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School Board Meetings

6:30 pm

September 24th, LES

October 9th, WES

October 22nd, WMRSD

View Monthly School Board
Meetings Live!

Visit our website for links.



ISSUE 2, VOL. 1 | September 2018

District Dialogue

The Official Newsletter of White Mountains Regional School District

A Message from Dr. Anastasia

Superintendent of Schools

Welcome back to the 2018-2019 school year!

Consider what the world will be like in 2031 when today's kindergartners graduate high school! We don't know exactly what it'll look like, or what their jobs will be, but there are a couple things we do know: We need to prepare students to be accountable for their learning and to be self-directed!

In this edition of The District Dialogue, we are pleased to introduce our newest members of the WMRSD. We are fortunate to have attracted such talented staff members to join our school community!

Also, in this edition you will find the Principals' welcome back messages, School Board member information, staff recognitions, The Futures summer camp program highlights, employment opportunities, Systems of Care news, and a message from our Student Services Director.

We strive to openly share information with the community. The methods that we are using include e-mail & voice blasts to those who subscribe to our list, website postings, Facebook, Twitter, newspaper articles, school newsletters, school events, and most recently, the District Dialogue. Our Communication Coordinator, Eileen Armstrong, updates information & news daily using these venues. We would like some feedback on any other methods that would be effective for you and your family. We want to know how we are doing, and how to improve! If you do not receive our list-serve messages and would like to subscribe, please contact Jeremy Noyes at jnoyes@sau36.org to be added to the list!

This summer, there were many facilities projects and improvements around the District. In addition to cleaning the buildings, we have included a section in this edition that lists the buildings and grounds projects that were completed!

Teachers and administrators participated in many professional development activities over the summer. Again this year, a group attended the Design Studio conference to dive deeper in competency based learning. Ms. Sheehan and Mr. Curtis were presenters at this summer's conference, representing the great work we are doing at WMRSD!

(continued on page 2)

A Message from Dr. Anastasia (Continued)

Superintendent of Schools

What is competency-based learning?

1. Students demonstrate and transfer their learning.
2. Students receive support and progress - monitoring based on their learning needs.
3. The content, instruction, and assessments of learning is student-centered (students have a voice and choice of what and how they learn).
4. School policies and structures support the implementation. UNH Policy Brief # 18-01, 4/18

The curriculum steering committees continue to craft and refine our English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science competency-based curriculums. They are ready to be published to our website! Look for them under the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment button on the District tab!

The expanded STEAM Innovation Academy will have nearly 80 students enrolled for the 18-19 school year in grades 9-12. Using an integrated approach to 'Grand Challenges', the team of STEAM teachers invite family and community members to visit the program. You will see how kids are learning from integrating science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics!

There is National attention and support for Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) in schools. **What makes SEL so important in our schools?** When students feel a sense of belonging, their learning improves. Decades of research confirms that students' social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development are deeply intertwined (Hammond, 2018). Schools become safer places when we put into place an educative and restorative approach to discipline and teach SEL skills such as how to resolve conflicts and relate well to others. The four core dimensions of a SEL curriculum are:

1. Intentionally designed learning environments that have strong, long-term relationships.
2. Direct instruction in SEL strategies.
3. Paying attention to the SEL needs of teachers and school leaders as well as students (supporting the adults who work with children with SEL needs).
4. Prepare students to be personally and socially aware, skilled and responsible.

At WMRSD, you may hear educational 'jargon' such as MTSS-B (Multi-Tiered System of Supports for Behavior) which is simply the interventions we are providing kids that need support in Social Emotional Learning areas. Just as we support kids at points in their school career when they may need interventions in a math concept, reading strategies, or writing skills; we are supporting kids with social and behavioral interventions.

I am so proud and honored to be starting my 4th year as the WMRSD Superintendent! I thank the School Board, staff, administrators, community, and families for your unwavering support. Together, we make a great team that supports our learners. We have many opportunities to embrace, and we will use our collective resources to meet the ever-changing needs of our school community!

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns, questions, or feedback!

