

Hampton Falls School District News

2010-2011 School Year

July-August 2010

Welcome

Mark Deblois, the new principal for Lincoln Akerman School, began work July 1st. Mr. Deblois began his career as a classroom teacher at the middle school level and after earning his Master's Degree in Educational Counseling he worked for 20 years in the position of Director of Guidance at a high school. For the past 10 years he has served as principal in the K-8 school in Nobleboro Maine. He says he is most proud to have been a part of the establishment of a very strong school to community connection in Nobleboro and is looking forward to applying his skills and experience for the benefit of the Hampton Falls community.

Over the summer, he will meet with the School Board and begin to review the information and notes outgoing principal, Judy Deshaies, left to assist in this transition. Mrs. Deshaies and Mr. Deblois also met several times before the close of the school year so he will be prepared to hit the ground running on the first day of school.



New SAU 21 Superintendent Dr. Robert Sullivan also began work on July 1st. Dr. Sullivan has 35 years in education. He is

coming to SAU 21 from Middleborough, MA where he was the Assistant

Superintendent for 5 years before he became the Superintendent. In his 6 years as Superintendent he demonstrated strong leadership skills and is well respected in both the school and community. Dr. Sullivan had his first meeting with the SAU 21 Joint Board on June 22, 2010 and will be meeting with SAU staff and individual School Boards throughout the summer. A priority for the Joint Board and Dr. Sullivan will be to address staff vacancies within the SAU 21 office.

Facilities Committee Update



The mission given to the Facilities Committee by the School Board was to study and make recommendations regarding the current Lincoln Akerman School (LAS) facility and surrounding property. The major tasks of the committee are to assess the state of the current LAS building and make recommendations regarding the type and priority of renovations needed over the next 5 years. The committee was also asked to assess and make recommendations regarding the need, use and possible generation of income from

the 5 Kensington Road property (known as the Merrill Property). It was not charged to focus on long range planning or options, which was considered in the prior Facilities Committee charter (2002-2003).

The committee which consists of 5 members of the community, (Steve Burns, Steve Carlson, David French, Jill Munir and Christine Nelson) as well as two members of the Board, (Robin Moyer Ratigan and Wayne Skoglund), first conducted a series of meetings and tours to learn about the current status of the property, existing issues and plans as well as to familiarize itself with some of the history leading up to the current status.

Activities conducted to obtain this baseline understanding included:

- a. A tour of the LAS facility
- b. Review of previous reports including the 2002-2003 LAS Facilities report and the 2009 Fire Engineer Report by SFC Engineering Partnership, Inc.
- c. Discussions with LAS personnel, including Alan Lajoie, Maintenance Director and Judy Deshaies, Principal
- d. Conversations with Dan Bisson of Harriman Architects & Engineers (previously Team Design) to review prior work as well as to hear ideas and recommendations.
- e. Multiple tours of the Merrill Property to assess current status and options.

After the initial information gathering was completed the committee divided the tasks

into 3 workflows (infrastructure, roofing and Merrill Property).

Infrastructure:

Using the information gathered from the facilities tours, input from school personnel, existing improvement lists etc, a statistical analysis was performed to order rank the projects. Each member completed a pairwise comparison table and the combined data was analyzed and statistics were generated for discussion. The statistics from the analysis showed broad agreement among the committee members as to priorities. Discrepancies were discussed and built into a revised list. The list was further characterized as to size/scope of the project as well as whether or not additional data was needed.

Broad categories included:

- small- less than \$5k
- large- more than \$5k
- large- important
- roof
- 1976 wing
- change in building structure
- more investigation necessary

The roof category was moved to a separate work group for analysis and reporting. The activities and plan from the Hampton Falls Energy Committee was considered in the process as well.

At this time, the Infrastructure work group is collecting and summarizing budgetary estimates for the elements of the infrastructure report.

