

# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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*Principal*

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We encourage you to utilize the District and Middle School Web sites to obtain information. By going to the district site at [www.windhamsd.org](http://www.windhamsd.org), you can link to all of the Windham Schools.

## A special welcome to our Sixth Grade students and all new students at Windham Middle School.

**We are extremely pleased to welcome Mrs. Becht as our new Assistant Principal.**

**We are also pleased to welcome the following new staff members:**

**Elizabeth Jodoin—Guidance Grades 5/6**  
**Sonia Pierpont—Grade 6**  
**Leah Adamowicz—Grade 8**  
**Michael Kirste—Grade 8**  
**Jared Cassidy—Band and Music Appreciation**

## 6th Grade News

As Grade 6 students enter Windham Middle School this year, they will find that there are two teams of teachers. Mrs. O'Shaughnessy and Miss Guelli moved upstairs to join Mr. Gage and Mr. Kingsley. Mr. Kingsley will be instructing Mrs. Townsend's classes until she returns from maternity leave at the beginning of the third quarter. Downstairs, on the team of three teachers, Mr. Shirley teams up with Mr. Chaput, who is teaching in Grade 6 until Mrs. Rogers returns from her maternity leave at the beginning of the second term. The newest addition to the Grade 6 teaching team is Mrs. Pierpont, who steps into the opening created by Mrs. Becht's promotion to Assistant Principal at WMS. Mrs. Pierpont graduated Keene State College with an Education degree, specializing in teaching Middle School Mathematics. She has been an employee of the Windham School District for the past five years working with the Special Education department, most recently working in Grade 6 during the 2004-2005 school year.

## Seventh Grade News

The seventh grade team welcomes all our new students back to school! We look forward to working with both students and parents as the new school year begins. We encourage parents to contact us whenever they have a question or concern regarding their child. You will be receiving information within the next few weeks regarding our annual day trip to the Browne Center at UNH in Durham. This trip will take place on October 26, 27 or 28 and this is a field trip that is both educational and fun! We are excited about beginning a new school year and hope that the students and parents share our enthusiasm.

## Eighth Grade News

The eighth grade is pleased to welcome two new classroom teachers.

Mrs. Adamowicz is the new 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math and ILS teacher. Originally from Brookline, New Hampshire, she enjoyed teaching math for three years at Hollis Brookline Middle School and one year in Mountain View Middle School. She is certified to teach both Middle and Secondary Math thanks to Keene State College and will complete her Masters of Math Education from Boston University in the next year or so. She is very excited to be at Windham Middle School and looks forward to a great year!

After having worked with and around young people in a number of capacities throughout his professional life, much of the time in theatre, Mr. Kirste has finally decided to teach full time. This year he joins the 8th grade team as a teacher of Language Arts and Reading, where he hopes his passion for language and the written word will inspire great hordes of his students to become the next generation's great writers, speakers, and educators.

Eighth grade is beginning a unit on the Constitution as we begin studying American History. There will be hands on projects on the Bill of Rights and one on the Constitution itself.

## Important Dates

September 5 - No School—Labor Day  
September 9 -23 NWEA Testing  
September 12—Magazine Drive Kick Off  
September 14— Earth Shuttle Meeting 7:30  
September 16 - Dance 7:00-9:00  
September 19—Washington DC Meeting 7:00  
September 23 – Picture Day  
September 30 - Early Release Day  
October 6th - Camp Bournedale Meeting 6:00  
Open House 7:00

## Unified Arts

Welcome Back to WMS!

It is nice to see all of the returning 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades and meeting the new 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We are implementing our new quarterly schedule and so far it has been smooth sailing!

If you need information for any Unified Arts Teacher regarding schedules, practices, games, homework, just to name a few, just log onto the school website and follow the links!

We would like to take this opportunity to also Welcome Mr. Cassedy to the Unified Arts Team.

Best of luck to all students this year. Let's make it a great one!

## Musical Notes

This will be Jared Cassedy's first year teaching in the Windham School District where he will be the school's concert and jazz band director and teacher of music appreciation. An alumnus of Salem High School (2000), Jared graduated Summa cum Laude from the University of New Hampshire - Durham where he received his Bachelor's of Music Degree in Music Education with a specialization in wind ensemble and choral conducting/pedagogy. While at UNH, his instruments of primary study were piano and clarinet. He was also the conductor of the UNH Wildcat Marching Band for three years. This past spring, Jared taught a maternity leave position in the Derry, NH School System as a music teacher/band director at West Running Brook Middle School. Teaching music is his greatest passion where he hopes to continue showing students the importance of music in their lives.

## Enrichment News

Welcome back to a new school year. I am especially looking forward to meeting all the new 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and new students to our school. With the addition of a new portable lab plus the Zire 71 handhelds currently available, I am anxious to do projects integrating technology into the curriculum.

## Ignite

Ignite is off to a great start. We held our annual summer training in August and had over 70 students trained and they are excited to start the new school year. We have a lot of new topics and fresh ideas for the Ignite Program. If any parent is interested in helping out with the Ignite Mentoring Program this year please contact Julie Lichtmann, Ignite Coordinator.

The next Ignite training is September 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Guidance

Welcome back! My name is Lizz Jodoin. I am the new 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade guidance counselor. I am extremely excited to be a part of the Windham School District and community. For the past three years I have worked at McKelvie Middle School in Bedford, NH, while obtaining my Masters degree in counseling. In Bedford I worked as a paraprofessional, a guidance intern, and most recently an interim 6<sup>th</sup> grade counselor. I look forward to meeting and working with the families and students in the Windham community.

We were very excited to welcome over 30 new students this year. We held a new student orientation over the summer and received very positive feedback from the parents and students.

Guidance offers a variety of programs throughout the school year. Some of the programs that are offered are: Social Skills Training, Grief/Divorce Groups, Peer Assistants, Peer Mediators, Peer Helpers, Resources for tutoring, community involvement etc. We provide classroom presentations on Peer Relationships, Peer Conflict Resolutions, Bullying, Friendships, Drug Prevention and various other middle school appropriate topics.

Attention All 8<sup>th</sup> Graders and their Parents:

It is never too early to think about College. Discover U is an Early College Awareness Program being offered to all 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents throughout the state. The Campus programs include Campus tours, College Scavenger Hunt for Students, College Game Shows, Q & A sessions, Prizes and Early College Prep Presentations.

Mark your calendars:

NH Community Technical College @ Claremont – Saturday, October 15, 2005

Plymouth State University – February 11, 2006

Franklin Pierce College – Saturday, April 29, 2006

Saint Anselm College –Saturday, April 29, 2006

To register you can call 1-800-525-2577 x 119 or Visit the web : [www.nhdiscoveru.org](http://www.nhdiscoveru.org)