Additionally, members were able to enjoy a comedy performance and a campfire social hour to catch up, reconnect, and see each other for the first time in months.

Thank you to all of the presenters who joined us for this great event and to you as our members who were able to attend the conference. We hope that you enjoyed the event and we look forward to seeing you again next year!

This year we hosted our 80th Annual Conference on Educational Leadership and our NHSAA Business Meeting. We were so happy to be able to celebrate with everyone this year in-person at the Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa in Whitefiled, NH.

Members were able to network, meet business partners, and hear from our wonderful presenters. This year our guest speakers covered a variety of topics including: Challenges and Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, Title IX Changes, Education in a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, & Ambiguous World, Improving Performance & Overcoming Anxiety, and much more!

Additionally, members were able to enjoy a comedy performance and a campfire social hour to catch up, reconnect, and see each other for the first time in months.

Thank you to all of the presenters who joined us for this great event and to you as our members who were able to attend the conference. We hope that you enjoyed the event and we look forward to seeing you again next year!

Networking
We hope everyone had a great time networking with colleagues! It was so nice to see all of you again.

Dinner and Awards
Congratulations to all of the award recipients. Thank you to everyone for your hardwork and dedication to helping our NH students.

Presentations
Thank you to all of our presenters at the conference. We had some great topics this year. We hope you enjoyed them!

Collaboration
Thank you again to everyone who made this great event possible. It was so nice to see each and every one of you! We look forward to next year.

We hope to see you all again next year!
Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2021 Summer Edition of the NHSAA Newsletter. In this edition, we will welcome our new President, Dr. James Morse, read some of the highlights from the Annual Conference held this past June in Whitefield, and explore news and upcoming events. Even given the difficulties of this past year, there was much to celebrate with our members and so much to look forward to with a new school year ahead.

I hope that you find the information here, and in our weekly messages, helpful and informative. Regardless of the challenges that lie ahead, please know that we stand ready to assist and support you in your work.

Have a wonderful summer’s end and a great school opening this fall!

Take care,
Carl

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”
~Malcolm X
Additionally, throughout his career, Jim has had many successes. He was awarded 2018 Superintendent of the Year for his outstanding contributions to the school district. His colleagues have only great things to say about him and his support. This has helped drive him in his mission to help all students.

In his spare time, Jim enjoys art, motorcycling, and traveling. His goal is to act as a role model for those reared in poverty, abuse and alcoholism that education provides a path to a rewarding life for oneself and future generations.

Welcome Jim! We are glad to have you as part of the team!
Congratulations Kimberly Organek!

Ms. Kimberly Organek

Kimberly is proud to be part of the Hudson School District as Assistant Superintendent, after spending five years in Manatee County, Florida. During her tenure in the School District of Manatee County, she served as an Instructional Specialist, Turnaround Principal, Director of Elementary Curriculum and Professional Learning and Executive Director of Curriculum and Professional Learning. Prior to relocating to Florida, she had been a principal in Manchester, NH.

Mrs. Organek holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Emerson College, M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from Boston College, a CAGS in Educational Leadership from the University of New Hampshire and is currently enrolled in the University of Virginia’s doctoral program in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on Innovation. Throughout her career, she taught fourth through eight grades and has been assistant principal and principal at the elementary and middle school levels in the Timberlane/Hampstead, Hooksett, and Manchester school districts. Before beginning a career in education, she worked as an actress in New York City, as well as toured across the United States and Canada. She and her husband Steve, a music teacher, are the proud parents of two young daughters and golden retrievers Bailey and Buster.

Marston Scholarship

In 2005, a scholarship was created in memory of a distinguished educational leader Charles Marston. This $2,500 scholarship is available to any current New Hampshire school administrator enrolled, or soon to be enrolled, in an accredited graduate program.

On behalf of NHSAA, congratulations Kimberly! We look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish in the future!
NHSAA Executive Board Meeting Dates

Friday, September 10, 2021 (Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH)
Friday, October 1, 2021 (Primex Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, November 5, 2021 (Primex Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, December 10, 2021 (Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH)
Friday, January 7, 2022 (Primex Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, February 4, 2022 (Primex Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, March 4, 2022 (Primex Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, May 13, 2022 (Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH)
Friday, June 3, 2022 (Primex Building, Concord, NH)

**All meetings will be held in-person unless otherwise noted**

NHSAA Statewide Meeting Dates

Friday, September 10, 2021 (Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH)
Friday, October 22, 2021 (Health Trust Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, December 10, 2021 (Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH)
Friday, January 28, 2022 (Health Trust Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, March 18, 2022 (Health Trust Building, Concord, NH)
Friday, May 13, 2022 (Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH)
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SAU #85
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Scott Laliberte (2023)
SAU #12
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Ronna Cadarette (2024)
SAU #58
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SAU #93
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Lakes Region
Krik Beitler
SAU #73
(603) 527-9215