Warmly,

Marion



Principal's Message, Lancaster Elementary School
Kerry Sheehan, Interim Principal, Lancaster Elementary School

Dear Lancer Families,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Lancaster School. We are very excited for the start of the new year and the many new faces, relationships and opportunities for learning that will come with it. Our school theme for the year is "Under the Sea", and we have adopted the motto, "We are all different fish, but in this school we all swim together."

WE BELIEVE

Every student should have the opportunity for success.

Every student can learn, just not on the same day or in the same way.

Behind every challenge and obstacle is an opportunity to learn and grow.

We would like to welcome all of our new students and staff members: Kerry Sheehan (Interim Principal), Mark Pribbernow (Assistant Principal), Melissa Croteau (Kindergarten), Lindsey Dingman (Title 1), Katherine Belanger (Title 1), Jamie Colby (Title 1), Chris Dupont (Grade 4), David Earlywine (Teacher Leader), Candra Hicks (3rd Grade), Kelly LaFlamme (Middle School Science, Health), Ashley Lefebvre-Posillo (Art), Emily Robertson (Middle School Math), Sandra St. Pierre (Paraprofessional), Christina Fontaine (Secretary).

As a school, we continually strive to meet the school and district strategic planning goals. We are using the mathematics Bridges program and Lucy Calkins writing approach as tools to implement competency based learning. This year we will also focus on addressing social, emotional learning, and school safety through the multi-tiered system of support (MTSS-B). The Lancaster STARR (Safe, Tolerant, A Team Player, Respectful, Responsible) 1 Team has been working through the summer to ensure in the successful implementation of this initiative. The mission of the STARR I Team is to maximize social, emotional and academic readiness to learn, and minimize concerning behavior. We look forward to sharing more information with you on this topic as the year progresses.

Please feel free to contact Lancaster School if you have questions or concerns. We are looking forward to a wonderful, engaging and productive school year.

Educationally,

Kerry Sheehan, Interim Principal

Mark Pribbernow, Assistant Principal



Principal's Message, Whitefield Elementary School

Michael Cronin, Principal Whitefield Elementary School

Whitefield School students are ready to be thinkers who are connected and contributing members of society.

Welcome Back! It has been a very busy summer at Whitefield School and it feels like yesterday that everyone left. The building has been cleaned from top to bottom. There is some new paint in the middle school area, and new flooring in a few rooms. Every year we are looking to use the space as efficiently and effectively as possible. Out front a few parents have contributed their time and expertise to beautify the area by the sign. Mr. Lepine and his crew have spent a good deal of time repairing the play structure on the lower playground, and Mrs. Mooney has facilitated a group of parents in creating an outdoor classroom. The building and grounds are ready.

Throughout the summer a number of professionals provided tutoring through our Title I program. Professional development addressing competency learning brought a few teams to Manchester for an intense three days of work. Work on our Multi Tier System of Support and Student Wellness Center has provided some exciting opportunities for students and staff as we go through the year. Lastly, a group has continued to expand their skills in using mindfulness to help develop self-regulation and academic engagement. Many of the staff have been here on a regular basis throughout the summer to prepare for the coming year.

We are happy to welcome two new teachers to the building. Emily McBride will be joining us to teach math in the middle school and Kaylie Lapointe will be joining Jean Jacobs to support the Title I program. Marie St. Martin is returning from JES. Kelsey Bernard is rejoining her role in fifth grade while Jessica Hallee will be our second middle school science teacher. Alayna Signorello will be interning with Mrs. Mooney through the UNH TRRE program. Patricia Belanger, RN will be joining the staff of WES and LES. Our support staff will be bolstered by Diane McDonald, Michelle Gilbert, and Tayla Cummings.

The IT department has replaced the Chromebooks in grades six through eight and used the others to supplement access in the elementary grades. A new monitor has been placed in the middle school common area for student information. Our technology infrastructure and support is world class!

Please note that our Open Houses will be held during the week of September 24th. Mrs. Plumley and I will be inviting you to a presentation in the gym each evening to talk about the vision for the school and supporting practices. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Michael Cronin, Principal



Principal's Message, White Mountains Regional High School
Michael Berry, Principal White Mountains Regional High School

Dear WMRHS Students and Parents,

We hope that this letter finds you in good spirits and excited about the upcoming school year.

