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Contact:

Elizabeth Cheung, Social Media Coordinator
elizabeth@elevatenewengland.org 978-697-5883

ELEVATE NEW ENGLAND HOSTS BIKE RODEO
35 Bartlett School Students Receive Bikes and Helmets

LOWELL, MA (June 24, 2019) – On June 7, 2019, Elevate New England hosted its first bike rodeo for the sixth grade of the Bartlett Community Partnership School. Elevate teacher-mentors and Lowell Career Academy student mentors teamed up with the Concord Department of Recreation to refurbish donated bikes in the weeks leading up to the rodeo. 35 middle school students received bikes and 15 of them learned how to ride a bike at this event.

The high school student mentors had been working with sixth graders this semester as part of “Elevater I” a class in which they are trained to facilitate weekly lessons on character and leadership for the younger students. For the rodeo, the team prepared 10 stations including helmet fitting, rules of the road and an obstacle course.

“The bike rodeo was the highlight of the school year for the sixth graders...it was truly awesome,” said Bartlett Principal Peter Holtz.

“You can see the joy and happiness in the Elevate teacher-mentors to the student mentors as they gave back to the sixth grade. The ‘thank yous’ that the student mentors received at the end of the rodeo were overwhelming,” said Elevate New England Executive Director Rhea Gordon.

The purpose of this event was to teach students bike safety with a fun event to close out the school year. One of Elevate’s key program components is adventure, which encourages youth to be active, gain confidence and try experiences that may be out of their comfort zones.

Elevate looks forward to starting classes in the main Lowell High School campus and Lawrence High School this fall and with that expanding into more elementary and middle schools.

About Elevate New England:

Elevate New England, founded in 2016, seeks to build term, life changing relationships with urban New England youth, equipping them for a plan for the future to thrive and contribute to their community. For more information, please visit <https://www.elevatenewengland.org>.