



School Union 69
Office of the Superintendent
Hope, Appleton & Lincolnvile

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Superintendent's Report for: May, 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.

Whether or not the district can or should continue to offer some option for remote learning is the latest topic of discussion, with school administrators as well as Superintendents in the area and the DOE. Some districts in the state have developed comprehensive plans to pool resources in order to continue to provide some type of distance learning component. SU #69 is still grappling with this question. Distance learning has been effective for some of our students, but that effectiveness is not universal. In addition, our current model is relatively expensive, and may not be sustainable once federal funding runs out.

Students 12 years and older can now be vaccinated against COVID 19. The district is working with PenBay Medical to set up clinics for HES students, starting the week of May 17th.

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: Leadership Professional Development

Coronavirus Update:

County Designations, as of May 7, 2021:

Knox: Green (next update May 21, 2021)

Cases in the county appear to be declining again lately. The likelihood of contracting COVID 19 in schools remains 40% lower than in the community. All staff who wish to be are, or are very close to being fully vaccinated. As has been reported by the CDC, many of the cases we are seeing now are younger in age. Indoors and on buses, masking requirements continue. Social distancing also continues to be an important measure to keep everyone safe. Outdoor mask mandates have changed at the federal and state levels. In schools, masks may be removed

outside when social distancing can be maintained. Exactly what that means at HES has been determined by the School Safety Management Team and does not constitute a drastic change.

Budget:

The 2021-2022 budget passed unanimously at a special town meeting on May 6th, held outside in a tent on school grounds. We are very grateful for the collaboration and diligence of all those involved!

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 visited HES grades 3-5, art and guidance 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. At times, I have been observing and learning right along with the students and at other times, I have taken small groups to work on reading, math, science. This practice keeps me grounded in the realities of our classrooms and connected to the great work done in our classrooms everyday.