

NEWSLETTER

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 Steven Bailey, *President-Elect, (AOS 93)*
 Betsy Webb, *Vice President, (Bangor)*
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“Better Schools for Maine Students”

Volume 48, Number 10, June 2016

President’s Message

Dear Colleagues,

This year has gone by very fast and Steve Bailey and I are ready to transition the reins of MSSA. We are jointly writing this newsletter as part of that transition.

Sue: I have great confidence that the organization will be in great hands during the next year and in the future.

We have some wonderful leaders moving into new roles in the organization. Steve Bailey has been very active as the chair of the Professional Development Committee for many years and brings, as President, that great knowledge into the organization. The leadership work in the near future will involve providing our membership the necessary insight into the changes in education.

It is very important that new Superintendents, current Superintendents who haven’t taken on leadership roles, and existing school district leaders be involved in our organization. MSSA is a strong voice and critical organization for the future of school system leadership. Everyone knows how valuable our public education system is and how our leadership of the systems keeps them strong, current, and valued.

I look forward to continuing to have a presence as an officer of MSSA and will continue to volunteer my service to the organization in roles that are needed. I want to thank the organization for their support this last year.



Steve: I have been inspired as I have watched the past two Presidents fulfill their duties to our organization. It has been very valuable to observe the people in the role and the importance the person in the position plays in leading the work of MSSA. Together with the Officers, the Executive Committee, all the Committees of MSSA and the MSMA staff who support our work, MSSA is an important

voice and presence in crafting the educational leadership message for our state.

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MSSA’s 16 Point Plan

As a result of work completed during the 2016 Winter Convocation, the Professional Development Committee is pleased to announce the MSSA 16 Point Plan for Positive Work Culture. You may recall 14 table groups brainstormed ideas using five general headings as outlined by our speaker, Dr. George Manning, professor emeritus, University of Northern Kentucky.

The Professional Development members and regional superintendent groups reviewed the work and synthesized it into 16 broad actions designed to guide superintendents and assistant superintendents as they build and sustain a positive work culture throughout their district.

Included with the document which can be accessed [here](#) is a suggestion for using the plan.

We welcome your reactions. Feel free to email comments to: etomaszewski@msmaweb.com.

Congratulations

Congratulations are in order. Several MSSA members have completed a degree or certificate work over the past school year. Let’s take a moment to offer them our congratulations for a job well done.

- ◇ **Paul Austin**— Ph.D. in Public Policy—Concentration Educational Leadership—USM. Dissertation Title: “An Examination of Response to Intervention Development and Implementation Relative to Best Practices.”
- ◇ **Becky Foley**— Ph.D. in Public Policy—USM. Dissertation Title: “Breaking Barriers to Achieve the Superintendency: The Self-Perceptions of Women Administrators in the State of Maine.”
- ◇ **Richard Green**— Ed.D.—University of New England. Dissertation Title: “What Professional Development Practices Support the Successful Integration of Technology Within a Standards-Based (SBE) System.”



MSSA Mission Statement

The Maine School Superintendents Association (MSSA) is an organization that is committed to leadership:

- Leadership to provide equity, create opportunities for and promote the success of every student;
- Leadership to develop ethical, visionary and competent leaders by
 - Offering professional learning opportunities for leaders
 - Promoting community and legislative support for education
 - Providing member services

Core Values and Beliefs

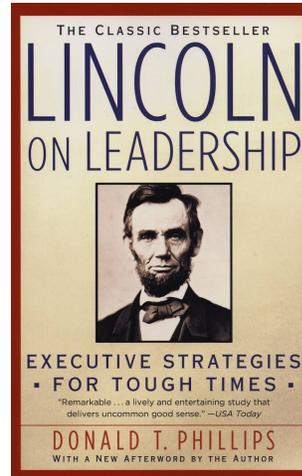
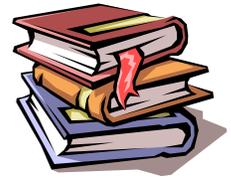
We believe members shall:

- Maintain high expectations for all students, staff and ourselves
- Advocate for resources essential to student learning
- Act with integrity and model professional behavior
- Champion the advancement of public education

On the Bookshelf

Lincoln on Leadership: Executive Strategies for Tough Times

By Donald T. Phillips



This month's book suggestion comes to us from a colleague in Ohio who has used it with school leaders as well as board members.

A great and easy read for administrators, board members and history buffs.

As you scan chapter titles:

- Preach a vision and continually reaffirm it
- Get out of the office and circulate among the troops
- Honest and Integrity are the best policies

It is easy to see the correlation with your position.

For a Leader...

You are not born with a fixed amount of resilience. It's a muscle, you can build it up, and then draw on it when you need it.

~Sheryl Sandberg, American technology executive, activist and author.

You do not lead by hitting people over the head...that's assault, not leadership.

~Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969), American politician and general who served as the 34th President of the United States

As we close out the 2015-16 school year and the MSSA Newsletter takes a summer break, we thank the members who have contributed articles that helped inform, influence, and inspire us during the past months:

Sue Pratt, Steve Bailey, Dominic DePatsy and Jim Hodgkin. Thank you!