Roofing:

To assess the roofing issues and concerns, each wing of the school has been analyzed separately. Current and past issues have been considered. A roster of general facilities issues that were a result of a roof condition was generated- such as ventilation, fire separation and water leakage. Detailed “on roof” inspections have been completed.

A report on the surface and structural assessment of the roof is currently in process.

Merrill Property:

Following several tours and reviews of the property, a series of fact finding activities were conducted. These included:

- a. Meeting with Carol Cord to review the potential to rehab and sell the house, house and barn or several other potential arrangements with the focus on both preserving the structures and the school related priorities identified in the 2002-2003 Facilities report (second egress, future expansion).

Carol Cord and her associates are in the process of reviewing estimates of the cost associated with various rehab and re-sell approaches that were generated from discussions and a walk through.

- b. Meeting with Lisa Henderson, Executive Director of the Seacoast Workforce Housing Coalition to discuss potential arrangements or

synergy with the regional and state workforce housing initiatives.

Lisa Henderson is following up to assess if it is possible to include the Merrill Property in the current program underway that is focused on seacoast workforce housing initiatives. The recent focus had been on the large parcel of land on Brown Road, but it appears that only 5+ acres of the 50+ acre parcel are considered buildable. A portion of the Merrill Property may well be suitable as consideration. The next steps in this case include a parcel review by her staff, and if any feasibility is apparent, to include the full assessment of what this path might or might not bring to the school as an option.

- c. Informal input from the community has been gathered on potential usage of the property.
- d. Suggestions have been solicited from the local development community including input from several commercial developers.

The most common comment about the property relative to commercial development has been on the lack of frontage on Route 1.

- e. A presentation by Tracy Beatty on the significance of the property with a review of a report of the property and history which had been completed by Winnacunnet High School students.
- f. Attempts to locate any parties which may be interested in moving and

restoring the buildings at another location.

There has been no success to date in finding an entity or individual who is interested in moving the structures to another location, save a possible interest in the barn materials. Steve Carlson has researched the process used to procure and preserve buildings in other areas. It appears that these projects are frequently funded both publicly and privately. At this time there does not appear to be an available program in this area.

The most recent house tour (May 23), as well as a photographic inventory completed previously, show that elements of the structures are starting to show some worrisome deterioration, including breakdown of brick material, significant water leaks and roofing issues. The potential consequences of continued lack of maintenance and repairs are being formalized along with approximate costs.

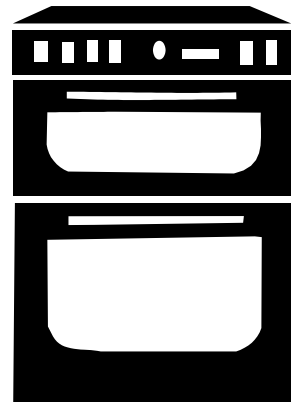
The Facilities Committee is expected to complete the infrastructure and roofing reports by September. Because of the complexity of the review of the various potential uses for the Merrill Property it is anticipated that this report will require additional time for completion.

Food Service News

Congratulations to Barbara Dykeman, Food Service Director, and the staff who work with her to provide nutritious meals for the students at LAS everyday. The group

earned a perfect score of 100 points on the food service inspection completed in the Spring!

Lincoln Akerman School will be receiving a restaurant sized range, an industrial steamer and a double convection oven that have been donated by the Seabrook School District because they converted to Natural Gas and could no longer use them.



Current Hampton Falls School Board Members

Ellen Christo, Chairwoman	echristo@sau21.org
Thomas Baker	tbaker@sau21.org
Robin Moyer Ratigan	rratigan@sau21.org
Wayne Skoglund	wskoglund@sau21.org
James Stevens	jmstevens@sau21.org

The Hampton Falls School Board usually meets on the first Thursday of each month. Hampton Falls residents are encouraged to attend meetings. Information about meeting dates and times, agendas and minutes are available on line at www.sau21.org.