

August 2018

Dear Harpswell Community School Families,

Welcome to a brand-new school year at HCS! On Thursday, August 30, we will be holding a classroom Open House event from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. – I hope to see you there! Our teachers, staff, and I are honored and excited to work with you and your children as they follow their paths in formal education. I personally am thrilled to become a part of the Harpswell Community School family! I come to MSAD 75 most recently from MSAD 54 in Skowhegan, where I was principal of two schools. Prior to that, I taught for many years at the elementary level. I am very much looking forward to meeting each of you, learning about your children, and helping to nurture students' lifelong love for learning. My door is always open; please stop by any time to chat and to share your concerns or celebrations.

I understand that families are a child's first teachers and want to be involved in their education. Truthfully, a child's greatest chance for success lies in a successful partnership between home and school. Therefore, I encourage you to explore the many ways in which you can connect with Harpswell Community School. Opportunities might include joining our PTO, volunteering in a classroom, participating in special events, regularly discussing the day's events with your child, looking through backpacks and folders daily, and helping children prepare for school each day.

One of the top priorities for me as an educator and as an administrator is that children always feel valued, capable, and safe at school. To that end, we will work as a staff to utilize strategies that emphasize and foster social, emotional, and academic growth. In the coming days and weeks, you can expect more information to come home regarding consistent school-wide behavioral expectations. Our goal will be to create a respectful, responsible, and safe atmosphere while promoting a joyful and cooperative learning community, so that every student has the opportunity to reach his or her highest potential.

We have an exciting, interesting year ahead of us, filled with many new experiences! I am so happy to have each and every incoming student with us! I encourage you to stay connected and keep your child's teacher informed of any concerns. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Anita Hopkins