

**Hope Elementary School  
Principal's Report  
December 2021**

Enrollment: PK-15, K-6, 1<sup>st</sup>-13, 2<sup>nd</sup>-21, 3<sup>rd</sup>-18, 4<sup>th</sup>-17, 5<sup>th</sup>-13, 6<sup>th</sup>-13, 7<sup>th</sup>-19, 8<sup>th</sup>-16

Our basketball teams are off to a good start. Players are either vaccinated or participating in BinaxNOW testing to play without a mask. Both teams have a 3-0 win/loss record. We have 7 girls and 14 boys participating.

We are working with the band director from CHRHS to start a weekly jam session at HES for interested middle school students. Stay tuned as we are still in the planning stages.

Caroling & Cocoa. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be caroling outside each of our classroom doors. Afterwards, all students will enjoy hot cocoa/non-dairy alternative.

Our Educator in Residence, Zoe McKinney has been working with each grade level. She is partnering with Mrs. C to deliver SEL activities during classroom guidance blocks. Additionally, she has been supporting Mr. Amundsen and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade with trail building, as well as the Outdoor Club each week. She has started lunch groups to help navigate social interactions among peers and supporting cooperative play at recess.

We received an abundance of donations from anonymous donors in our community. Their generosity has supported 10 families in varying ways, including support with heating, groceries, clothes, gifts, winter gear, holiday dinners and a Christmas tree.

Chewonki came to HES and presented *Fur, Feathers, and Feet* to our PK-2 students. This was brought to us by Partners for enrichment.

**COVID Update**

We have had four positive cases in our school community. Out of these four, we had to contact trace for two. There are other students who have been identified as close contacts from exposure outside of the school.

We will begin pooled testing in January for basketball players and staff. Following we are hoping to offer pooled testing for all students, which would be optional. One big benefit to pooled testing, besides early detection and peace of mind, is not having to quarantine as an asymptomatic close contact. We will have a nurse from Concentric (pooled testing company) help with pooled testing each week. We have been using rapid testing for our basketball players and refs and this has been going smoothly.