North Country
Marion Anastasia
SAU #36
(603) 837-9363

South East
Saundra MacDonald
SAU #54
(603) 332-3678

Thank you for supporting NHSAA!
Nominate a Superintendent of the Year

The NHSAA Superintendent of the Year committee is charged with selecting a colleague to represent New Hampshire in the AASA National Superintendent of the Year program. The purpose of this letter is to invite you to nominate a candidate for consideration by your committee. We encourage you to nominate a colleague who meets the needs of their students by demonstrating communication strength, a commitment to professional development and growth, and significant community involvement. To assist in our nomination, please consider that the candidate will be evaluated on the following national criteria: leadership for learning, communication skills, professionalism, and community involvement. The nomination/application procedure is only available online. Go to http://soy.aasa.org/. Please register to nominate your candidate or login if you have already registered.

Nomination Instructions

Once on the page, click on the Nomination button. If you already have an account, please log into the system. If you do not have an account, you will need to sign up and register. Once you register, you will be redirected to the nomination page. Enter the requested information for the superintendent that you would like to nominate (you may nominate yourself if you meet the specific criteria) and describe why you believe your candidate will be an excellent AASA National Superintendent of the Year. Click submit to finalize your nomination.

All nominations must be completed by September 3, 2021

If you have any questions about the nomination process, please contact Alyssa at alyssa@nhsaa.org
“The Obstacle is The Way” – the theme for our 80th Annual Conference on Educational Leadership and Business Meeting seems to have captured the events of the last year, and the emerging opportunities of the coming year.

As systems leaders scramble to stay abreast of guidance and prepare for the implementation of those multiple reopening scenarios, plans seem to continue to evolve as anticipated. Systems leaders continue to be agile and courageous in this volatile educational environment- balancing the curriculum changes and uncertainty around Divisive Concepts, the uncertainty of School Vouchers, and the uncertainty of the pandemic that continues to plague our country.

In addition, there is no better theme to capture this most recent legislative session than the theme of our Annual Conference: “The Obstacle is the Way”. This completely partisan session has created a number of obstacles for public education, yet those obstacles will help us map the pathway ahead. We can utilize our creative energies to overcome them, or we can let those obstacles stand in our way and allow them to impede the progress of our work with students, families and communities.

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The voucher system may cause our educators to recognize the importance of personalizing each child’s learning experience as a means of tangibly demonstrating to parents and families that we do value each child and appreciate the opportunity to work with them each day.

Much of the proposed legislation was under the guise of “enabling legislation”. We have an opportunity to embrace these enabling pieces to demonstrate that our public schools are worthy of local support, that they are indeed innovative, creative, and the bedrock of our democracy.

As suggested by Ray McNulty at our conference, we can be the agents of change, or will become the objects of change. Courageous leadership is what our members have demonstrated with grace and effectiveness during this last year and a half. Some have stepped out of a comfort zone that has been the most demanding test of a career. All however, have succeeded in growing and collaborating at a level that begs continuing as we accept the new challenges, and experience the power of collective actions and supports.

New laws around Charter School leases, curriculum, rights of private action, right to know, and special education dot the landscape with challenges and obstacles that will become the way in the coming months.

We remain grateful for the generous support of our Business Partners, the high retention rate, and the attractiveness of our program to aspiring partners. We appreciate you conducting business with them and offering them audience at your regional meetings and in your districts. Many of them state that our respect and treatment of them is second to none in the associations they deal with on a regular basis. They not only enjoy the business opportunities, but the relationships that they are building over time. We hope that you will continue to involve them in your discussions and considerations for their products and services.

Finally, as we embark on another school year, I continue to be honored to be surrounded by so many exceptional educational leaders, am grateful for the work of Team NHSAA and want to thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you.

Thank you,

Jerry

“Education is the most powerful weapon that we can use to change the world.”
~ Nelson Mandela
Membership Corner

As a regular feature in the Champions for Children newsletter, we would like to share any appropriate news about members in order to promote communications, friendship and networking.

Please feel free to call us at (603) 225-3230 and share some information for the next issue. We are interested in job changes, special recognitions or personnel news that you would like to share.

Membership Renewal

Please remember to renew your NHSAA memberships! We have great membership opportunities for everyone. Below are our membership choices:

~ NHSAA Membership
~ SSC Membership
~ Legal Fund Membership
~ Season Tickets
~ EdjobsNH Membership

The 2021-22 Membership runs from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

NHSAA Mentors

If any member would like to be a mentor to a new school administrator during the year, please email Dr. Carl M. Ladd at carl@nhsaa.org

Professional Development

We have some great professional development opportunities available throughout the year! All events will be in-person unless otherwise specified.

