

# UPDATES FROM THE PRINCIPALS

DECEMBER  
EDITION

WHAT'S  
HAPPENING?

Dear Seaford Middle School Families,

I want to express my appreciation for the incredible support we receive from our school community each day. Our students' achievements, teachers' hard work, and parents' strong support are the keys to our success. Your involvement in your child's learning makes a significant difference, and together, we've created a nurturing environment where all students can thrive academically and socially.

It's a pleasure to connect with you once again! December marks a time of reflection, appreciation, and celebration. As I reflect on the events of this past month, I am reminded of the incredible moments that define our school community. From the spirited holiday STEAM contest to our first teaming event, our hallways have been filled with energy and excitement, making Seaford Middle School an extraordinary school.

## Looking Back: November Highlights

### Parent-Teacher Conferences:

A big thank you to all the parents and guardians who joined us for the Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 20th and 21st. Your presence at these meetings offers valuable insights into your child's progress, and your active involvement plays a crucial role in reinforcing the collaboration between home and school.

### 6th Grade STEAM Activity - Thanksgiving Float Contest:

On November 17th, our entire 6th-grade class engaged in a creative and festive STEAM activity. Students participated in a Thanksgiving float

contest - working in teams of three or four to brainstorm, design, and create a Thanksgiving Day Parade float. The creative floats showcased the talent and teamwork of our students, adding a touch of holiday spirit to STEAM.

### Teacher Trivia - SMS Teaming Event:

On November 22nd, students in grades 6 through 8 engaged in a school-wide teaming event - Teacher Trivia. Students observed a friendly competition between teachers on each team, who collaborated in a trivia competition designed by students. The winning team had the privilege of selecting their team's color. The chosen color now represents their unique identity within our school community. Beyond the excitement of the competition, the significance of teaming for middle school students cannot be overstated. This event fostered a supportive environment where students witnessed their teachers working together. This collaborative spirit strengthens the team's bond and sets a positive example for students, highlighting the importance of teamwork, communication, and community. We thank all participants for contributing to the success of this engaging event for our students.

### Middle School Science Fair:

On November 29, our students exhibited scientific curiosity and creativity during the Middle School Science Fair. Through their projects, they demonstrated a profound enthusiasm for exploration and learning, showcasing the commitment of both our students and educators.

We eagerly await our Middle School Holiday Concerts on December 11th and 12th, when our students showcase their hard work and musical talents. In addition, we are excited about the Seaford Scholars Advisory rollout on December 20th, a significant step in fostering academic excellence and providing valuable support to our students.

Mr. Smith, myself, and the entire Seaford Middle School family wish you and your loved ones a Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Thank you again,  
Joe Polite  
Assistant Principal

# SEAFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL IMPLEMENTS DATA WISE FRAMEWORK

We are pleased to announce the adoption of the Data Wise program at Seaford Middle School. Developed by the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Data Wise is an esteemed initiative to enhance teaching practices by strategically utilizing data to improve student learning.

## Overview of Data Wise

At its core, Data Wise is about making informed decisions based on a thoughtful analysis of student learning data. This program equips educators and school administrators with the tools to examine student work, assessment results, and other pertinent information collaboratively. By delving into data, we can pinpoint trends, patterns, and areas for improvement. In particular, our adoption of the Data Wise program will allow us to leverage invaluable insights from NWEA and NYS 3-8 Testing data.

### The Data Wise Process



## Rationale for Adoption

Seaford Middle School is committed to delivering an exemplary educational experience, equipping students with the tools required for success in this ever-changing world. The Data Wise program seamlessly aligns with this commitment, providing a structured approach to leveraging data for continuous improvement in teaching and learning.

## Implementation Strategy

Our Data Wise Committee is engaged in workshops and coaching sessions led by Nassau BOCES, designed to cultivate advanced data analysis and interpretation competencies. This initiative fosters a collaborative environment, ensuring that teachers, administrators, and staff work collectively to optimize the learning experience for our students.

In the coming months, our Data Wise Committee will start sharing these valuable insights with the entire staff in a systematic school-wide rollout. This will positively impact how we teach and how our children learn. We're enthusiastic about the positive changes Data Wise will bring to Seaford Middle School, ensuring the success of all students.





