

Hull Elementary School Ramps Up Planting and Composting at Garden



HULL — Principal Christine Cappadona is pleased to announce that Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School students are ramping up their gardening efforts with new plants and composting.

School officials worked with Jon Belber from Holly Hill Farm in Cohasset to create the garden in 2014. Since then, Belber has remained active in keeping up with it, teaching students the basics of gardening to help plants flourish.

John Belber from Holy Hill Farm works with third grade students on gardening techniques. (Courtesy Photo Hull Public Schools)

Belber also worked with third grade students to collect vegetables from the garden to pot and sell during the school's spring concert on June 7. Funds raised from the plant sale were used to purchase garden equipment and a rain barrel for the garden shed. Hull High School senior James Rosado built the 8-foot by 8-foot shed over winter break as part of his Eagle Scout initiation project.

On Friday, June 16, with the help of Belber, first grade students planted different types of vegetables that included potatoes, carrots, beets and tomatoes for the garden to be harvested in the fall. Throughout the summer, parent volunteers will keep up with the garden using composted soil, new garden equipment and water from the rain barrel.

Additionally, the importance of composting was introduced to the student body in May. The kick-off composting lunch included fresh garlic bread with garlic picked from the garden, while the fifth grade student council took on the responsibility of disposing of the scraps in the composting bin.

"The garden is sure to thrive this summer with the recent upgrades, as well as the boost in parent involvement," Principal Cappadona said. "We're excited to see fruits of our labor in the fall."