



NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 29

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Dear SAU 29 Colleagues:

Welcome to a new school year. In addition to our veteran staff, we are welcoming 35 new staff members into our SAU family. As opening day approaches, we hope you've had the opportunity this summer to relax, visit family and friends, and perhaps get a few projects done around the house. Many of you are finishing coursework or continuing with summer curriculum initiatives. Although there is still work to do before the students return in September, we anticipate all will be ready for the first day.

Many SAU 29 teachers participated in professional learning activities over the summer, providing them with an opportunity to focus on curriculum alignment, common assessment development, and best instructional practices to increase student learning. The end product will include the posting of all curricula work on First Class.

Schools open on September 1 in Chesterfield and Nelson and on September 6 in Harrisville, Keene, Marlborough, Marlow and Westmoreland. Keene kindergarten students join our older students on September 12.

We anticipate opening the doors of the new Keene Middle School on September 6, welcoming the nearly 600 students to their new state-of-the-art academic home. Staff and students will benefit from a high level of natural light, an energy efficient heating system and interactive smart boards in each classroom. The new KMS is located at 167 Maple Avenue and the new Central Office building will be located between KMS and Jonathan Daniels Elementary School at 193 Maple Avenue.

On behalf of Central Office, I look forward to welcoming all staff at our "Opening Day" activities. Because of the two school start dates and varying workshop schedules, this year we will hold a **town school** opening day on **Tuesday, August 30** at the new Marlborough School and a **Keene schools** opening day on **September 1** at Keene High School. (See enclosed schedule for further details.)

Every year has its share of challenges and the 2011-2012 school year will be no exception. But when the children arrive on the first day of school, eager to learn and share their lives with you, we owe them our very best efforts. Each child will learn and grow as the year progresses, thanks to your hard work. Together, we can make a positive impact on the lives of our students.

Sincerely,

Wayne E. Woolridge
Co-Superintendent