



## **WMRSD Leaders and Learners – Your Community Connection** **White Mountains Regional School District**

### **Issue 2 - September 16, 2026**

The Whitefield School has welcomed students and staff back for another exciting school year filled with opportunities to learn, grow, create, and build community. September brings with it the energy of a fresh start and several special events designed to bring students, families, and staff together.

This year, The Whitefield School is excited to introduce the Create Bravely Story Activation Program, a year-long initiative centered on the books of beloved author and illustrator Peter H. Reynolds. Each month, students will explore one of Reynolds' stories through a theme connected to creativity, character building, and personal growth. The program includes curriculum materials, story-themed activities, and author read-alouds that encourage students to think creatively and, most importantly, to create bravely.

September's featured book is *The Dot*, a simple yet powerful story about courage, creativity, and making a mark. The story encourages readers to begin wherever they are, take a chance, and discover where their creativity can lead. Its message—*Start somewhere and see where it takes you*—provides an inspiring way for students to begin a new school year.

Throughout the month, students will have opportunities to connect the lessons of *The Dot* to their own experiences. The school celebrated International Dot Day on September 15 with activities inspired by the story and its message of creativity and courage. Students were encouraged to consider the unique marks they can make in their classrooms, school, and community.

Families also joined in the celebration during the school's Title I Family Engagement Night on September 11. The evening featured *The Dot* as its central theme, with literacy- and math-focused dot games and activities for families to enjoy together. Participants were also able to take part in Dot Day activities and experience some of the creative learning happening throughout the school.

September also features the school's Annual Back-to-School Barbecue, held Friday, September 11. The annual barbecue provides a relaxed opportunity for students, families, and staff to gather, reconnect, and welcome the new school year together. Beyond the food and festivities, the event represents an important part of the school's commitment to building a strong sense of community.

The Whitefield School looks forward to continuing these opportunities throughout the year as students explore a new Peter H. Reynolds story each month. Through the Create Bravely program, students will be encouraged to take risks, embrace creativity, build character, and recognize that even the smallest beginning can lead somewhere meaningful.

As September gets underway, the Whitefield School community is ready to learn, create, connect, and make its mark.