



# FOX CROFT ACADEMY

## *From the desk of the Head of School*

### Dates to Remember:

**One Act Play-** Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 7 p.m., Center Theatre

**Blood Drive-** Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1-6 p.m., Gym

**Early Release for Students-** Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

**Early Release for Students-** Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

**Faculty Inservice Day-** Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, no school for students

**International Food Night-** Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 5- 6 p.m., Gym

**Senior Portfolio Presentations-** Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 3-5 and 6-8 p.m.

**Maple Breakfast-** Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 7-10 a.m., Gym

**Last Underclassmen School Day-** Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>



### Staying True to Foxcroft Academy's Mission

As I am sure you have heard, Foxcroft Academy is moving forward with changes to graduation protocols concerning the gowns, senior lineup, and dress code diction. Earlier in the year, the Civil Rights Team did an outstanding presentation on ways that the Academy can better meet the guiding principle of, "honors human difference as fundamental to life," in particular not using the color of the graduation gown as an indicator of gender, as current and future students are made uncomfortable with this practice. The Team presented to myself, the Superintending Committee (a committee of the FA Trustees), and to the Student Council. The decision was made to move forward with having all graduates wear the same color (maroon) gowns with a white sash, representing the Academy's colors. After the decision to move in this direction was announced, the whole senior class met with me to express concern that only a small portion of the class was involved in this decision. Though clearly decisions concerning Foxcroft Academy's Commencement are to be made by the Administration, I decided that the seniors had a good point and we decided the following steps will take place: 1. The class (and faculty) will participate in a presentation about acceptance and understanding. 2. The class will provide input on whether the gowns will be all maroon with a white sash or that individual students will select the color of the gown they wish to wear. 3. The seniors will line up in alphabetical order not by gender. The decision will be made with the input from the seniors and then we will move forward. I am very proud of the seniors as they have respectfully been able to consider change and other perspectives. There are many real life lessons taking place that apply in today's world and the seniors are modeling how a discussion can be made without putting down someone who disagrees with your opinion. They give me hope that they can be role models for all of us to follow.

### Speaking of Seniors, Senior Portfolio Presentations March 20th

Senior portfolio presentations will take place on Wednesday, March 20th, between either 3-5 p.m. or 6-8 p.m. Students have been working on their portfolios to show that they have developed skills in Foxcroft Academy's five mission standards: clear and effective communication, creative and practical problem solving, integrative and informed thinking, responsible and involved citizenship, and self-directed lifelong learning. For their presentation, students will showcase one item from their portfolio, explain how it is evidence of their skill in a mission standard, and connect that skill with their plans for the future. Our hope is that portfolio presentations will demonstrate success in Foxcroft Academy's mission to "produce informed and active global citizens... with the underlying skills needed for post-secondary success." We hope you will join us to celebrate the great things our students have accomplished during their time at FA! Individual student presentation times will be scheduled by March 7th. Senior presenters are encouraged to invite family, friends, employers, mentors, and other guests. Dinner will be available to students and guests in the cafeteria from 5-6 p.m. (no charge). Guests with young children may take advantage of free child care that will be available during the student's presentation. Late bus transportation will also be provided for students who need it and request it in advance. Please contact Jon Pratt, Assistant Head of School for Academics, if you have any questions (564-8351 or jon.pratt@foxcroftacademy.org). Please note that portfolio presentations will take the place of spring Parent-Teacher Conferences. Parents interested in academic progress updates may contact teachers via phone or email, and in-person meetings may be scheduled if needed.

### The 7th Annual International Food Night on March 16th

On Saturday, March 16th, Foxcroft Academy will host the 7th annual International Food Night from 5 - 6 p.m. This year the event will be held in the gym. The boarding students will be busily planning and cooking to share their culture with members of our community. Admission will be by donation and will go to the "Thirst Project." This is a very fun evening as students representing 17 different countries share a piece of their culture with a very supportive community.