Board Report – November 7, 2017
WES Elementary

- **Books Abound**
  Last week we were fortunate to have two special presentations at Westshire. Thanks to a Rural Libraries Grant awarded to the Orford Social Library from CLif, the Children’s Literacy Foundation, Duncan McDougall came and shared his talent for storytelling with our children. The grant awarded to the library, helps partner small rural libraries and the schools in their communities. Each library receives $2,000 in new books and the schools are awarded two storyteller sessions and $500 in books for the school libraries. In the spring, CLif members will be back with more stories and books and thanks to the grant, each child in our school will choose 2 new books to take home and keep! Thursday brought local author, Hunter Dan (Dan Hamel) to our school to share the importance of standing up to bullying. As part of Anti-Bullying Awareness Month Dan has been visiting local schools and sharing his book, *Take the Bullying by the Horns.*

- **Community Connections**
  We are lucky to have relationships with two local schools, the Mountain School in Vershire and Dartmouth College. The Mountain School students have returned to expose our children to the Spanish language and its culture. For the next five weeks, the high school students will spend 30 minutes in each grade, 1st through fourth, teaching lessons that include learning new words and how to pronounce them. Our students love learning a new language! More exposure to diversity is what our students need and through the America Reads program at Dartmouth College, they get the opportunity to meet people from all over the country. Each day 4-6 different college students arrive at Westshire and join the 1st and 2nd graders for reading and literacy time. They also come back after school to read and be read to by our Visions students.

- **ST Math**
  Thanks to Kathy McGowan and a local donor, all of our students K-4 have started using an online supplemental program called ST Math. The program reinforces concepts taught in our daily math instruction and provides challenges for students who have mastered basic skills. The program is self-paced so students work at their own level. It teaches sequential mastery of reasoning puzzles that helps develop patience and perseverance when solving difficult math problems. Our students really enjoy doing the math and they get excited when they see Mrs. Martino rolling the laptop lab toward their classrooms.

- **Box Tops for Education**
  Congratulations to 1st grade who won our October Box Top Challenge by collecting more than 800 box tops. In all, our school submitted 2,540 earning
$254 toward special events like 100th Day, We Love to Read Week and our end of the year ROCKS celebration. For their reward, each first grader received a large sized pumpkin and time to decorate it with funny pumpkin faces. Huge appreciation to Newmont Farm who donated all of the awesome pumpkins.

- **Harvest Luncheon**
  We are looking forward to our annual Harvest Luncheon next week. Invitations have gone home to grandparents and our Everybody Wins! mentors and we are expecting more than 150 people for a delicious turkey lunch.