



# VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – January 31, 2014

**ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Art Department** - Twelve students placed in the competition at the high school level, and two students placed at the middle school level. One of our high school students, Taylor Fournier, received the Blick Art Materials - Best in Photography Award, which is considered best in show for a single category. Another high school student, Heather Bousquet, placed with a Gold Key portfolio, won the Hartford Art School Award, and received a \$80,000.00 Scholarship to Hartford Art School, which happens to be her first choice college. Here is the full list of students from Vernon and the awards they won in the competition this year:

### Rockville

Student Category

Award

Anna McCain Ceramics & Glass

Gold Key

Rachael Shane Ceramics & Glass

Honorable Mention

Dillion Pelletier Digital Art Gold Key

Igor Biahliak Digital Art

Honorable Mention

Emily Seekins Design

Silver Key

Heather Bousquet Portfolio Gold Key

Hartford Art School Award

Kaylee Miklas Ceramics & Glass

Gold Key

Taylor Fournier Photography Gold Key

Blick Art Material - Best in Photography award

Gabriel Rogan Photography

Honorable Mention

Joshua Chaffee Photography

Honorable Mention

Brianna Tedford Photography Honorable Mention

Gabriel Rogan Photography

Honorable Mention

### VCMS

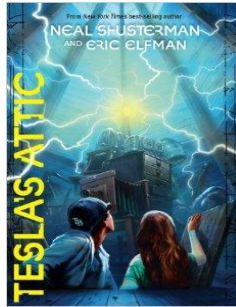
Kelly Guerrero Sculpture Honorable  
Mention

Rayana Smith Sculpture

Honorable Mention

Good News from the Career Center: On Wednesday, January 29, nine students from RHS attended a job shadow at WFSB in Rocky Hill. They were given a tour of the television station, observing the process of television news production and also watched a taping of Better Connecticut. Many students involved in Video Production and Effective Communications learned the daily operations of the television station.

**VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL** – **Author Neal Shusterman to Visit VCMS!** Purchase an autographed hardcover copy of his latest book with co-author Eric Elfman, *Tesla's Attic*. Cost is \$11. A school-wide assembly will be held and, also, a writing workshop will be held for a select number of students.



The Evening of Exploration was held on January 29, from 6:00-8:00 PM. Incoming students and their parents were given the opportunity to see all the wonderful displays, experiments, student projects, and activities offered to our middle school students. It was a wonderful, informative evening for all!

**CENTER ROAD SCHOOL** – “The fifth grade students are putting on their thinking caps, and starting to brainstorm ideas for the upcoming Invention Convention held in early Spring. This week inventor / magician Richard Matt came to speak to the 5th graders about patents, and got them excited by showing them some of his own gadgets that he has invented. The Center Road Community is looking forward to Invention Convention when all students have the opportunity to view the fantastic inventions from our 5th graders!

The third grade students had a field trip to the Noah Webster House in West Hartford. All of our students made Vernon proud by being well-behaved and respectful while on the field trip. The students enjoyed seeing a glimpse of how it was living in a house that is over 250 years old!”

**LAKE STREET SCHOOL** – The Lutz Museum visited Lake Street School this week! Students in Pre-K and Kindergarten learned about animals that are Migrators and Hibernators. After a conversation of what migrators and hibernators do, students were able to meet a few of these furry and not so furry friends: a turtle, a rabbit and a hedgehog! All of these new friends live at the Lutz Museum for the students to go and visit.

Lake Street School Students and Faculty enjoyed their first Lion’s Dens of the year. The LSS PBIS Committee sorted students into 23 Dens. Each Den consists of one or more adults and 9-11 students, K-5. The lesson in this Den meeting reinforced the important connections of individuals to the whole community, Students and Faculty decorated individual puzzle pieces with their name and some decoration that represents them or some things that they like. The puzzle pieces will put together in one large mural in our halls. Everyone is an important piece of the puzzle at Lake Street School!

**MAPLE STREET SCHOOL** – MSS Preschoolers are engaging in fire fighter roles in room 18 and community roles in room 19. They continue to work on their executive functioning skills through role play. They are also enjoying playing letter relay as they work on their letter recognition and sounds.

MSS Kindergartener's completed their narrative stories about a special day and had an author's party to celebrate.

MSS Fifth Graders visited VCMS on Tuesday, January 28th, 2013 to meet staff and students and to get a glimpse of what middle school will be like for them for the next school year.

**NORTHEAST SCHOOL** – The students at Northeast enjoyed a special treat during lunch but it had nothing to do with what they were eating! A group of mad scientists brewed up some crazy chemistry concoctions that kept everyone at the edge of their seat! A crowd favorite was when Professor Presto mixed different colored liquid paint together and got the audience involved. Students were selected to shout out the color they thought it would become after it was mixed. The message was as clear as H<sub>2</sub>O...Science is exciting! The group travels from Connecticut to Vermont teaching children about the amazing world of science. You can learn more at... [www.madscience.org](http://www.madscience.org). Many student, parents and staff attended Northeast math night on Thursday. The event was organized and coordinated by Ms. Violette. There were plenty of smiles to go around as students rotated through bingo, brain teasers, jump rope skip counting and other fun games.

**SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL** – This week at Skinner Road Lifetouch Photo came to the school to do candid shots of the students for the yearbook. There are 47 students this year in grades three through five who signed up to be on the Twirling Team. The team meets once a week and practices baton twirling. They will perform at a Rockcats game, the school talent show and for the school during a PBIS Celebration.

On Friday January 31 students in grades K – 5 who have exhibited STAR behavior, were given their certificates during an all school PBIS Celebration. SRS is proud of our student's positive behaviors. This past month we instituted Positive Behavior Forms. If a student is caught going above and beyond they are written up on the form with a description of the positive behavior. An announcement is made during the day stating the students name and the positive behavior. Mrs. Simon goes to the student's class to congratulate the student and present them with a "STAR Pencil".

Skinner Road students and staff are eagerly looking forward to next month when we start our SRS Olympic Celebration. Stay tuned for more information.....

**VERNON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** - At Vernon Elementary School, the middle school class is learning about current events, in both the media and in print. Students have been exploring how authors use facts and details to support their arguments. They have also been learning about how informational text is structured through the use of headings, captions and pictures, etc. With this new knowledge, students will begin to assemble a weekly newsletter which they will distribute throughout our school.

*The Vernon Public Schools, in partnership with family and community, is committed to provide a quality education, with high expectations, in a safe environment where all students become independent learners and productive contributors to society.*