OUR 1ST CHICK HATCHING STORY

The 20-21 school year will forever be in our memories for overcoming so many challenges that were keeping us from learning together as a community. Here is the story of our very first hatching at the Joseph Lee K-8 School in Dorchester. Mrs. Scheer the 5th/6th-grade science teacher visited Casey Farm in Rhode Island where she picked up 18 chicken eggs, an incubator, and all of the materials to build a brooder box. She set the incubator up in her empty classroom with a chicken life cycle display and a calendar. During a team meeting, she shared this project with her science colleagues and encouraged classes to visit the incubator and discuss science concepts connected to the chicken life cycle. The elementary students visited the incubator and made predictions about what the baby chicks would look like after learning the eggs came from 2 different breeds of chickens.
"THE EGGS ARE HATCHING!"

On day 20, the first two eggs hatched. The news spread across the school like wildfire! Classes from all around the school started to visit the newborn chicks and ask about their names. Mrs. Scheer and her middle school students collected suggestions for names and created a poll. The whole school participated in voting on the names of the 14 chicks that hatched. Students from all over the school continued to visit the chicks each day and observe their new structures and behaviors. The students were surprised to find out the chicks had black and brown fur, not yellow fur! They observed a variety of behaviors such as grooming, eating, drinking, and sleeping. Listening to the chirping and holding the chicks brought smiles to both the students’ and the teachers’ faces. After a year of keeping our distance from each other, 14 chicken eggs and 1 empty classroom brought us back together.

A big thank you to Casey Farm for sharing this experience with the JLS!