The student/family handbook is posted online (on the WMRHS page) of the district website. Hard copies are also available in the counseling department. During the first week of school, administration and teachers reviewed the key points with the student body in regards to the student handbook. In addition, we expect students and their parent/guardians to familiarize themselves with the student handbook.

Just a reminder for any student that plans to take the October SAT or ACT tests, that the deadlines to register for these tests is right around the corner!

SAT Deadline: September 7, 2018 (October 6 Test Date) <https://sat.collegeboard.org/register>

ACT Deadline: September 28, 2018 (October 27 test date) <http://www.actstudent.org/register>

At White Mountains Regional High School, the parents, students, teachers, and support staffwork collaboratively to ensure the safety and well-being of all students while providing them with a challenging and rewarding educational experience as we encourage our students to own their learning. As parents, you play an integral role in the education of your child. Your involvement in your child's education will help them achieve more success and have a positive outlook on school.

We look forward to another successful, productive school year. If you have any questions please contact WMRHS at (603) 837-2528.

Sincerely,

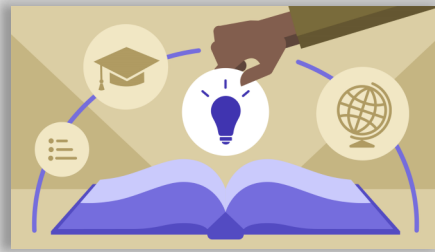
Michael Berry
Principal

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Kerry Sheehan, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment; Federal Grants Manager

We have been busy this summer, preparing for the return of our students and the continued work on Competency-Based Education integration into the curriculum.

The role of competency-based education is critical to ensuring that all students succeed and become college and career ready. (Sturgis & Casey, 2018). Competency-based education impacts many facets of student achievement. It improves the quality of education, increases equity of education, and increases students emotional well-being in regards to education. Educators encourage students to understand how they learn, own their learning, and take part in the active enterprise of learning. It provides students who are behind academically an opportunity to complete performance levels in their own time instead of being promoted or demoted in a traditional education system. Students' performance-level competency scores had statistically significant and positive relationships with state assessment scores (Brodersen, Randel & Marzano Research, 2017).



Through a Title IIA Reallocation grant, we were able to send fourteen members from our school district to the Educational Design Studio, in Manchester New Hampshire. The purpose of this 3-day conference was to provide educators, nationwide, an opportunity to explore best practices for supporting and implementing competency-based learning systems in schools. These innovative approaches to personalized learning are nationally recognized competency-based learning models. We had the opportunity to work with competency education specialists, school administrators, and teachers who have experience in implementing such a model in a variety of contexts and settings.

This conference led to the development of assessment maps for this school year, deeper knowledge of , not only, competency-based learning but also grading. A committee will be created with this team as the core, to focus on the assessment practices of competency-based grading and reporting.

As part of the Federal Grant Funding, we recently had the opportunity to apply for Title IV funds, also called the Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant. This will allow us to support all students with access to a well rounded, equitable education.

Futures Program - Summer Camp

Mike Curtis, Futures Program Director

White Mountains Futures Summer Camp

Learn, Create, and Explore

The White Mountains Regional School District has created a unique summer program for middle school age students. As the saying goes...necessity is the mother of invention. Our local community has positive recreation programming for grades K-6 at Colonel Town in Lancaster and through the town-run recreation programs in Whitefield. However, there were very few summer opportunities for 12 to 14 year old boys and girls to participate in fun, youth-oriented activities.

Through grants and district funds, the Futures Program, under the direction of Mike Curtis, has created the Futures Summer Camp program. This program is designed to offer students a wide range of experiences in a day camp format. The Futures Summer Camps were comprised of eighteen individual offerings including Culinary, Welding, Hospitality, Rocketry, Robotics, Music, Outdoor Adventure, Leadership, Horticulture, Art, and Sports. The camps were open to both in- and out-of-district students, were held over a four week period, and averaged 45 campers per week. The program was also an extension of our transition program - transitioning from middle school to high school. It was great to see middle school students become acclimated to the high school and staff in such a positive environment.

"We budgeted for 25 to 30 students and had 75 students attend, so it was great to see such a great turnout over the summer. This certainly shows there is a desire for this type of programming in the North Country".

