BRUNSWICK SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

PAUL K. PERZANOSKI
Superintendent of Schools

A. PENDER MAKIN
Assistant Superintendent

Office of the Superintendent
46 Federal Street
Brunswick, Maine 04011
Telephone (207) 319-1900
FAX (207) 725-1700

BARBARA J. GUNN
Director of Student Services

KELLY WENTWORTH
Business Manager

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Dear Students, Parents, Guardians, Staff and Community Members,

The leaves are turning and falling as we close in on the celebration of Halloween. The clocks are turned back on November 4, which will give us earlier daylight in the morning and hopefully a safer walk to school or the bus stop.

During the latter part of November, the former Jordan Acres School will be demolished to make way for the Kate Furbish Elementary School. Please remember that the property now is a construction site, supervised and turned over to the Ledgewood Construction Company. It is no longer considered public property and will hold that distinction until the School Department takes over the school shortly before opening in 2020.

If you are interested in the progress of the project, please view the work from the perimeter fence in areas that are not private property. Also, if you are parking on Jordan Avenue for an event at Edwards Field, please do not block the site entrance so fire and emergency equipment can get in if it is necessary.

With the vote from the legislature early this summer, there is no longer a mandate to provide a proficiency high school diploma; they have left that decision up to each school board. In Brunswick we will not be engaging in the participation of proficiency based diplomas and we will not be taking part in dual reporting (standards and grades) that would be required in grades 6-12 had the law remained the same. At the High School and Junior High School, students will continue to receive traditional grades. Credits will remain in place at the high school and they still will need to earn the required number of credits that are listed in the school handbook. We are committed to finding alternative pathways for students in their quest for graduation and hope to expand our number of electives in the near future.

November 6 is Election Day here in Maine and Brunswick Junior High School will serve as the town's site for voting. Students do not have school that day but staff will be here including teachers who have a professional development day. On the ballot this year will be a question about the Brunswick School Department being able to join a Regional Service Center with other school departments in Cumberland County. Our ability to join will give us the opportunity to share and/or minimize costs with other districts in areas such as substitute teaching, professional development, bulk supply ordering, special education services, and homeless transportation.

It is my sincere hope that all of you enjoy the holiday season over the next several months. Cross your fingers that weather-related days off are kept to a minimum.

Sincerely,

Paul K. Perzanoski

Paul K. Perzanoski, Superintendent