

Spring Gardening has arrived at Stratton School!

The Stratton School had its annual seed planting day on April 28th as part of a school wide Healthy Nutrition Initiative. The seeds will be cultivated in Pre K - 8 classrooms and will be transplanted to the raised garden beds around the school at the beginning of June.

To date, nine fenced-in raised garden beds have been constructed in the rear of the school and are equipped with power and water. The vegetables grown there will supplement the school's food program in an effort to promote a culture of healthy living and food choices. The front garden beds will be cultivated by the elementary school students and will be utilized as an experiential Sensory Garden where students will use all five senses (sight, smell, touch, sound and taste) in the process of growing herbs and flowers.

The Garden Committee has been incorporating more and more outdoor activities into the school's curriculum with teacher and volunteer support since 2015. We are planning to integrate a 33 foot "Growing Dome" (growingspaces.com) in the Fall of 2021. The Dome will allow us to produce vegetables about ten months out of the year, as well as provide an inside garden classroom space. This will support the development of a push in horticulture curriculum in grades prek- 8. We have also been accepted by Maine Food Corp (Foodcorp.org) to have a member come to the school for the next year to support the Stratton School culture of healthy learning and living.

On June 3rd, we would like to invite Stratton School families and the community beyond to come to a "Garden Open House" from 2pm - 7pm. We welcome folks to come and get their hands dirty or just simply come have a look-see at what we've been up to in the gardens. Anyone who cannot make it on the 3rd but is interested in volunteering, making a donation, or simply want to learn more about this exciting school-wide initiative can contact the Garden Committee by emailing Katie Wuori at kwuori@strattonschool.org or Anne Flight at aflight@strattonschool.org . If you are interested in making a monetary donation towards the greenhouse and garden shed, please contact Kim at kim@hardingfinancial.net .



Come Grow With Us!