

# VERNON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Office of the Superintendent  
30 Park Street • P.O. Box 600  
Vernon, CT 06066-0600  
Fax (860) 870-6005

Website: [www.vernonpublicschools.org](http://www.vernonpublicschools.org)



---

## **GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK – MAY 24, 2013**

**ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL** – Who ROCKS? Sarah Lueckel, Jessica Petritus, Dee Small-Cashman, Elaina Marcotte, and Darianna Pozzato, that's who! These girls competed against 29 other high schools and over thirty other teams to take third place in the State Envirothon Field Competition held at Sessions Woods Wildlife Management Area in Burlington, CT.

**VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL** – On Tuesday, May 21, ten students, along with Mrs. Nevins and Mr. Giard, attended the Arts in the Middle School conference at The University of Hartford Art School. The students were able to participate in any two art-making workshops of their choice, taught by practicing artists or art teachers. Some of the workshops included printmaking, metal sculpture mask-making, self-portraits with wire, painting En plein air (outdoor landscapes), photograms, drawing and digital art. It was a great day and the students did a FANTASTIC job representing Vernon Center Middle School.

About 80 selected 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade students were able to attend the College Knowledge Days event at Eastern Connecticut State University on May 21 and May 23. Students participated in workshops designed to help them start thinking about college. Presenters gave our students information about college financial aid, about what life is like on a college campus, and about ways to choose a field of study and a future career. The VCMS students were terrific representatives of our school - their behavior was exemplary and they were enthusiastic and active participants in all the activities.

**CENTER ROAD SCHOOL** – The RHS Creative Writers Class of Vicky Nordlund, visited Gr. 3 to share their books they have written and published. The children enjoyed sharing this time with the students reading and talking about the process and their love for books. On Wednesday, 5/22, CRS had our Annual Fine Arts Night. Gr. 1-5 had artwork displayed throughout the school for viewing and our Gr. 4 & 5 Chorus and Gr. 5 Band students performed for the school, family and friends. The performance was enjoyed by all; they did an awesome job. CRS has a lot of talented students and dedicated and talented teachers. Thank you to Mrs. Gag, Ms. Rubinstein and Mrs. Stein!

**LAKE STREET SCHOOL** – This past Wednesday, Grade 4 at Lake Street School had the opportunity to go to the Mashantucket Pequot Museum as their last field trip of the school year. Students engaged in interactive exhibits regarding the Pequot Tribal Nation History. They learned how the Pequots battled to keep their land and what tools they created and used on a daily basis, etc. Students enjoyed their time at the museum and were very excited to share the information that they learned!

**MAPLE STREET SCHOOL** – MSS held its annual service project House event on Tuesday. Houses worked on many creative projects to benefit the school community. The Grey House weeded the Community Garden, painted rocks to border the garden, planted, and learned about composting. The Blue House drew playground games on the blacktop behind the school. Blue House leaders will go back and paint those games for more permanency. The Black House raked the front lawn and painted red, white, and blue stars on the grass in honor of Memorial Day. The Yellow House made a Suggestion Box and sorted through all of the Lost and Found

items to make it easier for students to identify lost items. The Red House constructed and decorated scrap paper holders for each office and classroom and recycled the unused “name” papers that the copy machine produces every time a person makes a copy. The Purple House finished painting their large banner welcoming people to MSS that will hang in the main entryway. The Green House planted flowers in containers and placed them at entry doors and on window sills around the building to beautify the grounds.

**NORTHEAST SCHOOL** – Last Friday was Northeast’s First Annual Family Picnic. This event was a HUGE success with games, food and raffle prizes. It was a weather perfect night for families and staff to get together, mingle and play games. Picnic blankets and chairs covered the Northeast play area. A kickball game and a whiffle ball game provided some exciting competition for children and adults, while hoola hoops, jump rope, the parachute activity and the playscape entertained others. Baked goods, ice cream sundaes and many gift baskets were offered in a raffle. A big hit was the raffle for lunch with a staff member. Our parking area was full and the evening was tons of fun.

**SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL** – Skinner Road Fifth grade band students went to RHS for an inter-elementary band rehearsal. Our third grade students were excited to go to the Lincoln Theatre for a performance of Junie B Jones. Second grade students went to the Museum of Science. The New Children’s Museum in West Hartford, Connecticut offers hands-on fun with science and nature for younger children. Visitors enjoyed exhibits and demonstrations, education classes and activities, a live animal wildlife sanctuary, and an exhibit on King Tut. Fifth Grade students were invited to the Coventry Nathan Hale Museum. The Nathan Hale Homestead was the home of the family of State Hero, Nathan Hale. Constructed in 1776, the current house is the second dwelling built on the property. Nathan’s father, Richard Hale, was a prosperous livestock farmer and built the house for his large family. Ardent patriots, six of Richard’s eight sons served in the patriot army. This has been another great week of learning at SRS.

*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.*