

LEWISTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



36 Oak Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
www.lewistonpublicschools.org
TDD: 207-795-4100
FAX: 207-795-4177

Administration: 207-795-4100
Business: 207-795-4104
Curriculum: 207-795-4103
ELL Program: 207-795-4105
Maintenance: 207-795-4107
Nutrition: 207-795-4106
Payroll: 207-795-4109
Special Education: 207-795-4108
Technology: 207-753-6416

November 6, 2011

Dear Lewiston Resident:

I am very pleased to invite you to attend one of the two public meetings below to learn more about and to offer input on the future direction of Lewiston Public Schools.

Monday, November 14th, 6:30 pm, Lewiston Middle School Auditorium
Wednesday, November 16th, 6:30 pm, Lewiston High School Multi-Purpose Room

Each meeting will be structured essentially the same; beginning with my report on our schools and then providing you the opportunity to review and offer suggestions on a draft mission, beliefs and visions for our schools. This input will be shared with the School Committee for their consideration before a final mission, beliefs and vision statement is adopted this winter. A Interpreter will be at these meetings.

The backside of this letter includes the draft. For clarity, a few definitions are helpful. The mission is a sentence or phrase that captures the reason the school system exists. Our draft phrase is "Ensuring Student Academic and Civic Success." Each word here is very important, and you will notice that we use "ensuring" rather than something like "provide the opportunity for." Our belief statements help form the context in which to frame a vision of our schools five to 10 years out into the future. Vision, therefore, is not where we are today, but rather a place where we aspire to be. Once agreed to, the vision will help frame the more specific goals that we should be working on as a school district.

Even if you cannot attend, I invite you so share your thoughts by emailing me at superintendent@lewistonpublicschools.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Webster
Superintendent of Schools

Lewiston Public Schools
Mission, Beliefs and Vision
Draft as of November 1, 2011

MISSION

Ensuring Student Academic and Civic Success

BELIEFS

1. All students learn, have talent and want to succeed.
2. Learners progress at different rates, in different ways, for different futures.
3. All students deserve a safe and engaging environment where they feel valued.
4. Students, parents, teachers and community are partners in the learning process.
5. Student learning is enhanced by meaningful, real-life experiences requiring complex thinking.
6. Teaching is collaborative and involves ongoing learning.
7. Teachers are knowledgeable, competent in their field and understand human development.
8. Student learning is fostered by frequent, formative feedback.
9. Instruction is aligned and based on standards.
10. Learning is enhanced by effective use of technology.

VISION

Future Learning in Lewiston Public Schools

Learning is

- Standards-based with multiple pathways to achieve success;
- Relevant, rigorous and based on a common curriculum that cultivates higher order skills;
- Ongoing and constant with the variables being time, place and support.

Our Students

- Feel safe, nurtured and celebrated;
- Help set and monitor progress toward their own educational goals;
- Have high aspirations acquired through experiences and guidance.

Our Staff

- Inspire and support students;
- Use data and ongoing assessments to inform and differentiate instruction;
- Work collaboratively in on-going professional development to improve instruction.

Our Parents and Community

- Are actively engaged in and supportive of their children's learning;
- Are informed about and work collaboratively with our schools;
- Provide students opportunities for community projects and real world learning.