

SUPERINTENDENT'S BULLETIN
Salvatore H. Petralia
Superintendent of Schools – SAU 50
September 2018



Mission

To improve the personal, social and academic growth of every student over time.

The Superintendent's Bulletin will be posted on the third Friday of each month and is available on our website. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide relevant information pertaining to each of our school districts across the SAU. Please read the bulletin and use it to remain updated on district news.

Opening of New School Year

I am pleased to report a successful opening to the 2018-2019 academic year. We held our Opening Day Ceremony on August 27th at Greenland Central School for all new and returning staff. I am pleased to welcome the following individuals to SAU 50 in their respective positions:

Greenland Central School

Meghan Bowersox, Educational Aide, Mary Dank, Art Teacher, Jessica Friedman, Secretary, Lindsay Greenberg, Secretary Assistant, Jennifer Haight, Grades Seven and Eight Teacher, Casey Jurevic, Grade Five Teacher, Gloria Manchego, Spanish Teacher, Todd Narramore, Grades Seven and Eight Math Teacher, Jennifer Rice, Special Education Aide, Lauren Teeden, Assistant Principal, Randy Weld, Stem Teacher.

Newington Public School

Fred Bowden, Physical Education Teacher, Anne Brady, Special Education Teacher, Jane Kendall, After School Enrichment Coordinator, Kerrie Winsor, Special Education Aide.

Maude H. Trefethen School

Susan Marsh, Food Service Manager.

Rye Elementary School

Jennifer Adams, Special Education Teacher, Sarah Holmes, Math Specialist, Tricia Labelle, Special Education Aide, Meagan Morgan, Speech & Language Teacher, Sarah Poisson, Food Service Assistant.

Rye Junior High School

Leslie Bayse, Art Teacher, Jamie Douquette, Food Service Assistant, Donald Greenwell, Food Service Assistant, John Hirsch, Grade Six and Seven World Language Teacher, Theresa Hogan, Secretarial Assistant.

SAU 50 Office

Samantha Fuller, Secretary to the Superintendent.

Greenland School District

On Wednesday, September 12, 2018 the Greenland Central School held a dedication ceremony to officially open the “Garden of Learning.” This project was officially launched in cooperation with Mr. Walter Lang from Lang’s Landscape and Nursery in Greenland, whose company donated and solicited numerous resources in order to make this project a reality.

Special Recognition and thanks go out to the following:

- Greenland Veteran’s Association, Greenland NH
- Seacoast Ace Hardware, Portsmouth NH
- Dustin Kee Plumbing
- Genest Concrete, Biddford ME
- Lang’s Lanscaping and Nursery, Greenland NH
- Lowes, Greenland NH
- Seacoast Irrigation, Kingston NH
- SiteOne Company, Portsmouth NH
- Jackie Jorgensen
- Johnathan Dowling
- Kate Simons
- Rick Bzdafka

New Castle School District

In New Castle, Principal David Latchaw and Maude H. Trefethen School staff will be piloting a new standards-based reporting system during the 2018-2019 school year. The new reporting system will provide meaningful feedback to students and parents, document student progress, and assist teachers in making decisions about what students need to learn next.

The staff at MHT have developed the following Habits of Work Learning (HOWLS) which also will be included in the new reporting system:

- Collaborator – student understand that respect, collaboration, and leadership are critical to working with others;
- Communicator – student demonstrates the ability to communicate clearly, appropriately and effectively;
- Contributor – student demonstrates the ability to contribute in class and towards a better world through community service, acceptance and tolerance of diverse people, and responsibility for the environment around them;
- Evaluator – student demonstrates the ability to find, evaluate, and organize information;
- Learner – student demonstrates the ability to be flexible, adaptable, and accountable throughout the learning process;
- Producer – student demonstrates the ability to manage products, produce results, and create completed projects;
- Technology User – student demonstrates the ability to use technology respectfully and apply it effectively;

- Thinker – student demonstrates the ability to think creatively and systematically to define and solve problems.

Newington School District

At Newington Public School, one of the established goals for the new academic year is to investigate a new system for grading and reporting student achievement. In an effort to support this goal, Principal Peter Latchaw and Newington staff will be working on the following action steps:

- Promote the use of SEESAW by all Newington educators;
- Newington classroom teachers will meet with all families to create individualized student learning goals based on each students' achievement;
- Promote a reporting schedule based on classroom instruction and not on a calendar
- Allow students to be actively engaged in reporting their learning through student-led conferences;
- Newington teachers will provide parents with monthly correspondence which highlights the learning taking place and the standards being covered;
- Teachers will provide Newington families with an individualized annual narrative at the mid-year point which will capture student growth, strengths/weaknesses, next steps and social growth.

Rye School District

The Rye School Board voted on July 25, 2018, to reconfigure grade structures in the Rye School District beginning in the 2019-2020 academic year. This plan calls for educating Grades K-4 and SAU 50 Preschool students at Rye Elementary School and Grades 5-8 at Rye Junior High.

We are excited about this transition and believe it will provide many benefits to Rye students. Research we have done shows there are numerous positive aspects to a Grades 5-8 model and the Rye School Board, Administrators, and educators are looking forward to providing these “rising” students with increased access to programming and using the similarities of 5th and 6th graders advantageously to meet their social, emotional, and academic needs. While we recognize there are concerns about the readiness of younger middle school students, we are open to hearing from parents about their concerns and are committed to addressing them through the transition planning. We will also invite feedback from students themselves to ease any angst.

To ensure a smooth transition, we have formed the “5th Grade Transition Sub-committee,” which held its first meeting on Friday, September 7, 2018.

With Principal Soucy’s teaching and administrative experience in a Gr 5-8 setting, thoughtful planning, and input from students and parents, we know that this change will be successful for all students and make our high performing schools even stronger.

Please also note that a new tab will be added to both schools’ websites and will house documents being reviewed by the Committee so that you may stay informed. Please check periodically throughout the week as changes are made to the websites.



Calendar of Events

September 25, 2018	Secondary School Advisory – Portsmouth High School	5:00 PM
October 1, 2018	New Castle School Board Meeting – Maude H. Trefethen School	5:00 PM
October 3, 2018	SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting – Newington Public School	6:30PM
October 7, 2018	Grade 5 Transition Committee Meeting – Rye Junior High School	7:00AM
October 9, 2018	Newington School Board Meeting – Newington Public School	5:00 PM
October 10, 2018	AREA Meeting – Portsmouth High School	5:00 PM
October 15, 2018	Greenland School Board Meeting – Greenland Central School	5:00 PM
October 17, 2018	Rye School Board Meeting – Rye Junior High School	5:00 PM
October 18, 2018	Grade 5 Transition Committee Meeting – Rye Junior High School	6:00 PM

Sincerely,

Salvatore Petralia
 Superintendent, SAU 50