

# LEADING the NATION

## East Elementary School

*Leading the Nation is a 2018 statewide celebration in which Massachusetts and its public school students and individual communities are celebrating successful test performance, impressive student growth, and unique learning experiences across a broad spectrum of measures. Of course, academic performance metrics are one way to judge the quality of the state's schools and the success of educators across the Commonwealth. However, student achievements in the arts, in athletic endeavors, and in civic and service oriented activities are also important in defining program quality, relevance to a 21st Century world, and readiness for college, the world of work or other postsecondary experiences and career explorations. Every district is different in how it contributes to MA being recognized as being Number 1 in the nation in educational achievement among its students. The Hingham Public Schools and East Elementary School are joining in the statewide celebration by sharing information about the breadth of efforts that contribute to our students' success. Enclosed is information on one of the ways that we support student learning.*

East Elementary CREW (Community of Respectful Explorers Working Together) gives students the opportunity to connect with a staff member by remaining together as a CREW for the entirety of their time at East School. Teachers will be able to see how their students have grown as they move through the years. Teachers may support each other by having a connection to students outside of their own classroom. Students will have the opportunity to create a community across grade levels and develop their social skills. During this time, they will participate in project based learning (PBL) meant to develop 21st century skills the students will need in college, career, and life. This year's theme is based on the Dr. Seuss book, *Horton Hears a Who* that focuses on students working together to create a "clover" that represents the idea of community.



A CREW working on their clover



A completed clover from Mr. Bliss's CREW

CREWs meet monthly to work together on their "clover" that includes the teachers leading group discussions on the various components that make up a community.