

East students unite for diversity, hope

By TIM SMITH
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East Middle School students pieced together a stunning "mosaic," the appropriate name of a class project intended to promote multicultural understanding.

"After Columbine we thought it had a stronger message."

Michelle Mayberry, student
—East Middle School

MOSAIC CLUB

Recently, Mosaic Club representatives and East eighth graders Holly Bruce, Michelle Mayberry and Marnel Newton shared the video put together by the 20-student group.

The students' efforts — conveying unity, hope and optimism through photographs set to music — were guided by seventh-grade teacher Marilyn Greenstein and media technician Pat Zimmerman.

Each photo was presented with a student-authored message, such as "Look Not At People's Faces But At Their Hearts."

In the accompanying frame, students of all different kinds stood in a line, with paper hearts placed in front of their faces.

Mayberry said the group's name was derived "from a mosaic, how putting all the different colored tiles go together to make one big picture."

Beginning in January, club members collected 500 "reflections" from other students, and eventually pared those down to the 16 used in the video.

"After Columbine we thought it had a stronger message," Mayberry added, referring to the tragic high school shootings in Colorado.

Board members were impressed with the final result. "It's a spectacular name," said Trustee Bobbie Feldman.

"Your reflections were very powerful and profound," said President Cathy Webb.

Secretary Linda Enborg suggested that the Mosaic Club supply the video for television public service announcements.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BAKER

In the club: East Middle School's Mosaic Club includes Janette Baker, Holly Bruce, Aferdita Dauti, Yazmin Gasca, Stacy Head, Julianne Kjolhede, Aubrey Laverty, Michelle Mayberry, Marnel Newton, Abeer Odeh, Anna Petrak, Sangeeta Sadwal, Lindsey Semma, Rineh Shina, Stefani Silverstein, Alex Sobolev, Peter Vlachos, Teresa Wagner, Rui Wang and Fatmir Khalilaj. Faculty members assisting them were teacher Marilyn Greenstein and media technician Pat Zimmerman. The club was honored at a recent Farmington Board of Education meeting.

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Call to Action Coalition to hold meeting Wednesday night

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