



LINK is published monthly during the school year by the Office of the Superintendent

Volume 6, Issue 1

September 18, 2009



### Reflect on Change

As the school year gets underway, it is time to reflect on the change in seasons. Summer is certainly a wonderful season of rest and relaxation—a perfect opportunity to rejuvenate our minds and spirits in preparation for the start of the school year. Autumn offers us many opportunities to celebrate the harvest and reflect on the bounty and the beauty around us.

In my remarks to staff at the start of the school year, I spoke about our goals and noted how fortunate we were to work in education. Each and every one of us will contribute each day to the life of students in Lamoille North Supervisory Union, whether we serve as teacher, support staff or administrator.

School is well underway, our mission must be the focus of our work...to work in partnership with local communities to prepare our students to become lifelong learners, gain creative and critical thinking skills and knowledge in order to become productive contributing citizens.

This year we are pleased to launch our curriculum, instruction and assessment initiative, PK-12. A curriculum council, LNSU-wide, has been established and we will soon initiate curriculum committees in the areas of math and science. Additionally, there will continue to be professional development opportunities in support of our improved student achievement efforts. If you are asked to participate in our committee work, please do so. Your contributions are important to the overall success of our work and to ensuring that we reach our mission and attain our goals.

As we go about our daily work, remember to begin each day for the remainder of the school year with our mission and goals at the forefront and with enthusiasm and commitment! Let's work together to achieve our goals!

*Dr. Debra Taylor, Superintendent of Schools*



**Dave White** was hired this year at central office to fill the role of curriculum director. He has been a teacher for 25 years and spent 9 years as a state level leader at the Dept of Education, where he served as Science Coordinator, Assistant Director of the Standards and Assessment Division and finally, Director of the Lifelong Learning Division. His most recent responsibility at the DOE was helping to develop systemic transformation goals and strategies that support 21st century teaching and learning.

During the latter part of his teaching career he had the opportunity to receive exceptional support and professional development in his role as a teacher leader, working with his colleagues in support of student learning. That experience provided a natural transition into his work as a science and curriculum coordinator for the school system and eventually, the Department of Education.

Dave looks forward to helping to support our educators in their role as teachers and teacher leaders. He also looks forward to working with the educators of LNSU as we establish systemic shared expectations for all our students in Lamoille North. He is pleased that teachers, administrators, and board members fully support the effort.

Aside from his passion for science, Dave is also an amateur astronomer, enjoys kayaking, hiking, and hopes to return to wind surfing some day, after the rotator cuffs are fixed. He grew up in mid state New Jersey and met his wife, Cathy, while in college there. They then moved to Ketchikan, Alaska for three years before coming "home" to Vermont where they reside in Berlin. Dave and Cathy have two grown sons, a grandson who is two, and another on the way. They adopted their newest family member a year ago, Sophie, a lab mix. Welcome aboard, Dave!

*"Autumn is the eternal corrective. It is ripeness and color and a time of maturity; but it is also breadth, and depth, and distance. What man can stand with autumn on a hilltop and fail to see the span of his world and the meaning of the rolling hills that reach to the far horizon?"*  
- Hal Borland



## Spelling Bee October 12

Elementary schools are *buzzing* and teams are *bizzy* practicing their words for LNSU's annual grade 5/6 Spelling Bee.

Join us Monday, October 12 at 6:00 PM in Lamoille Union Middle School's multi-purpose room.

Come support our spellers!

**Spelling Bee 2009!**

### LNSU In-Service Highlights

Feedback from teachers who attended the mathematics workshop on August 26<sup>th</sup> and the science workshop for elementary teachers on September 27<sup>th</sup> was very positive. In both cases, teachers appreciated learning "just in time" strategies to support student learning as well the bigger picture of how students learn mathematics and science. As educators in the supervisory union come together this year to develop coherent Pre-K to 12 learning outcomes for students in mathematics and science, future professional development opportunities in mathematics and science will be planned and coordinated as well.

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, the faculty of Lamoille Union Middle School, High School and the Green Mountain Technical and Career Center came together for a cross-school collaborative institute. Groups consisting of members from all three schools developed essential knowledge, skills, and dispositions that reflect the LNSU Mission Statement and corresponding outcomes that should be demonstrated by our graduates. Groups also used the Schooling by Design model of *Beginning with the End in Mind* to share curriculum, assessment and instructional strengths and needs across the three schools. Teacher feedback from this opportunity to collaborate was very positive and a series of follow up sessions are being planned.

The participant feedback indicates staff are at a level of preparation to implement the new innovative practices of AIMS web and Tier III special education evaluations. They have indicated the need time to practice and prepare to use the new tools. That is just where we wanted staff to be at the conclusion of the training. Principals are supporting staff with time needed to prepare for and administer the new assessment options.

