I want to warmly welcome all Principals back to school! The joy of starting a new school year is a feeling that's difficult to match...Yes, that is joy you are feeling! It's a time of renewed energy, fresh possibilities, and the promise of growth. As you set your goals and plan out your themes for the school year, give yourself permission to keep the focus on the joy of learning, the joy of working together, and the joy in your community. School principals play a pivotal role in shaping and influencing school culture. First and foremost, we lead by example. Principals serve as role models for both students and staff. Our integrity, empathy, and commitment to learning sets the tone for the entire school community. We are the champions for our school.

The duties and responsibilities of a building administrator are wide ranging and at times can feel never ending. However, as leaders, we have the ability to prioritize the work and channel the energy of our entire school community to achieve great things for our students, staff, and community. We’ve all battled through some unique and unparalleled challenges over the past few years. Below are pieces schools have always done well and which are vital to maintaining a positive and joyful school climate. As school leaders, consider ways that you can:

- **Promote Inclusivity:** There is no better feeling than being part of a group or team. Leaders must ensure that every member of the school community feels welcome and valued.
- **Celebrate Achievements:** Recognizing and celebrating achievements,
Hello Colleagues,

I hope this finds you all well rested and energized for the amazing work we get to do this upcoming school year. We are all truly blessed to work in a profession that is amazingly rewarding! I want to take this opportunity to inform you of the great things that are happening at the National level with NAESP/MPA and to remind you of the great benefit of being a member.

NAESP’s Advocacy Priorities on Capitol Hill continue to be:

1) Secure robust federal funding for programs like Title II, Part A, that support the preparation, training, and support of principals.
2) Advocate for professional development and mentoring programs that strengthen principals’ knowledge of early childhood education and provide federal funding streams for high-quality early education.
3) Reauthorize the Higher Education Act to improve principal recruitment, preparation, and retention and include provisions to boost clinical-oriented preparation to help principals better meet the day-to-day challenges in schools.

As a member of NAESP please be sure to access the wealth of information that is available to you at NAESP’s webpage. There you will find information on advocacy; SEL; trauma-informed instruction; webinars; and many more tools that can assist you in your practice and professional development as building leaders. As a member you will also have access to legal support.

Your dues plan pays up to $2 million for damages arising from professional liability and employment liability lawsuits. It pays defense costs in addition to the liability limit for professional liability lawsuits. In addition, if you are subject to a job-related due process proceeding, NAESP’s legal benefits program* will reimburse up to $1,000 of legal expenses for each year of continuous membership, to a maximum of $10,000.

NEW THIS YEAR: Is a valuable member discount benefit on many ordinary services that you may use. See www.NAESP.org for more information.

Best wishes on a successful and joyful school year!

— NAESP Member Benefits —

Back-to-School Deals and Discounts for Members
A new NAESP partnership means bigger and better savings than ever before for NAESP members. Save big on brands you know and love, like Apple, Target, and Kohl’s. Planning a vacation? Access discounts on travel, hotels, and theme parks. Plus, get deals on tech, school supplies, restaurants, gym memberships, and much more. (Note: These discounts are not available to NAESP members outside the U.S.)

Please encourage your colleagues to also be members! Together we are stronger and the MPA/NAESP needs your membership. The MPA receives a cut-back from every NAESP membership that is purchased through the MPA. These funds assist in planning the professional opportunities for you here in Maine. Spread the word about the benefits of being a member of both organizations!

If you have any questions, comments or need support please don't hesitate to reach out to me! I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. Remember: If you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life!

From the President . . . . Continued from page 1

• Encourage Collaboration: Working together adds to the collective “good” of your school community. Collaboration fosters a feeling of commitment, a sense of pride in belonging to the community, and a “we” culture. Principals can not do it alone; bring people together to share in the work!

• Foster Innovation: Teaching in an environment where innovative teaching methods and creative problem-solving are encouraged is incredibly rewarding. It generates a spark and energy in the building that is infectious, leads to dynamic classroom experiences for our students, and keeps our staff committed to our schools.

