

SAU 70
Dresden, Hanover and Norwich School Districts



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Frances C. Richmond Middle School Teacher Named 2026
New Hampshire History Teacher of the Year**

HANOVER, NH – Frances C. Richmond Middle School social studies teacher **Derek Butler** has been named the **2026 New Hampshire History Teacher of the Year** by **The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History**, a national organization dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of American history.

The annual History Teacher of the Year Award recognizes exceptional K–12 educators who demonstrate excellence in the teaching of American history while engaging students through innovative instruction, thoughtful inquiry, and meaningful connections to the past. As the New Hampshire recipient, Derek Butler will represent the state among an outstanding group of educators recognized nationwide for their commitment to history education.

"We are incredibly proud to celebrate Derek Butler as our **2026 New Hampshire History Teacher of the Year** by **The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History**. This recognition reflects not only exceptional teaching, but also a deep commitment to helping students understand the world around them, think critically, and become informed, engaged citizens.

Mr. Butler brings history and civics to life by creating meaningful learning experiences that inspire curiosity, encourage thoughtful discussion, and help students make connections between the past and the present. Through dedication, creativity, and a genuine passion for education, he has made a lasting impact on students, colleagues, and our entire school community.

On behalf of our district, I congratulate Mr. Butler on this well-deserved honor and thank him for exemplifying the excellence, professionalism, and care that define outstanding educators." - SAU 70 Superintendent Robin Steiner

The Gilder Lehrman Institute's History Teacher of the Year program honors one outstanding educator from each state, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools, and U.S. territories. State winners are recognized for their excellence in American history education and serve as ambassadors for high-quality history instruction.

SAU 70 congratulates Derek Butler on this remarkable achievement and thanks him for his continued dedication to inspiring students and fostering a lifelong appreciation for history.

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