



Dear MRUSD Community,

I am very honored to be the superintendent for Maple Run Unified School District. I thought I would share a few thoughts with everyone and introduce myself to all of you who I have not had the pleasure of meeting. Also, I am asking for your thoughts and ideas about how we can continue to make our school district one of the best in Vermont. But more about that later...

First, I want to thank Dr. Kevin Dirth for his seven years of service as our superintendent and forty-plus years of service as an educator. He has, directly and indirectly, touched so many students and helped build great programs during his career. While here at Maple Run, he partnered with the board, staff, and community to consolidate four separate school districts into Maple Run, one of the most successful mergers in our state. Over the past five years, the school tax impact due to the consolidation remained flat or lower, while at the same time we expanded world languages and our string instrument program to all schools. Kevin has many more accomplishments during his time with us. When I asked him what he was most proud of during his tenure here, it was the increased collaboration he saw both within the district staff and our three communities. Thank you, Kevin. You truly impacted Maple Run and helped us make it a better place for students and the community.

Second, I wanted to take a chance to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. I have been an educator for the past 30 years, and began my career as a high school science teacher. After my classroom teaching experience, I assumed the positions of Director of Technology, Curriculum Director, and Superintendent. For the past two years here at Maple Run, I have worked as the Assistant Superintendent. When I started in the fall of 2019, I looked forward to taking my time to get to know the Maple Run Community, but as many of you know, I took on the principalship at BFA in November 2019. It was my pleasure to help our community in that role. Of course, all of us remember March of 2020, where we had to jump right into a new educational world because of the COVID pandemic. Still, I cherish the time I spent at BFA and enjoyed the experience of establishing relationships with the students, staff, and families.

Now I am starting my third year with Maple Run, and my first as the Superintendent of Schools. I want to take time this summer and fall to listen to our communities. It is important to me that I understand what makes our district unique and where we have opportunities to improve. I have always believed that the community is the owner of our public school, and they should provide input both to the board and the superintendent about what they want their children to know and be able to do when they graduate with a diploma from BFA-St. Albans. To that end, I plan to have multiple formal and informal ways to request your input— from online surveys, to meeting at an event, to announced “meet the superintendent” times where we can have a conversation.

During the summer, community members have different schedules. My first way of asking for feedback is by posting an online survey. This survey asks each of you: what are the most important things I need to know to support you and make this year successful? You can enter as many ideas as you want. Afterward, you will anonymously prioritize all the ideas that have been entered into the survey tool. This allows me to learn the highest priorities among our community.

Please follow this link to the survey: <https://tejoin.com/673898240>.

Thank you for your input, and please have a restful and relaxing summer. We all deserve it after what we have been through the past 16 months. I look forward to seeing everyone at the start of school.

Bill Kimball