To learn more about our events, visit our website at www.nhsaa.org and click on the “Professional Development” tab at the top of the page. You will then be directed to our Professional Development brochure for the year!
Welcome to summer 2021. It has been a different summer, as I am sure we all agree. We set records for July’s rain amounts in some areas of our state; the Tokyo Olympics 2020 went forward with a few surprises, many victories; pandemic precautions were lifted only to be reconsidered as the global then national and now local numbers change. July 2021 also saw Sir Richard Branson then Jeff Bezos head off into space in their respective spacecraft. I remember telling my grandmother about Neil Armstrong’s and Buzz Aldrin’s first steps on the moon in July 1969. She thought I was telling stories from a comic book. Could you imagine her reaction to my story about July 2021’s space travel?

Summer months often provide a time of reflection. Undoubtedly, with some of the recent legislative actions, school districts are reviewing their school board policies, school budgets, curriculum, and school reopening plans. New Hampshire’s mantra of “local control” means that school communities and their families are facing health and safety decisions and school choice decisions while school leaders and their school boards do all they can to ensure families and staff feel confident returning to their schools.

Summer 2021 was busier than other summers, without a doubt. Those times of reflection likely were shorter as everyone considered their summer programs while planning for the upcoming new school year.

These reopening challenges are real, but New Hampshire school districts’ responses during this past year and a half showed their communities that their school leaders and their school staff are creative and attentive in meeting the needs of individual students and their families. Flexibility and accountability toward meeting those needs have been remarkable. Moving forward into this next school year, school teams still have their work cut out for them as everyone tries to balance the wishes of their community to go back to “normal” while considering professional guidance from health experts.

During these next months and during the school year, NHSAA invites you to take advantage of some of the resources available through our organization, specifically the Student Services Center (SSC). SSC provides technical assistance to NH school districts regarding the implementation of special education programs and student services programs. Member districts receive weekly updates on issues at the national, state, and local levels that are of common concern and interest to members. Please visit our NHSAA website to view more “about us” and specifically the Student Services Center. Membership based on student enrollment is reasonable, especially if districts also are Primex Property and Liability members. NHSAA appreciates their support of Primex members who are entitled to a 50% discount off their membership fee.

Thank you for all you do to ensure your students, their families and your staff are safe while meeting the demands you face as educational leaders. Theodore Roosevelt said, “Believe you can and you’re halfway there”. New Hampshire school leaders have proven though that their grit and determination meet and exceed expectations.

With gratitude and kind regards,

Jennifer
Get to know the NHSAA Staff

Kymra Kurinskas
Event & Marketing Manager

Kymra was born in Boston, MA but grateful to her parents for moving to Meredith, NH (Go Lakers!) at the age of 6. She spent most of her young life in choir and theatre, and dreamed of becoming an actress until she realized that meant she had to leave New Hampshire, which she was not interested in doing! She tries to stay involved in local theater whenever and wherever she can, and she did some work with WMUR and the Palace Theatre in the mid 2000’s.

In 2009, she was contact by a recruiter to work for Staff Development for Educators in Peterborough, which sparked her love of educators and creating meaningful PD experiences for them. SDE’s founder, Jim Grant, passed away in 2016, and in 2017 she founded and manages a scholarship for a Conval Senior in his memory. Kymra and her husband have been together for 21 years, and have one daughter, Juliet, who is 10 years old. They got a dog from New England Lab Rescue back in 2019 named Willow, who they did a DNA test on to find out that she is zero percent lab. However, it’s fine because they are dog people and love her regardless.

Kymra is an avid reader and her motto is “so many books, so little time”. She particularly loves sci-fi (time travel!) and historical fiction. She became a runner, albeit later in life then some. During the last years when the gyms were closed, she started running longer distances including a 6 mile run on the weekends. She has been to hundreds of concerts, and Duran Duran has been her favorite band for 37 years. She has seen them 7 times so far, and is eagerly awaiting her 8th (whenever that will be!). She also enjoys baking, and has created what she has been told is a really good Browned Butter Toffee Chocolate Chip Cookie recipe.

Kymra’s favorite food is bacon. The crispier the bacon, the better! She usually bakes hers in the oven so she can snap it in half. Its heavenly!

Kymra’s favorite thing about working for NHSAA is the people. She came into education mid-way into her career, and educators are her tribe. She has so much respect for them, so it’s very rewarding for her to be able to work to support administrators who are impacting the lives of so many teachers and students with the important work that they do.
NHSAA Business Partners
Thank you to all of you!

NHSAA Diamond Business Partners

NHSAA Platinum Business Partners

NHSAA Gold Business Partners

NHSAA Silver Business Partners

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