President's Message

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Sue has done a terrific job in her leadership role, provided a very important presence at the Executive Committee Table and in leadership conversations with MSMA officials and during testimony in front of important committees when pending legislation was being considered. As I start my term I am hopeful I can do the same thing, especially during the longer session of the Legislature coming up, and also with the uncertainty of Maine Department of Education staff and content area specialists who work to make connections between the statutes, Chapter and Rules of the Department and the day to day workings of our schools and districts.

Public education in Maine continues to need a cheerleader for the positive efforts and results that are happening across our state. We need to promote these successes while also identifying areas where improvements can be made along with the kind of help that is needed to make these improvements. Recommendations for improvements include a state-of-the-art certification department and process that can get qualified and certified staff in our schools in a timely manner; they include consistent, thoughtful leadership from the Commissioner's office and Department of Education staff; they include, through appropriate funding to our districts, the money needed to staff and educate the students entering our schools with increased special education needs; and they include giving vocal support to the public effort to provide quality learning in all our schools across the entire state - praising existing efforts while providing feedback and support (financial and technical) for districts who need it for them to make accelerated progress.

I wish you a summer to rejuvenate and to get those important summer projects done. Most of all I hope you get some time for yourself and your family to enjoy.

AASA National Superintendent Of The Year



About the Program

Now in its 30th year, the AASA National Superintendent of the Year Program pays tribute to the talent and vision of the men and women who lead our nation's public schools. This program is sponsored by Aramark, VALIC and AASA.

Eligibility

Any superintendent, chancellor or top leader of a school system in the United States who plans to continue in the profession may be nominated. This program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of active, front-line superintendents. It is not recognition of service at retirement or a program to reward current state or national leaders.

Nominations are now open for the 2017 AASA National Superintendent of the Year Award.

Nomination Deadline: August 1, 2016

Click [here](#) for more information.

MSSA Assistant Superintendent Of the Year

Beginning in 2016, MSSA honors an Assistant Superintendent of the Year, in recognition of the vital role played in the district by professionals holding that position.

For complete information on the nomination process for 2017, click [here](#).

Fall Conference Information October 27 and 28, 2016

The preliminary 43rd Annual MSMA Fall Conference packet is now available. You received an email on June 17th and the information is available on our website at: <http://www.msma.org/about-msma/msma-fall-conference-2016/>

Because some Boards do not meet regularly in the summer, we are reminding you of important dates.

WHAT	WHO	DEADLINE
Volunteers to serve on MSBA Nominating Committee	School Boards	June 30
Call for Resolutions	School Boards	July 11
Clinic Topics	Superintendents/School Boards	July 29
Clinic Proposals	Superintendents/Board Members who wish to present	July 29
Nominations for Board Awards	Signed by local School Board Chair/ Superintendent	August 1

***Please Note** there are several time sensitive materials including calls for:

***NOTE:** Registration materials will be available **early September**.

If you have any questions, please call MSMA at 1-800-660-8484 or email msma@msma.org.

Mark Your Calendar



EVENT	VENUE	DATE	
2016 AASA Legislative Advocacy Conference	Marriott Metro Center Washington, D.C.	7/12-7/14/16	More info
MSMA Annual Golf Scramble	The Meadows Golf Club Litchfield, Maine	7/18/16	More info
NEASS 199th Annual Fall Conference	Viking Hotel Newport, Rhode Island	9/22-9/23/16	More info
2016 Annual MSSA Fall Meeting	Augusta Civic Center Augusta, Maine	10/26/16	Save the date!
43rd Annual MSMA Fall Conference	Augusta Civic Center Augusta, Maine	10/27-10/28/16	More info
Leveraging Learning Institute	Hilton Garden Inn Riverwatch Auburn, Maine	11/9-11/10/16	More info
2017 AASA National Conference on Education	Ernest N. Morial Convention Center New Orleans, Louisiana	3/2-3/4/17	More info

Professional Vacancies

**Westbrook School Department
Superintendent of Schools
Westbrook, Maine**
Application Deadline: July 6, 2016
Effective Date: September 1, 2016, or as negotiated

**MSAD 10
Part Time Superintendent of Schools & Financial Director COMBINED POSITION
Allagash, Maine**
Accepting applications until suitable candidate found.

**MSAD 45
Part Time Superintendent of Schools
Washburn, Maine**
Accepting applications until suitable candidate found.

**Milford School Department
Part Time Superintendent of Schools
Milford, Maine**
Accepting applications until suitable candidate found.

For more information on vacancies, please visit <http://www.msmaweb.com/>.

AASA News

JUNE 09, 2016

[AASA Voices Concern with Senate Education Funding Bill](#)

JUNE 07, 2016

[Washington Superintendent Receives National Communication Technology Award](#)

MAY 31, 2016

[School District Leadership Takes Step Forward with Announcement of AASA-USC Urban Superintendents Academy Graduates](#)

MAY 27, 2016

[AASA Responds to Latest Round of Proposed Regulations for ESSA](#)



If you have questions about any articles in this newsletter or suggestions for improving this publication, please let us know.

You can contact me, MSSA Acting Executive Director Elaine Tomaszewski at etomaszewski@msmaweb.com.