

Regional School Unit 83
Maine School Administrative District No. 13
P.O. Box 649, Bingham, Maine 04920

Superintendent's Office
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Moscow Elementary School
Grade Pre-K-4
(207) 672-5572

Valley Jr./Sr. High School
Grades 5-8 & 9-12
672-3300

January 13, 2021

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Community Members,

There will be no school for students on Friday, January 15th. This day was scheduled as a half day workshop but has been moved to a full day workshop.

Mr. Harper, 5-12 Principal resigned effective January 4th. The school board has approved Mr. Tyler as Dean of Students 5-12 and Mrs. Foran as 5-8 Liaison. Ms. Lyons-Vitalone and Mrs. MacArthur will assist with administrative duties as needed.

MSAD 13 continues to remain committed to having our students attend in-person when it is a safe and healthy option for students and staff. We continue to listen to students and staff regarding how to improve their days. Students at Valley asked to have breakfast served at school. Starting on January 4th the Valley students were provided the option of receiving breakfast at school. Please remember that all students are eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch every school day.

Valley Jr. High School students will begin switching classrooms on February 1st. Grades 5th and 6th will switch classrooms with each other as will 7th and 8th graders. Students need to move more during the day and the district is trying to find ways to embed more movement into their days.

Valley staff is concerned about the high failure rate at the 5-12 level. The Jr. High School teachers have worked hard to provide time during and after school for students to complete assignments. Valley High School started providing Academic Support on Wednesdays after school for all High School students needing to complete assignments. There is a late bus provided on Wednesdays for all Jr. and Sr. High School students that stay for academic support. MSAD 13's students will complete their half year on Jan 29th. If your student is failing at the half year it is going to be very difficult for them to earn the necessary credits to move to the next grade and/or graduate. Please be checking your student's grades in PowerSchool and/or contact the school to verify their grades.

MSAD 13 does not plan to hold snow days this year unless there is a loss of power for the area. The district will move to a remote day when the weather does not allow for in-person learning. You will be notified by robo call and it will be posted on the district website on the day of the storm. We are working with the television stations to be able to announce a remote day instead of a storm day. But for now, please be aware that all storm days will be remote learning days.

The district is moving forward with the Valley Renovation Project. The project is slated to begin when school ends in June and be completed by the end of August. The project includes all new windows and doors for the school. The plan is to choose a contractor through the bid process and award the bid in late January. This is an exciting project for students, staff, and community members.

Once, again I want to thank you for your support. Without you doing your part, wearing your mask, not attending large gatherings, social distancing, etc. the district would not be able to offer in-person learning and after school activities for our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sandra J. MacArthur". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra J MacArthur
Superintendent of Schools