



June 14, 2023

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff:



As summer approaches, I want to celebrate and express my deep appreciation for your unwavering commitment to our students and their successes. I am honored to support a community that cares for our youth and works hard to ensure their safety, wellbeing and growth.

On this last day of school, I want to share a list of those retiring from our district and a highlight from many of our building leaders and department heads across the district.

Those retiring are listed below; we thank them for their service and wish them well in their future endeavors!



- ❖ Raymond Archbold, Johnson Elementary School
- ❖ Thomas Dunkley, Lamoille Union High School
- ❖ Timothy Horton, Lamoille Union High School
- ❖ Diane Jacobs, Cambridge Elementary School
- ❖ Andrea Kidder, Eden Central School
- ❖ Carol McNair, Lamoille Union Middle School
- ❖ Kim Myette, Hyde Park Elementary School
- ❖ Sue Reed, Cambridge Elementary School
- ❖ Sally Vargo, Waterville Elementary School
- ❖ Judith Wine, Eden Central School

School Highlights

From Mary Anderson, Principal, Cambridge Elementary School:

“One of my proudest moments this year was when I attended our school’s musical production of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. This was, by far, our most sophisticated production and it was such a pleasure to watch it. So much time and effort go into these performances and from the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank Marie Cloutier, Ellen Koier, Danielle Oldenburg, Jeremy LaClair, Lisa Glover, and Faith Horton, along with many other staff members who made it all happen for our students. Our students shone brightly in this production whether they were performing or working behind the scenes. One of the things I look forward to as an educator are any opportunities where we can see students demonstrate their true gifts. Sometimes we are unaware of these strengths and without these types of opportunities, we might never find out. I am confident that we will see these students perform again in middle and high school! Bravo to everyone!”



From Betzi Goodman, Principal, Eden Central School (ECS):

“One of the highlights this year at ECS has been the opening of the Annex, the new addition to our building. This space has created music and art rooms and dedicated learning spaces for interventionists, guidance, and special educators; additionally, renovations in the front of the building includes upgrades to the health office and staff work space. Our collaboration with outside agencies has increased this year. During our Family Engagement events, folks from Head Start, the Lanpher Library, Northern Emergency Medical Services, and our LNSU Farm-to-School coordinator spent time with our students and families; collaboration with resources outside of our school helps to offer our students and their families greater support.”



From Erik Remmers, Director, Green Mountain Technology & Career Center (GMTCC):

“There are many celebrations and successes that GMTCC has to share from this year, but my personal favorites always involve the moment when a student realizes their potential and the doors that are open to them thanks to their hard work in any of our programs. One of many such “a-ha moments” this year happened with a student who had been with us for three years. When they first came to us, I think it’s safe to say they did not have a strong vision for their future or the opportunities that existed within it. But when three years later they learned that they earned a full-ride scholarship to the school of their choice to pursue a passion that was developed here in the tech center, their future and their opportunities became tangible and real. Those are my favorite success stories, because we are just the first chapter in them.”

From Diane Reilly, Principal, Hyde Park Elementary School (HPES):

“HPES celebrated its 8th Annual Mud Run this spring by raising \$4,148 through reading 22,051 minutes in a Read-a-Thon. The Mud Run is an obstacle course filled with “muddy” climbing, running, watery obstacles, and challenges. The event was designed as a way for HPES to give back to our local community by raising funds for the Lamoille Area Cancer Network. Grades PreK-6 students participate in this joyous and messy event with the support of HPES staff, parent volunteers, and local support. It is a traditional celebration that positively impacts the whole HPES community.”



From David Manning, Principal, Johnson Elementary School (JES):

“This year at JES, we had two large goals: to improve student writing and to encourage teachers to observe and learn from each other. In both areas, we experienced success this year. Many teachers engaged their students in writing by having them write persuasive pieces to me regarding procedures they wish could change at school. One common theme that came up often was a desire for a longer lunch for kids in grades 1-4. After reading their many arguments about students dumping uneaten food into the compost bin and students not having enough time to socialize before returning to class, and even several petitions on the topic, I will be extending lunch by a few minutes for those grades next year. For teacher observations, we worked with a Responsive Classroom consultant who taught a class to many staff last summer. With her support, we decided to focus observations on one aspect of teacher language: Proactive vs Reactive language. Teachers signed up for observations and had their colleagues rate the ratio of proactive reminders to students as opposed to reactive redirections. Twelve of our teachers participated in this very successful first step of establishing a culture of peer observation, collaboration, and learning.”