Our slogan for the summer was Learn, Create, and Explore. It was great to see students exploring different content areas over the camp season. One week a camper would take Welding camp and the next week he or she participated in Music camp. Transportation was key to the success of this program. We averaged 26 students taking the bus home from camp each day. The community was very supportive by allowing the camps to use venues across the North Country, including access to AMC facilities.

Securing funding for the camps was a group effort. Rob Scott, the Career and Technical Director at WMRHS, secured funding through the Perkins Grant. Mike Cronin, the principal at Whitefield Elementary School, worked with GEAR UP NH to secure additional funding, and Dr. Anastasia, superintendent of SAU 36, added district funds. With the three funding sources in place, the district was able to provide transportation to and from camp for Lancaster and Whitefield students, insure that snacks and lunches were offered, purchase program supplies, and recruit highly qualified instructors to lead each camp. The majority of the camps were at zero cost for in - district students and a small cost of out - of - district students.

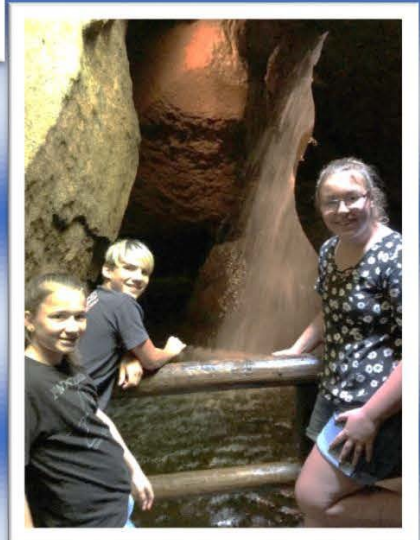
OUR MISSION

The White Mountains Regional School District uses our collective resources to educate responsible and ethical citizens who are academically, socially, and physically prepared to meet the needs of our community in an ever-changing world.





**Future Summer
Camp 2018**
Creating, Exploring,
and Learning



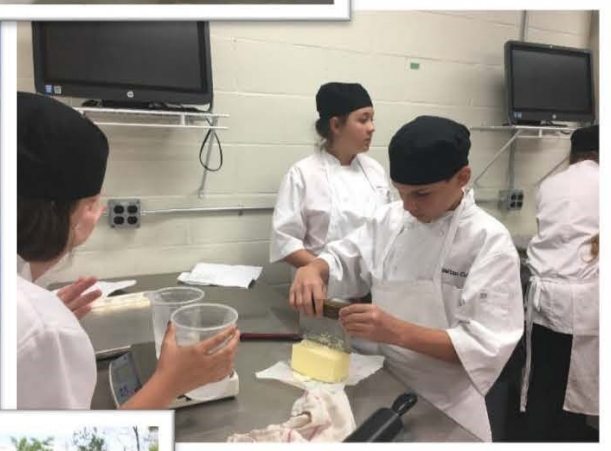


Future Summer Camp 2018



Future Summer Camp 2018

Creating, Exploring,
and Learning





**75
Campers**

**200
Camper
Weeks!**

System of Care Overview & Highlights

Kelly Dussault, System of Care Grant Manager

The System of Care office has been busy supporting both the development of our of MTSS-B (Multi-tiered system of supports for behavioral health) framework in all three schools, as well as increasing our training capacity of all staff around trauma informed practices and mental health. The System of Care office sponsored a district wide training to support youth mental health first aid (YMHFA) for all staff servicing youth in grades 6-12. Additionally, we hosted Dr. Jenessa Deleaut to train all staff pre-k through grades 5 in the foundations of trauma responsive schools. We extended this training to our neighbors in SAU 84 (Littleton School District), which proved to be a very informative and professionally collaborative day across our districts.

Additionally, this summer universal teams at both WES and LES have been busy defining their core competencies around behavior and will begin early roll outs of routines that reinforce expectations that support positive school climate. SEL (social emotional learning) exploration continues, with expansion of our Mindful Practices curriculum at the elementary/middle school level. We will be actively reviewing data around behavior this year to help with better data based decision making. We were fortunate to have the opportunity to sponsor a community event with Scarlett Lewis, to discuss her SEL program, Jesse Lewis Choose Love movement to White Mountains Regional High School on September 6th, from 6-8 pm.

