

CONVAL CURRENT

The Student Newspaper of ConVal High School, Peterborough NH

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Number 18

Spelling Error Provokes Negative School Image, Students Say

By Joe Menard
Editor-in-Chief

A recent addition to ConVal's façade, which placed block letters spelling out the school's full name – incorrectly no less - has students questioning whether the blunder symbolizes the school as a whole.

The thirty slate-colored letters, which were installed by MacMillan Construction Company of Keene, over a period of time from late February through early March, have the spelling of "regional" in "Contoocook Valley Regional School" as "regonal."

This spelling mistake was brought to the attention of the ConVal administration by senior Lexi Johnson.

"The letters must have been up at least three days before I said anything. I figured that everybody knew about it until there was no discussion in school or any changes made to the façade," Johnson said.

Upon realization, Assistant Principal Gib West said he believed the mistake to be quite funny, yet unfortunate.

"It's amazing how in our society we never open our eyes to what is truly around us," West said. "Luckily, we were able to identify the spelling mistake and we have contacted the construction company to correct their mistake before ConVal's image can be further tarnished."

A vast number of students believe this issue is a microcosm of the ConVal community.

"I think it's so ridiculous that in an environment in which we are to learn and progress, that you'd see such an error. I think this really shows how inadequate our 'learning' is at ConVal," junior Terrence Hurley said.

"Frankly, I don't really care about it. School still sucks either way," senior Phil Edick said.

"This (façade) is how our school is represented. This is what people see when they pull up in front of ConVal," senior Wes Doane said. "I feel ashamed that I go to a school that can't even spell its own name. It disgusts me!"

The administration is stressing the point

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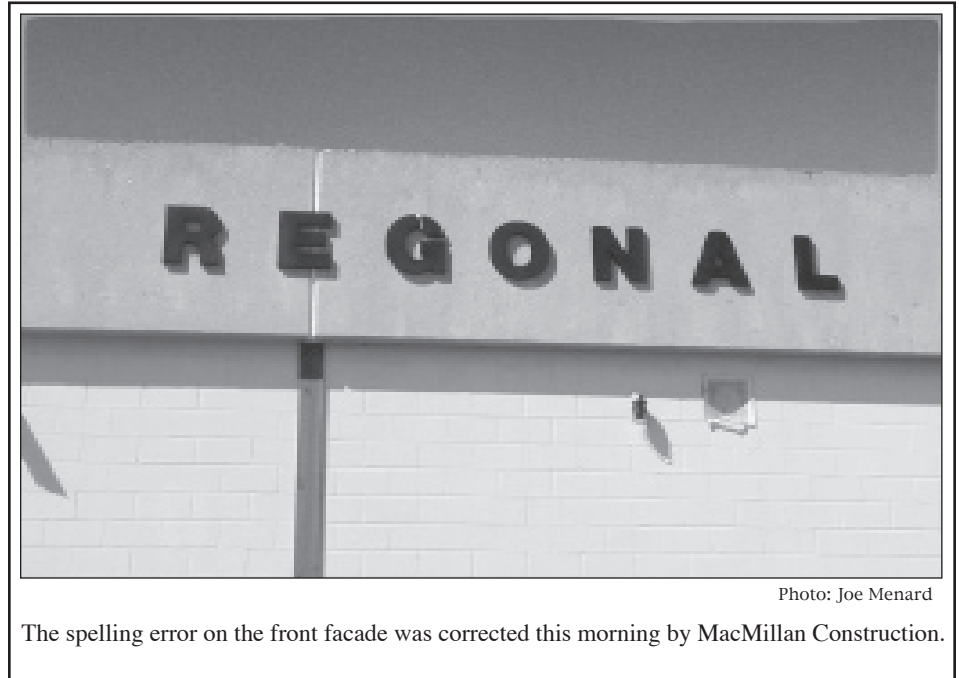


Photo: Joe Menard

The spelling error on the front facade was corrected this morning by MacMillan Construction.

