

School Administrative Unit #9

Realizing the full potential of each and every student

November 2018

Photo by KHS Student:
Maddi Avery

What is School For?

By Kathryn Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

What is school for? This question is at the heart of our work. Our mission as a learning organization is “to cultivate the natural inclination to learn by providing an exceptional environment in which students embrace excellence in learning for a lifetime of success.” But, what does that really mean? How do we build on student strengths and interests to motivate them to become lifelong learners? What types of knowledge and skills will our students need to succeed in their futures?

The traditional system of education, with which most of us are quite familiar, was designed to meet the needs of an industrial economy. However, we no longer live an industrial world. In a 2013 study by Oxford University,

researchers found that as many as 47% of jobs will be vulnerable to becoming automated within the next two decades (The Economist, April 24, 2018). Our current reality is that change is happening at an exponential pace. We live in a world where success is dependent upon a new set of skills. Today’s students need to be able to communicate, collaborate, demonstrate creativity and think critically to solve problems. Today’s students need to be able to ask questions and imagine new possibilities. They need to be able to make connections between ideas and apply their skills to new contexts. However, in many places classrooms and schools look remarkably similar to the way they did fifty years ago.

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SAU #9
MISSION:

To cultivate the natural inclination to learn by providing an exceptional environment in which students embrace excellence in learning for a lifetime of success.

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IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 12:	No School - Veterans' Day
Nov. 21-23:	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 24-Jan. 1:	Holiday Recess
Jan. 18:	Early Release
Jan. 21:	No School—MLK Day
Feb. 18-22:	February Vacation
Mar. 21:	Early Release *3hr PM Teacher Workshop
Mar. 22:	Teacher Workshop Day
Apr. 22-26:	Spring Vacation
May 10:	Early Release
May 27:	No School—Memorial Day
June 14:	Last day of school - Early Release *subject to change

WELCOME NEW FACULTY & STAFF

SAU #9 Office

Jackie Dziedzic – Receptionist

Conway District-Wide

Courtney Clark – Board Certified Behavioral Analyst

Sherry Marceau – Bus Driver

Saralyn Smith – Technology Technician

Jackson Grammar School

Sonya Porter – Physical Education Teacher

Cynthia Hoyt – Paraprofessional

Alison Verran – Technology Facilitator

Lesley Woodsum – World Language Tutor

Josiah Bartlett Elementary School

Joe Yahna – Building Principal

Karen Arendt – Library Media Specialist

Brittany Boyle – Paraprofessional

Alacia Farrell – Paraprofessional

Sarah Kendal – Paraprofessional

Hannah Lally – Early Childhood Education Teacher

Sandra Louis – Paraprofessional

Sara Rice – Middle School Science Teacher (6-8)

Tracey Sevieri – Cook's Helper

Tiffany Stacey – Paraprofessional

Heather Tower – Paraprofessional

John Fuller Elementary School

Lucie Baillargeon – Special Education Teacher

April Fitzsimmons – School Nurse

Lauren Kaljulaid – Elementary Teacher—Grade 5

Lauren Poutasse – Paraprofessional

Pine Tree Elementary School

Michaela Clement – Paraprofessional

Maureen Coffin – Paraprofessional

Julia Marchetti – Title I Teacher

Jessica Royer – Elementary Teacher—Grade 5

Michael Torgersen – Elementary Teacher—Grade 4

Charles Wilcoxon – Paraprofessional

Conway Elementary School

Melanie Gove – Special Education Teacher

Stevi Laird – Art Teacher & Title I Aide

Maika Phillips – Elementary Teacher (1 Year)

Anjali Rose – Project SUCCEED Site Director

Burton Withey – Paraprofessional

Crosby Kennett Middle School

Thomas Allen – Social Studies Teacher

Jayson Andrews-Foedermair – Reading Specialist

Brad Basinger – Language Arts Teacher

Jennifer Bradeen – Band Director

Kristen Carey – Language Arts Teacher

Pablo Casasbuenas – Spanish Teacher

Mickey Hardt – Comprehensive Technology Teacher

Katrina Lorusso – Science Teacher

Hayley Moore – Paraprofessional

Jade Palma – Social Studies Teacher

Julie Van Dyne – Health / FACS Teacher

MWV Career & Technical Center

Alison Bickford – Culinary Arts Teacher

Thomas Bruno – Health Science Technology Teacher

Mary Donovan – Sous Chef

Kennett High School

Bernie Chase – Custodian

Nicki Chewning – Director of Eagle Academy

Vincent Dude – Mathematics Teacher

Brian Godfrey – Custodian

Jennifer Higgins – Paraprofessional

Cynthia Jones-Whitcher – Career Dev. Suppt. Personnel

Thomas Kuncheria – Social Studies Teacher (1 Year)