We continue to work on the message that healthy adults support healthy students and our attention of self-care and wellness for all. Our first Community Management Team (CMT) meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 25th from 9-11 am at the Weeks Medical Office Building in Whitefield. If you are interested in our work, and would like to attend, please contact Kelly Dussault, System of Care grant manager at kdussault@sau36.org.

Meet The Team



Kelly Dussault
System of Care (SoC)
Grant Manager



Chrissy Grant
Wraparound Coordinator



Jamie Gorman
Early Childhood
Enhanced Care Coordinator

White Mountains Regional School District



Health is a state of body. Wellness is a state of being."
- J. Stanford



Office of Student Services

Brent Holt, Director of Student Services

Early Childhood Education

A Rand Corporation study of New Hampshire, "Investing in the Early Years", was published in 2017 and provided several key findings. A sizable share of young children in New Hampshire (ages 0 to 5) face risks in early childhood because of low income and other factors that may compromise healthy development. Children who experience low income and other early-life adversities enter school with lower levels of readiness than their peers in higher-income families or with fewer adverse experiences. For New Hampshire, these patterns result in considerable gaps in student achievement and attainment by income level, with consequence for the productivity of the future workforce. Given higher levels of these adverse factors in Coos County, this has particular significance.

Extensive research has documented the short- and longer-term benefits of participating in scaled-up high-quality preschool programs, particularly for children in low- to moderate-income families. The Rand Corporation's benefit-cost analysis for New Hampshire of a high-quality, one-year, voluntary preschool program that would be available to children in families with income up to three times the federal poverty level indicates a positive return of about \$2 for every dollar invested, with an even higher return for a program targeted at the lowest-income children potentially ranging from returns of \$4-\$5 for every dollar invested.

More than a decade ago, SAU #36 moved from providing preschool programs for children with special education needs to a model of inclusive public preschools whose populations include 50% or more typically developing peers. Separate morning and afternoon sessions, in operation four school days per week, are available at the Lancaster Elementary and Whitefield Elementary schools. Capped at 15 students per session, all four sessions are currently oversubscribed for the 2018-19 school year.

These preschools are part of a coalition that includes the four private licensed preschool providers and the Head Start program within the district. Shared efforts are targeted to increase the social development and emotional regulation of early learners in order to improve transition into kindergarten.

The district's preschool program is part of a larger Coos Coalition for Young Children and Families initiative. This past July, the Coalition was one of five community partnerships in the state to be awarded a four-year federally-funded State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) to improve early childhood outcomes for children birth - 6 years old. SAU #36 is the sponsoring school district for the county. More information will be published as this project initiates.

Why is Early Childhood Education important to the White Mountains Regional School District? Because the investment matters to the future economic, academic social successes of our children and, ultimately, the well-being of our communities.

Summer Facilities Projects

The WMRSD would like to thank our summer custodial staff for the many long hours they put in during the summer. Here is a snapshot of their completed summer check list.

Lancaster Elementary School

- Complete Bio Shelter building
- Heating and cooling ventilator in front offices
- Flooring tile replacement
- Painting
- Renovations in nurse's office

Whitefield Elementary School

- Completing detailed architectural design of foyer for winter security redesign
- Air conditioning/supply ducts and units in front offices
- Flooring replacement
- Redesign of some classrooms
- Painting

White Mountains Regional High School

- Update building security by replacing all classroom locks
- STEAM Innovation Academy: roof, sewer line, emergency egress
- Window replacements
- Art room & media center ventilation
- New bleachers in the gymnasium
- Floor tile replacement
- Painting
- Redesign of some classrooms

No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another. Thank you.

~Author Unknown

Years of Service Recognition

The White Mountains Regional School District has a time – honored tradition during its annual Welcome Back – District Staff Development Days which were held August 27th, 28th, and 30th this year. During this time the district recognizes personal achievements, milestones, and professional collaboration. They celebrate what makes the district a great place to learn, grow, and achieve professional goals. It is part of the culture of The White Mountains Regional School District to express their appreciation to their employees for their loyalty and dedication. The district administrative team recognizes that there is no form of recognition as important to the success of any organization than acknowledging their employees for their years of service.