Dole, Senior, Expelled for Harassment

By Kyle Leary
Executive Editor

Senior Justin Dole has been expelled by the ConVal SAU for what is believed to be repeated charges of harassment, according to the ConVal administration.

"We have been approached by many students and teachers about Dole's behavior," Superintendent Keith Burke said. "It got to a boiling point when we heard complaints from certain teachers. I had to act in the best interests of the district, so I expelled (Mr. Dole)."

Principal Susan Dell told Dole of his expulsion, which is effective April 2.

"I called him to my office at the end of the day," Ms. Dell said. "All of the principals were present, along with Superintendent Burke, and Officer Bret Sullivan of the Peterborough Police.

Dole remained calm while we told him of his expulsion, and was led off the premises quietly with Officer Sullivan."

"It was hard to be a part of," Assistant Principal Deb Ames said. "Justin can get on my nerves sometimes, but I never wished for this."

The specifics of Dole's charges haven't been released, but it was believed by many who knew Dole that it was his persistent harassment that led to his expulsion.

"He was friendly most of the time," senior Eli Harper said. "Until you said something that he didn't like. Then it was 'I'm going to arrest you' this, and 'I know the DA' that. It was kind of disturbing."

"Dole was okay," senior Derek Wilkins said. "He could still be a pain. One time, for no

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Inside This Issue

This is our last issue. See why on Page 2

ConVal Current Closes Doors

It is with a heavy heart that we inform you, the readers of the *ConVal Current*, that we will no longer be publishing this paper, for the rest of the school year. This decision is out of our hands, as well as the administrations.

This year, our operating budget was slashed by 25%. We responded by reducing volume of the paper from 700 copies per issue to 600. That measure allowed *The Current* to publish an additional 3 papers for this year. However, we do not have the money to continue publishing, nor do we have the desire to charge students for a paper, or solicit outside entities for advertising.

We, the editors, have enjoyed giving ConVal the news for the past two years. We feel we gave our all to give ConVal a newspaper that they wanted to read. To our contributors, we say thank you. Without you, *The Current* would have never existed. You should all feel proud to have contributed to one of the few almost weekly school-sponsored newspapers in the state. To all who wrote the pointed, cynical, humorous, and yes, even serious stories, we again give our thanks.

So, while this may be the end of *The Current*, look out for a new beginning.

Kyle Leary
Joe Menard
Brandon Staley

CONVAL CURRENT

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We'll Still Be Online!

Check us out at:

[http://www.conval.edu/Schools/CVHS/
current/archive.htm](http://www.conval.edu/Schools/CVHS/current/archive.htm)

CONVAL CURRENT



'Elk'rilla

FEATURES

The Best, Worst, and Most Controversial Page 2 Pics



Tell your Administrators to repaint this ugly Bench!

Issue 1



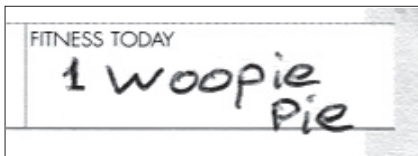
It's not real!

Issue 3



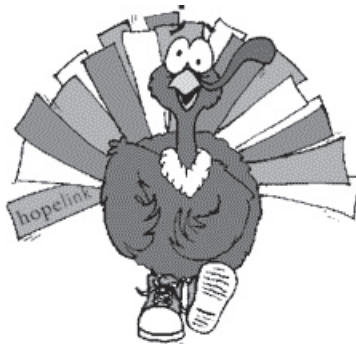
We see you too!

Issue 5

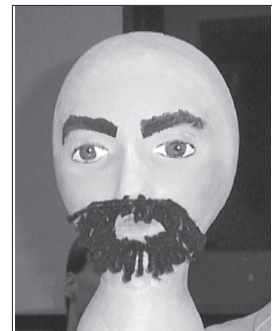


I could go for one of those

Issue 7

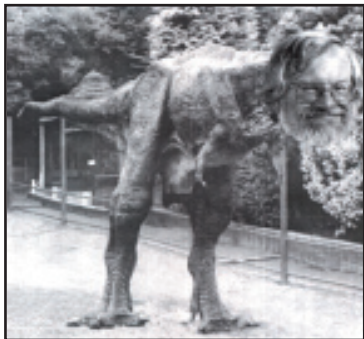


Issue 10



Mr. *Currentius* ConVal

Issue 11



Elkasaurus!

