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Maple Run Unified School District

The Maple Run Unified School District is where inquiring minds, compassionate hearts, creative expression, healthy lives and service to the community develop so all can learn, achieve and succeed.

- Bellows Free Academy
 - Collins Perley Sports Center
 - Fairfield Center School
 - Northwest Technical Center
 - St. Albans City School
 - St. Albans Town Educational Center
- August 2018

Celebrating Successes Across Our District

Maple Run Unified School District is preparing for its second school year as a single district. Two new faces at Central Office are introduced below. Preparations are continuing throughout the summer in an effort to make next year even better than the first.

Mona Berry, Curriculum Director



Mona Berry has relocated from Ann Arbor, Michigan to join MRUSD as the new Curriculum Director. Mona has two sons, one is completing his undergraduate in Economics at the University of Michigan and the other will be attending a graduate program in Communications and Finance at Eastern Michigan University. Mona loves travel and gardening.

Mona's most recent experience as a curriculum director included a collaborative approach in the implementation of district-wide curriculum research and adoption. Mona earned her Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Eastern Michigan University with Middle Level specialization. She is currently in the final stages of her Doctoral work in Instructional Leadership at Northcentral University.

Mona's experience as an educator includes working with diverse PK-12 populations. She has served in several roles as a classroom teacher, instructional coach, school principal, staff developer, central office administrator and curriculum and instruction director. Her responsibilities and expertise include: curriculum and instruction, instructional coaching models, organizational systems change, professional learning design and evaluation, data teams and MTSS processes, federal programs, NGSS and Prek-12 literacy. While with the Ohio State University K-12 Mathematics Coaching Program (MCP), equitable mathematics pedagogy was applied in K-12 classrooms She worked with teachers and instructional coaches to ensure high quality mathematics education is accessible for all students. ■

Melanie Boyle, Early Childhood Director

A southern girl with a New England heart, Melanie Boyle returns from Mississippi to embark on a new journey down a well-known path, as the Early Childhood Director for the Maple Run Supervisory Union. The remarkable Early Childhood staff, who truly put children first and work so diligently to make sure all students' diverse needs are met, made Melanie's decision to return an easy one.



A background in education and marketing has allowed her to work with pre-primary students to college, which has propelled her desire to help people grow a true passion, starting with our tiniest of humans. Melanie has a PhD in Educational Administration, a master's in Elementary Education and in Mass Communication, along with a Bachelor's in Public Relations. She was selected as Special Education Teacher of the Year for 2017-2018 school year.

Melanie stresses the need for developing and maintaining positive relationships with teachers, staff, and parents in order to propel our students into the future through their social and emotional development and academics. Most importantly, she has learned valuable lessons of patience, employing multi-tiered systems of support, stressing collaboration, promoting advancement, and celebrating the diversity in us all.

None of these areas of growth and success would have been possible without the support of her husband, Greg, and her three children, Maya (9), Malerie (8), and Mikayla (5) who will be attending City School in the fall. Greg is retired Air Force will be pursuing his degree at CCV in the fall in logistics. ■

BFA Junior Appointed to Board of Education

In July we learned that a BFA Junior was appointed to the Vermont Board of Education. This is a two- year commitment and will require, at a minimum, for Kyle to miss school one day a month to attend Board meetings.



We are incredibly proud of Kyle for applying and receiving this appointment.

Having a BFA student as the State Student member is an honor, and exciting!

Kyle received his official appointment and a proclamation, that can be seen here: <http://sil.co/4avj> ■

Governor Scott visits SACS



Governor Scott, along with some cabinet members, AOE officials and legislators visited SACS on August 7. The focal point of the visit was to view the summer lunch program which

has become very popular and so helpful to our community. In addition, the visit was to witness a RiseVT Gold School in action. Pictured here are the



Governor with students both inside and outside the school, and the group shot taken after a kickball game. ■

Northwest Tech Center Hosts Agency of Education

Several top AOE officials visited NWTC on August 7. They toured the facility and spoke with businesses to learn of our most recent successes. This visit is received as a high complement for the staff and programs of Northwestern Technical Center. ■

Business Round Table Discusses Act 46

Kevin Dirth and Superintendents from the Bennington-Rutland and Chittenden East Supervisory Unions met with representatives of the Vermont Business Roundtable to provide a "leader to leader" briefing on progress their unified systems have made in meeting the goals of Act 46. The Superintendents spoke first-hand about areas of equity, opportunity and efficiency in the unified districts they serve. They emphasized educational opportunities for students as their highest priority but also shared insights on the benefits of affordability and efficiency.

Vermont Business Roundtable membership is comprised of 100 CEOs of Vermont’s most active and committed for-profit and not-for-profit employers. Their mission is to make Vermont the best place in America to do business, be educated and live life. ■

Administrators Retreat August 16 & 17

The entire Maple Run Unified School District administrative team will take two days -August 16 & 17 – to begin to tackle some of the largest challenges facing education. Both days are packed with priority items. Working from the five-year plan, the group’s focus will include:

- New State Law on Special Ed Funding
- Evaluations
- Social Emotional Learning First Steps
- Team Building Activity
- Grades 8-9 Transition
- Capital Reserve
- Lincoln on Leadership Group Discussion
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Integrated Field Review (IFR) - October 10
- PLPs and Student Leadership

There will also be a presentation from Department of Children and Families (DCF), and a team building activity. ■

Convocation August 24

Convocation sets the tone for the next school year. All Maple Run Staff attend the event at Collins Perley together. Over the last three years of convocations we have learned more about each other and gleaned input about how this joint time may best be used.

Speakers will include Superintendent Kevin Dirth and MRUSD Board Chair James Farr. In Addition the Maple Run Education Association will take the opportunity to to address their membership. There will be tables where staff can get information about support and services.

New this year a large part of the agenda will be an exciting pilot on student leadership. Our schools have been embracing this and now we will have first hand experience as to why it is such a powerful movement. Board members are welcome to attend. The program runs from 9 to noon followed by lunch. ■