This year they were honored to recognize the following staff members for their years of dedication:

10 Years:

Aaryn Ford – LES Speech Pathologist
Alisha Doolan – LES Paraprofessional
Angela Paquette – Smith WES 2nd Grade Teacher
Chad Carter – WES PE Teacher
Carolyn Daigle – LES School Nurse
Diana Corrigan Smith – WES Paraprofessional
Martina Macakova – WMRHS Foreign Language Teacher
Wanda Dami – WES Paraprofessional

15 Years:

Jamie Colby – LES Title 1 Teacher
Mike Curtis – WMRHS Futures Program Director
Jen Scarinza – WMRHS Agricultural Science/Outdoor Physical Education Teacher
Kathy Willey – WES Teacher

20 Years:

Erica Hicks – WMRHS Math Teacher
Michael Cronin – WES Principal

30 Years:

Ellyn Packard – LES Food Service
Mark Worcester – WES Custodian
Tim Phillips – WMRHS Custodian



Human Resources & Employment Opportunities

Trina Beattie, Human Resources/Payroll/Accounts Payable Manager

Roxanne Ball, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools/Human Resources

WMRSD Current Employment Opportunities

Teaching/Support Staff

- Part - Time Early Childhood Education Coordinator (District) - Grant Funded

Athletics

- Alpine Coach
- Boys & Girls MS Basketball Coaches (LES)
- Assistant Track Coaches (2) (HS)

Substitute Teachers, Nurses, Paraprofessional, Custodial, & Cafeteria Staff

Application packets are available at Central Office located at 14 King Square Whitefield, NH Monday through Friday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm; you do not need to make an appointment to get the application. Please submit the completed application to Central Office.

The requirements for substituting for the White Mountains Regional School District call for successfully completing the application packet, the criminal records background check and be a high school graduate, or have your GED.

Wages

Substitute Teachers - District Wide

Full Day \$80

Substitute Nurses - District Wide

Full Day \$125

Substitute Paraprofessionals - District Wide

Per Hour Rate \$11.19

Substitute Cooks - District Wide

Per Hour Rate \$10.68

Substitute Custodians - District Wide

Per Hour Rate \$12.50

White Mountains Regional School District School Board Members

Welcome New School Board Members! Congratulations on being elected to the WMRSD School Board! There is no greater contribution than serving as a member of the leadership team that provides educational opportunities for the children in your community.



**Jessica Loiacono - Whitefield
Board Member (Chair)**
5 Main Street
Whitefield, NH 03598
jloiacono@sau36.org
603-837-9685



**James Brady - Jefferson Board Member
(Vice Chair)**
498 Ingerson Road
Jefferson, NH 03583
jbrady@sau36.org
603-586-7738



**Scott Kleinschrodt - Dalton Board
Member**
59 Bush Road
Dalton, NH 03598
skleinschrodt@sau36.org
603-837-3114

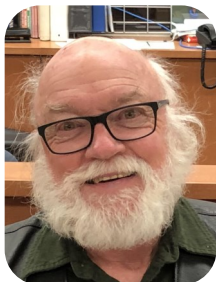


**Kristen Van Bergen - Lancaster
Board Member**
Lancaster, NH 03584
kvanbergen@sau36.org
603-788-2447

**Dave Holmader - Whitefield
Board Member**
8 Main Street
Whitefield, NH 03598
dholmader@sau36.org
603-770-3970



**James Murphy
Carroll Board Member**
55 Woodcrest Lane
Twin Mountain, NH 03595
jmurphy@sau36.org
603-846-8015



**Herb Randall
Lancaster Board Member**
88 Elm Street
Lancaster, NH 03584
hrandall@sau36.org
603-788-2251

Welcome WMRSD New Teachers

We'd like to warmly welcome all the newly-hired teachers to our wonderful District for a new school year. We are so excited to have you all join our faculty. Our community of teachers continues to grow, but our mission statement always remains the same: *The White Mountains Regional School District uses our collective resources to educate responsible and ethical citizens who are academically, socially, and physically prepared to meet the needs of our community in an ever-changing world.*

The Lancaster School



Welcome Candra Hicks

3rd Grade

Candra Hicks, alumni of WMRHS will be returning to LES to teach 3rd grade. Candra graduated from Plymouth State University with a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education and has worked at LES for the last two years in several different capacities. Candra is thrilled to deepen her connection with the wonderful community she grew up in and building relationships with each of her students as she helps them learn and grow over the upcoming school year.

