

July 21, 2017

Dear North Hampton School Students, Staff, Parents, Families, and Friends,

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I write this letter of introduction to you as the new Principal of North Hampton School. My first day on the job was yesterday, July 20<sup>th</sup> and it is my privilege and honor to join the North Hampton School community. I want to thank the members of the North Hampton School Board and Superintendent Sullivan for their support throughout the search process. I have enjoyed getting to know them, the other members of the search team and many others, who have helped me to understand what makes North Hampton such a special place. I am looking forward to an exciting year building relationships with the students, staff, parents, and families as we work together to develop an even stronger sense of community.

I began my educational career 26 years ago as a Title One math and reading teacher at the Madison County Juvenile Detention Center in Edwardsville, IL. Now, that was quite an experience! For thirteen summers, before and throughout my first several years teaching, I also worked at a summer camp in the Adirondacks, the last three years as Headmaster. I met my wife Kristen, a middle school science teacher who grew up in southern New Hampshire, at the camp and we've been married for 17 years. We have two children, Sam who is fourteen and Evan, who is twelve.

I've been a school administrator, at both the elementary and high school levels, for the last fifteen years, the first ten in northern New Hampshire and the last five on the north shore of Massachusetts. Throughout that time I have always felt that it is my responsibility to create the conditions for success and to ensure that each and every student receives the highest quality education within a safe, positive and respectful environment.

As parents and families are a unique and integral part of our learning community, I am a great believer in the connection between home and school. On that note, in the coming weeks we will be hosting both a morning and evening opportunity to 'meet the Principal'. I am looking forward to meeting people, answering questions and hearing your ideas about North Hampton School. More information about specific dates and times will be forthcoming.

Also, please feel free to contact me (or Maribeth Driscoll) at the school to set up a time to chat and talk about our school. My door is open and I welcome your input and ideas. With the exception of a few days, when I'll be attending learning and leadership conferences, I'll be at the school every weekday until school begins. Again, I am thankful to have the opportunity to be part of this wonderful community and look forward to an amazing year ahead of us!

My best to you and yours,

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