

November 22, 2023

Dear Students, Staff and Families,

Happy Thanksgiving!

On behalf of the entire Central Office Administration Team, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

We are truly appreciative of the hard work and dedication of our teachers, support staff, building principals, administrators, and everyone who works with our students. Your devotion and commitment to education makes a difference each and every day. We are proud of our students who continue to learn and enhance their education.

Life keeps us busy and the days go by quickly. Time with our family and friends is a gift and it is important to cherish precious moments with those who we love and appreciate.

Enjoy the holiday with your family and friends.



Cumberland's 2023 District Education Support Professional of the Year: Jo-Ann Labossoniere



Principal Michelle Carter, Jo-Ann Laboissonniere, Superintendent Thornton and School Committee Chair, Karen Freedman

We congratulate Jo-Ann Laboissonniere, aka "Ms. Jo", on this outstanding achievement!
As a paraprofessional in the ICAN kindergarten/Grade 1 classroom at Garvin Memorial Elementary School, she is devoted to her students. Her calming presence and caring demeanor brings a sense of balance and stability that is felt by all her students. She serves as the steady anchor for the classroom. "Ms. Jo" is a valued member of our school system.

Jo-Ann was recognized at the Cumberland School Committee meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2023.

[Click here](#) to view the full announcement.

Garvin Memorial School Ribbon Cutting Event

Garvin Memorial Elementary School will hold a Ribbon Cutting Event to celebrate the new addition and renovations to the school - Everyone is invited to attend.

The event will be held at 5:30 pm on Monday, November 27, 2023, at the school.

Please [click here](#) for the formal invitation.

Feinstein Golden Ticket Winners - Four!

Community School Principal, Cheryl Vaughn, shared this exciting news -

Millie Carpenter, Grade 1

A \$5,000 grant has been awarded to Community School. Millie is donating her \$500 charitable donation to the Hotel for Homeless Dogs

Congratulations to Mille and THANK YOU!!!!



North Cumberland Middle School Principal, Bethany Coughlin, shared this exciting news -

Giuseppe Guerra, Grade 7

A \$5,000 grant has been awarded to North Cumberland MS. Giuseppe is donating his \$500 charitable donation to the Autism Project.

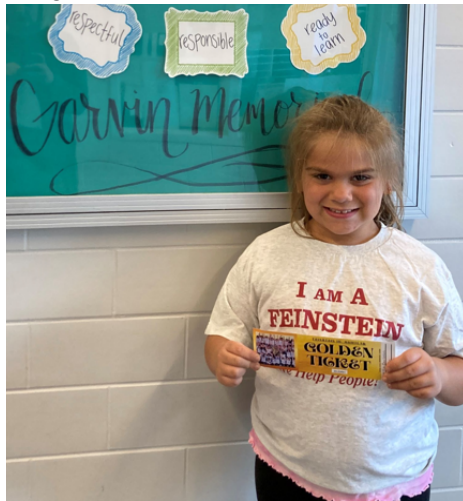
Congratulations to Giuseppe and THANK YOU!!!!



Garvin Memorial School Principal, Michelle Carter, shared this exciting news -

Ava Barbosa, Grade 2

*A \$5,000 grant has been awarded to Garvin Memorial School. Ava is donating her \$500 charitable donation to the Make A Wish Foundation
Congratulations to Ava and THANK YOU!!!!*



Ashton School & Cumberland Preschool Principal, Nidia Karbonik, shared this exciting news -

Kaytlin St. Laurent, Cumberland Preschool

*A \$5,000 grant has been awarded to the Cumberland Preschool Center. Kaytlin is donating her \$500 charitable donation to the Alzheimer's Foundation
Congratulations to Kaytlin and THANK YOU!!!!*



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, from 8:00 am to 2:45 pm. There will be no school for students. Evening dates have been scheduled at the schools. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher. Please [click here](#) for the schedule.

RICAS Update

On Thursday evening, December 14th, 2023, the Office of the Assistant Superintendent will be presenting the results of the latest achievement results from the Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS). The assessment was taken in the spring of 2023 in grades 3 thru 8 in both the content areas of ELA and Mathematics.

The results and analysis will be given to the School Committee at 7:00 p.m.

2023 Flu Vaccination Clinic

With the recent availability of the updated 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine, we had the opportunity to schedule an additional Flu Vaccination Clinic.

Community Clinic (ages 3 and up)

A Flu Vaccination Clinic for the community has been scheduled for **Monday, December 4, 2023**, at the **Cumberland High School Cafeteria from 4:00 - 7:00 pm**.

SLV Clinics will offer the following vaccines:

- Flu Injectable
- FluMist
- COVID-19 (updated 2023-24 vaccine now available)

Important Update: The updated 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccine is now available at our school clinic for all people ages 5 and older.

Please register at schoolflu.com for either flu (ages 3 and older), COVID-19 (ages 5 and older), or both vaccines. It is safe to receive both vaccines at the same visit.

[Cumberland Schools Flu Vaccination Clinic Flyer](#)

Fall Sports Updates

It has been an unprecedented fall for Cumberland Athletics. The following accolades have been earned to date by our athletic programs.

McCourt Middle School

Girls Cross Country - Cecelia Ludwig, Rhode Island Middle School Individual State Champion
Girls Cross Country - Natalie Crawford, Rhode Island Middle School Individual Runner-Up
Boys Soccer - Middle School runner up, lost in the championship game to Cole Junior High School

North Cumberland Middle School

Girls Cross Country - Northern Division Champions
Boys Cross Country - Northern Division Runner-Up

Cumberland High School

Girls Cross Country - Rhode Island State Champions (first title in 42 years - last title 1981)
Girls Soccer - Rhode Island State Champions (first undefeated State Champion team since 1992)
Boys Cross Country - Sam Henderson, Rhode Island Cross Country Individual State Champion
Boys Cross Country - Finished 2nd - 1 point behind Bishop Hendricken
Girls Volleyball - Division II runner-up, lost in the championship game to East Providence.
Boys Soccer - Lost in Division 1 Semi-Finals to LaSalle Academy. (Highest win total since 2005)
Field Hockey - Lost in Division 1 Semi-Finals to North Kingstown in an amazing 2 overtime periods and a 7-round shoot-out.
Unified Volleyball - Lost in the title game to Cranston West - Great Season!!!
Football - State Finalist - Lost in Championship Game

Coaches of the Year

Kerrie Carpenter - Boys Cross Country
Delaney Cavanaugh - Field Hockey
Martin Crowley - Girls Cross Country
John Hoxsie - Girls Soccer
Larry Lopes - Boys Soccer

On the Horizon

Thanksgiving Day Football game vs. Woonsocket at 10 am at Tucker Field

Winter Sports begin on Monday 11/27 for the High School and 12/4 for the Middle Schools

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,
Philip D. Thornton, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools