

# The Update

Halifax School's Weekly Newsletter

October 27, 2017



## Principal's Note

Time is flying by this year. November brings parent-teacher conferences, and the start to the holiday season. Students have been working hard this first quarter. This week many of them have been winding up long-term projects. Students have been using rubrics and assignment checklists to determine if they are meeting the expected proficiencies. This is the first step in having students set personal learning goals. Once they are clear on our expectations, and learn to review their work with a given set of criteria, they will be able to identify goals for their own learning. Studies show that this type of process helps to motivate students, as it teaches them how to direct their learning focus. The current trends in education expect that students will be more involved in their learning than ever before. At the elementary level we need to teach our students how to be part of this process, and provide them opportunities to practice. Personalized learning is a complex process. Halifax, as with other schools in the District, is investigating ways to address this new concept within the framework of the Common Core Expectations and the constraints of small school budgets.

In November the Windham Southwest Supervisory Schools will be participating in an Integrated Field Review. This means that the Agency of Education will evaluate each school providing the District with two areas of accomplishment and two areas that need improvement. The visit will take place on November 15, 2017. A small evaluating team will be at our school all day. The team will observe all of our classrooms, interview a few teachers, students, and parents. Questions will be focused on what our school does well, and where it could improve. Questions might be asked about our new proficiency based reporting system, our multi-aged groupings, parent/teacher communication, and the level of educational opportunity provided at our school. I will be looking for parent volunteers, who will be available from 9:00- 9:30. You will meet as a group with the visiting team. More information regarding this process will be shared in the next Update.

## Events to Remember

**The Fantastic Fall Festival** -Tonight's the Night! Don't miss out on the fun! The doors open at 5:30 and close at 7:00pm. The Fall Festival will have games, prizes, a haunted maze, costume parade and a special surprise movie- beginning at 6:30.



There is still time to sign up for the **Halloween Hustle**. Join us on Saturday, October 28th for the 4th Annual Halloween Hustle 5K Run and 2-Mile Walk at the Halifax School, [246 Branch Rd., West Halifax, VT](#). The event is held rain or shine.

Registration opens at 9:00 am, located at the front parking lot of the school.

Registration fees are: children age 4 and under are free; children age 5-18 cost \$5, and adults age 19+ cost \$10. A small service fee will be charged for registering online.

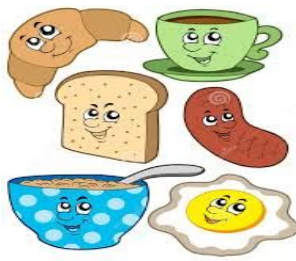
Walkers depart at 10:00 am and runners depart at 10:15 am.

Don't forget to wear your costume! Prizes will be given for best costume in child, adult, and group categories.

This event is a fundraiser to help support our Wings After School Programs at Halifax School.

**Annual Halloween Parade** on October 31st, at 1:45. Students may bring their costumes into school in the morning, and change into them after recess. Please do not send in any pretend weapons, knives, guns etc.. This year the whole school will be parading. The parade will be lead by our 7th and 8th graders. Please join us on the walk to the Community Hall, or come wave to us as we walk by!

**October Menus** (you can click on the link below to view the menu)



[Breakfast Menu](#)



[Lunch Menu](#)

## **Important Halifax Community Dates**

Friday, October 27- Fantastic Fall Festival 5:30- 7:00pm

Saturday, October 28- Halloween Hustle - 10:00 - 12:00

Wednesday, November 1 - School Board Meeting 6:00

***Monday, November 6 - Wings Session 2 begins***

Thursday, November 9 - No School full day inservice

Friday, November 10 - No School - Veterans' Day observance

Wednesday, November 22-Friday, November 24 - No School - Thanksgiving recess

**\*NOTICE:** The Halifax School Board work session meetings will no longer be held on the third Wednesday of the month. The Board will continue to hold its regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. The newly formed Southern Valley School Board will meet on the third Wednesday of the month at Twin Valley Middle/High School.