### Congratulations to Outstanding Teachers

The following recipients of the 29th annual UVM Outstanding Teacher Award will be honored on October 21:

~ **Jeff Limoge**, Co-Op Coordinator, Green Mountain Technology & Career Center

~ **Cori Rockwood**, Social Studies Teacher, Lamoille Union Middle School

~ **Maryann Paris**, Grades 4-6 Reading and Math Support Teacher, Cambridge Elementary School



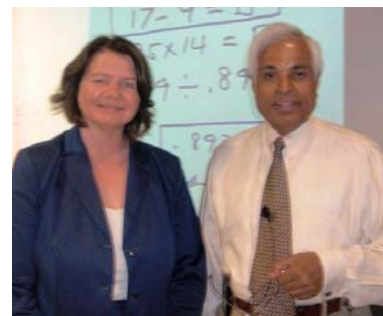
### Renee Affolter and Dorothy on August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Inquiry Science In-Service

Renee Affolter of Vermont Science Initiative assisted by Eden Central School's Dorothy Finlay, conducted a full day

session of August 27 focusing on engaging students in scientific inquiry as they develop and refine their understanding of the natural world. The session explored how science can provide a foundation for the development of language, logic, and problem solving in the classroom

### Dr. Debra Taylor and Mahesh Sharma at the Mathematics In-Service on August 26<sup>th</sup>

Well known mathematics expert, Mahesh Sharma, conducted an invigorating and well



received training for over 125 staff members at Lamoille North during in-service on August 26. The focus was on improving math instruction for all students by exploring how we learn.

## **New and Familiar Faces at LNSU**

Please join us in welcoming the following staff members to their positions:

### **Lamoille North Supervisory Union**

Dave White, Curriculum Director

### **Cambridge Elementary School**

Meredith Vogenberger, Speech Language Pathology Assistant

Patti Nieckarz, Custodian

Amanda Hall, Custodian

Sandra Wichmann, Bus Driver

Kit Slayton, Bus Driver

### **Eden Central School**

Kathleen Nann, Tech Integration Specialist

Annie Allardyce, Third Grade Teacher

Rory Wagner, Second Grade Student Teacher

Robyn Chaffee, Bus Driver

Joanne Dezotelle, Bus Monitor

### **Hyde Park Elementary School**

Kylie Richardson, Pre-school teacher

Beth Maurer, Kindergarten Teacher,

Christina Norland, Music Teacher

Rose Baraw, Para educator

Lisa Baranyay, Para educator

Melissa Martin, Para educator

### **Johnson Elementary School**

David Manning, Principal

Ben Matthews, Laraway BI

Blythe Gould, Laraway BI

Amanda Fisher, Laraway BI

Cheryl Audet, Paraeducator

Elizabeth Cass, Language Arts and Math Teacher

Sarah Day, Paraeducator

Jessie Livingston, Paraeducator

Ben Maniscalco, Special Education Teacher

Pam Shilo, Nurse

Alyson Spanier, Math and Language Arts Teacher

### **Waterville Elementary School**

Pam Shilo, Nurse

Abigail Bartlett, Kindergarten Teacher

Kathy Nann, Technology Integration Specialist

Roy Hutchins, Physical Education

Shannon Dunham, Paraeducator

### **Green Mountain Technology & Career Center**

Ted Weed, Computer Networking Technology

Will Widen, Math Teacher

Eric Hutchens, Online Social Studies Teacher

Becky Cross, Adult Education/Assistant Director for Student Supervision

### **Lamoille Union Middle School**

Susan McEwing, Math Teacher

Rebekah Stuwe, Science Teacher

Deirdre Fournier, Math Teacher

Casey Dearborn, English Teacher

Brian Long, Social Studies Teacher

Nicole Burke, English Teacher

### **Lamoille Union High School**

Will Widen, Math Teacher

Reina Guarnaccia, Spanish Teacher

Carolyn Smiles, School to Work Coordinator

Nichole Lafaivre, Dance Teacher

## **LINK Volume 6**

**LINK** is the LNSU publication for all employees and our Boards. **LINK** will be published monthly. Each employee and each board member will receive a personal copy of this publication via email. **LINK**'s purpose is to bring you information that you can use to assist us in providing informative communications to all of the schools' staff members. When we share and take a little time to review **LINK**, we will be updated about activities and the requirements that we need to meet federal, state, and our board's expectations. Copies of all the issues of **LINK** are filed in each school library and are available at the website [www.lnsu.org](http://www.lnsu.org). Ideas, reminders, suggestions, and shared good news from our schools will be featured in each issue of **LINK** – **L**NSU, **I**nformation, **N**ews, **K**nowledge. Please join in **linking** our efforts together. Please send comments, articles, and suggestions to Charleen McFarlane – 851-1177, [charleen@lnsu.org](mailto:charleen@lnsu.org)

