



December 9, 2022

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff,



This newsletter is dedicated to School Board member, Bill Sander, who passed away in his home at the age of 82 on the afternoon of November 25th. Bill dedicated over 30 years to our school community in so many ways; as School Board Chair and member, Negotiator for the Board Negotiating Team, member of the design team for the Community Education Center of the Green Mountain Technology and Career Center, and Committee Chair for a task force in the late 1990's that was devoted to exploring how to keep students in school by increasing student engagement. In fact, one of his greatest achievements was working to lessen the student dropout rate from almost 20% to under 5% during his leadership at that time.

Although Bill was instrumental in making positive changes to our school system and the experience of both students and staff alike, perhaps Bill's most special contribution was the gift of his heart and his time. He believed that there was something worth celebrating in every individual and was a champion, in particular, for those who struggled. Bill spent his entire life in service to others. When he settled in Vermont, Bill and his wife, Jan, ran a group boarding home for youth who needed that kind of environment to thrive, which was a continuation of the work he had done in his previous home state of Colorado. Bill took immense pride in staying in touch with past clients who thanked him for believing in them and encouraging them to make better lives for themselves. His commitment to community extended itself to all aspects of his life.

Bill's influence and support will be felt always in the corridors of our school buildings, the classrooms full of our students, the experiences of our staff, and the meetings among members of the School Board and our extended communities. We give our highest respect and affection to Bill for his many contributions to our school community and the many people he impacted every day.



Please note important upcoming events set forth below:

- December 12, 2022 – LNSU Community Conversations about Our Schools, GMTCC, 5:00 pm**
- December 13, 2022 – Cambridge Elementary School 4th-5th Grade Chorus and Band Concert, 6:15 pm**
- December 14, 2022 - Waterville Elementary School Holiday Concert, 5:30 pm**
- December 15, 2022 – Hyde Park Elementary School K-3 Winter Concert, 6:00 pm**
- December 16, 2022 – Lamoille Union Middle School Dance, 7:00 pm**
- December 22, 2022 – Cambridge Elementary School Celebration of Learners, 8:20 am**
- December 23, 2022 – LNSU Winter Break Begins**



In important school district news, as you are aware, we are so excited to host a **Community Conversation this coming Monday, December 12, 2022, from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at GMTCC in the CEC.** Our goal is to engage with parents/caregivers, friends and people we have yet to meet from each of our six communities. We want to have productive conversations with people on a range of topics, largely focused on current and future opportunities and challenges in our schools and communities. Specifically, we want to hear about the things you most value about the Lamoille North school experience of youth in our communities; and, recognizing that developing a budget requires the School Board to make choices, we want to know what you think the Board should consider as they develop the budget. **We currently have over 60 people registered for this event and encourage all of you to attend.** In order to make sure we have an accurate head count for purposes of ordering food and having enough seats, please register [HERE!!](#)

I continue to be so grateful for our Lamoille North community members and the strong relationships we have built together. Thank you again for your collaboration, compassion and dedication to the wellbeing of our students, staff and families.

My best to you,

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools
Lamoille North Supervisory Union