

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
Michael A. Morgan, Superintendent of Schools—SAU 16
August 2015

VISION

To provide a rigorous and comprehensive education that will prepare our students for diverse post-secondary educational opportunities, a competitive workplace, and active civic participation.

MISSION

To help students gain knowledge and skills that build intellect, character, and a lifelong thirst for learning.

New Professional Staff Members

Summer months bring much excitement to schools because they provide an opportunity to meet many wonderful candidates for a wide variety of professional positions. For fall 2015 the following individuals are joining the SAU 16 community in these positions:

Brentwood

Steve Lebel (Curriculum Coordinator)

East Kingston

Kaitlin Groshon (Grade K-1)

Kensington

Kathy Poitras (Guidance Counselor—20% time)

Cheryl Eastwood (Library/Media—50% time)

Newfields

Charisse Thompson (Technology—40% time)

Stratham

Shannon DeLello (moving from Curriculum Coordinator to Grade 5)

Sarah Donlon (Grade 2)

Katelyn Dow (Art)

Jennifer Hildreth (Grade 4)

Jessica Wentworth (moving from Grade 5 to Curriculum Coordinator)

Main Street School, Exeter

Nicole Bell (Grade 2)

Elizabeth McCoombs (Library/Media)

Lincoln Street School, Exeter

J. Drew Bairstow (Principal)
Renee Beauregard-Bennett (K-5 Special Education Administrator)
Sarah Dawson (Grade 3)
Abram Keller (Grade 3)

Cooperative Middle School, Stratham

Cathy Clermont (moving from Physical Education/Health to Special Education—
Local Education Agent)
Meredith Coffin (Science)
Samantha Cunic (Science)
Brenda Dimick (Physical Education/Health)
Stephanie Frigon (moving from Ropes Course Instructor to Unified Arts
Leadership Skills for Grade 7);
Jacob Goodwin (Social Studies)
Ashley Holtan (Special Education Nurse)
Joshua Hughes (Ropes Course Instructor)
Andrew Irving (Tech Education)
Vandy (Duffy) Leigh—Art (40% time)
Seth Macomber (Social Studies)
Ann McDonough (Special Education)
Lauren McGrath (moving from Interim Assistant Principal to Assistant Principal)
Erin McQuade (Technology Integrator)
Kathryn Smith (Science)

Exeter High School

Alison Christans (English)
Amybeth Engler (English—one year position)
Annie Gonsalves (Physical Science)
Carla Jennison (Speech Language Pathologist)
Beth LaRose (English)
Brienne Lewis (Mental Health Counselor)
Michael Maltagliati (Special Education)
Michelle Meijer (French—60% time)
Rosalyn Moriarty (Special Education Administrator)
Alison Ray (Chemistry)
Kathleen Reardon (English)
Mary Beth Shea (Social Worker)
Catherine Thorn (Physical Science)

Eustis Service Award

In recognition of the 53 years of combined service that Joan and Dick Eustis dedicated to teaching, coaching, and administrative capacities, SAU 16 annually recognizes “a district employee who has served students with the distinction that exemplifies an SAU 16

education. “ Mr. and Mrs. Eustis’ notable and outstanding careers set a positive tone throughout the Exeter area. Together they serve as role models for educators today.

For 2015, Mrs. Susan Noseworthy was selected to receive this prestigious award. Her name will be added to the plaque that is located in the SAU 16 Conference Room. She currently serves as the Music Teacher at Lincoln Street School (LSS) in Exeter, a position that she has held for the past 32 years.

Mrs. Noseworthy was chosen because of her outstanding dedication to the children and families of Exeter and for being the positive role model that inspires others to make classrooms and hallways come alive every single day. She began her career at LSS in 19xx. She also teaches Elementary Methods of Music at the University of New Hampshire for those undergraduates hoping to pursue a career in music education.

In addition to teaching music at Lincoln Street School every day, Mrs. Noseworthy leads the students in performances during the December holiday season, during “Music In Our Schools Month” in March, and during Integrated Arts Night in May. She also includes a musical component to other gatherings of classes and celebrations at various times of the year. Literally, LSS “comes alive” with music every time that Mrs. Noseworthy is involved!

Part of her nomination by LSS Art Teacher Deb Wheeler-Bean, read: “All in all, Sue Noseworthy lives and loves music. And she brings that love of music into the classroom—into the school—every day. She is singing and smiling throughout it all. The sheer amount of activities she partakes in is quite impressive; that she does them all with an open heart and mind, with boundless energy is truly remarkable. Yet, how she so successfully is able to impart this knowledge and love of music to her students is what makes her one of the greatest teachers I have had the pleasure to know. When I recently asked her about her lessons for the week, she replied with a smile: “It’s new every day! That’s what keeps it fresh!”

The presentation of this Award was made at Exeter High School on Opening Day for all of the professional staff on August 27, 2015. Mrs. Noseworthy joins an outstanding array of professional educators who have previously been selected for this coveted award. Past recipients include:

2004-2005—Mike Olson—Cooperative Middle School
2005-2006—Sam Bruno—Seacoast School of Technology
2006-2007—Walter Pierce—SAU 16
2007-2008—Angela Lennox—Exeter High School
2008-2009—Robert “Archie” Schroeder—Swasey Central School
2009-2010—Robert Schur—Cooperative Middle School
2010-2011—Judy Lewis—Stratham Memorial School
2011-2012—Anne DeMarco—Seacoast School of Technology
Margaret Ruggeri—Kensington Elementary School
2012-2013—Kathy Bean and Barbara Egan—Main Street School

2013-2014—Carla Ranks—Seacoast School of Technology
2014-2015—Bill Perkins—Cooperative Middle School

Another School Year Begins

All schools within SAU will begin the 2015-2016 school year on August 31, 2015. The calendar for the entire school year is available on the SAU 16 website (www.sau16.org).