Harley Lowd – Campus Monitor

Christopher McCracken – Student Safety Coordinator

Jennifer McHone Villalobos – Spanish Teacher

Mark Memoli – Paraprofessional

Hattie Perkins – English Teacher

Jessica Reed – English Teacher (1 Year)

Dale Whittredge Sr. – General Maintenance Person

Jennifer Wiggin – Clerical Aide—Main Office



What is School For?

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In SAU9 we are committed to achieving our vision of realizing the full potential of each and every student. Achieving this vision will take the efforts of our collective community. Each of our schools has established aligned goals that are specific to their needs. We continue to commit our resources in a focused manner; providing rich professional learning opportunities for our staff that will allow them to develop expertise and achieve the stated goals. This fall we have focused on building understanding around the components of a strong, local system of assessment. Educators are learning how to design and use high quality performance assessments. They are evaluating the assessments they are using, reflecting on the information they provide, how that information is used, and what that information tells us about student growth and achievement.

We also know that the development of strong social emotional learning skills is critical to the success of our students. Empathy is a skill that develops over the course

of our schools we are developing systems and structures that will support the development of strong social emotional skills in our students.

“Our education system must help students develop into eager learners who pursue their unique passions, ask questions, and work collaboratively to solve complex problems.”

of a lifetime, but takes practice. It is at the core of our ability to communicate. Curiosity will lead to students asking new questions and the ability to bring unique perspectives to ideas to connect them. Research shows that when curiosity is piqued, learning and memory are affected positively. In each

So, what is school for? The students in our schools today will be the scientists, doctors, engineers, artists and leaders of the future. Our education system must help students develop into eager learners who pursue their unique passions, ask questions, and work collaboratively to solve complex problems. The more uncertain the future becomes, the greater the need to critically evaluate the design of our system. As we continue the transformation of teaching and learning in SAU9, each of us has an important role to play. We can't possibly know what our future world will look like, but we do know our schools have a responsibility to make sure our students are ready for its challenges.

Getting to Know You

Josiah Bartlett Elementary School embraces big changes this year with team building and a bit of humor

Middle school welcomes 6th grade students to become 6-8

Our school's theme this year, **Getting to Know You**, tied right into our middle school activities as they started the new school year. For the first time, sixth graders are members of the JBES middle school and they started the year off with some fun team-building activities. They headed to Kennett Middle School to participate in the STEM fest, hiked Mount Willard along with the seventh grade, and learned historical facts about the Mount Washington Valley on the Conway Scenic Railroad trip to Crawford Notch. Seventh graders also enjoyed a fun day at Loon Mountain on the ropes course. Not to be left out, the eighth grade class went on our now annual hike along the Presidential Range. The Appalachian Mountain Club coordinated this great educational experience. The eighth grade team hiked from the Highland Center to Mizpah Hut where they spent two nights. What a great introduction to each other and the wonderful gifts our great outdoors provides us!



New Principal Mr. Yahna, gets advice from students

The school's Unified Arts team got everyone together during the first week with some fun activities for mixed grade levels. We all wanted to help our new principal, so everyone wrote '**Advice to the Principal**' that was made into a book. We also did some team-building games helping us to work together, learned the words to the song *Getting to Know You* so we could all sing together, shared a bit about ourselves through art work to introduce ourselves to everyone, and created a calendar of fun things for the new principal.

This led right into our **Opening Assembly** where students, parents, community members and staff enjoyed a fun afternoon of song, dance, readings and 'getting to know' everyone. We were introduced to all the new students and staff; met the leaders of our school - the eighth graders; saw a slideshow of our new principal with ... yes ... pictures of him as a kid; and our JBES dance team performed, getting everyone's feet tapping. It sure started us off to what we know is going to be a great school year.



Early Childhood Education classroom 'full' or eager new learners

We also want everyone to get to know our new **Early Childhood Education** classroom for children ages 3 and 4. This program has proven to be very successful with full enrollment achieved by August 1st. The ECE staff have created a fun, energetic, creative classroom for our youngest learners.