• Take an Asset-Based Approach: Educators who invest time up front in building relationships with others and learn about not only students’ but also colleagues' aspirations and strengths build lasting relationships and a classroom and school culture that fosters goal setting and growth.

As you navigate your school year, remember that you are not alone in this journey. The Maine Principals’ Association is an incredible network of dynamic, caring, and experienced leaders. Lean into our collegial bond by sharing your successes and challenges. The role of school leader can sometimes be lonely, but we often face similar challenges. Find a moment to reach out to a neighboring Principal to just say “Hello” or “Have a great day!” I know how much I appreciate connecting with, learning from, commiserating, and laughing with my principal colleagues. It’s a wonderful support system that we all are a part of! I am very proud to be serving as the President of the Maine Principals’ Association this year. Please feel free to email me at mnadeau@rsu19.net or call me at Nokomis Regional High, 207-368-4354.

Best wishes on a successful and joyful school year!
**New Faces in New Places**

**Congratulations on your new position!** If your name or that of a colleague has been omitted, please notify the MPA office so that we can recognize you in a future issue of The Maine Apprise and correct our records.

**Mike Archambault**, Principal, Noble Middle School, Berwick.
**Annie Arnold**, Assistant Principal, Mt. Ararat Middle School, Topsham.
**Christian Arnold**, Principal, Madawaska Elementary School.
**Hillary Arroyo**, Principal, South Elementary School, Rockland.
**Scott Baillargeon**, Assistant Principal, Ellsworth Elementary Middle School.
**Bruce Bailey**, Assistant Principal, Troy A. Howard Middle School, Belfast.
**Jason Bellerose**, Principal, Skowhegan Area High School.
**Justin Bennett**, Principal, Lincolnville Central School.
**Joshua Bessey**, Dean of Students-Assistant Principal, Milo Elementary School.
**Catherine Bickford**, Principal, Rowe (Guy E.) Elementary School, Norway.
**Pamela Blais**, Principal, Albion Elementary School and Fairfield Primary School.
**Sarah Blaisdell**, Assistant Principal, Scarborough High School.
**Tina Brackley**, Principal, Hussey (Lillian Parks) School, Augusta.
**Angela Brown**, Principal/Head of School, Bangor Christian Schools.
**Christina Byther**, Assistant Principal, Lake Region High School, Naples.
**Kristine Casey**, Assistant Principal, George E. Jack School/Edna Libby Elementary School, Standish.
**Dillon Clark**, Principal, Belgrade Central School.
**Justin Crosman**, Athletic Administrator, Washington Academy, East Machias.
**Kristen DalPra**, Assistant Principal, Jameson Elementary School, Old Orchard Beach.
**Gloria Delsandro**, Principal, Ashley Bryan School/Cranberry Isles School, Islesford.
**Janet Delmar**, Principal, Jefferson Village School.
**Heather Dorr**, Principal, Desert Elementary School, Northeast Harbor.
**John Dow**, Principal, Penquis Valley Middle and High School, Milo.
**Kendra Downs**, Assistant Principal, Mitchell (Horace) Primary School, Kittery Point.