Welcome Jamie Colby

Title 1



Jamie Colby is beginning her fifteenth year with the White Mountain Regional School District. After recently earning her B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Plymouth State University, Jamie will be taking on the role of Title 1 teacher for students in grades K-8 at the Lancaster School. Prior to taking on the new position as Title 1 teacher, she has worked as both a Special Education Paraeducator and Computer Lab Assistant at Lancaster School. Jamie lives in Lancaster with her husband and two children and takes great pride in being a part of the Lancaster School community. Her philosophy is that it is crucial to motivate students through challenging, yet supportive goals and actions. It is important that her students feel valued and respected, while allowing them to develop as individuals where social and academic growth are equally valued.



Welcome Katherine Belanger

Title 1

Katherine Belanger is entering her first year with White Mountains Regional School District. She will be teaching Title I at Lancaster Elementary School. Katherine recently earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and General Special Education Certification from Plymouth State University. Katherine believes that every student is unique and shines in their own light. She is very excited to start her career in the school district she graduated from. Katherine believes that every student is unique and shines in their own light. She is very excited to start her career in the school district she graduated from.



Welcome Kelly Laflamme

Middle School Science

Kelly Laflamme is a Middle School Science teacher at Lancaster Elementary School. She will be teaching Health as well as Family and Consumer Science to students in grades 6-8. Kelly holds a B.S. degree in Behavioral Science from Granite State College, and an M.Ed. in Educational Studies from Southern New Hampshire University. She has worked as a paraprofessional and tutor for the past twelve years, and an Extended School Year Special Education Teacher for the past two summers. Kelly is looking forward to working with the middle school students at Lancaster Elementary School.

Welcome Lindsey Dingman

Title 1



Lindsey Dingman is excited to be joining the LES team! Lindsey is an alumni of the district and looks forward to giving back to our local community. Lindsey received her undergraduate degree at Lyndon State College, with a B.A. in Early Childhood/Elementary Education, specializing in psychology. Following her educational career, she spent 3 years teaching first grade at the St. Johnsbury School as well as SAU #58 in Groveton, NH. Her passion is to create a fulfilled educational experience for all of her students.



Welcome Melissa Croteau

Kindergarten

Melissa "Missy" Croteau is a kindergarten teacher at Lancaster Elementary School. Missy graduated with her Master's degree in elementary education from the University of New Hampshire. She also has an undergraduate degree in early childhood education and a strong background in special education. Missy has worked as a special education paraprofessional as well as a Title 1 assistant with the Berlin School District for the past 11 years. Outside of school, Missy has a husband and two little girls that occupy her time. She looks forward to working with the staff, students, and families at LES.

The Whitefield School

Welcome Emily McBride

Middle School Math



Emily McBride is the Middle School Math Teacher for the Whitefield School. An alumni of both WES and WMRHS, Emily has a B.S. degree from Johnson & Wales University in Fashion Merchandising & Retail Marketing, with a concentration in Sales, Meeting & Event Management. Since graduating from college, she has worked in conference services, travel coordination and project management. A passion for the social-emotional well-being of kids and the drive to make positive change in our rural community urged her to pursue a career change to education and move back to the White Mountains. Last year, she worked as a Special Education Para-Educator at Lakeway Elementary. In her free time, she enjoys being outside with her husband, Matt and dog, Jarvis. Emily is excited to get to know her students and make math meaningful (and fun!).



Welcome Kaylie LaPointe

Title 1

Kaylie LaPointe is originally from Jacksonville FL. After high school she joined the Navy where she was stationed in California for 5 years. She has spent the last five years working towards a Bachelor degree in Elementary Education in the North Country. She has done internships in various schools and grades in the Berlin-Gorham area. This year she will be the Title 1 teacher for Whitefield Elementary School. She is looking forward to instruction of multiple ages, and becoming a member of the school community.

