

***Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District***  
***School Administrative Unit #63***

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**January 8, 2019**

The holiday break has come and gone with no additional snow days called since Thanksgiving. The custodial staff has been working throughout the break to refresh the finish on the floors and catching up on the day to day maintenance that happens throughout the school year. Thanks for all their work.

I have spent some days helping out at the middle school in working with sixth grade students in their math classes. It is a rewarding feeling to be in the classroom with these students and it gives me a great sense for the day to day operations of the school building. Communication has been sent to parents in regard to the math instruction in the classroom and I have invited their concerns to be forwarded to me at any time.

A new piece of legislation that is currently in effect is Senate Bill 453 that discusses the definition of "an adequate education." The bill proposes that the State Board of Education adopt rules for approving alternative programs for granting credits leading to graduation. The State Board of Education in their rule making has included a statement under consideration in ED1406.02

1. Certificates shall be used to grant credit for graduation.
2. The student shall submit the completion certificate to the high school where they wish to be granted credit, or they shall not receive credit.
3. Approved New Hampshire schools shall grant students with valid completion certificates high school credit leading to graduation in the area enumerated.

With an approved plan through the school counseling office, we already accept certificates and transcripts for high school credit. The plan is approved after we know who is going to be working with students, what the curriculum or activities are and there is a standard set by us in coordination with the entity working with the student. The concern here is in item number three the State Board of Education grants itself the authority to approve a program without consulting with the local school district. A parent, a for profit business, a non-profit business or any entity can apply to the state school board to be an approved program. Hypothetically, a student can earn credit for Algebra 1 by going to an approved program. There is no oversight as to who is delivering instruction, no confirmation that the student has met the competencies set out by the school district and a lack of oversight of the programs that are approved. If the rule in number three was changed from "shall" to "may" that would give local school districts the ability to ensure that entities from outside the district are meeting local standards. There will be a public hearing on this matter on February 14 with the State Board of Education.

I am meeting with the WLCTA on Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss a filed grievance in regard to the school board's decision to extend the school calendar to 178 days. My responsibility will be to respond to the presented grievance within five days.

The holiday concert at FRES was a good one that was well attended. The students in grades 1-3 did a wonderful job and the families received the performance with enthusiasm. Congratulations to our music teacher, Claudette Barker, on a job well done.

The South Central Superintendents will be meeting on January 18 for our monthly meeting.

The statewide Superintendents meeting will be held on January 25 for that monthly meeting.