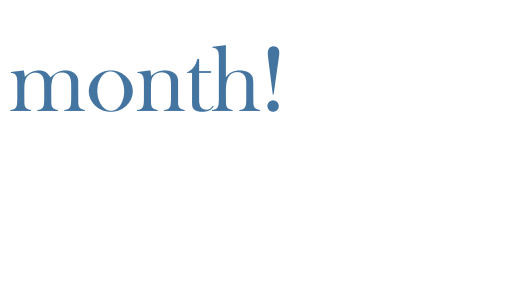
We also want to thank so many people for helping out when the elementary school was flooded. We had so many show up to help and many more offers of help. It is awesome to live in a community where everyone is willing to help those in need.

Speaking of those in need, we have quite a few families who find it difficult to have a happy holiday season. I would like to ask our families to please be giving during this season. We are working on getting items together for turkey boxes to help White Pine families. We will also be getting our Angel trees ready. Please contact Kari Peterson or Angela Johnson if you have items to donate.

Have a Happy Holiday Season!

Jeremy Clarke

STEM Academy Life Sports Class Requests Help



White Pine STEM Academy is introducing a new class titled "Life Sports." They will be travelling to learn many different sports, especially sports that students may not have had much exposure to in the past.

If you have any suggestions for facilities we could attend at a group rate for a few weeks in the semester, please contact Mrs. Nelson at nelsonba@wpccougars.org.

Please contact Matt Wiltbank at wiltbankma@wpccougars.org to submit items to be considered for the newsletter.

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