ADVICE TO THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Mr. Yahna,

You should paint your
fingernails pink.

ADVICE TO THE PRINCIPAL



Can you give us some
more recess plez and
can you tell all the
teachers to put on Harry
Potter on the TV
to Mr. Yahna

Personalized Learning

A student centered approach to learning at Pine Tree Elementary School

The Pine Tree School community has made it our mission to personalize the learning experience for our students in order to realize the potential of each and every one of them. This requires us to focus on real-life application of skills to new and novel experiences and incorporate student voice, choice, interest, and passion into day-to-day instruction. The photographs and information below are some highlights of our work toward personalization of instruction within a competency-based model of education.



Makey-Makey kits, planning all educational and financial components of the sixth grade trip to Boston, or the annual Invention Convention, students are applying what they have learned through hands-on, collaborative learning experiences that require them to think outside of the box!



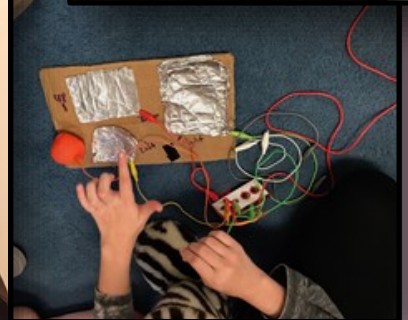
Over the past several years, there have been many instructional shifts that have allowed for an increase in personalization and differentiation for each individual student based on assessment data that illustrate where a child falls within a progression of learning. Rather than providing students targeted interventions outside of the classroom, we have shifted to providing as much core instruction as possible at the child's level. Interventions still occur as needed, but are embedded in the core program. This maximizes the amount of time children spend learning material that meets their unique academic needs. Instruction occurs within the whole group, small group, or individually and students are a part of creating their learning goals.

A critical component of personalization of

learning in a competency-based model is that of student engagement. One example of utilizing student strengths and interests to leverage engagement is the use of our sixth grade Expert Board. Sixth grade students are assigned a week in which they display their knowledge on a topic they believe they are an "expert" in and present their work to their peers. This has been a great method through which to showcase student individuality as well as build a positive, supportive classroom culture.

Throughout the building, there is evidence of flexible seating for optimal learning as well as school-wide or individual tools available to students for self-management and self-regulation. The Zones of Regulation and mindful practices are promoted daily, encouraging students to take a minute and assess whether or not they are ready to learn. This promotes self-awareness and allows opportunities for guided practice with tools that will assist students in regulating themselves in the school environment and also at home.

A competency-based model of instruction requires real-life application of skills in new and novel situations in order to best prepare students for the real world. At Pine Tree School, we have been placing emphasis on project-based learning based on student voice, choice, and interest. Whether it be creating interactive computer games using



Summer of Learning

Conway Elementary School prepares students to 'get in the zone' for learning

Incoming Kindergartners get ready for school

Many of our staff are busy throughout the summer participating in various programs with students. One of those programs is the **Summer of Learning**. This program was for all incoming CES Kindergarten students. The theme this year was getting school ready. Learning to talk with others and listen, is a social skill necessary for life. Students engaged in a variety of learning activities through a visit to the Conway Public Library, playground games, and music and river studies, to further advance their readiness for school. This was a wonderful opportunity for incoming Kindergartners to adjust to the new CES School setting and to get to know future peers, teachers and faculty members.



Cougar Camp was held at Kennett Middle School this summer. There were 30 students registered for Cougar Camp. Second through fifth grade teachers made recommendations on student participation in the program. Literacy and math skills were reinforced through center based projects. All camp learning was embedded with fun and interest based activities. Special attention was taken to align common core standards to the activities. Our weekly outings were planned for hands-on learning and enrichment. Some of those outings were: Mineral Mines, Tin Mountain Conservation Center, Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm, KMS garden and Echo Lake State Park to study the life cycle of frogs.



Cougars Recognized for Social-Emotional Learning Efforts

The Conway Daily Sun recently visited Conway Elementary School to publish a story on Mindfulness at our school. Increasingly our school is being recognized as a leader locally and nationally in the area of Social-Emotional Learning. For the past six years, Conway Elementary has been practicing Social-Emotional Learning/Mindfulness. The purpose of this focus is to help students "Get In the Zone," or Ready to Learn. We work on skills such as self awareness, self regulation and social awareness. These are critical competencies that will help students be successful in school and later on with life and job skills.

