PAUL AUSTIN, Ph. D.Superintendent of Schools

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Regional School Unit No. 67 Office of the Superintendent

Chester, Lincoln, Mattawamkeag

Superintendent's Corner – September 27, 2022

Greetings RSU 67 staff, students, and families,

As the leaves have begun to turn and the temperatures slowly descend, it is clear that autumn is here, and winter is just around the corner. It's hard to believe that October is here and that more than 10% of the school year has already passed. By all accounts, it has been a fabulous first month of school. Everywhere I go, I consistently hear positive comments from students, staff, and parents about how good it is to be back in school. There is no shortage of pride in RSU 67!

This week's edition of the "RSU 67 Keys to Success" is dedicated to our transportation department, which includes the director of transportation/facilities, scheduler, mechanic, bus drivers, van drivers, and substitute drivers. Each day, the RSU 67 transportation department safely transports hundreds of students to and from school, across hundreds of miles of the greater RSU 67 communities. In addition to their daily routes in the morning and afternoon, our small fleet of drivers transport students to field trips, Region III Technical School, they operate late buses and drive our various sports teams to games on weeknights and weekends. Our drivers, administrators, and support staff are the first point of contact for students and families, and they start and end each school day with a smile for every student. For all that they do for the RSU 67 school communities, it is my pleasure to thank the entire RSU 67 Transportation Department and to highlight them as "RSU 67 Keys to Success!"

While it is an honor to highlight the great work of our transportation department, it is also important to share that like so many districts across the state and nation, RSU 67 is experiencing a significant shortage of bus drivers. Despite the hard work and dedication of our transportation staff, our driver shortage could negatively impact our ability to provide efficient transportation in the near future. Thus, the district is seeking individuals who are interested in becoming a licensed bus driver. We have immediate openings for regular, part-time, and substitute drivers. We will provide paid training to individuals who want to become a licensed bus driver for the district. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a bus driver, please contact Rose Clark at rclark@rsu67.org or call (207) 794-6500 for more information.

The mission of RSU 67 is "Empowering Learners for Today and Tomorrow" and as such, we are dedicated to providing every student with a rigorous and relevant education, delivered by the very best teachers and support staff. I am grateful for our staff and for the support of our communities in meeting the needs of all students.

Until next time.....