The New Hampshire School Administrators Association, in coordination with the American Association of School Administrators, has announced that Mr. Winfried Feneberg is the New Hampshire Superintendent of the Year for 2021. Mr. Winfried Feneberg, Superintendent of Schools for the Kearsarge Regional School District (SAU #65) will receive a special award during the AASA National Conference on Education held virtually in 2021.

Winfried was selected for this honor by a panel of his peers and from a distinguished group of nominees. Dr. Lorraine Tacconi-Moore, retired Superintendent of SAU #24 noted that “Winfried is a valued colleague to many educational leaders across the region and state as he willingly shares ideas and innovative programming from his district. In short, Winfried Feneberg is a professional, innovative, and caring leader and deserves the honor of Superintendent of the Year!”

Winfried was born and raised in Schwabmünchen, Germany. After earning his Master of Education (Staatsexamen) degree in 1986 with a double major in English and School Psychology, he moved to the United States to pursue a CAGS degree from Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Winfried started his administrative career as the Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services at Timberlane Regional School District. He later served as the Director of Special Education in Hampstead School District, where he was later promoted to Assistant Superintendent of SAU #55. From there, Winfried became the first superintendent of SAU #95 (Windham, NH) from 2013-2015. In 2015, he then became superintendent of Kearsarge Regional School District (SAU #65), where he currently remains today.

Winfried currently serves in the Executive Board for the New Hampshire School Administrators Association. Additionally, he serves on the Governing Board of American Association of School Administrators and as a Board Member for the New England School Development Council (NESDEC). As a member of the Rotary Club of New London, he contributes to various benevolent causes in his community. He recently was nominated to the New Hampshire Student Transportation Association (NHSTA) Board of Directors as a representative of superintendents and educational leaders in the state. He previously served as a Board member for the Center for Life Management (CLM) in Salem, NH, as well as for the Southeastern Regional Education Service Center (SERESC).

Winfried is currently residing in New London, New Hampshire. He is married to his wife Jill, who recently retired from a 36-year career as a teacher and literacy specialist. Winfried and Jill have one daughter, Hannah, who currently teaches 1st grade at Bakie Elementary School in Kingston, NH. Winfried enjoys the great outdoors with his two dogs Sophie and Lily in his free time.

Dr. Carl M. Ladd, Executive Director of the New Hampshire School Administrators Association stated, “Winfried is an outstanding representative of many school superintendents in our state who work every day in support of public education. He is an innovative and caring leader and is a strong advocate for students and their families and is truly a Champion for Children.”
Politics aside, we must focus on the ship sailing smoothly in heavy waves. That effort requires close attention to attempts of the legislature to overreach into the policy making arena, a responsibility of local school boards and communities, when it comes to our system of public schools.

New Hampshire is facing an unprecedented assault on public schools through a number of bills focusing on “school choice” – through expansive and unregulated vouchers (state and local), broad “school choice” along the lines of what we see in our neighboring state of Massachusetts, and continued efforts to undermine funding and equitable access. Please know that your active involvement and advocacy, along with that of NHSAA, provides us the best opportunity to “right the ship” as it continues to sway mightily through the remaining weeks of this legislative session. Thank you to all NHSAA members for being ready for “all hands on deck” calls in the coming weeks.

The impact of COVID-19 on our lives, schools and communities has created challenges and far too many opportunities for our administrators to learn all it takes to keep your children, staff, school, and community moving in a positive education direction. I want to thank every NHSAA member for the strong effort, perseverance, expertise, passion and compassion that I observe daily as you care for your school community. Your efforts are “righting the ship” for your entire community. New Hampshire is fortunate to have outstanding school leaders serving our children during these challenging times.

As February gets underway, know that your association is working powerfully together to “right the ship” in advocacy and to create professional learning opportunities for the future. I’m so thankful for our NHSAA members’ effort and role in making huge progress for the education of our children!

Respectfully,

Dr. Carl M. Ladd
NHSAA 2020-2021 Executive Board

Executive Board

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Pierre Couture
SAU #04
(603) 774-5555

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South West
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Virtual CMTC20 ~ Shifts Happen!
34th Annual Christa McAuliffe
Transforming, Teaching & Technology Conference

The 34th Annual Christa McAuliffe Transforming, Teaching, & Technology Conference (CMTC) was scheduled to be held November 30-December 2, 2020 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Downtown Manchester, NH. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the fact that ISTE moved their national conference to coincide with our original dates, we “shifted” our dates to January 11-15, 2021 in order to allow the Steering Committee some extra time to find a “home” for CMTC, as well as to not conflict with ISTE for anyone who may have wanted to attend that event as well.

