



# James H. Bean School

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## JUNE 2019

### A FOND FAREWELL

Retiring from a job, particularly one in which you have invested your heart and soul, is often a bittersweet event. Liz Tonge has quietly been working her magic with James H. Bean School's youngest learners for the past fourteen years. Before bringing her talents to RSU 18, Liz began her work with children at the Montessori School in Skowhegan. In 1998, Liz implemented and ran a pilot program for public Pre-K within RSU 18. In 2005, her work continued as she split her days between the Pre-K programs at Belgrade Central School and the James H. Bean School. In 2006, she became the full-time Pre-K teacher at the James H. Bean School. As Liz reflects upon her years spent at Bean, she will take forth with her fond memories of the nature trail that sparked interest and joy within her for many years. She shared this joy with her students as she strived to get her students outside and to nurture their attachments to nature. As a result of this time, it is her hope that as they grow up, they will devote their efforts to taking care of and protecting our Earth. Liz will continue to cultivate her love for nature and hiking by serving on the Stewardship Committee for the 7 Lakes Alliance, whose charge is to provide upkeep to local trails in the Belgrade Lakes Watershed. RSU 18 feels like family to Liz, as she has a special fondness for the staff across the district. Not only will she miss the friendly faces she worked with each day at Bean but having had three children attend the RSU 18 schools, she has developed relationships with many of the district's employees. Although Liz will no longer be in the classroom, her work with Maine's youngest learners will continue. She has recently been elected to serve on the board of the Maine Association for The Education of Young Children. This role focuses on advocacy for children and planning professional development opportunities for teachers of young children birth to eight years old. Additionally, she will continue to be a Teacher Trainer for the Maine Roads to Quality, which is a professional development network for people across Maine in early care and education. Liz is looking forward to a future of more leisure and to getting around to many of the things that bring her contentment and joy including spending time with her grandchild, Neil and traveling. She is counting down the days until she boards a plane headed to Italy. Her itinerary includes a self-guided walking tour of Tuscany. Another trip that she has planned is a camping trip to the Sierra Mountain Range in sunny California. Hopefully Liz's retirement will be the beginning of her working on living instead of living to work!

"And so, the adventure begins..." On any given day, Mrs. Klinge can be found on the James H. Bean school playground... establishing and nurturing connections with our students, laughing with our students, and most importantly, caring for our students. Mrs. Klinge began her time at Bean in the kitchen preparing breakfasts and lunches for our students. She moved on to be a bus monitor for a year, and then to her final job, playground monitor. She has been monitoring the playground before school, during school, and after school for the last 10 years. Before joining the Bean Team, Mrs. Klinge spent her days being a mom to her four children, Olivia, Jen, Dan and Abby. Additionally, she was kept busy as she ran her own housecleaning business. When asked what she will miss most about working at JHB, Mrs. Klinge didn't hesitate when she said, "The kids." She will miss interacting with them and witnessing their fun, silly ways. She has enjoyed watching them grow from shy, young kindergartners into thoughtful, mature seniors. Mrs. Klinge's post-Bean plans include helping her son run his chip business. She is looking forward to spending more time with her seven grandchildren, as she will be help watch them during the day. The students and staff will certainly miss seeing Mrs. Klinge's smiling face each day and hearing her patient voice on the playground.

## JHB PAINT PARTY

The James Bean School was awarded a grant from Sherwin Williams called "Paint a Brighter Future." With this award, we were able to secure 30 gallons of paint to brighten our hallways and classrooms. Teachers and staff have chosen their colors and we are now looking for volunteers to help us paint! Students, teachers, staff, and families will be painting on **Tuesday, June 18th**. Please contact Danielle Mann at [dmann@rsu18.org](mailto:dmann@rsu18.org) or call 547-3395 if you are interested in helping.

## LOST AND FOUND

If your child is missing any clothing items, please be sure to check the lost and found BEFORE school ends on June 19th. We donate any unclaimed items at the end of the school year.

## PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN!

Registration packets are still available for 2019-20 student enrollment. Please return your PRE-K and Kindergarten packets as soon as possible for enrollment in the 19-20 school year. Screening will take place in the fall and there is no need to schedule an appointment.

## JHB IS HIRING!!

JHB is looking for a recess / bus monitor for the 19-20 school year. Hours are 7:15a - 8:00a, 11:15a – 1:00p, and 2:15p – 3:15p. If interested, please contact us!



## JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Grade 4 Field Trip to Farnsworth Museum
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Grade 1 Learning Celebration 1:30pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Volunteer Recognition Event 7:30am
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Field Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5 Step-Up Day at MMS
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5 Celebration 6:00pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Kindergarten Learning Celebration 1:45pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting 6:00pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Pre K Last Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Field Day Rain Date
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Grade 2 Poetry Café 1:45pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5 Class Trip
- 18<sup>th</sup> – JHB Paint Party
- 19<sup>th</sup> – LAST DAY – NOON DISMISSAL

**BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM VOTE IS ON JUNE 11TH. WE ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO GET OUT AND CAST YOUR VOTES!**

## SUMMER LIBRARY

Summer library hours will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am until 1pm. This will begin on July 9th and run through August 1st. We encourage all Sidney families to take advantage of this opportunity!

## MEAL BALANCES

We are asking all families who have unpaid lunch balances to make your payments as soon as possible. Letters are sent from the nutrition department or you may call the school directly to inquire about your balance.

## PHOTOS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

We want to remind parents, that during this time of year with many student social events, to please avoid posting photos of other students without permission. We all love to share our proud and fun moments, but please be cognizant of who is in your photos when sharing them.