Agents of Learning

Jackson Grammar School students are on a mission...

Jackson Grammar School is bustling with activity this fall! As Agents of Learning, the student and staff mission is to learn and try new things inside and out, with peers, with those younger and older, learning from high school kids and back-to-college adults! JGS Agents of Learning work independently, with partners, and in groups. The mission includes learning from community members and the world around us, working on brand new projects and adding data to long-running experiments. Kindness to others and ourselves as we learn and grow is essential to the mission.



Extended Learning Opportunities

JGS fourth and fifth graders work with high school senior, Emily Bean, assisting in Joan Heysler's class as part of her Extended Learning Opportunity out of Kennett High School. Emily works with Mrs. Heysler and Jon Marshall (grade 6) - both were her teachers when she was in elementary school!

Community Involvement

Other community visitors to JGS included KHS Senior Nick Heysler and Superintendent Kevin Richard. Each spoke at All School Meeting. Nick told the school about his summer internship with NASA, an opportunity made possible by his involvement with the MWV Career & Technical Center's Advanced Manufacturing HUNCH Program. Mr. Richard was interviewed by sixth graders about his work as a Superintendent, his educational and career path, his love of hiking and his pride in the staff and students of SAU 9.



Collaboration

Second and third graders wrote observations in their Tin Mountain science journals, part of a visit to the paths and lakes in Crawford Notch to study the area's geology and habitats.

Mrs. Robert's second and third graders added a new harvest of data to the ongoing Tin Mountain science project in the school garden.

Buddy groups combine older and younger students for projects throughout the week and especially for reading or math games on Friday afternoons.





The John Fuller School 'Care Crew' welcomes the school year with a positive theme

The JFS Care Crew, formerly known as the PBIS committee organized our first assembly of the school year, on the second day of school. Sixth grade students introduced this year's theme, We Care. Sixth graders shared that we care about ourselves, each other, our learning, and our surroundings/things. At our November Falcon Family meetings, families will be choosing a local non-profit that they'll partner with this year. And in doing so we will extend our caring throughout the greater community.

At the first Falcon Family meeting of the school year on September 24th, all families read "The Dot" by Peter Reynolds. This story emphasizes the importance of putting forth effort, being brave, and attempting creativity even when you are hesitant. Art teacher Jessica Davis took the dot theme, "Make Your Mark and See Where it Takes You" and incorporated it into all of her art classes throughout the month of September.

Kindergarten and first grade students painted rings of dots to create their sunflowers. Second and third grade students made concentric circles with metallic dots. Fourth grade students created exploding dots! Fifth grade students learned sewing and knitting in order to find creative designs for their cardboard string art. Sixth grade students created pointalist landscapes.

Our Health & Wellness committee organized the 2nd annual Walk to School day on Wednesday, October 10th. Students, staff and families met at Cranmore Mountain Resort at 8:45am. The walk began at 9:00am and everyone was back at JFS by 9:45am. There was beautiful autumn weather and everyone remarked how the sunshine and exercise were a really great start to the day.



A. Crosby Kennett Middle School Introduces ...

As a school, we are committing to cultivating a culture of learning where students are empowered to make decisions in the best interest of their own personal growth. We believe that by providing students strong relationships with staff, choice in their learning, and an understanding of their learning needs, that they will become more engaged in their education and make choices necessary for success. Advisory/Flex time is one strategy we will use. Advisory/Flex time will provide a structure of both intervention and enrichment options for each and every student allowing them to choose based on their social emotional awareness of themselves, their needs and interests.

Advisory occurs on the first day of each week. This is an important time for staff and students to build connections

Flex Blocks

in support of learning. One important function of the advisory is to create a learner profile, which is designed to increase self-awareness around learning strengths, challenges and preferences and to set personalized goals.