**Jeremy Durost**, Athletic Administrator, Penobscot Valley High School, Howland.
**Jaime Elia**, Principal, Madison Junior Senior High School.
**John Eliot**, Principal, Telstar Regional High School, Bethel.
**Dylan Engler**, Assistant Principal, Skowhegan Area High School.
**Heidi Fairbanks**, Principal, Ella P. Burr Elementary School, Lincoln.
**Hayley Fenton**, Principal, Lewis (Ella) School, Steuben.
**Ted Finn**, Principal, Bonny Eagle High School, Standish.
**Darcy Francis**, Assistant Principal, Oxford Elementary School.
**Benjamin Goodwin**, Assistant Principal, Caribou High School.
**Christine Goulet**, Principal, Marshwood Middle School, Eliot.
**Adam Gray**, Principal, Hancock Grammar School.
**Eric Hall**, Athletic Administrator, Freeport High School.
**Joanna Hall**, Assistant Principal, Oceanside High School, Rockland.
**Michael Harris**, Principal, Medomak Middle School, Waldoboro.
**Kate Harrison**, Assistant Principal, Durham Community School.
**Sharon Haskell**, Principal, Enfield Station School.
**Nico Hatch**, Assistant Principal, Oceanside High School, Rockland.
**Tammy Hilton**, Assistant Principal, Lisbon High School.
**Chelsea Hopkins**, Athletic Administrator, Easton Junior/Senior High School.
**Matthew Faragher Houghton**, Principal, Peninsula School, Prospect Harbor.
**Jeanette Jacobs**, Principal, Wayne Elementary School.
**Christy Johnson**, Principal, Smith (Margaret Chase) School and North Elementary School, Skowhegan.
**Tiffany Karnes**, Interim Principal, Pond Cove Elementary School, Cape Elizabeth.
**Beth Kellogg**, Principal, Brown (Frank I.) Elementary School, South Portland.
**Douglas Kilmister**, Principal, Hebron Station School.
**Kerri LeSieur**, Principal, Waterboro Elementary School, East Waterboro.
**Ryan Libby**, Assistant Principal, Skowhegan Area High School.
**Matthew Lokken**, Principal, Molly Ockett School, Fryeburg.
**Zachary Lutick**, Athletic Administrator, Lisbon High School.
**Daniel Magas**, Assistant Principal/ Athletic Administrator, Bucksport High School.
**Amanda Marsden**, Assistant Principal, Morse Street School, Freeport.
**Garrett Marin**, Principal, Fort Fairfield Middle/Senior High School.
**Jamey Martin**, Principal, Oxford Elementary School.
**Cooper Marshall**, Assistant Principal, Camden Hills Regional High School, Rockport.
**Abigail Marvin**, Assistant Principal, Leonard Middle School, Old Town.
**Kayla McGee**, Assistant Principal, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, South Paris.
**Roisin McGuckin**, Assistant Principal, Smith (Margaret Chase) School, Sanford.
**Jason Mills**, Dean of Students, Penquis Valley Middle/High School, Milo.
**Shelly Moody**, Dean of Students, Belgrade Central School.
**Brandy Moore**, Dean of Students 6-12, Telstar Regional High School and Middle School, Bethel.
**Tara Morin**, Principal, Carrabec Community School, North Anson.
**Mitch Oulette**, Assistant Principal Grades 7-8, South Portland Middle School.
**David Page**, Principal, Nokomis Regional Middle School, Newport.
**Andrew Pelletier**, Athletic Administrator, Morse High School, Bath.

