

**Principal's Monthly Report**  
**Quaker Farms School**  
**September 12, 2017**

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Happy New Year! The beginning of the new school year is really like the "New Year." It is the time for a new start, new hopes, new promises, and getting to know new teachers and make new friends. I hope this new start finds you rested and ready to begin a new journey. The students are off to a great start, thanks to the superb staff at QFS, the Oxford Board of Education and all of the outstanding parents that worked so hard in giving our children such a wonderful opening into the school year. The first day of school went smoothly and we had many smiling faces.

- QFS currently has 372 students registered. PreSchool is at 6 students, kindergarten is at 116 students with 6 full day sessions, first grade consists of 122 students with six teachers, and second grade is at 128 students with seven teachers. Average class size in kindergarten is 20 students, first grade is 20 students, and second grade is 19 students.
- The custodial staff at QFS worked very hard to get the building clean and ready for the start of school. The doors of Quaker Farms School opened on August 28<sup>th</sup> ready for the new school year. We are excited to have a new second grade playground installed. A special thank you to the custodians and John Barlow for all of their efforts during the summer months. John Barlow also met with the QFS staff on August 25<sup>th</sup> during our staff meeting to review the Green Cleaning Initiative, school security, and summer school improvement projects.
- New Student Orientation was held on August 23, 2017. Fourteen new first and second grade students and their parents visited Quaker Farms School. Parents and students were given a tour of the school and had an opportunity to ask questions. Parents and students were also informed of rules, policies, and procedures at QFS.
- Kindergarten Orientation was also held on August 23, 2017. The students were acclimated to their classrooms and met their classroom teacher for the first time. While the students were getting use to their classroom, the parents met in the gym where I presented an overview of full day kindergarten along with some policies and procedures at QFS. Students and parents were able to take a short bus ride as well as enjoy refreshments from the Oxford PTO. Parents were also able to ask questions and receive answers on a one-to-one basis. Bus company representatives were also present to answer all busing questions and concerns.

- PreSchool Orientation was held on August 23, 2017. Students and their families visited their classrooms and participated in some "table top" activities and centers.
- PowerSchool information and KDG student passwords were sent out to all QFS parents as part of their Welcome Back letter in the mail. This will allow all parents to update important student information such as emergency contacts, phone numbers, and email addresses.
- Quaker Farms School conducted its first fire drill on August 29 as well as its first lockdown drill on August 30. Parents were notified of these drills in advance via email. We will be having our September fire drill on September 6.
- Our annual Meet the Teachers Night will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2017. First parents will have the opportunity to meet with the Special Education Teachers, Reading Specialist, Early Intervention Tutors, and the School Specialists (Art, Music, Library, Science and Physical Education) at 6:00. Parents will then visit with their child's regular classroom teacher at 6:30 where they will have the opportunity to hear an overview of the curriculum, learn the rules and expectations of the classroom, and listen to what a typical day in the life of their child is like.
- Quaker Farms School will celebrate Constitution Day on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Students will participate in various classroom activities and all students and staff are encouraged to wear red, white, and blue.
- Quaker Farms School Family Night, "Dancing Under the STARS" will be held on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 5pm - 7pm. This will kick off our PBIS initiative where QFS students and staff learn to shine like a STAR...Show Kindness, Try Our Best, Act Safely, & Respect Others.
- Over the summer, QFS students participated in various summer reading initiatives including the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge. We are looking forward to rewarding those students who returned their Governor's Summer Reading Challenge list with an "ice cream" celebration on Wednesday, September 27.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachael L. Cacace  
Principal