

Northfield Elementary School
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Dear NES Families,

It is hard to believe that our 2016-2017 school year is soon coming to a close. It has been a busy year with several fun events still to come.

Next fall will bring some new and exciting changes for the NES staff. As you may be aware, many area schools are experiencing a decline in enrollment. NES is facing a small decline in our overall population as well some fluctuation at various grade levels. Most notably, our current fourth grade will experience a decrease in enrollment for next fall and therefore will be combined into one class, while kindergarten will be experiencing an increase in enrollment requiring two classes. As a result, the following teacher assignments will be in place for the 2017-2018 school year:

Preschool: Daphne Clark

Kindergarten: Ashley Fogle and Jen Edwards

First Grade: Lisa Wheeler

Second Grade: Amy Tibbetts and Jane Geidel

Third Grade: Nolan Kitfield

Fourth Grade: Carolyn Baskowski

Fifth Grade: Ellenjo Gries

Sixth Grade: Shannon Miner and Jay Loubris


There will also be many more staff changes to come including the retirements of Linda Chapin (librarian), Susan Wright (technology), and Clare Maguire (cafeteria). We congratulate them on their years of service and wish them well in their retirement! In addition, we want to wish Emily Arena (5th grade teacher), Hope Phelan (Art teacher), and Jessica Chmyzinski (BCBA) well in their future endeavors. Hillary Wilbur Fero will be joining us from Pioneer as our art teacher this fall. Interviews for the library position and the behaviorist position will be taking place over the next two weeks. Finally, Kristen Prophet who has been running the three-year old preschool program at Bernardston Elementary School will be joining the NES team as a part-time Life Skills teacher as well as a part-time special education teacher/Reach Coordinator.

As you can see, there are many changes anticipated for next fall. I am confident that our teachers will transition into their new roles with ease and professionalism during which time they will be given support as they continue to broaden their areas of expertise.

I want to take this time to thank all of the NES staff, students, and families for supporting me in my transition as principal of Northfield Elementary School. While I am confident that much was accomplished this first year, I also recognize there is more work to be done. Education is constantly evolving and all of us as educators rise to the challenge of meeting the ever-changing needs. On behalf of myself and the NES staff, we appreciate all of the support families provide to this educational journey.

Finally, I want to extend our best wishes to our sixth graders as they move on to seventh grade! They will be missed.

Have a wonderful summer,



Megan Desmarais