



*Above All, Care*

# HOPKINTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

## School Administrative Unit 66

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Superintendent's Report  
Hopkinton School District  
Submitted: Friday, June 2 for a Tuesday, June 6, 2017 School Board Meeting

The format of this report will follow the statement of positive achievements, concerns, and priorities being addressed/worked on.

### *Positive Achievements*

#### Hopkinton Education Association (HEA) Contract

Saving over a quarter million dollars is significant. But beyond savings, the HEA contract has undergone improvements that will benefit students and provide greater flexibility to administrators (the additional professional learning day, the ability to revise the secondary advisory block, and the inclusion of interventionist as a teacher role). Thank you for your efforts in this area.

#### Professional Learning/Curriculum Development/Magnificent Seven

The 2016- 2017 professional learning focused on two of the *Seven Attributes of Magnificent Instruction*: establishing a visible curriculum (ELA, Science, Social Studies, World Language, Unified Arts) and the utilization of best practices (executive functioning, social-emotional development of children and assistive technology). The program was well received by the staff. In addition, the district was first to offer the Mindful Communications for Educators course. The planning for next year's calendar is underway and is promising.

#### Work on Substance Use Concerns

From the establishment of Student Athlete Leadership Council to bringing Mr. John Kesty to the Hopkinton Family Support Team and to Hopkinton High School, to the participation in the Public Health Advisory Council, work continues on addressing substance use issues. A priority for the summer will be establishing a support group for high school students on the 89 Corridor. A substance use support group is an effective, evidence-based, recovery practice.

### *Concerns*

#### Highly Complex/Highly Variable Students

There is a significant number of students at all levels who are highly complex/highly variable. Many of these students have suffered adverse childhood experiences. Great care has and will continue to be provided. Teams are faced with difficult decisions regarding the appropriate placement of these students. Discussions regarding behavioral and academic planning are almost constant. The District has been able to adjust staffing to better address these issues mid-year. The effectiveness and cost of programming are a concern.

### Facility Project

The Facility Project has been an important part of the 2016-2017 journey. The process of defining the project is coming to a close. The cost of the necessary improvements is a concern. The amount of deferred maintenance that can be accomplished with a performance contract is also a concern. Mr. Burgess and the subcommittee work needs to be honored. The Facility Project communication plan will be an important part of next year.

### Time

Time has appeared as an item of concern in almost every School Board report. The duties and responsibilities of administrators are ever growing. The in-between nature of the size of the district may be a cause – too small for additional resources, bigger than what would be considered a small district. Is it one's ability to delegate? Is it one's ability to say no? Is it simply the new normal? All concepts that spur continued reflection.

### *Priorities being addressed/worked on*

#### *Personnel*

Personnel work is a priority throughout the year, but especially at the end of the year. Recently, personnel work has consisted of working on administrator evaluations, reviewing portfolios for all faculty/staff due for recertification, reviewing/revising/developing job descriptions, interviewing new staff members, providing information for a possible grievance, and participating in exit interviews for parting staff.

#### *End of year planning*

The duties and responsibilities connected with the end of the year are substantive. From planning the All District Staff Meeting and Award Ceremony, to developing the 2017 – 2018 professional learning calendar, to working on the end of year leadership meetings. The end of the year is a very busy time.

#### *In addition –*

The GROW Grant – implementation has begun with support from the state and developing the Trauma Care Team (TCT) membership.

Review and Approval of Purchase Orders – this practice has continued due to the budget freeze.

Community Relations – Supporting the summer Got Lunch Program, distributing flags for the Rotary Flag Project, and working through fundraising concerns.

Meeting Regulatory Requirements – providing a professional learning opportunity on the subject of bullying to meet state requirements for all staff, including the bus drivers.

Thank you for your support,



Steven M. Chamberlin  
Superintendent of Schools