The CMTC conference is well-known for showcasing the sharing of relevant teaching and learning strategies that incorporate the latest and greatest technology resources currently being used among educators. In these historic and trying times, this event continues to be a teacher favorite by serving as a forum for exchanging technology-based tips & tricks, instructional strategies, management techniques, technical solutions and success stories that resonate in today’s current learning environments, as we know there are many different environments in which we are teaching and learning today. In keeping with our “Shifts Happen!” theme, we did reach out to our speakers who had submitted sessions in early spring allowing them to “shift” their focus to one that would focus on the current landscape of teaching within a pandemic, and how technology can both assist in that process while keeping in mind the balance of screen time on young learners.

Virtual CMTC20 ~ Shifts Happen! Keynote Speakers

We had originally secured both Ray McNulty and Kate Darling as the CMTC20 Keynote Speakers. As time went by the Steering Committee determined that the content should better reflect the current climate, and we have asked Kate Darling to hold the CMTC21 dates (November 29 – December 1) to deliver her Keynote on Artificial Intelligence (which sounds fascinating!)

Our opening Keynote on Monday afternoon was a pivot to a panel of local educators and experts on the topic of “Shifts Happen: New CBE Opportunities with Remote Learning” with Rose Colby, Karin Hess, and Daniel Joseph.

Rose Colby is nationally recognized Competency-Based Learning & Assessment specialist. She is a Talent Cloud Fellow for 2Revolutions, and she is a member of the National Advisory Board and contributor to CompetencyWorks. She has served as the Competency Education Consult for the NH DOE and is the author of two books: Competency-Based Education: A New Architecture for K-12 Schooling and Off the Clock: Moving Education from Time to Competency.

Karin Hess is a former classroom teacher and school administrator with over 40 years’ experience in curriculum, instruction and assessment. She is the author of the Hess Cognitive Rigor Matrix and A Local Assessment Toolkit to Promote Deeper Learning. Dr. Hess is recognized internationally as a leader in developing practical approaches for using cognitive rigor and learning progressions as the foundation for curriculum design and assessments at all levels.

Daniel Joseph is the founder of CBE Solutions, an organization that supports districts in the strategic transformational shift from traditional, time-based education to personalized competency-based systems of teaching and learning. Prior to founding CBE Solutions Daniel supported districts around the country in developing personal mastery systems of learning for Marzano Research and Reinventing School Coalition. Daniel teaches graduate level courses as an adjunct faculty member at SNHU and St Joseph’s College of Maine.
Virtual CMTC20 ~ Shifts Happen!
34th Annual Christa McAuliffe Transforming, Teaching & Technology Conference

Our Closing Keynote on Thursday afternoon was delivered by Ray McNulty on the topic of ‘Education in a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous World’ or ‘VUCA’ – it was very timely and well-received!

Ray McNulty is the President of the National Dropout Prevention Center and Successful Practices Network and is also a Senior Fellow to the International Center for Leadership in Education. Prior to that he was Dean for the School of Education at SNHU and was a past president for the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. He is an author of ‘It’s Not Us against Them - Creating the Schools We Need’ Ray has been a teacher, vice principal, principal, superintendent, and also served as Vermont’s education commissioner.

Solution Partners, Participants, and Fun ~ Oh My!

Going virtual meant finding a platform that could both host our Keynote and Concurrent sessions but also provide a place for our Solution Partners to connect with the CMTC participants. Our Steering Committee researched the various options and used a combination of Zoom (Concurrent Sessions), Remo (Keynotes & Networking), and Sched (Accessing Zoom, Remo & Agenda). Each day offered Networking, Fun & Prizes breaks in Remo that contained Ignite videos, a Wellness break, Meet & Greet time with the Solution Partners, and a chance to win a $25 Amazon Gift Card. Remo enables some face-to-face interaction using the webcam and mic, so participants used the Meet & Greet time to work on the Scavenger Hunt card which helped enter them into the various raffles that were being offered by the conference sponsors, partners, and Solution Partners.

