

**Superintendent of Schools
School Union 69
Hope - Appleton - Lincolnville
444 Camden Road, Hope, Maine 04847**

(207)763-3818•FAX (207)763-4262

Dianne Helprin, Superintendent
Services

Gail Kenney, Bookkeeper
Secretary

Deborah Bailey, Director of Special

Wendy Tricomi, Central Office

Superintendent's Report for: April 2019

Updates on: (Superintendent goals are underlined)

Budget (ED 279): Proposed budgets for each town have been presented to the budget committees. Most increases are due to facility items and special education costs. Impact to local taxpayers: HES 4.4%, AVS -0.49%, LCS -0.1%

Legislative Issues and involvement at state and national level to voice and address issues for small rural school districts:

- L.D. 345 will move new teachers from a 3-year probationary to 2-year probationary period
- L.D. 92 eliminates Student Learning Objectives (SLO's) and standardized test scores from the evaluation process (Signed by the governor)
- L.D. 151 changes the age at which children are required to begin attending school from 7 years to 6 years old.
- L.D. 898 raises starting teacher salaries to \$40,000 in 2020-2021.
- L.D. 167 requires a public school to provide meals to students regardless of the child's inability to pay or failure in the past to pay and to communicate directly with the parent/guardian and not through the child (passed in both bodies)
- L.D. 247 requires guidelines for the duties of school counselors, including delivering a comprehensive school counseling program and to spend 80% of their time providing direct services on behalf of students (signed by the governor)
- L.D. 283 adopts the Next Generation Science Standards and updates of Social Studies Standards (signed by the governor)
- L.D. 179 changes the name from Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day (signed by the governor)
- L.D. 798 removes religious and philosophical exemptions for immunization but parents can still get a medical exemption. (passed the House)
- L.D. 240 allows negotiation of education policy (teacher workload, teacher caseload for students with special needs, teacher preparation time, etc)
- L.D. 900 would give public employees (including teachers) the right to strike

Cost sharing among schools and with outside districts: L.D. 1341 is intended to encourage more cooperation by simplifying some of the requirements for regional service centers and L.D. 412 would restore the system administration allocation back to \$135/student instead of the \$47 it is currently for districts who are not participating in a regional service center.

Staffing: At this point, other than a music teacher in Lincolnville, we do not need to hire any teachers for next year

Policies: Policy JLFA Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response is coming to each school committee for first readings. This is a required policy driven from a national initiative.

Transportation: Lincolnville is going with 3 buses next year instead of 4, with the cost change going from \$126,000 to \$123,000. This reflects the increase in actual costs for transportation and the challenges in finding drivers.

Other: Snow days as of 4/9/19: HES #6, LCS #6 and AVS #7; SO... last days of school will be: June 20 for LCS and June 21 for AVS and HES (all are half days)

Met with new auditor for Appleton, Erika McKay, from RHR Smith and Company 4/1 so that town and school have the same auditor for next year

HAL Goals for 2018-2019:

- Math: piloting new ELO's and continue looking at assessment data in PLC's
- Strengthen PLC's and sharing successes (specific) and challenges in each school, including special education & RTI
- Teacher Effectiveness: Manageable and Meaningful, working to provide more meaningful feedback on performance, adopt new Marzano model (condensed)
- Develop stronger leadership teams in each school and administratively
- Continue to work on developing strong instructional knowledge and skills through the Marzano platform (new model)

Hope School Committee Goals

- How can we continue to maintain our facility and address our lack of space with a minimal facility reserve fund?
- How can we continue to improve academically, especially in the math content area?
- How do we continue to build on our strength of individualized education and attention?
- How can we better advocate for the school's needs financially and better inform the community of the issues and challenges with rising budget costs?