

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
Gail Kenney, Bookkeeper

Deborah Bailey, Director of Special Services
Wendy Tricomi, Central Office Secretary

Superintendent's Report for: October 2019

Updates on: (Superintendent goals are underlined)

Budget (ED 279): We will start purchasing our paper from the statewide WB Mason contract which will reduce our costs from \$33 to \$25.80 a case.

Better feedback for teachers on their instruction: Met with principals on 10/29 to review their recent observations and provide feedback and discussions on ways to improve our questions and suggestions for reflection on instructional strategies

Legislative Issues and involvement at the state and national level to voice and address issues for small rural school districts: On October 24-25 I attended the MSMA Fall Conference in Augusta and went to two noteworthy sessions on the following topics:

- LD 1711 An Act to Promote Solar Energy Projects & Distributed Generation Resources in Maine. I also spoke at length on the phone with Aga Dixon, the Drummond Woodsum attorney who presented this session, regarding entering into the contracts proposed by Revision Energy for Hope, Appleton and Lincolnville. Takeaways: 1) There is no rush. 2) Don't buy more credits than you will need (think long-term) 3) Include non-appropriation clause 4) Not a debt so school committees have the authority to enter into the agreement, but may be better due to long-term nature of the contract, to get voter approval from town 5) Recommends not purchasing RECS due to complexity. Should be able to purchase them if desired, throughout the length of the 25 year contract
- Meet the Commissioner: 1) Child Development Services-I asked if we could please revisit giving more money to the regional centers already providing these services rather than moving this to the local schools & she said that will be considered 2) Pre-K- I asked if this would become a mandate and she said no, it would be strongly supported and encouraged but not mandated for each district 3) They have looked at 'cutting the cord' costs from the federal money and with it, the mandates, currently receive about \$75 million but costs of assessments?

Curriculum/Assessment/Achievement/Reporting to focus on improving our Response to Intervention support for students: Met with Deb McIntyre on 10/30 to talk about an upcoming Fivetown administrative meeting regarding our curriculum and any needed updates

SPED issues: Met with principals at HES and AVS regarding increasing needs for students who need day treatment programs and whether we can build these services into our schools.

Visits to classrooms: Worked with Lindsey Spearing 6th grade math, LCS

10/30

Snow day count: HES 1 AVS 1 (made up one on 10/25) LCS 1

HAL Goals for 2019-2020:

- How can we continue to align our professional development and calendar in our 3 schools, especially for support with our evaluation system and the Marzano instructional model?
- How can we as an administrative team address the challenges and improve on our evaluation model?
- How can we improve our Response to Intervention (RtI) to help support students in the regular instruction programs?

Hope School Committee Goals

- How can we continue to maintain our facility and address our lack of space?
 - Have a feasibility study conducted for options to increase space
 - Look at expanding the facility committee to research options
- How can we continue to support our strong and dedicated staff?
- How can we better communicate with parents and increase involvement?
- How can we improve our communication to share school news beyond our parental community, including town leaders?
 - Send out newsletters so that they are not an attachment but open immediately with a different platform (Mail Chimp)