



Superintendent's Bulletin

Triton Regional School District

November 5, 2007

Sandra J. Halloran, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

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A Message From The Superintendent

The start of each new school year is exciting and fast paced. As we start the month of November and prepare to celebrate the fall holidays, this school year seems to be moving along just as quickly as those in the past.

In the one hundred eighty days that encompass a school year, there is a daunting amount of planning, leading, teaching and learning to be accomplished. I appreciate your dedication and commitment to the Triton Regional School District and look forward to achieving our school district's goals together.

I will continue to prepare news bulletins to provide parents, staff and the community with information regarding current events in the district. In addition to sending bulletins home, this and all future bulletins will be posted on the District website. We have also added a list serve, the TritonNews List Serve, to which you can subscribe to receive this monthly bulletin, as well as all other communications such as school closings, special events, etc. To subscribe, simply go to the District website (<http://www.trsd.net>) and click the "Superintendent's Bulletin" link. Follow the directions to subscribe located below the November Superintendent's Bulletin. From this page you can unsubscribe, allowing you to decide whether you receive messages from the TritonNews List Serve.

Again, I am expecting a great school year and hope everyone is as excited as I am about the future of the Triton Regional School District.

Staffing

Due to the level of support and increased funding by the three towns for the Triton Regional School District's budget, several new and/or restored positions were able to be put in place for the 2007-2008 school year. Our elementary schools now have more favorable class sizes ranging from 18 to 26 students. Seven new teachers were hired for Newbury Elementary School, three for Pine Grove School, and three for Salisbury Elementary School. Class sizes are monitored on a continuous basis. New staff was added due to factors such as, move-ins and school-choice enrollment. The high school also had three classroom teachers and a .5 physical education teacher added to their staff. Once again these additions reduced class size as well as restored physical education to grades eleven and twelve. Reading and math specialists are now providing services to students and staff at our elementary schools and the middle school. We also have a district-wide Gifted and Talented teacher.

Along with the newly staff hired for these new/restored positions, we have also hired a significant number of staff for open positions. Due to retirements, leaves of absence, resignations, and non-renewals, there are approximately 50 new teachers and 16 instructional assistants in our schools.

Everyone is working together to focus on the needs of our students and to ensure increased student achievement. I am very pleased about the people who work in our district and I know that we are moving in a positive direction.

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Profiles: New Principals

Dr. Arthur Beane, Ed.D, Principal, Pine Grove School, received his Doctor of Education Degree from Boston University. For the past six years Dr. Beane has held the position of assistant principal at the Fuller Elementary School, Gloucester, Massachusetts. He has also served as an Assistant Clinical Professor at Boston University. Dr. Beane has extensive experience in public education including holding positions as a guidance counselor, special education teacher and classroom teacher.

During his tenure at Fuller Elementary School, Dr. Beane supervised and evaluated all members of the staff. He also visited classrooms on a regular basis and, therefore, was very connected to the teaching and learning of his school. Dr. Beane has been successful in establishing strong and effective working relationships with students, parents and staff.

Jared Fulgoni, Principal, Triton Regional Middle School, received his Masters Degree in Education from Plymouth State University, Plymouth, New Hampshire. Mr. Fulgoni has been the principal of the Haverling Middle School, Bath, New York, and the principal of the Kenneth A. Brett School, Tamworth, New Hampshire. Additionally, Mr. Fulgoni has held the positions of assistant principal, director of guidance, and guidance counselor.

During his tenure at Haverling Middle School, Mr. Fulgoni focused his efforts on strengthening and supporting the middle school model, the alignment of the curriculum to the state standards and the revision of literacy instruction. His efforts brought continual improvement of state test scores, and the Haverling Middle School was recognized by the State Education Department as a “High Performing/Gap Closing School” for two consecutive years.

Kevin McLaughlin, Principal, Triton Regional High School, received his Masters Degree in Education from Salem State College, Salem, Massachusetts. Mr. McLaughlin was the assistant principal at Triton High School for the 2006-2007 school year. Prior to that, Mr. McLaughlin was the Dean at Revere High School, Revere, Massachusetts. Additionally, Mr. McLaughlin has held the positions of science teacher and adjunct faculty member at North Shore Community College.

During his tenure as assistant principal at the high school, Mr. McLaughlin has shown that he is able to handle the myriad challenges faced by a high school principal. He has shown, more importantly, that he can provide positive contributions to both the high school’s and the district’s administration as well as the school’s overall processes and atmosphere. Mr. McLaughlin’s possesses leadership traits conducive to collaboration, mediation, and strong, pragmatic decision making.

Profiles: New Assistant Principals

Elizabeth (Betsy) Boulanger, Assistant Principal, Newbury Elementary School, earned her B.S. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, a Masters of Education in Curriculum & Instruction from U. Mass. Lowell and a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from Salem State College

Ms. Boulanger has had prior experience as a fourth grade teacher and math specialist in Haverhill Public Schools. Before coming to the Triton Regional School District, Ms. Boulanger served as an elementary mathematics curriculum leader in the Wilmington Public Schools.

