



*Serving the school communities of Eastbrook, Ellsworth, Franklin, Gouldsboro, Hancock,
Lamoine, Mariaville, Sorrento, Steuben, Sullivan, Waltham and Winter Harbor*

To: All RSU 24 Staff Members

From: Suzanne B. Lukas, Superintendent

Date: August 19, 2013

Subject: Staff Development Days to Open the 2013-2014 School Year

I hope this letter finds you relaxed, refreshed and ready to launch into a new school year! The good weather this summer has offered many opportunities to enjoy the beauty of coastal Maine. I hope you have had the benefit of outdoor activity and sunshine!

The administrators and I have been busy interviewing and hiring new staff and appreciate the quality of educators who have chosen to join our district. Members of the teaching staff have also served on our selection committees and I appreciate their time and insight. We are nearly finished with the summer hiring process and expect to have any vacancies filled by opening day.

We are very pleased to welcome Dawn McPhail as the newly appointed Principal of Lamoine Consolidated School. We also would like to welcome Wayne Enman as Interim Principal of Hancock Grammar School during Mrs. Vose's absence.

The summer months were filled with important district work. Thank you to all staff members who participated in summer professional development activities. Your commitment of time and effort is both noticed and appreciated. Beginning at the close of school in June, teaching staff attended trainings for the Lucy Calkins Writing curriculum, Everyday Math, and both SpringBoard Language Arts and Mathematics. A variety of technology trainings were held to support the use of iPads and Google Mail. Groups of professionals met on a variety of other topics all preparing for the year ahead.

Included is a schedule for the August inservice programs. The opening workshops for staff are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, August 28th and 29th. The first day will be a district-wide professional development day held at EHS. The second day will be school-based. Principals will be contacting staff with the location and specific plans for the second day.

I am looking forward to welcoming you to a new school year. On Wednesday, August 28, 2013 all district staff will gather at Ellsworth High School. Coffee and a light breakfast will be available beginning at 7:45 a.m. Staff members should report to the gymnasium by 8:30 a.m. for our general assembly.

All Wednesday meetings will be held at EHS. Handouts will be available upon arrival that will provide specific information. Lunch “on your own” is scheduled from 11:15 to 12:15.

Thursday’s training for instructional staff will be at individual schools. Itinerant staff and those who work district-wide should check with their supervisors on Wednesday for the location and plan for their work on Thursday.

As summer stretches into late August, students across our communities are beginning to think ahead to the new school year. I am sure that they are wondering what this new school year will bring. Hopefully, with the rejuvenating effects of vacation, you will be returning full of energy and fortified for the important work ahead. We can’t forget that an effective educational program requires a team effort – teachers, principals, support staff, bus drivers, food service workers, custodians, and maintenance staff. Let’s work together to make this a year to remember for each of our students!

PLANS FOR 2013-2014 OPENING DAYS

All staff will receive a handout at EHS with specific locations for meetings during the opening professional development day

Wednesday, August 28, 2013

Location: All RSU #24 employees will meet at EHS

- 7:45-8:30 Coffee and light breakfast provided at EHS
- 8:30 General Assembly, ALL RSU #24 employees gather in the EHS GYM
- 9:45 Dismiss all to Session I activities. Custodians, Administrative Assistants, Bus Drivers, Food Service, and other support staff meetings at specific locations with supervisors for the remainder of the day.
- 11:15-12:15 lunch (one hour lunch break on your own – no lunch provided)
- 12:15 Session II activities
- 1:30 Session III activities
- 2:45 Adjourn

Thursday, August 29, 2013

Time: 8:00-3:00

Location: Individual schools and department specific locations.

Itinerant staff: Please see your supervisor for the agenda and location of events for Thursday during Wednesday’s time together.