(Continued on Page 4)
Calling All Positive Stories!!

While we know things are very difficult right now, we think it’s important to continue to focus on the good going on as well.

Because of this, the MPA will continue spotlighting the AMAZING things going on in Maine schools. If each of you have a fun, positive, or a “Kids are GREAT,” story to share we will publish those positive stories out on the MPA website, social media, and email. Feel free to share pictures that are okay to spotlight as well.

Please e-mail your positive story and/or picture to Holly Blair at hblair@mpa.cc.

Thank you in advance for bringing smiles and positivity to each other.

The MPA is now accepting nominations for the:

**2023 Assistant Principal of the Year at the Elementary, Middle, AND Secondary Levels!**

If you know of an OUTSTANDING Assistant Principal and would like to recognize him/her for this prestigious recognition, please click on the link below and fill out the Nomination Form and submit it BY NOON ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023.

Click HERE for the AP of the Year Nomination Form.

Mikayla Stevens, Principal, Sabattus Primary School.
Kristina Swensen, Assistant Principal, Greene Central School.
Barry Terrill, Athletic Administrator, Hampden Academy.
Nathan Theriault, Principal, Scarborough High School.
Joshua Toothaker, Principal/Co-Athletic Administrator, Searsport District Middle/High School.
William Vigue, Assistant Principal/Co-Athletic Administrator, Searsport District Middle/High School.
Jennifer Vitiello, Assistant Principal, Kate Furbish Elementary School, Brunswick.
Alex Waters, Assistant Principal, Baxter Academy of Technology and Science, Portland.
Matthew Wibberly, Assistant Principal, Ellsworth Elementary Middle School.
Holly Wilson, Principal, Lake Region Middle School, Naples.
Evan Worster, Athletic Administrator, Forest Hills Consolidated School, Jackson.
Devon Young, Assistant Principal, Sumner (Charles M.) Learning Campus, Sullivan.

New Faces in New Places . . . (Continued from page 3)

Nat Ridder, Assistant Principal Grades 5 and 6, South Portland Middle School.
Susan Robbins, Assistant Principal/Athletic Administrator, Belfast Area High School.
Michael Rodriguez, Principal, Old Orchard Beach High School.
Frances Rogers, Assistant Principal, Messalonskee Middle School, Oakland.
Reginald Ruhlin, Principal, Hampden Academy.
AJ Ruth, Assistant Principal, Windham Middle School.
Angela Scully, Principal, Line Elementary School, West Newfield.
Alta Seekins, Principal, Troy A. Howard Middle School, Belfast.
Carol Smith, Principal, Milo Elementary and Brownville Elementary Schools.
Michealene Spencer, Principal, Woodland Junior/Senior High School, Baileyville.
Alyssa Stephens, Principal, Woodland Elementary School, Baileyville.
Aleah Starr, Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning, South Portland Middle School.
Rebecca Stern, Principal, South Portland Middle School.

“LIKE US” ON FACEBOOK!
Click on the link below to go to our Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Maine-Principals-Association-Professional-Division/1703592959867688

Follow us on Twitter!
Holly Blair ~ @HollyBlairMPA ~ Mike Bisson ~ @MikeBissonMPA

FREE
Job Vacancies Posting on the MPA Professional Webpage
The MPA is listing job postings for administrative positions (principal, assistant principal, dean of students, CTE directors, etc.) on the www.mpaprof.org website AT NO COST TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS!

The only thing we will need is the title of the position, your district name, the date the application closes if you have one, and the link that will take potential applicants to YOUR site.

Please email your job opening to Tammy at tmceear@mpa.cc.

Check Out the MPA Professional Division Website!
www.mpaprof.org
Great Beginnings Series For New and Nearly New School Administrators

October 12, 2023; February 1, 2024; and April 9, 2024

Click HERE to Register and for More Information.

2023 MPA Principals’ Conference

November 15-17, 2023

Wednesday, November 15

Opening Keynote with Drummond Woodsum’s Peter Felmy and Isabel Ekman

1:00—3:00 p.m.

“Opening Reception” ~ 5:00—6:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Day 2 Keynote Presentation

with Shamiel Gary

Friday, November 17, 2023

Day 3 Keynote Presentation (p.m.) with Eddie Slowikowski

Click HERE to Register and for more information.

2023 Assistant Principals’ Conference

“Back to the Basics” with Dr. Rick Jetter

~ October 22, 23, and 24, 2023 ~

Samoset Resort, Rockport

Click HERE to Register and for More Information.

Workshops

with Kim Marshall

Avoiding “PLC LITE” - Effective Teacher Team Data Work

September 19, 2023

1:00 — 3:00 p.m.

Rethinking Teacher Supervision and Evaluation

Repeat of September 21, 2022

September 20, 2023

8:30 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Click HERE to Register and for more information.

How to Stay Ahead In A World of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workshop

With Jethro Jones

Date: Friday, October 13, 2023

Time: 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Location: MPA Conference Center

Click HERE to Register and for more information.

** Proposals for the 2023 “Maine Principals’ Conference” **

We need your expertise for concurrent sessions!

November 16-17, 2023

Holiday Inn By the Bay

Click HERE to fill out the Concurrent Session Request for Proposal (RFP)

Due: Monday, October 2, 2023
MPA Photo Album

Village Elementary School
Gorham