

# SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 16

March 2014

- **Towns** in School Administrative Unit (SAU) 16

Brentwood  
East Kingston  
Exeter  
Kensington  
Newfields  
Stratham

- **School Districts**

(7) seven independent school districts - one for each town *and*

(1) one that involves all six towns – the Exeter Region Cooperative

School District

Each district/town elects its own school board and that board is responsible for and has control over its elementary school(s). The six towns in the SAU all elect the nine board members on the Exeter Region Cooperative School Board. The schools each board/district is responsible for are listed below.

### School District/Schools

Brentwood School District – **Swasey Elementary School** (preschool – 5<sup>th</sup>)

East Kingston School District – **East Kingston Elementary** (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

Exeter School District

**Main Street School** (preschool – 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Lincoln Street School** (3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>)

Kensington School District – **Kensington Elementary School** (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

Newfields School District – **Newfields Elementary School** (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

Stratham School District – **Stratham Memorial School** (preschool – 5<sup>th</sup>)

Exeter Region Cooperative School District

**Cooperative Middle School** in Stratham (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>)

**Exeter High School** in Exeter (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>)

**Seacoast School of Technology** – Tuck Learning Campus, Exeter (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>)

**Exeter Adult Education** – Tuck Learning Campus, Exeter

- **School Boards**

Brentwood School Board – 5 members

East Kingston School Board – 3 members

Exeter School Board – 5 members

Kensington School Board – 3 members

Newfields School Board – 3 members

Stratham School Board – 5 members

Exeter Region Cooperative School Board – 9 members

*Members are elected from the six communities based on student population from the six towns:*

Exeter – 3 members

Stratham – 2 members

Brentwood, East Kingston, Kensington, Newfields – 1 member

SAU Joint School Board – 33 members comprised of individuals from all seven (7) individual boards

- **Enrollment** – 5,500 Pre-school through 12<sup>th</sup> grade as of March 2014

- **Seacoast School of Technology**  
Offers career and technical education to students from at least eight (8) public high schools: Epping, Exeter, Newmarket, Raymond, Sanborn Regional (Kingston), and Winnacunnet (Hampton) – and two charter schools, the Great Bay eLearning Charter School (GBECS) and the Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS)  
Approximately 620 students participate in 11 different programs
- **Exeter Adult Education Program** - offers programs that lead to a high school diploma or a GED. It also provides a wide variety of enrichment courses for community members.
- **Charter Schools** – public schools located on Tuck Learning Campus and both are approved by the State of New Hampshire  
Great Bay eLearning Charter School (GBECS): Offers programs leading to a high school diploma for students in grades 7-12.  
It has “open enrollment” (i.e. there are no geographical boundaries within the state that apply to their students) and will have approximately 160 students during the 2013-2014 school year. These students come from approximately 25 communities; the local public school district is responsible for providing special education services for its respective students who attend a charter school.  
Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS): Offers individual courses online to students through the state. There is no charge to the student for these courses, many of which are high school credit courses. During the past school year, VLACS had over 15,000 enrollments for individual courses. Some students take all of their high school courses through VLACS and earn a diploma from the school.
- **Employees** – SAU 16 has approximately 1,200 employees and is one of the largest employers in the area.
- **Transportation** – contracted bus service is provided by First Student in Exeter with contracted Special education transportation provided by Seacoast Learning Collaborative (SLC) in Brentwood.

**Collective Bargaining Associations in SAU 16** – there are 11 different collective bargaining associations within the SAU. These include individual teacher groups in each of the seven independent school districts, three paraprofessional organizations (Exeter, Exeter Coop, and Newfields), and one administrators association (Exeter Coop). Each of the associations has its own pay scale and benefit package. All full time employees (35 hours a week or more) participate in the NH Retirement Association. This school year has six (6) collective bargaining groups within SAU 16 involved in contract negotiations with their respective school boards. These include the teachers associations in Brentwood, East Kingston, Exeter, the Exeter Region Cooperative, and Newfields, as well as the administrators in the Exeter Region Cooperative. This past March, five of these six associations had contracts approved by the voters; the Brentwood Teachers’ contract for 2014-2017 did not pass.

**Teacher Salaries** – approximately 80% of the teachers in the SAU are at the top of the salary scale in their respective districts. The average teacher salaries within the SAU are among the top in the state. In 2013-2014, the average teacher salary in NH was \$66,645. In SAU 16, the average ranges from a “low” of \$58,743 in East Kingston to a “high” of \$74,326 in Stratham. The Exeter Region Cooperative comprises approximately 50% of the professional staff in the SAU. Its average teacher salary is \$67,990. Factors such as advanced degrees and longevity contribute significantly to these averages.