

## **On visitors from France**

On Feb. 24, 28 students and three teachers arrived in Bristol from France. They were hosted in the homes of Bristol Central High School students and teachers. All of us involved in the exchange program would like to publicly thank all those who helped make this exchange possible and who gave the French students such a warm welcome.

The administration of BCHS and the Board of Education were so gracious in encouraging and supporting all aspects of this exchange. The Bristol Press provided coverage of the trip and we appreciate the great photos and articles that kept the public informed.

Many thanks to John Leone of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce for helping to arrange our tours of the Clock & Watch Museum and the Carousel Museum, to the docents who led the students through those facilities and to the directors of the museums who donated lovely gifts to our guests. Thanks go out to Emily Caterers for their donation of a wonderful luncheon.

The mayor's proclamation welcoming the students from La Queue-Lez-Yvelines demonstrated the openness and hospitality of Bristol. First Student Bus Co. donated transportation to ESPN for a tour which was arranged by Jackie Bracco and Mayor Couture.

The tour of ESPN was a highlight of the trip for the students and we appreciate their cooperation in allowing us to tour their amazing facility. Finally, thanks to all the parents who opened up their homes and made these students feel welcome and at home. These families were the heart of the exchange and without them, none of this would have been possible. We know that this visit will be the start of long and lasting friendships between our two communities. Again, merci à vous tous!

DOROTHY RAVIELE, Farmington

AMANDA ROBUSTELLI, Rocky Hill

PATRICIA RIETZE, Bristol

The three writers are language teachers at Bristol Central High School and organized the visit of the exchange students from France.

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