

AUGUST



2026

MONTHLY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT



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DEAR SAU #35 COMMUNITY,

We are entering the 2026–2027 school year! Each new school year brings fresh opportunities to learn, grow, and strengthen the connections that make our schools exceptional. It's always such an exciting and anticipatory time. Thank you for the trust, dedication, and partnership you bring to our schools each day. I look forward to working alongside all of you as we build on our successes, embrace new opportunities, and make this a memorable year for every student.

And as always, I am open to connecting to receive any feedback, both positive and critical, on our SAU and how our schools can continue growing to serve students.

Warm regards,

C.J. Watson
Superintendent, SAU #35
cj.watson@sau35.org



SAU #35 UPDATES

01

PRINCIPAL & SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS:

Below are the principal reports from June in case you missed them.

[Bethlehem](#) | [Lafayette](#) | [Landaff](#) | [Profile](#)

02

NEW WEBSITES:

New websites are up as of early July. I'd like to thank Molley Gilley, Aaron Goldman, front office staff, principals, staff, parents, and board members for the work on this over the last year. You can access all school sites at sau35.org.

03

GRANT UPDATES:

Consolidated Grant Applications for federal dollars for the 26-27 school year are mostly complete. We have begun writing activities for those grants to receive those dollars. I have also started attending grant trainings in Concord, which occurred in July and into August. They help set up procedures around grant management. We have also partnered with EMC to potentially get the SEED grant with Eversource. And lastly, we are waiting on the Senate at the federal level to approve our appropriations from Senator Shaheen's office. These funds will help supplement EMC projects.

04

POLICIES TO PROCEDURES:

On July 1st of 2025, I was tasked with bringing policies up to date, and bringing them together in some form. After speaking with committees and boards, we decided to collaborate on a full overhaul to both update them and get them under one SAU format. Committees and staff worked very hard to accomplish that by June of 2026. I'm very grateful for everyone's willingness to collaborate on such a big project.

Throughout July, the SAU and principals have been reviewing procedures. Procedures are how schools uniquely implement policies. Meaning, the unique identities of each school can and should be held, even when under one umbrella set of policies. So Principals have been working hard in making sure everything is up to date, and potentially adding or revising procedures as needed. Most will be under student and staff handbooks, and those handbooks will get board approval in August board meetings.



05

ADMINISTRATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Myself and principals read through, did activities, and discussed the book *Spark Brilliance* by Jackie Insinger. It provides a wide range of tools for leaders to support their teams.

06

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:

EMC has been working hard this summer for our three school districts. Linked [here](#) is a summary of all the work, communications, and updates on these projects. Thank you to our communities for supporting this work in our schools.

07

JOINT LOSS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

We met on July 8th. There were no injuries to review. And heads of maintenance will be purchasing lock out tag out kits to implement their procedure on it for large equipment. We also reviewed the student violence prevention management report by Paddy Foran, which we will discuss for next steps with administration in the middle of August.

08

SCHOOL VISITS:

I had 11 school visits in July, as most of the month was spent working in the office on grants and in preparation for the next school year.

OPEN POSITIONS

SAU Office

- Substitutes

Bethlehem

- Elementary Teacher

Lafayette

- None

Profile

- None

For more information and to apply,
please visit sau35.org/employment



AUGUST BOARD MEETINGS

AUG **Executive Board Meeting**
No August Meeting

AUG **13** **Profile Board Meeting**
5:30pm @ Profile School Library

AUG **Landaff Board Meeting**
No August Meeting

SEP **01** **Bethlehem Board Meeting**
5:30pm @ Bethlehem School Cafeteria

AUG **13** **Lafayette Board Meeting**
5:30pm @ Lafayette Library

STATE-LEVEL & EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS UPDATES

NHSAA ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

From 6/28-7/1, I attended the Superintendent Association's annual conference. I attended a variety of sessions to learn about other things happening in our state, and made strong connections with other superintendents throughout the state. I think these are incredibly valuable, because it creates a network of people to brainstorm with on topics. For example, I can ask other leaders questions I would ask an attorney, and if they have already done so, I can get the input while saving costs. And vice versa.

NATIONAL UPDATES & EDUCATION TRENDS

FEDERAL SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDIT:

As part of the "Big Beautiful Bill" signed back in 2025, a type of voucher model was created at the federal level. Beginning January 1st, 2027, individual taxpayers may be able to claim a Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC) for certain cash contributions up to \$1,700 to Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs). A state or the District of Columbia (state) must choose to participate in this, and New Hampshire has chosen to do so. New Hampshire must provide a list of SGOs to the IRS so taxpayers can donate, and public schools fall into that category.

- I don't know the parameters of how public schools can receive and use these funds just yet, but there may be an opportunity to receive more federal funding to support both the school budgets and property tax bills. I will be keeping a close eye and attending upcoming webinars on this topic.

SEE YOU IN THE HALLS,

C.J. WATSON

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SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

White Mountains School
Administrative Unit #35