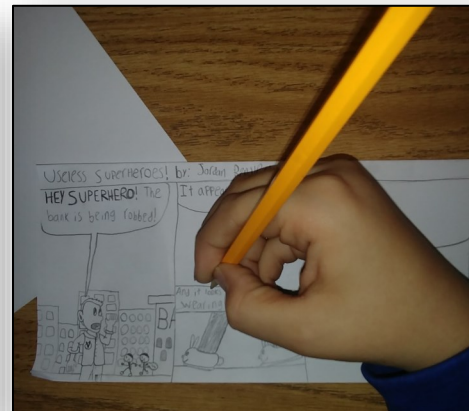
Flex time is scheduled Tuesday-Friday each week. Building wide, staff create a variety of opportunities for enrichment, extension, intervention or extra practice. Students are able to select from all choices regardless of team and based on their goals and needs. These images show a sampling of our offerings.



A student works on his Advanced Art Portfolio in a choice activity during Flex time.



Navigating social situations is challenging for middle school students. Using skits students practice skills needed to maneuver the social fabric of their lives.

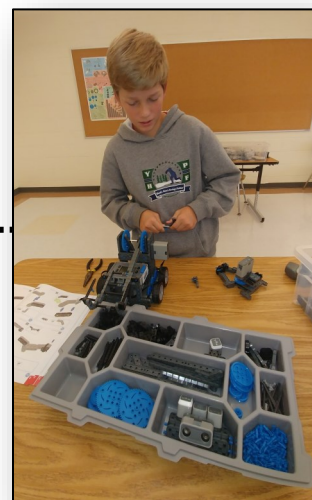


Students practice dialogue writing through comics in a school newspaper.



Engineering and design skills are in play at KMS in this Robotics Flex block.

Students practice teamwork and problem solving skills.





MWV Career & Technical Center
Rigorous and relevant career and technical education continues to prepare students for a wide range of high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers.

School to Career Summer Camps: It was a banner year for our summer camps!! We were at 99% capacity for our nine camps offered, with 145 students attending. The camps provide opportunities for us to connect with many Mt. Washington Valley businesses and industry partners as well as to expose more than half of the KMS student body to career pathways they can pursue at MWVCTC. All requests for student scholarships to attend camp were met, thanks to our many sponsors.

Culinary (Alison Bickford and Mary Donovan): All 57 Intro to Culinary students have passed the Serve Safe Food Handlers Exam with an average grade of 90. Mineral Spring Cafe opened to faculty and staff recently and served a record number of guests. Advanced students will spend the year exploring and learning about different cuisines from around the world as well as various cooking techniques and methods as they prepare meals weekly for our first ever Gourmet To Go Co-Op.

Building Trades (Paul Cail): The gazebo our students built for Pine Tree Elementary was transported and delivered to its new home in early October. Students were on site at Pine Tree to complete the necessary finish work. We are in the process of building a mountain bike shed for John Fuller Elementary and will begin work on an 8' x 12' shed for Conway Elementary. Both of these sheds will be completed by the Building Trades I class. The Advanced students will be assisting and monitoring their progress as they continue their work on the Tiny House.

Automotive (Jim Harrington): Auto 2 and Auto 3 students who are seniors received tickets for the New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association Big Raffle with support from Crest Auto World of Conway. The NHADA and local industry have partnered together to support these students and the scholarship fund that provides financial assistance for auto tech students with the NH Community College System.

CADD (Joe Riddensdale): Cole Sweeny was able to work on a special project for Mr. Moylan involving drawing a set of plans used to create additional parking spaces by the field hockey field. This should make this area much safer by reducing the number of cars parked on the roadway during games. It will also lead to additional parking for Kennett students. He created the sketch and AutoCAD drawings that Neal Moylan used in a presentation to the facilities committee.



Advanced Manufacturing (Andy Shaw): In October, eight students and Mr. Shaw traveled to the top of Mt. Washington as guests of the Mt. Washington Observatory. They had a chance to see the weather vane they manufactured last year doing its job. Once again, NASA has a lot of work for us to do this year manufacturing life critical hardware for the International Space Station. We are now the proud owners of a new milling machine, the DPM SX22P Bed Mill, which will allow us to expand our manufacturing capability exponentially as well as satisfy the incredibly strict tolerances NASA requires for the parts we manufacture.



Soaring Kennett Eagles

Demonstrating Excellence, Leadership and Community Support



Kennett Students actively participate in our local 9-11 ceremony and collect clothing for veterans

Kennett students showed their pride in our country and support of our veterans by participating in the 9-11 ceremony and also collected clothing for our homeless veterans. Band students helped distribute American flags at the 9-11 ceremony and played taps at the solemn ceremony honoring the lives lost. Members of Task Force Eagle collected clothing and worked with our local veterans and the local American Legion post to help distribute those clothes to our homeless veterans.



