



**School Union 69**  
**Office of the Superintendent**  
**Hope, Appleton & Lincolville**

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**Superintendent's Report for: April, 2021**

**Hope School Committee**

**District Goals:**

- Identify the lessons we can carry forward from the pandemic. What are the new practices and structures that are working well and could be expanded?
  - staff allocation
  - delivery of instruction
  - space allocation
- Support the school in their effort to partner, communicate with and engage the parents and the larger Hope community in maintaining academic growth during the pandemic
- Support school administration in maintaining a safe and supportive environment during the pandemic for all students and staff.

As vaccinations continue, interest in returning to school in-person has begun to develop among families who have remote learners. However, the social distancing rules have not changed since the opening of school and cases in Maine are on the rise again, especially among younger people. The Administrative Leadership Team has begun to look at ways to plan for an influx of in-person students. Danielle will meet with her Team Leaders to ensure that the spacing in the building can be maintained as we see a demand for in-person learning increase. Additionally, the Administrative Team is working on ways to collect and interpret data around innovative practices, student learning and community communication in order to capture effective practices brought on by the pandemic and to plan on ways to continue those practices that seem particularly effective. A third virtual Coffee with the Superintendent will be scheduled for after April break.

**Ongoing Superintendent Professional Development:**

MSSA: "Drive In" PD: ARP funding and parameters; budgeting to reduce potential "cliff" when federal funding runs out; what is happening in regards to remote learning across the state?  
Midcoast Regional Superintendents' Group: Vaccines, ARP funding, planning for next school year

**Coronavirus Update:**

**County Designations, as of April 9, 2021:**

**Knox:** Green (next update April 23, 2021)

The new case rate in schools is still 25% that of new cases in the general population. Cases in the community are on the rise again, so while it is still safe to hold school and transmission in school remains lower than in the community, that gap has narrowed. As community

transmission rises, so does the risk in school. School health and safety protocols must remain in place and the school and community will need to continue to remain vigilant. The state has released updated travel guidance. We would very much appreciate all staff and families paying close attention to this guidance as we continue to manage the impact of the pandemic on our students and staff. As things open up and people get vaccinated, we are able to do more of the activities we have missed this past year, but the risk is still there. Cases are rising in the state, particularly among young people and we need to continue to pull together to ensure everyone is as safe as possible!

**Budget:**

Tonight the Board will decide whether or not to take advantage of the Governor's extended order and place the number for the budget on a ballot for a vote, or to follow the traditional path of a special town meeting to vote on the school's final numbers for the budget. Either way, the School Board, Mrs. Fagonde and Superintendent Clark met with the Budget Committee on April 1st, and will meet again to hear recommendations on April 15th.

**Negotiations:**

Negotiations continue. The negotiation team of Tim Lock and Jude Masseur continue to work with the teachers and Superintendent Clark to develop agreements around changes to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Classroom visits:**

Superintendent Clark will be visiting HES grades 3-5 during the week of April 26-30. Earlier this month, Mrs. Clark was able to visit several classes at Appleton Village School, including Spanish, Guidance, Grade 5, Grade 4, Grade 3 and Title I.