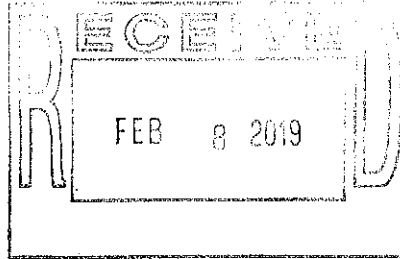


Senator Ned Claxton
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1515

February 1, 2019

Superintendent Ken Healey
RSU 16
3 Aggregate Road
Poland, ME 04274



Dear Superintendent Healey,

Thank you to you and all the educators and staff at RSU 16 who are so dedicated to your students. One of my main goals as a State Senator is to ensure every young Mainer has the chance at a bright and healthy future. A strong public education system is vital to that goal, and I know that your school community is working towards that every day. With the new legislative session getting underway, I wanted to make sure to reach out to ensure you know that I have an open door to hear any ideas, comments, or concerns you have. I also wanted to offer my assistance as an elected official and community member in doing my part to bring to life your students' classroom learning and in encouraging their academic growth.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

It is an honor to serve as State Senator for RSU 16. I am always eager to send a congratulatory letter to any student for an academic achievement, such as honor roll, student of the month, or a special recognition. In addition, if a struggling student has reached an important milestone or goal, I want to celebrate that as well. There are also certain accomplishments that may meet the standards for a Legislative Sentiment, which are significant expressions by the Legislature in recognition of civic and public achievements. I would be pleased to present the special award to the student. Please feel free to send information about any achievements to me or my legislative aide, Erica McNally, at Erica.McNally@legislature.maine.gov.

I know that not every student has someone in their lives outside of school encouraging their academic success, so I am happy to help any way I can to remind all students that there are many people who believe in them and are rooting for them.

HONORARY PAGE PROGRAM

The Honorary Page program gives students in third grade through high school an opportunity to participate in the legislative process and interact directly with legislators. Honorary Pages get to see what it is like to work on the floor of the Senate through firsthand experience. Pages perform

such duties as delivering messages to Senators and distributing amendments and supplements in the Senate Chamber. The Legislature is currently in session through early summer. For more information or to schedule a visit, call my office at (207) 287-1515.

VISIT THE STATE HOUSE

Many schools already take fieldtrips to the State House, which the students really seem to enjoy. They are able to observe the Legislature in action and witness the debate, the negotiation and the compromise on issues that make us a representative democracy. Their visits broaden the students' knowledge of the process by which our laws are enacted. Additionally, it is an excellent opportunity for the schools to schedule a tour at the Maine State Museum located next to the State House. Please continue to let me know of any planned visits, and I will do my best to personally greet the group.

VISIT A CLASSROOM

I welcome the chance to visit any classroom interested in learning more about state government and the legislative process. My visit can bring civics to life – giving young people the opportunity to meet personally with one of their elected state lawmakers. By meeting them in their classroom and listening to their perspectives, we can show that students' ideas matter and prepare them for a lifetime of civic engagement.

I look forward to working with you and everyone at RSU 16. Please feel free to share this letter with your faculty and staff. I can be contacted anytime at Ned.Claxton@legislature.maine.gov or (207) 287-1515.

I wish you well during the remainder of the school year!

Sincerely,



Ned Claxton
State Senator