

## Barnard Academy

by Principal Melissa Zoerheide

Barnard Academy is a PreK - 6 school of 72 students with a strong academic program, supported by an important social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum. Our faculty, staff, students, and families value being part of a community, outdoors experiences, and academic achievements. Our school has begun to establish a steady rhythm and make progress after the disruptions of the pandemic. New leadership, faculty, and staff give us an opportunity to create a school team and identify our vision for student experience in alignment with the WCSU Portrait of a Graduate. We welcome family involvement and community connections with the school in support of our schools' shared commitment to all students' success. The Barnard Educational Endeavor Society (BEES) and the Barnard Education Fund continue to support our school to go further with innovative and exceptional learning experiences. Additionally, we partner with BarnArts, Twin Farms, and the Vermont Council for the Arts to provide a wide range of special activities, performances, events, and projects to benefit our students.

The 2021-2022 year brought us some powerful programs that include Bully No More at Artistree Community Arts Center, Haitian musician workshops from Lakou Mizik, and learning about dealing with anxiety from the Vermont Puppet Theater. We also boiled sap in our new sugarhouse, held a Cinco De Mayo celebration, had an all school performance of Peter Pan, and 6th graders had a sleepover at the school. Thus far in 2022-2023, second through fourth grade students went to the ocean, fourth through sixth grades went snorkeling in Vermont, the musical group LaDama performed, we visited Billings Farm, and had an all school hike to name a few special activities. In the 2022-2023 year we are energized by a new start and the teamwork of our current teachers, staff, parents, and community. Thank you to all for your continued support.