

New Hampshire

School Administrators Association

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Spotlighting Success: Innovative Writing Program Supports Bow Elementary School Students



Kindergarten teacher Collette Flanders developed a multimedia writing program as part of the school's ongoing efforts to improve student literacy. (Photo Courtesy SAU 67 via New Hampshire School Administrators Association)

You can read student writings posted along the corridor walls of Bow Elementary School.

Like audiobooks? You can listen to these young authors, too.

Kindergarten teacher Collette Flanders developed this multimedia program as part of the school's ongoing efforts to improve student literacy. Flanders has worked with students to develop writing goals, a reflective practice in which students review and revise their work, and determine what they can do to write better in the future.

Once finished, each student read their work aloud. Recordings of each story are accessed through a QR code posted alongside each work.

Bow's ongoing literacy efforts were shared with the Board of Education on Thursday, May 8, by Flanders, five of her students, SAU 67 Superintendent Marcy Kelley (Bow/Dunbarton), and Principal Lori Krueger.

Bow teachers and administrators identified early childhood literacy as an area of focus because strong reading and writing skills serve as the foundation for a student's educational journey.

In 2024, Bow Elementary and Dunbarton Elementary were two of four schools to receive funding through the Department of Education's "Bridging the Gap in the 603: Pathways to Literacy Proficiency" grant funding program. Grants support training, coaching, and implementation of sustainable, evidence-based literacy practices.

"We are in the beginning stages of this grant, but the elementary school has done a fantastic job of reshaping the way they look at data over the last few years, and it has made a difference in how and when students receive intervention," Superintendent Kelley said.

Teachers currently are training in LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling), a multi-year professional learning opportunity that provides educators with the knowledge and strategies they need to guide student improvement. LETRS instructs teachers in what literacy skills need to be taught, why, and how to plan to teach them.

It is expected that all teachers will have LETRS certification by the end of the school year.

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Bow Elementary School students' work hangs in the hallways and includes QR codes to access the stories on audio. (Photo Courtesy SAU 67 via New Hampshire School Administrators Association)

A message from the New Hampshire School Administrators Association

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