



News from Feed Our Scholars - March 2016

Greetings to all. Another year has passed and much has been going on in the Wiscasset schools. With the closure of the primary school, Wiscasset Elementary School, grades PreK to 6, is housed in the former middle school building. Meanwhile, grades 7 and 8 have moved to a wing of the high school building which is now known as Wiscasset Middle High School.

Currently, our program is -

Reduced to supporting 40 backpack students at the elementary level from 80 during the second half of the 2014-15 school year due to population shifts, as well as no longer supplying packs for grades 7 and 8.

But we are -

- supplying healthy snacks to both schools
- increasing participants' twice yearly Shaw's food certificates to \$20
- supplying \$10 certificates to each school for emergency use
- helping to wipe out back lunch charges for some of the students whose families have suffered unexpected reversals
- and supplementing twice monthly backpack menus to include separately purchased mac'n cheese, subsidized by Damariscotta Hannaford.



In this newsletter, find out who we are and how our program happens.

From Officer Aaron Smith, at Two Bridges Regional Jail:

"The food is delivered by the Good Shepard Food Bank where it is checked in and verified by Jail staff. The workers follow a pre-determined menu and a certain count of bags that need to be filled each week. The workers that are tasked with this job are proud to be giving back to their community by doing this job every week, as well as earning time off their sentence by working. I have been told by several of the past workers about how it feels good to be involved with helping the children of the community and [want to know] how can they help organize a program like this in their communities."

Barbara Baston, one of our stalwart drivers, relates:

"I pick up boxes of food bags at the jail and deliver them to the elementary school. On some days I pick up the empty boxes at the school and return them to the jail to be used again. My role in transporting the boxes is one link in the chain of people who make it possible for families to have food, and kids to have nutritious snacks and meals."



In conjunction with St. Philip's Help Yourself Shelf Food Pantry, we are delivering weekly supplies of fresh fruits, vegetables, breads, and prepared foods gleaned from Hannaford's of Boothbay for Middle High School students to take away at the end of one school day per week, while also monitoring the school pantry supply of shelf stable foods.



Looking Back

April Yoga fundraiser with Sue Gallagher



Our March Spaghetti Supper/Auction



We handed out water during the Fort Edgecomb 1/2 Marathon in May

To find out how to volunteer visit: www.feedourscholars.wordpress.com
or visit our Facebook Page at: www.facebook.com/WiscassetFeedOurScholars

2015 Fundraising activities:

Edgecomb 1/2 Marathon/5K Race workers & recipients
Damariscotta Pirate Rendezvous children's area workers
Yoga Events—Susan Gallagher
Spaghetti Supper/Silent Auction
The First Bank's September Casual for a Cause Friday recipients
Wiscasset Parks & Rec. After School Program ornament fundraiser recipients



Thank you, one and all who were involved in making this Initiative possible with your time, your treasure, and your talents.

Mona Schlein, WES Principal recently stated:

"Hungry children cannot access their education or come to school ready to learn. The food you provide gives them a chance to succeed in school. The work you do ensures the children in our community will not go hungry."

One student who is participating in the program (and also brings a bag home for his little sister) reported that:

"I like the snacks they put in my food bag. I don't have to worry about bringing a snack to school because I already have one. Sometimes I run out so I go to the office—they even had Pirates Booty and Goldfish one time! My mom likes to make the spaghetti and red sauce!"

Contributions and grants:

Joy Grant/Unity Foundation
Wiscasset Female Charitable Soc.
EALeach Foundation
Edgecomb Congregational Thrift Shop
Beta Sigma Phi
Huntoon Hill Grange
Xi Alpha Zeta Beta Sigma Phi
Wiscasset First Congregational Church
Old Port Financial Advisors
Alna couple's donation in honor of
Chewonki Foundation staff
Wonderful individual donors

Business Sponsors:

Roy Farmer, Realtor
Coastal Boatworks
Doug Baston/North Atlantic Energy
Advisors
Thank you Copy Shop in Wiscasset

Holly Morgan, WES Teacher shares:

"Feed Our Scholars has made a large impact on our students with the highest need: having healthy meals at home. As a teacher at Wiscasset Elementary School I see students being able to access delicious and healthy snacks on a daily basis because of this program."



Please consider renewing your support for Feed Our Scholars Initiative with a tax-deductible contribution: a year's pack is still \$225; half a year is \$112.50; a month is \$22.50.

Look for these upcoming events!

Sunday, May 22nd - again we will be providing water to runners during the Fort Edgecomb Half Marathon & 5K

Saturday, June 18th - our volunteers will once again be assisting with activities at the Damariscotta Pirate Rendezvous in Damariscotta.