Upcoming Events

- **Tues., November 6th;**
School Committee Job Description/Salary Range Subcommittee Mtg.:
6:00 PM
Superintendent's Conference Room
School Committee Workshop
7:00 PM
Superintendent's Conference Room
- **Wed., November 7th;**
School Committee Meeting
7:00 PM
Triton High School Library
- **Fri., November 9th;**
No School
Professional Development Day
- **Mon., November 12th;**
No School
Veterans Day Observed
- **Tues., November 13th;**
Superintendent's Advisory Council Meeting
6:30 PM
Superintendent's Conference Room
- **Tues., November 20th;**
School Committee Communications Subcommittee Meeting
4:00 PM
Superintendent's Conference Room
- **Wed., November 21st;**
Early Release Day
- **Thurs. & Fri., November 22nd & 23rd;**
No School
Thanksgiving Break
- **Tues., November 27th;**
School Choice Task Force Meeting
5:00 PM
Superintendent's Conference Room
- **Wed., November 28th;**
Tentative School Committee Meeting
7:00 PM
Triton High School Library

Profiles: New Assistant Principals (continued)

Margaret Maher, Assistant Principal, Salisbury Elementary School, earned a B.A. from Salem State College, a Masters in Education from the University of Vermont and a C.A.G.S. in Educational Leadership from Salem State College

Ms. Maher taught kindergarten and grade one at the Great Oak Elementary School in Danvers and completed her full time Principal Internship at the Ivan G. Smith School in Danvers.

Scott Brennan, Assistant Principal, Triton Regional High School, received his B.S. in Education from Bridgewater State College and his Masters in Education from Cambridge College.

Mr. Brennan has many years of experience in the field of special education. Prior to being named Assistant Principal, Mr. Brennan was a teacher for the Alternative Community Education (ACE) Program at Triton High School.

Triton Education Foundation, Inc.

I would like to highlight one of the volunteer organizations that helps to support our school district, the Triton Education Foundation, Inc. (TEF). TEF was formed last year by a group of current and former parents, educators and other members of our community to enhance and improve the quality of the educational experience of all students across the district. TEF is dedicated to seeking funds to support innovative programming that is outside the normal school budget. TEF is a 501 (c) (3) charitable foundation.

Since its formation, TEF has been actively working with our teachers and administrators to identify needs across the district, and working with local businesses, foundations and members of the community to raise funds. Most notably, earlier this year TEF was awarded two grants totaling \$111,000 over a three-year period by The Newburyport Five Cents Savings Charitable Foundation and the Institution for Savings Charitable Foundation. The first phase of the grant will be applied to the purchase and implementation of the Student Information System (SIS) software program. This software package will allow enhanced collaboration between schools, educators, and parents in order to strengthen communication between educators and parents/guardians throughout the entire district. Once phased in, parents/guardians will be able to log on via the Triton website to view each child's schedule, progress, quiz and test scores, IEPs, and attendance records. Subsequent projects funded by the grants will focus on additional upgrades to technology programs in the District, including those in the Math and Science Departments.

TEF is focusing its fundraising efforts for 2007-2008 on **Math And Science Technology Excellence Regionally (M.A.S.T.E.R.)**. The focus of the M.A.S.T.E.R. fundraising campaign is to enhance math and sciences by funding various projects and needs and to provide additional and superior equipment and technology to the Math and Science Departments of all five schools in the district. The Massachusetts Department of Education has mandated that the class of 2010 pass a science component of MCAS in order to graduate, which also contributed to TEF's focus on enhancing the science program district-wide.

TEF is interested in receiving assistance from members of the community, for example, through volunteering on a committee, such as grant writing or alumni/ae relations, or making a tax-deductible contribution. More information can be found at TEF's website www.tritonedfoundation.org. TEF can be contacted at board@tritonedfoundation.org, by mail at Triton Education Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 752, Rowley, MA, 01969, or by contacting Beth DiMento by phone at (978) 948 7125.

District Improvement Plan

The District Improvement Plan has been completed. The plan was presented by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, Kathleen Willis, to the Triton Regional School District School Committee on September 19, 2007. Following the School Committee presentation, the plan was presented to all professional school staff and each of the three communities during the month of October. Our Administrator of Pupil Services, Christine Kneeland, joined the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for these presentations. Our principals also participated with the middle school principal, Jared Fulgoni, and the high school principal, Kevin McLaughlin, speaking about their individual school at each meeting. Elementary school principals, Dr. Arthur Beane and James Montanari spoke about Pine Grove School and Salisbury Elementary School respectively. Unfortunately, due to a health issue, Principal Sylvia Jordan was unable to join the Administrative Team to speak about Newbury Elementary School.

The District Improvement Plan is a comprehensive document that will be utilized to guide the district as we all work towards improving student achievement. Our number one district and individual school goal is to have all students reach proficient or advanced in English Language Arts and Mathematics State Standard subject areas by 2013-2014. This goal has been developed to meet the federal standard set by the No Child Left Behind Act. Although it may seem to be an extraordinarily high goal, we have embraced the need to meet this goal as to expect anything less from our students is not an option. The second goal of the plan is that Triton community members actively support the regional school district's efforts to accomplish its Vision and Mission. Our Vision states that, "Triton Regional School District is recognized for excellence in education for all students." Our Mission is to "inspire and empower students to achieve academic expectations, become responsible citizens, and demonstrate integrity in words and actions."

The District Improvement Plan includes our Core Values, Vision, and Mission as well as informational sections that provide snapshots of our district, individual schools, and our three communities. Following this information, there are the two sections that encompass our improvement targets and action plans that have been developed to meet our goals.

I would like to commend and thank all of the individuals who assisted in developing this very important document. Students, staff, parents, school committee members, town officials and community members were all part of the process. I would also like to acknowledge the time, effort, and commitment that was shown by our school principals and district administrators in making this plan a reality. A very special thank you is given to Kathleen Willis who was key in ensuring that our District Improvement Plan is a useful, comprehensive document. Her guidance, knowledge, and analytical skills were key to the process.

Don't forget to check out the district website, located at <http://www.trsd.net> for all the latest happenings. Be sure to sign up for the TritonNews List Serve so you are notified of all important events.