We could not have executed the event without the support of our wonderful Solution Partners! Please check out their products and services to see how they can help support your schools and districts!

Platinum:

Gold:

Silver:

Bronze:

We are looking forward to seeing everyone (hopefully) in-person at the DoubleTree in Manchester on November 29 – December 1st for CMTC21!
Associate Director’s Message

By Jerry Frew

The opportunity of contributing to this newsletter provides the stimulus for reflecting on what is easily the most difficult year of my life, both personally and professionally.

On a personal level, I am fairly certain there is never a greater pain than experiencing the loss of a child. Ryan was an awesome dad of three little children, and at age 40 was taken from them much too soon. He was a husband, a brother, an uncle, role model, mentor and friend. As educators we must remember that every day in our schools, there are those children and adults who suffer loss, and teaching and learning are not in the forefront of their thoughts. The pandemic has created its own sense of loss, in many other ways than the death of a loved one. Loss of valued rituals, traditions, family activities and so much else has caused grief in a variety of ways. Recovery from those losses is not measured in days, weeks, months, or maybe even years.

Each recovery is individual, and it is the understanding and support of others over long periods of time that will help those in pain heal slowly, and at their pace. Please remind your staffs that the greatest gift to their students and families is time. Perhaps even aside from saying “If there is anything that we can do, just let us know”; staff could simply say “I know this is a difficult time period for you, please take all of the time that you need, and let us support you along the way”. Permission to grieve is a powerful tool.

Professionally, our Association membership has faced its most difficult year in a lifetime. Demands are hourly, and uncertainty runs minute-to-minute. It is almost like having to make a storm related decision daily for 9 months, and we all know how stressful that is!! That said, our members continue to demonstrate strength, compassion, understanding and balancing the needs of many, while respecting the needs of individuals.

Our legislature has experienced significant changes, and of this writing there still remains a high degree of uncertainty as to how they will conduct their business in the months ahead. We are now tracking close to 130 Legislative Service Requests. It will be a challenging few months and we will call upon you - their constituents - to help them understand the opportunities and consequences of their actions.

Our Business Partners program remains solid and requires a different approach to building and sustaining those relationships in a remote environment. That said, there is enthusiasm for continuing with us, and we ask that you allow them a simple presentation to hear what they have to offer for tools to support the vision and mission in your districts.

In education we enjoy the unique opportunity to start a “New Year” twice each year. As an Association, let us celebrate the opportunities of 2021 by focusing on the positive as we rebound from an unprecedented time in our careers, promoting the good of public education, and continuing to support each other as we have done throughout this past year. One of my positive thoughts is the privilege of working with a talented and dedicated team at NHSAA under Carl’s leadership.

In the words of Ryan Frew: “There is no greater reward than knowing that you have had an impact on someone’s life journey.” We do not need to be Herculean in our efforts each day. That is impossible. Each day we simply need to be the wind to support and lift the dreams of others, the rest will take care of itself.

Peace and happiness in 2021.

Respectfully,
Jerry
Membership Information

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) 225-3220 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.

NHSAA Mentors

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

Change of Contact Information?

Be sure to notify us of any changes in your contact information including address (school and home), phone numbers, and e-mail address. Contact us at (603) 225-3230 or email Alyssa LaFoe at alyssa@nhsaa.org

Updates, Information, and Resources

My AASA Member Portal, or “Where School Leaders Link to Success,” is an informative and accessible online resource that offers insight and reaction to contemporary issues facing our nation’s school administrators.

From Superintendent success stories to member blogs and the latest expert advice on the most difficult issues, experience this online community by going to www.AASAconnect.com for more information.

National Conferences

The AASA National Conference schedule through 2021/22 year is as follows:

AASA National Conference
Social Emotional Learning: Focusing on the Total Child
February 18-19th
Held Virtually
What a difference a year makes as we think back on our New Year 2020 resolutions. No one could have imagined that March 2020 would be such a turning point for our personal lives, our businesses, our educators, our school districts and our communities. Now in winter 2021, wearing masks and keeping our distance while working and learning seem almost normal. These months of uncertainty will end at some point with warmer spring weather, vaccines, and better health for all. In the meantime, thank you for all you do on behalf of your students, their families, your staff members and your colleagues. Even during these challenging times, New Hampshire’s educators continue to be the professionals for which our Granite State is recognized!

