

**Superintendent of Schools  
School Union 69  
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**Superintendent's Report for March 2019:**

**Updates on: (Superintendent goals are underlined)**

**Budget (ED 279):** Attended the first school committee budget workshop at AVS on 3/8 ; It's budget season so the majority of my time is now focused on finances and budget meetings. Our cost to taxpayers is looking better for next year than it has in the past due to increased subsidy for various reasons.

**Better feedback for teachers on their instruction:** Observing and meeting with all probationary teachers moving to continuing contracts next year

**Legislative Issues and involvement at state and national level to voice and address issues for small rural school districts:** I testified in Augusta on 3/6 for LD 791 which would require the state to pay 100% of high-cost special education needs. Senator Miramant contacted me and asked if I would come speak in support of his presentation of this bill. I didn't need to be asked twice!

Met with MSSA Presidents in Augusta on 3/14 to discuss upcoming legislation and then to Augusta on 3/21 to meet with the Commissioner and DOE reps to hear about future plans. The Commissioner wants to reduce the mandates and restore trust in the department. The \$40,000 minimum salary will most likely be passed and go into effect in 2020-2021 with 100% state help the first year, 66% in '22, 33% in '23 and then move to local funding in '24. The Commissioner wants to get rid of the current MEA test and move to another form of assessment. Administrative System reimbursement is still \$47/student in the formula. They will work on that. Heard from Scott Brown, DOE construction rep, about the lack of money available to help with facility restoration and yet there is awareness of our aging structures.

Philip Howard's organization, Common Good (he wrote The Death of Common Sense) contacted me for a phone conference on 3/29 about the mandates and amount of paperwork that school administrators are now required to do.

**SPED issues:** No word yet on when and how the CDS (Child Development Services, special education services for children 3-5 years old) will be rolled out and given to local districts

**Policies:** 2nd readings of policies for revision of Maine Learning Results (ADF), and Employee Discrimination and Harassment Compliance Procedure (ACAB-R)

**Communication with stakeholders/visits:** Worked with Tara Morin at AVS art 3/7; Sent out 360 surveys to all 3 communities and schools; Worked with Jackie Cooper art HES 3/13;

**Curriculum/Assessment/Achievement/Reporting:** Book study with the mid-coast superintendents on the book The Agile Learner, Where Growth Mindset, Habits of Mind and Practice Unite.

**Other:** Snow days HES and LCS #5 and AVS #6 used as of 3/5/19; Attended facility meeting at AVS on 3/7 to discuss prioritizing needs for budget purposes

**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)

**Lincolnvill School Committee Goals**

- How do we continue to maintain and support our strong staff?
  - Through negotiations this year
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- How do we continue to maintain and support our wonderful extra-curricular and co-curricular programs?
  - Survey of interest
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- How do we better communicate our financial challenges with the major cost drivers (special education) affecting the school budget with community members and leaders?
  - Flyer with dates of meetings and upcoming budget concerns/challenges (mail on a Tuesday)
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- How do we better address the social/emotional needs of our students?
  - Encourage Partners for Enrichment to continue special programs: DIRT, Bus Stop, Screenagers (and share our appreciation)
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- How can we support our students by incorporating more skills/trades training into the curriculum?
  - Encourage mentorship opportunities for middle school students
  - Encourage 'project boxes'
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