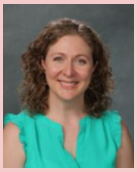
MSAD 15
Superintendent Spotlight

A District Newsletter **Volume 3, Issue 1, August 2026**

The Back-to-School Edition



Welcome Back

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! This year I'm embracing a theme of Patriot Pride. We have a lot to be proud of in this district, and we want to talk about it more. From top ten academic rankings and strong student growth to new opportunities in advanced coursework, career and technical education, and adult education, our students and staff are doing incredible work. Add in a community that shows up for us, through fundraising, volunteering, and support at the ballot box, it's clear: this is a place worth being proud of. So this year, we're asking everyone, staff, students, and families alike, to help us tell that story. What are you proud of at GNG? Let's share it. Turn the page to see more about what I'm proud of in our schools.

-Dr. Chanda P. Turner, Superintendent

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GNG
PATRIOTS

PATRIOT PRIDE

WHY DO WE HAVE PATRIOT PRIDE?



EXCEPTIONAL ACADEMICS

We challenge every learner to grow, achieve, and reach their full potential.



EXCELLENT VALUE

We are thoughtful, transparent, and accountable in how we use our resources to invest in students.



OPPORTUNITY RICH ~ MULITIPLE PATHWAYS

We open doors, expand horizons, and empower students to find their path and pursue their passions.



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

We reflect, refine and grow.
We are always striving to be better for our students and community.



BETTER TOGETHER

2 TOWNS, 5 SCHOOLS, 1 GOAL = 1 OUTCOME

We collaborate across our communities to ensure every student succeeds.



Strategic Plan 2027-2032

This year, MSAD 15 is developing a new strategic plan to guide our district for the next five years. As part of this work, our community will help create a "Portrait of a Patriot" – our district's vision for the knowledge, skills, and character we want every graduate to carry with them. The process unfolds in four phases:

1. gathering input from students, staff, families, and the community;
2. drafting and refining the Portrait of a Patriot;
3. building the strategic plan itself with continued stakeholder feedback; and
4. finally, adoption by the School Board.

Families, staff, and community members will have several opportunities to weigh in along the way, including electronic surveys and in-person forums – watch for upcoming communications with details on how and when to participate.



First Days

August 31, 2026 - first day for grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9; no school for all others

September 1, 2026 - first day for grades 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12; grades K-12 attend

September 2, 2026 - first day for Pre K

Introducing BusRight

MSAD 15 is implementing our new bus routing software and system. Routes and bus stops are live! When school begins, families will be able to see real time estimated arrival times for buses for pick up and drop off.

All families in the system were sent an introduction email from the BusRight company. If you did not see an email, check your spam and trash for an email from support@busright.com. If you are still unable to find the email, please contact BusRight directly at support@busright.com.

For more information about getting set up in the BusRight system, visit the MSAD 15 Transportation webpage and/or BusRight app instructions posted on our website.

Updated Cell Phone Policy

In April 2026, Governor Mills signed a statewide "bell-to-bell" cell phone ban into law as part of Maine's supplemental budget,. This action required all public school boards adopt policies prohibiting student use of personal electronic devices for the entire school day. In response, MSAD 15 has adopted an updated policy (JICJ) that prohibits students from using cell phones, smart watches, and similar devices from the morning bell through dismissal.

As students return to the classroom next week, all student devices must be powered off and put away. This includes phone, smart watches, smart glasses, and other electronic devices. If families need to reach students during the school day, they should call the school main office. Students who need to reach their families during the school day will have opportunities to do so as directed by their school leaders.

We appreciate your partnership in helping students adjust to this new routine.

Back To School Links

2026-2027 School Calendar and Inclement Weather Procedures
Includes all school holidays, breaks, early release days, and graduation. Page two details how the district handles inclement weather including storm days and remote days.

Food and Nutrition Services
Here you can find information about school meals and the latest monthly menu for each school.

We're Hiring!

MSAD 15 is still seeking a few more people to round out our team. If you're interested in pursuing an opportunity and not sure where to start, call our Superintendent's Office at 207-657-3335. We are actively seeking candidates for:

- Bus Drivers/Van Drivers/Bus and Van Aides (we'll even train you!)
- Educational Technicians
- Food and Nutrition Services Workers
- Substitutes (classroom, drivers, custodians, etc.)
- Coaches

For more information, check out our employment webpage.