As did all professional organizations, the NHSAA Student Services Center pivoted to meet the needs of our members and our school communities. Governor Sununu’s Executive Orders #48 & #64 reminded school districts of their obligations to provide FAPE to students with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Executive Order #48 also required school districts’ special education teams to meet on each individual student within the first 30 calendar days of the 2020-21 school year. Teams had to evaluate student progress, determine need for compensatory education while ensuring each student received services as outlined in IEPs. This was a monumental task for many special education teams just returning from summer break. The NHSAA Student Services Center Director worked with other associations, the NHDOE, special educators, practitioners and parent advocates to identify ways of adapting special education programming to meet the needs of children and staff within safest setting.

Our respective organizations developed guidelines and training videos for virtual meetings, to help streamline the special education process, to complete the required special education paperwork and to ensure compliance with the Governor’s Orders. Even with so many variables when providing instruction in-person, remote, hybrid, our NH educators continue to rise to the occasion and adapt to meet the needs of their students.

While special education was one priority, district leaders were making sure to implement the new Title IX requirements, follow Medicaid-to-Schools requirements, follow Section 504 during the pandemic, conduct educational evaluations during remote learning. In support of Students Services personnel, the SSC Director frequently attended national webinars and discussions with other agencies and school leaders to help identify resources and guidelines to support NH district’s plans for return to school. The NHSAA’s NH Leadership Series, “Critical Issues in Student Services and Special Education” held in September for new systems leaders, addressed many of these concerns. The center gathered member feedback and updated their colleagues on best practices for student services. In December 2020, the Center conducted the annual “Special Education Costs” Survey. Districts find this annual survey summary useful when reviewing and preparing their local budgets. Please contact our office if you would like more information on those survey results or the resources gathered for our Student Services Center members.

The Student Services Center Director meets regularly with Becky Fredette and Bridget Pare of the NH Department of Education, Michelle Lewis of the Parent Information Center (PIC) and Jane Bergeron, NHASEA Executive Director. Communication has played a key role in every district as reported by both the DOE and PIC. Virtual meetings with parents are more frequent ensuring parents are well-informed. Parent responses to their children’s services have been positive for the most part. Additionally, even though parents may contact the Department of Education or Parent Information Center to share concerns, as of the January 2021, there were very few official complaints received by the DOE. The Center will continue to work collaboratively with the NHDOE and other educational agencies in support of our NH educators and their students.

The Student Services Center Director’s Message

Thank you for the privilege of being a part of the NH School Administrators Association and the Student Services Center. I continue to admire the dedication and resourcefulness of our members and their school districts as each person indeed is a “Champion for Children”. As Director, if I may be of service in any way, I look forward to working with you and welcome your feedback, questions and concerns.

Best wishes to all,
Jennifer Pomykato
We invite you to follow NHSAA on social media!

NHSAA now has new and improved social media accounts. We would encourage you all to follow us on one of our three platforms. We will provide NHSAA updates, information about upcoming events and webinars, and share current happenings in the field of education.

**Facebook**

Follow is on Facebook by using the link below:

[www.facebook.com/NHSchoolAdminAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/NHSchoolAdminAssociation)

Username: @NHSchoolAdminAssociation

**Twitter**

Follow is on Twitter by using the link below:

[www.twitter.com/nhsaa_2](http://www.twitter.com/nhsaa_2)

Username: @nhsaa_2

**Instagram**

Follow is on Instagram by using the link below:

[www.instagram.com/nhsaa_1](http://www.instagram.com/nhsaa_1)

Username: @nhsaa_1
NHSAA continues to expand its Business Partner program by vetting and researching organizations and businesses that we feel could be of value in the schools and districts that our members serve. The offerings of our current Business Partners are products and services including: Student Information Systems, Personnel and Safety Management, Curriculum and Development, Technology and Communication Strategies, and so much more! Please check out what they have to offer by clicking on their logo below. We appreciate the continued support of our Business Partners!

**Diamond Partners**

- Primex
- HealthTrust
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**Platinum Partners**

- alma
- Lifetouch
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- bts spark
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**Gold Partners**

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- Curriculum Associates
- BRIGANCE
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- imagine learning

**Silver Partners**

- T-MOBILE WORK PERKS

**Friends of NHSAA**

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