



# ATKINSON ACADEMY

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## Principal's Newsletter - January 2025

Monday, December 23, 2024

Hello Atkinson Academy Families,

December proved to be a quick yet festive month! Our classrooms and hallways were full of holiday cheer and bringing joy to others. Our students participated in the SPIRIT (Supporting Intergenerational Relationships by Inspiring Thoughtfulness) of Caring Holiday Cards for Seniors in partnership with the Southern Rockingham Coalition for Healthy Youth (SoRock). Students designed cards filled with cheerful greetings, drawings, and holiday wishes. Cards were delivered to a senior in our community, bringing a smile and sense of companionship to those who may feel lonely during the holiday season. We would like to extend a special thank you to our school counselor, Mrs. Gallant, for organizing this wonderful opportunity for our students to spread warmth within our community.

We hope that all of our students, families, and friends have a joyful holiday break, one filled with good times, laughter, and fun. Enjoy the time!



### Mark Your Calendars

- December 23-January 1: Winter Break - No School
- January 2: School Resumes
- January 6: First day of Atkinson Ski Club Program at Ski Bradford
- January 7: First day of Mr. Goddard's Jump Rope Club
- January 20: No School - Martin Luther King Day/Civil Rights Day
- January 22: Atkinson Academy Winter Concert at 7:00pm (PAC)
- January 27: No School (Professional Development Day)
- January 28: Mid Trimester

### School News

#### News from the Art Room (Mrs. Alexander)

It's been an exciting month in the art room. All our students up to second grade have been creating clay projects and learning about rolling clay coils and clay balls. We have been putting texture impressions into our clay using simple tools. First graders learned to attach pieces of clay by scoring with tiny combs and second graders learned to roll a clay slab to make their clay owl. Third through fifth graders are



learning about portraiture. Third graders are finishing up their cell phone selfies and fourth graders are learning about cubist portraits. Fifth graders are just finishing their emoji art portraits. The month of January will feature a few pieces of artwork from our students in the SAU board room. Happy New Year! ~Mrs. Alexander.



**Anti-Bullying Presentation**

On December 13, 2024, Grade 3/4/5 students attended an Anti-Bullying Presentation brought to us by the Hampstead Middle School staff and students. This group shares the messages of ‘*Do the Right Thing & Kindness Matters*’, stressing creating a climate where everyone feels safe to be themselves without worrying what other people think. Thank you to our school counselor, Mrs Gallant, for organizing this presentation for our school community!

**Grade 5 Rotary Visit**

On December 18, 2024, Robert Slein, from the Salem Rotary, visited our Grade 5 students to discuss the Constitution and its importance and also gave each child a “pocket” U.S. Constitution. Students were highly engaged in the presentation and excited to have the books. Thanks to the Salem Rotarians!



**Holiday Sing-Along**

On Friday, December 20, 2024, students and staff participated in the annual Holiday Sing-Along, with a mix of songs such as Jingle Bells and Feliz Navidad. A special thanks to our Timberlane Music Department for their support in making this happen this year, with Nicole Bartlett (elementary instrumental teacher), along with Susan Howard and Robert Finch, both from the middle school, supporting this event. Students enjoyed this fun event!

**Winter scenes from around Atkinson Academy...**



## Reminders

### Car Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Just a reminder to please use your blinkers when you are pulling out of the parking lot. This helps our crossing guard. Also, if you are in the inner right lane, please go into the fire lane to allow for a wider left lane, making it easier for both lanes to move more safely. Again, please consider having your child/children ride the school bus.

### Winter Clothes Reminder

Winter has finally arrived! Keep in mind that your children should be appropriately dressed and prepared for the daily weather/temperature, not only for recess, but also for any unexpected times that we may need to be out of the building. Hats, gloves, boots, and snow pants are required for children to play in the snow on the playground. Please clearly mark your child's belongings.

### Texting / Messaging Your Children During the School Day

Technology is allowing us to do so many amazing things in regard to staying in touch with and knowing where our family members may be located. Phones, smart watches, Gizmos, etc., are wonderful communication/location tools. Families, however, should NOT be texting with their children during school hours as this causes a potential disruption to teaching and learning for your child and others in the classroom. Please communicate with the Main Office (call or PickUp Patrol app) if there are any changes needed in your child's dismissal. If your child messages you during the school day, please discourage that behavior and ask them to speak with their classroom teacher or school staff. Also, Please see the attachments below in regard to texting/messaging/internet information.

### Reporting Absence/Tardy/Early Dismissal/Transportation Changes

Please use PickUp Patrol to communicate an absence, tardy, early dismissal and transportation changes, the school's absence phone line at (603) 362-5521, x6304, or you may contact the front office staff by calling (603)362-5521. Do NOT email your child's teacher with absence, tardy, transportation changes, or early dismissal information, as the teachers are often unable to check their email until after school hours. If your child is late arriving at school, please press the intercom to the right of the doors, and enter the building to sign them in.

## District Information

### Community Bulletin Board

TRSD has a wonderful Community Bulletin Board on the district website, which can be found [here](#).

### Have a Question or Need Help?

Please do not hesitate to reach out. Office hours are 7:45AM - 4:00PM Monday - Friday during the school year.

- Principal: Stephen HARRISES (stephen.harrises@timberlane.net)
- Assistant Principal: Molly Termorshuizen (molly.termorshuizen@timberlane.net)
- School Counselor: Barbara Gallant (barbara.gallant@timberlane.net)
- Social Worker: Megan Daniels (megan.daniels@timberlane.net)
- School Nurse: Laura Dolloff (laura.dolloff@timberlane.net)

Sincerely,

*Stephen HARRISES*

Stephen HARRISES, Principal

*Molly Termorshuizen*

Molly Termorshuizen, Assistant Principal





SAVE THE DATE

ATKINSON ACADEMY

# WINTER CONCERT

Featuring the Atkinson Academy  
Strings, Band, & Chorus

**Wed. January 22, 2025**  
**7:00 PM @ PAC**

Have a student performing?  
Check your email  
for more details.