Issue 12



“Keep the pound alive!’ It’s like ‘save the whales’- only cooler.”

- Brandon Staley

Issue 15

This Space For Rent

Just e-mail us with something to put here, and maybe we'll use it.

Issue 16

Jo-Jo's New World Dictionary of the ConVal Language

By Jo Jo Giovannangeli

Alcohol: *n.* An intoxicating liquid consumed only by those at least 21 years of age.

Chew: *v.* To gnaw on food or a writing utensil.

Class: *n.* A time that all ConVal students set aside for learning.

Cut: *v.* To slice something, usually paper.

Drink: *v.* To consume a liquid, such as water of juice.

Drug: *n.* A medicine prescribed by a doctor or bought at a pharmacy.

Effort: *n.* What all ConVal students put forth.

Happy: *adj.* What all ConVal students are.

High: *adj.* Elevated a good distance from solid ground.

Pot: *n.* A round container used for storing stuff and cooking food.

Smoke: *n.* What results from fire.

Try: *v.* To succeed.



School Faults Constuc- tion Company Over Misspelled Word

Continued From Page 1

that the letters on the façade were not arranged by anyone directly associated with ConVal.

"We didn't do this ourselves," principal Sue Dell said. "As unhappy as we are about it, we understand mistakes can happen. MacMillan (construction company) has always been dependable for us – they worked on our cafeteria and library- now they need to simply fix the mistake."

Officials for the Keene-based MacMillan Construction Company say they are embarrassed over misspelling a word on the façade, but aren't worried over a potential loss in business.

"Accidents are a part of life, whether it's at school, at work, spelling, or all of the above," MacMillan foreman Harvey Smith said. "In no way is this an accurate representation of the quality of our business or the quality of ConVal high school."

The company is scheduled to correct its misspelled 'regional' on Thursday morning, April 1st.

In all respects the Conval community has made a lot or a little – depending on whom you talk to – about this spelling error.

"This place is a prison no matter how you spell it," added Hurley.

Harassment Charges Hit Popular Senior

Continued From Page 1

reason I could see, Dole tried locking my hands behind my back. He takes that cop thing way too seriously."

Dole has been very adamant of his innocence.

"I didn't do anything wrong," Dole said. "I may try to 'arrest' people, but that's because I'm kidding with them. I'm never that serious."

Dole has also said he plans to appeal his expulsion, an option which, according to Superintendent Keith Burke, is unfortunate.

"Personally, I've never met the kid," Burke said. "But still, when faced with a decision that affects the students and teachers, I am forced to make that decision."

Support for Dole has been strong, especially amongst the senior class.

"How stupid can they be?" senior Ian Villmore said. "It's ten weeks before graduation, and they deny Justin of a diploma? It is a sad day for ConVal."

"Justin Dole is a good kid," English teacher Mike O'Leary said. "He could be a pain

sometimes, but that's just Justin being Justin. Everyone is a pain at some point. He never deserved this punishment."

"Dole was great for us on the football team," senior, and Football Captain Jo-Jo Giovannangeli said. "He kidded around a lot, but he never meant anybody harm with what he said."

It is unknown at this point who specifically brought up charges against Dole. According to Assistant Principal Gib West, at least four students and one teacher have filed complaints to the administration, which were forwarded to the SAU.

According to ConVal bylaws, Dole has the right to appeal the decision in a hearing, which can be opened to the public at the defendant's wish. At this time, it is unknown whether Dole will proceed with an open hearing.

The Superintendent hopes he doesn't have an open hearing.

"We don't want this to become a circus," Burke added. "We've already had to deal with one popular school figure by public hearing, and now this."