

Hampton Falls School Board

We are thankful to the Hampton Falls community for their continued support of Lincoln Akerman and Winnacunnet Schools. We have had a busy and successful season since our last update and are happy to provide Hampton Falls with this Spring newsletter.

2021 Hampton Falls Election

Hampton Falls voted to approve the School Board's recommended 2021-2022 operating budget, which was both a decrease from the 2020-2021 budget and lower than the default budget. We were able to recognize savings due to some reduced operations as a result of Covid-19.

We are thankful to the Hampton Falls community for the approval to utilize unexpended funds to contribute to the Special Education, Building Maintenance, and School Health Insurance Expendable Trusts, and safeguard our school and town from potential unanticipated or costly expenditures.

Residents also elected three seats to serve on the School Board. Both Jill Swasey and Anthony Lang were elected to continue the seats filled in 2020, and we welcome Barbara Goodman to the HFSB. Barbara has served for years on local and community non-profit committees and boards. She leads the HR and Finance Organization for North America for Paques Environmental Technologies Inc., and tries to keep up with her 3rd grade son. She will be an asset to the HFSB. Greg Parish was voted to continue to serve as Chair of the HFSB.

COVID-19 Update

Many SAU 21 staff are now fully vaccinated thanks to the time and dedication of the Hampton Falls, Hampton and North Hampton Fire Departments that dedicated their time over two weekends to administer the vaccination pods. As a result, LAS has been able to extend their school day to accommodate additional in classroom hours and still maintain safety procedures. The HFSB is so thankful to all our staff for their dedication to the students and families during this past school year, and specifically to Nurse Heather Boyd for her continued diligence in maintaining a safe environment for students and staff.

Upcoming Events

May 11

HF School Board Meeting @ 6:30

May 19

Winnacunnet School Board Meeting @ 6:30

May 25

SAU 21 Joint Board Meeting @ 6

June 8

HF School Board Meeting @ 6:30

June 15

Final day of school

HFSB – BOS Collaboration

The HFSB and Board of Selectman are working to improve collaboration between our Boards. The 2021 town election polling place was moved to Lincoln Akerman School, which successfully permitted voting for all residents while maintaining safety procedures. We continue to identify opportunities to work together.

Spotlight: Competency Based Education

LAS has joined SAU 21, and the state of New Hampshire, in a shift towards Competency Based Education (CBE). CBE is the process of working with students to define and transfer their content knowledge across disciplines or to solve different and unfamiliar problems. This approach has led to more authentic measurement and reporting of student learning, as well as efficient and effective instructional techniques.

Some key teacher planning elements that relate to CBE include:

- Defined Competencies and Supporting Standards- All courses have defined discrete standards and organized them into larger groups of transferrable skills that can be applied outside the classroom.
- Use of Performance Assessments- Performance assessments allow students to apply their learning to real world scenarios. Students demonstrate learning by designing, building, and creating.
- Instructional Design- Teachers engage in 'backwards planning,' allowing the standards and competencies to determine the nature of classroom activities, and allowing teachers to tailor support based on individual student needs.
- Integrated Habits of Learning- Habits of Learning include non-academic behaviors such as communication, collaboration, self-direction, and innovation that are essential for success outside the classroom.

We look forward to continued board presentations featuring student work and teacher collaboration as a celebration of these efforts.

A Career well spent!

LAS will say farewell to five outstanding teachers this year. We have been so fortunate to have them in our community shaping our children and school for decades. We thank you all for your dedication and wish you well!

Michele McCann-Corti: 42 years at LAS

James Cutting: 32 years at LAS

Melodee Carter-Guyette: 31 years at LAS

Chris Lemerise: 27 years at LAS

Barbara Cutting: 26 years at LAS

For all School Board related updates, visit: <https://www.sau21.org/school-boards/index>

Brief Updates

Superintendent Search

SAU 21 superintendent search committee presented the Joint Board with two final candidates at the May 5th board meeting. The Joint Board voted to offer the position to Meredith Nadeau pending contract negotiations for a July 1, 2021 start date.

Class of 2025

Congratulations to all our LAS eighth graders! You have been a delight to the LAS community.

Summer

We wish you all a healthy and joyful summer season. The HFSB continues to meet during the summer, please contact us with any questions.