

NEWS AND PHOTO RELEASE
March 6, 2014
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Winter Olympics at Spaulding Youth Center

(Northfield, NH) While the Olympic Winter Games were playing out in Sochi, the students at the School at Spaulding Youth Center were preparing for their own Winter Olympics as part of the annual winter carnival. The event which involves all children and youth from grades one to twelve is organized by the EChO (Experiential Challenges Outdoors) team - outdoor education coordinator Jason Sterner and outdoor education teacher Steve Golden. Classes spent a good deal of their spare time in the last couple of weeks creating their entries for the cardboard sled derby - figuring out which country they wanted to represent, corroborating on the design of the sleds and painting and fastening them together with lots of duct tape. The designs ranged from a tall sled in the shape of a chateau representing France, to a boxy bull complete with a ring through its nose representing Spain, to a sleek aerodynamic sled representing Argentina.

Students and staff enjoyed a variety of activities indoors and out and warmed up with hot chocolate. CEO/President Jim Clements' challenged several students to compete with him in snowshoe races and an unusual biathlon which involved racing to several stations on snowshoes and throwing rubber chickens at targets! Students were thrilled to win gold medals for participating in the events.

Spaulding Youth Center leverages professional expertise to help young people with autism or other developmental and/or behavioral challenges learn the academic and life skills needed to be successful in their homes, schools and communities.

For information about Spaulding Youth Center, contact Gail Mayhew, Director of Development at 603-286-7500 ext. 532; gmayhew@spauldingyouthcenter.org or visit www.spauldingyouthcenter.org.

Photo: A student speeds down the hill in his cardboard derby sled (a bull representing Spain) for a race in the recent Winter Olympics carnival at Spaulding Youth Center in Northfield, New Hampshire.