Audrey Orsinio Future Doctors Award of Excellence

Audrey Orsinio received the Future Doctors Award of Excellence this summer when she represented Kennett High School and the State of New Hampshire at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders, held in Boston, Massachusetts. Audrey who hopes to become a neurologist, was taught this summer by some of the greatest living minds in medicine and had the opportunity to witness a live surgery and ask questions of the doctors involved.

Future Leaders attend the Cleveland Dinner

During this busy election year Kennett students from the AP civics and government class have had a number of candidates speak with the class. These future leaders have had an active question and answer session with each candidate which has been a wonderful real life civics experience. Most recently the AP Civics and Government students met with Rep. Joe Kennedy and Councilor Chris Pappas at the Cleveland Dinner, and they reported the entire event was a great experience!

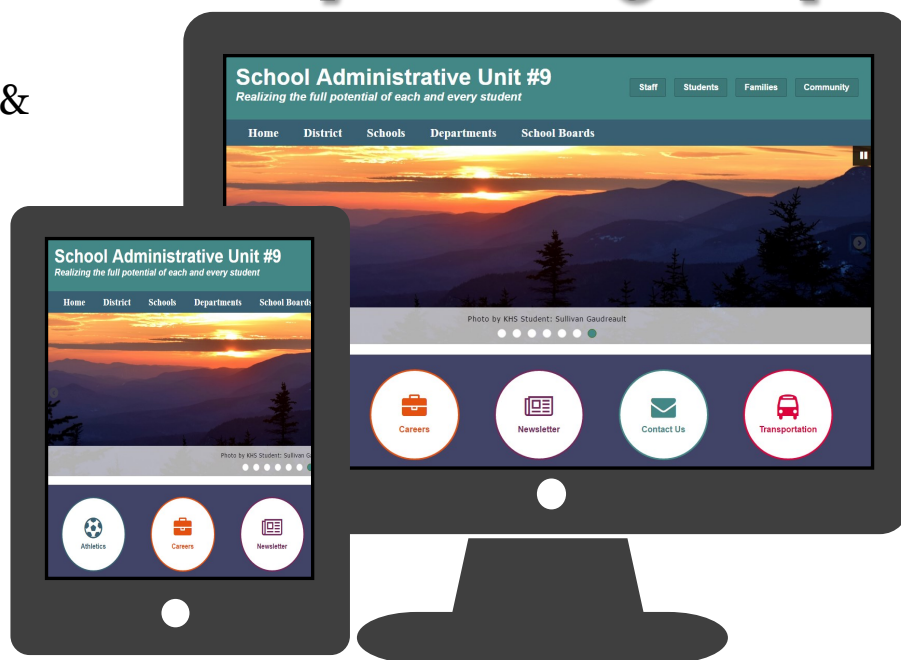


District information at your fingertips!

- ♦ School & Event Calendars
- ♦ School Board Information & Policies
- ♦ Family & Community Info
- ♦ Staff Information & Professional Development
- ♦ Student Registration
- ♦ District Contacts
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... and more!

www.sau9.org



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SCHOOL CONTACTS

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #9
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Superintendent of Schools: Kevin Richard
Assist. Superintendent: Kadie Wilson
Director of Special of Services: Pam Stimpson

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Special Services: 603-447-8951
Transportation: 603-447-3626
Fax Number: 603-447-8497

BARTLETT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Josiah Bartlett Elementary School
Principal: Joe Yahna
Main Office: 374-2331

JACKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jackson Grammar School
Principal: Gayle Dembowski
Main Office: 383-6861

CONWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kennett High School
Principal: Neal Moylan 356-4343
Vice Principal: Katy Meserve 356-4340
Main Office: 356-4343
Career & Tech Center: 356-4370
Director: Virginia Schrader
School Counseling: 356-4325
Athletic Department: 356-4335
Special Education: 356-4315

A. Crosby Kennett Middle School

Principal: Rick Biché
Main Office: 447-6364

Conway Elementary School

Principal: Brian Hastings
Main Office: 447-3369

John Fuller Elementary School

Principal: Danielle Nutting
Main Office: 356-5381

Pine Tree Elementary School

Principal: Dr. Aimee Frechette
Main Office: 447-2882