

Todd E. Sanders, Superintendent Amy Hediger, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum Director Stacie Field, Business Manager John Hawley, Operations Director

Greetings RSU 16 Community,

I thought I would take a moment and reach out to you all as I complete my second full week in the district. I want to thank everyone for all the greetings, well wishes, and support as I have made my transition from my previous district to this one. I have to say that all the positive things I heard about RSU 16 when I began the interview process have proven to be true.

I'll start by sharing a little bit about me for those who do not know me or anyone I have not yet met. The 2023-2024 school year will mark my 34th year in public school education. Over that span I have taught from Kindergarten to grade 12, coached four varsity sports, served as assistant principal/athletic director, middle level principal, and superintendent of schools. I feel these experiences, from the mid-coast of the state to the western mountains have provided me with many opportunities to learn, grow, and develop into the educational leader that I am today. Realizing that learning never ceases, this is something that I plan to continue to do during my time in RSU 16.

On the personal side I enjoy hiking, playing softball and golf, riding my motorcycle, listening to all genres of live music, and traveling. I have a daughter, Tasha, who lives with her fiance in North Carolina and I reside in Freeport with my German Shepherd Titan.

I will be in attendance at many events, be they athletic or other co-curricular in nature. Please, do not hesitate to come up to me and introduce yourself. I look forward to learning as many of the new faces I see as quickly as I possibly can.

The decisions and recommendations that I make will be based on what is best for all students in RSU 16. My challenge to the staff of the district is to make quality **connections** with your students and those who care for them when school is not in session, **communicate** all the good things that are happening in and outside the walls of our buildings, and take **chances** without fear of failure as traditional methods of instruction might not meet the needs of all our students.

It is my goal to serve the students, staff, parents/guardians, and residents of the RSU 16 communities to the best of my abilities. I realize the district is facing some big challenges; however, I have no doubt that collaborative work, between all stakeholders, will help determine the best courses of action and result in an even better school district!

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions, comments or suggestions you would like to share. I am looking forward to many positive experiences during my time here in RSU 16.

Respectfully,

**Todd Sanders**