From Bethann Pirie, Principal, Lamoille Union High School:

“This year, our high school partnered with the Lamoille North Equity Design Team and Up for Learning. The purpose of the work centered around creating a more positive school environment for all students and staff. Together, this team built a vision.



As one of the team's action steps, a survey was developed for all students and staff to complete from all three schools on our campus.

The survey was designed to help the team understand more about our staffs' and students' experiences at the middle school, high School, and the Green Mountain Technology & Career Center. The information collected provided this group with a better understanding of our strengths and areas of growth both at the school level and as a campus. The team appreciated having the opportunity to hear from individuals about their experiences in order to move toward the vision that we have for our school. The data was shared with staff, the district's administrative team, and the school board. This work will continue into next year as we use the data to make action steps for positive change."

From Denise Maurice, principal, Lamoille Union Middle School:

"The 2022-2023 school year brought about two key developments: First, we altered our schedule by adding Skills Block in preparation for providing more opportunities for students to access both intervention and enrichment experiences. This year the Skills Block time offered opportunities for students to engage in interdisciplinary units, community-based activities and intervention. Also, this year, we began a revitalization of our student council. The student council focused on promoting kindness and enhancing school spirit. The students organized events such as whole school lunches, Kindness Week events, Themed Thursdays, "Dress your Teacher like a Snowman" competition and a kindness-themed door decorating competition. These activities tied into our continued focus on our Lancer Pride Expectations and Golden Plunger team competitions where we focus on personal responsibility and team spirit. We are looking forward to continuing to enhance student academic opportunities and strengthen school culture in the years to come."

From Jan Epstein, principal, Waterville Elementary School (WES):

"The highlight of the 2022-23 school year for WES was being able to welcome all our parents and families back into the school building for all of our celebrations and activities! We were able to host our grandparent day lunch, have two concerts, readers' theater performances, open house, positive behavioral intervention supports (PBIS) celebrations and parent conferences. Our school does better when we are connected with our families and community."

LNSU Department Highlights



From Karyl Kent, Director, Nutrition and Wellness:

"This school year was a year of Farm to School! Classes were once again going on field trips to farms and gardens that flourished under the guidance of Megan Hartigan, our Lamoille North Farm-to-School Coordinator! Taste tests of Harvest-of-the-Month foods included rutabaga fries, beet cake, whole grains granola, pumpkin mac 'n' cheese and roasted spaghetti squash! Monthly farm-to-school newsletters kept us all in the know and our cafeterias increased their local foods purchasing; getting more fresh local food onto the lunch trays of hungry kids!"

From Brian Pena, Director, Information Technology (IT):

"As we bid farewell to another amazing school year, we look back on our successes. The Lamoille North Information Technology (IT) department is proud of our many accomplishments. Together we streamlined automated services, increased wireless connectivity, and continued our drive towards introducing modern technology to supplement and support curriculum. We have some exciting projects over summer 2023. I'm looking forward to seeing our organization flourish as we work together to have another successful school year."

From Dylan LaFlam, Director, Facilities:

"The facility department spent this year struggling with staffing shortages and relearning what 'normal' should look like. In May, we filled our last open position and are going into our busy

summer season fully staffed on all campuses. We started and completed a front-of-the-house renovation and a back-of-the-house addition at Eden Central School; increasing the total gross square footage of that campus by 20%. This project was nearly 100% funded with ESSER funds, reducing the tax implication on our local community as well as solving the space issues that impact our students on a daily basis.”

From Rene Thibault, Director, Marketing and Communication:

“In a world where we have constant and instant access to news and updates, it can be a challenge to find - and to write - a story that resonates with others. For me, it's a challenge I've always looked forward to tackling. I'm proud to say I've been a part of the Lamoille team for nine months now working to support the efforts of our school community from Cambridge, to Eden, to Hyde Park, and our other towns in between. Getting to tell stories about the great work happening in our classrooms, to shine a light on students and staff, brings me great joy. The more we can do so, the more I hope our communities recognize and appreciate what Lamoille North is all about. I appreciate all those who follow us on social media, who read our newsletters, and who check out our website. We're on an exciting journey here at Lamoille North; we hope you follow along, and you can do just that by visiting the [Lamoille North News](#) section located on the Lamoille North district homepage.”



In closing, I continue to be so grateful for our Lamoille North community members and the strong relationships we have built together. We appreciate your support for our work with your children and youth. Thank you again for your collaboration, compassion and dedication to the wellbeing of our students, staff and families. This will be my last newsletter until early August. I hope all of you have a wonderful summer!

My best to you,

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