

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

This school year the Epping Schools and Epping School District are continuing to work on improving student learning, developing a collaborative and accountable culture, and enhancing communication building upon the work done in prior years. This year all the planning and hard work have come together. We are seeing that our efforts are connected with common purpose and rewarded with improved student learning results.

1. This past school year student proficiency for elementary and middle school students, as measured by the state assessment system NECAP, increased to 75% in reading meeting the state level and 71% in mathematics exceeding state level. These results are attributed to the alignment of curriculum to the state standards and targeted instruction for students not demonstrating proficiency.
2. This school year the schools continue to improve collaboration using professional learning teams to work on common goals, review student data, and take steps to improve student learning. This work has been enhanced by the formation of school data teams that review, analyze, and provide student data to the professional learning teams. The district also continues to work on accountability through teacher, administrator, and staff evaluation and the monitoring of student demographics, educational results, and financial statistics in the district report card.
3. This school year the district launched a new website with the intent of providing transparency in our operations, providing more information, and making it easier to find the information. Please visit [www.saul4.org](http://www.saul4.org) to access school and district events and information, the district report card, and state legislative and educational news. The district has also been working closely with Epping Television to provide school programming highlighting student work in and out of the classroom. The high school has also successfully launched the parent portal of our student database enabling parents to view student progress online. The middle school has plans for full implementation later this school year.

These past few years have taught us the importance of following a plan focused on a few initiatives supported by school and district structures, staff, and resources. This phase of our work has produced the intended results in our schools. The next phase of our work will focus on a district reform model aligning our district mission, action, and achievement. Our mission is to focus on the potential of every student and engage each to be passionate, confident learners who demonstrate competence and have strength of character to reach their highest aspirations and thoughtfully contribute to a diverse and changing world. We will need to determine what that means as a district, school, and PK-12 curriculum.

It is truly an exciting time to be an educator and I thank you for the opportunity to work in a great community. I leave you with these two questions to ponder. What are the educational experiences an Epping student must have in order to be a passionate, confident learner demonstrating competence and strength of character? What are the skills and habits an Epping student will need to thoughtfully contribute in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and be successful in a knowledge, technology, and global based society?

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