Welcome Trish Belanger

Nursing Staff, LES & WES



Trish Belanger, is a new addition to the nursing staff for both Lancaster Elementary School and Whitefield Elementary School. Trish has been a Registered Nurse since 2008, and graduated with her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing from UMFK in 2016. Trish has 11 years of acute care and emergency care experience in a hospital setting. She is looking forward to this new opportunity to be part of the school nurse team and help meet the needs of the students in her community. Outside of school she enjoys hiking, running, fitness, snowshoeing, and spending time with her family.

White Mountains Regional High School



Welcome Chuck Patterson

Teacher Leader

Chuck Patterson is a teacher leader at WMRHS. He has a BA degree in Earth Science from the University of New Hampshire. He has a MAT degree in Science Education from Plymouth State University. Prior to this year he has taught at Colebrook Academy and White Mountains Regional High School.

Welcome Marc Salmin

Art Integrationist



Marc Salmin is the new Art Integrationist teacher and comes to WMRHS from Hazen Union School in Hardwick, VT. Prior to teaching in VT, Marc taught in NY for 8 years. He has a background in fine as well as digital art and hopes to help grow and develop the art program at WMRHS. Marc earned his BS in Electronic Media Arts & Communication from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and has a MS in Art Education from CUNY Queens College. Marc loves to design and create with mixed media and share his passion with his students. He enjoys working with students to help them achieve what they didn't think was possible as well as teach them how to be more creative in other disciplines.



Welcome Margaret Dwyer

Humanities & AP Literature

Margaret Dwyer is excited to join the faculty at WMRHS this year, teaching Humanities and AP Literature. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theatre, as well as English Literature with a concentration in Multicultural U.S. Literature from Hollins University in VA, and a Masters Degree in English Education from Columbia University in NYC. Ms. Dwyer previously taught English and Theatre at Perkiomen School in PA, and looks forward to fostering a curiosity for life-long learning in her students.



Welcome Sarah Hale
Science

Sarah Hale is joining WMRHS this year after studying organic chemistry at Dartmouth College. Ms. Hale has a B.A. in history and chemistry from Colgate University, and a M.S. in chemistry from the University of Connecticut. She previously taught science at Somersworth High School and at Manchester Central High School. Ms. Hale is excited about sharing her passion and enthusiasm for science with the students at WMRHS.



Welcome Sarah Slater
Physical Science & Biology

Sarah Slater is a new Physical Science and Biology teacher working with students in grades 9-12. She will also be the JV Girls Soccer Coach. She has a BS in Biochemistry and has over ten years of experience working with middle school and high school students. She previously has worked in research laboratories, medical education, and most recently high school education. She looks forward to sharing her enthusiasm for science and soccer with the students at WMRHS!



Welcome Shane MacElhiney
Math & Physics

Shane MacElhiney will be teaching math and physics at WMRHS. Over the last 20 years, Shane has worked in independent schools as a teacher and an administrator. He has taught math and humanities classes, coached soccer, basketball, and tennis, and held administrative positions such as Head of Upper School, Academic Dean, and Dean of Students. Shane earned a BA in Economics and Pre-Med from Yale University and an MA in Education Leadership from Columbia University Teachers College. Shane is grateful for the opportunity and super excited about joining the SAU 36 team.



Welcome Stacey Zemla
STEAM Art

Stacey Zemla an alumni from WMRHS, is thrilled about reuniting with the WMRHS family for the 2018-19 school year. Stacey relocated to the area four years ago and is grateful to have spent the last five years at home with her two daughters. Prior to that she taught art to an amazing group of middle schoolers. Stacey comes to WMRHS with five years of teaching experience and she is looking forward to helping the SSIA put the A in STEAM. She studied graphic design at the Maine College of Art, where she attained her BFA, and she holds an MAT in visual arts education from Tufts University.



Welcome Taylore Aussiker
Humanities & AP English

Taylore Aussiker is joining WMRHS as a Humanities and AP English teacher. She hails from Plymouth State University, where she received an MEd in English Education and taught undergraduate English courses for three years. She is originally from St. Johnsbury, Vermont, but is proud to call the White Mountains her home.

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