Champions for Children

Community members and school staff will continue to recognize and celebrate the dedication of local individuals by nominating them for a local Champion for Children award. This award is given to those individuals who have distinguished themselves by demonstrating significant involvement in programs and/or services that directly benefit the students and families of School Administrative Unit 16. The local school board makes the final decision on each award selection. Since 2009, over eighty local individuals have been honored in this way.

School Board Seats Available in March 2015

Terms of office for some current school board members expire in March 2016. Now is the time for interested citizens to consider serving in these capacities. Board Members whose terms expire include Melissa Litchfield in Brentwood; Erin Pettinato in East Kingston; Patrick O'Day, Jean Tucker, and one yet-to-be-named person (who is replacing Kathy McNeill) in Exeter; Stacy Surprenant in Kensington; Karla Dalton in Newfields; Everett Lamm in Stratham; and Darrell Chichester (Exeter), James Webber (Kensington), and Linda Garey (Brentwood) for the Coop. Of the thirty-three total School Board seats in SAU 16, these eleven (11) positions will be available for (re)election.

Graduate School Course Available in Exeter

Plymouth State University will continue to offer graduate level courses at the Seacoast Professional Development Center (SPDC) in Exeter this fall: *Reading and Writing: The Spell of Language* will be available for those who are pursuing a Masters degree. It will be team taught by SAU 16 teachers Lisa Zach Swasey (Brentwood), Chris Culver (Kensington) and Exeter School Board Member Jean Tucker. Registration may be completed directly at www.plymouth.edu.

Food Pantries and “End 68 Hours of Hunger” Continue to Need Help

Community service efforts for the new school year will continue to focus on food pantries around the state. They will also focus on “End 68 Hours of Hunger,” the weekend food backpack program that is designed to provide assistance for some of the most needy among us. Many individuals and families struggle to make ends meet and often need to avail themselves of local food banks. The schools in SAU 16 will continue to find ways to gather food and funds to assist those who are struggling to meet some of the most basic of needs. Please encourage our respective communities to join this effort

as much as possible. Private donations to “End 68 Hours of Hunger” may be sent directly to 7 Finn Avenue, Newfields, NH 03856

Contract Negotiations

During the upcoming school year, a minimum of two collective bargaining groups within SAU 16 will be involved in contract negotiations with their respective school boards. When a settlement is reached between the school board and the association, the results are brought forward to the voters in the community. In March 2016, those registered voters who cast ballots will make the final determination about the proposed contract. In March 2015, less than 20% of registered voters participated in this process.

Negotiations with the teacher association in Kensington and with the paraprofessional association in Exeter will take place this year. The goal is to reach an agreement between the respective association and school board by mid-January 2016. Consideration is also being given by the paraprofessionals in Stratham to form their own collective bargaining association. A vote among those eligible paraprofessionals will take place on September 16, 2015 to determine whether or not they chose to form this association. If a majority of those voting do choose to do this, then negotiations with the group will take place this fall as well.

Currently there are eleven (11) different collective bargaining associations within SAU 16.

Seacoast School of Technology (SST)

The Seacoast School of Technology (SST) in Exeter serves students from seven area high schools daily: Epping, Exeter, Great Bay eLearning Charter School (GBeCS), Newmarket, Raymond, Sanborn Regional, and Winnacunnet. Some students who are enrolled in private schools, home schooled or the Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS) also participate in the program. Students travel to the Linden Street location to participate in one of eleven career and technical educational courses that prepare them for further education and a career. For more information about SST, please access their website at <http://www.seacoasttech.com/> or at www.sau16.org.

Did You Know?

The Tuck Learning Campus (and previously Tuck High School) was named in honor of Amos Tuck (1810-1879), the reputed founder of the Republican Party. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1835 and for two years (1836-1838) he was the Headmaster at Hampton Academy. The prestigious Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College is named in his honor.

Entering the 2015-2016 school year, it is good to keep life in perspective. Twenty years ago Bill Clinton was president and Al Gore was vice president. Regular gasoline sold for

\$1.22 a gallon; first class postage was \$0.32; and the average US home sold for \$118,200.

The eastern wing of East Kingston Elementary School was dedicated in March 2000 to Barbara Lobdell “for her many years of service to the Town of East Kingston as Principal, 1990-1995, and Assistant Superintendent, 1995-2000.”

“Rules for Teachers 1872” from Kansas included the following: “Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes or two evenings if they go to church regularly.” “Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.” “The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay providing the Board of Education approves.” Fortunately, times have changed over the past 140 years!

According to the New Hampshire School Register found in the archives of SAU 16, a teacher at the Hall Place School in Exeter (near the current Exeter Public Library) earned \$124 for the 1887-1888 school year.

The first Normal School in New Hampshire was located in the old Effingham Union Academy Building in 1830. (Effingham is located on Rt. 153 near the Maine border.) The school was designed for the “instruction and training of teachers.” Later Plymouth Normal School was also formed specifically to train teachers. Later it became Plymouth State College and now is known as Plymouth State University.

Reflection

In education—as in life—patience and perseverance are so important in our work and in our dealings with each other. As this new school year begins, let us strive to be patient and to persevere in doing what is best for the students entrusted to us!