

## Kingdom East School Superintendent Report



Dear Residents of Concord,

Nobody could have foreseen the resilience, ingenuity, creativity, perseverance and dedication needed from our families, children, educators and communities during this past year. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned parts of our world upside down. With each new day we have faced uncertainty and challenge, putting one foot in front of the other and helping our neighbors.

With the closure of in person schooling last spring our families and schools adapted as best as they could. We learned on-line platforms, where WIFI service was strongest and how much screen time is simply too much. When the 2020-21 school year began in September, some students opted to return to in person schools, while others chose our 100% virtual academy or to homeschool.

In our annual report you will see photos of children smiling and learning, with adaptations -- social distancing and facemasks. Despite this different year, we have seen children growing in their reading, writing, computing, science and the arts. We continue to provide opportunities. Our students, in addition to the normal core content areas, have participated in community projects, personalized learning, athletics, world languages, technology and afterschool programming.

Concord School is part of the Kingdom East School District. Please take a moment to look through the Kingdom East Annual Report, available at the Town Clerk's office, the Concord School, at [www.kingdomeast.org](http://www.kingdomeast.org), and on our Facebook page. Our District includes eight preK-8 school programs, covering eight towns (Burke, Concord, Lunenburg, Lyndon, Newark, Sheffield, Sutton, and Wheelock), a Virtual Academy, and choice for high school. The Annual Report highlights our many programs, data about our schools and the budget for the 2021-22 School Year.

This fall the budgeting process has been challenging with forces impacting our budget beyond our control. Required statewide insurance changes including higher premiums, and a greater number of high school students moving into our district created large increases. The Board worked to make reductions and present a budget that does not compromise the quality education we deliver.

It is a considerable honor to serve as the Superintendent of Schools for Kingdom East School District. Given the uncertainty our communities continue to care deeply about public education and our children. This support is essential in continuing the strength of our schools and community. I look forward to continuing to work with Concord. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office if you have any questions. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you!



Sincerely,

Jennifer Botzjorns  
Superintendent of Schools