



December Students of the Month

October students of the month were honored this week for being great community members for kindness, support of others, and for helpfulness to teachers and students. They are Josue Vargas, 9th grade; Jacklyn Rodriguez, 10th grade; Maryam Abdul-Ghani, 11th grade; and Genc Lita, 12th grade. Congratulations



Josue Vargas, Genc Lita, Jacklyn Rodriguez, Maryam Abdul-Ghani

Learning Auto Technology

UTI visits the  UNIVERSAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

On January 15th, representatives from UTI came into Mr. Kelley’s marketing classroom and talked to students about their post-graduation plans. UTI is an automotive technology school which teaches students how to work on all types of engines. Students were surprised about the wide range of technology in automobiles today. The representatives of UTI also took the time to discuss the ever growing use of technology in all types of engines in every type of vehicle.



[QSAC Waiver](#)

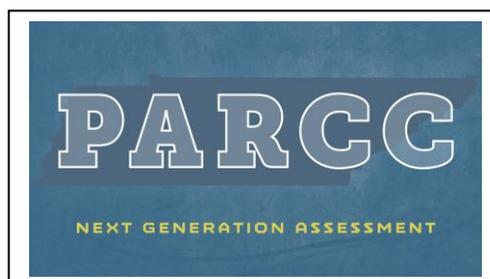
QSAC is a review process of the district by the Department of Education that is imposed every three years. It is a very onerous process which requires a review of central office procedures and record keeping, status of curricula, proficiency of state administered assessments, school/guidance procedures and record keeping, and much, much more. A deficiency in any area can keep a district from satisfying the QSAC review. Our last QSAC review was three years ago. We were due for a QSAC review this year. However, in an effort to streamline the process, the Commissioner of Education has determined that districts that met the QSAC requirements during the last review and are thereby defined as "high performing districts" may be waived from the process this year. The Manchester Regional High School District met all of the requirements during the last review, we are identified as a "high performing district," and therefore, we received a waiver of the QSAC review during this cycle and may not have to be subject for review for the next three years minimally. Thanks to everyone who participated in our last successful QSAC review, thanks to all of our faculty and staff. Whether or not you were part of the review, everyone's efforts contributed to our meeting the QSAC requirements.



Don't think we'll get this one though

[Rolling Out PARCC](#)

PARCC PBA testing schedules have been distributed to all staff members. Staff members will receive PARCC administration training during the teacher in-service on Monday (Martin Luther King Day). Thanks to Ms. Brogan for a great job wading through the complexities of this next chapter of high stakes testing.



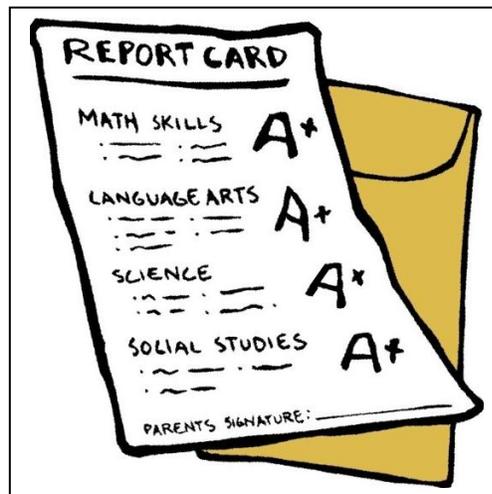
Staff Brushes-up on HIB, HI, and 504

School administrators, the child study team and guidance counselors from both Manchester and Haledon attended a Legal One workshop on Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. where they were provided training in HIB, Home Instruction and 504.



End of 2nd Marking Period

Friday, January 16 (today) is the end of the second marking period. Report cards will be distributed next week



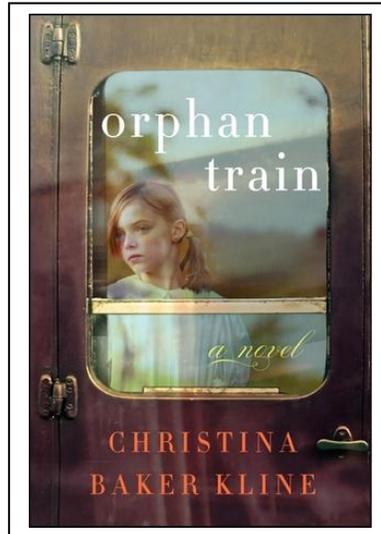
No Bias Journalism

Lorraine Gehrig ran a powerful 2 day workshop on bias for the journalism class. The students explored underlying biases that may influence their writing. They also explored the role of external feedback on their confidence and expression of opinions. Thanks Lorraine!



Orphan Train Run Gamut of Emotions

Mrs. Hedges' world literature class read the Orphan Train, a book about immigrants coming to America by Christina Baker Kline. One student emailed "Mrs. Hedges, I just finished the book, I like it a lot, I've never read a book that made me happy, sad, mad, & surprised at the same time, I really enjoyed it :!)"



Geoscience Class

This week Ms. Beres' geoscience classes created different chemical reactions. The students enjoyed seeing exactly how combining two different substances made them react and form something completely different. The class favorite was elephant toothpaste. Yeast, warm water, food dye, hydrogen peroxide, and dish soap were combined to create a foam-like substance.



Selena Candelaria and Mariam Daifallah

Snow Ball Dance

Student Council is excited to announce that they will be hosting Snowball 2015, a winter dance that is open to all grades. The event will take place in the cafeteria on Friday, January 30th from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The theme will be "Winter Wonderland" and the dress code will be semi-formal. Light refreshments will be served. A pre-sale of tickets, which will be \$5 each, will take place during lunch periods starting Monday, January 26th and continue for the remainder of the week leading up to the event. Anyone who is interested in helping to plan and prepare for Snowball 2015 should see Ms. Masci and Ms. Falzarano.



Sports

Boys' varsity basketball is currently 6 and 2, girls' varsity basketball is 3 and 5, wrestling is 3 and 7, and bowling is 4 and 4.