



AE/MS staff worked diligently to get everything ready for students to pick-up their needed items for remote schooling during the statewide COVID-19 school shutdown. Parents drove up to the back of the school, and items were delivered to their vehicles so that no parents or students would need to enter the building. Photo: Kasey Schoch

Jane Slayton, Gail Parenteau, and Robin Heins Retiring

Combined 94 years of service to our schools

Dean Barker, Andover School Board

The opening of Andover's annual School District Meeting on March 2 was replete with important milestones to acknowledge, including the conclusion of service to the School Board of Brian Gilman.

The attendees then rose to their feet to honor three upcoming retirements: principal Jane Slayton (24 years of service to AE/MS), administrative assistant Gail Parenteau (35 years of service to AE/MS), and business manager Robin Heins (35 years of service to

SAU #46). The combined contribution of Jane, Gail, and Robin to the children of Andover is incalculable, and we wish them well in their future ventures.

Assistant Superintendent Randy Wormald then made public the announcement of AE/MS' new principal, Dennis Dobe, who is taking the helm at Andover with over 30 years of experience in New Hampshire public schools at every level of leadership.

Finally, we were pleased to announce that Mark MacLean, our SAU #46 Superintendent, has been named Superintendent of the Year by the New Hampshire School Administrators Association.



AE/MS thanks John Thompson and the Andover Highway Department crew. It was a challenging winter, but you went the extra mile, and we appreciate your time, effort, and expertise. You are always quick to respond, and for that we are grateful. You keep us safe! The AE/MS school community says, "Thank you!" Photo and caption: Jane Slayton

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The AE/MS Class of 2020 paid a visit to Merrimack Valley High School in February. The students are preparing for their big transition to high school in the fall and have been able to tour the building, register for classes, and meet some of the staff. Photo and caption: Kasey Schoch

Proctor Acts Swiftly to Protect Community from Virus Exposure

Online classes began on March 30

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

At the time the *Beacon* goes to press, Proctor will be in the midst of its first week of offering online courses to students around the globe. Proctor is working in close partnership with AE/MS, the Town Select Board, and local emergency management services to fully support nationwide efforts to control the spread of COVID-19. Here are some of the developments to date:

Project Period was canceled. We used the week of March 23 through 28 to allow our faculty to develop an online curriculum for at least the first two weeks of the spring term. We will use Cisco's Webex as our primary classroom platform, while continuing to leverage Google Docs and myProctor as additional resources.

Online classes started on Monday, March 30. Some courses (metal engineering, woodworking, and ceramics, for example) are impossible to replicate online, but faculty are doing everything they can to continue to deliver a personalized, experienced-based curriculum. Faculty to continue to hold extra-help sessions; Learning Specialists and Ad-

visors will continue to meet virtually with their students.

Off-campus programs (European Art Classroom, Proctor en Segovia, Proctor en Monteverde, and Mountain Classroom) are canceled for the Spring Term. Administration is working with off-campus instructors to develop unique online offerings specific to each respective off-campus program's intent. The experience will not be the same, not by any stretch, but it will bring some of the off-campus academics to those students.

Athletic Contests are postponed until students return to campus. Proctor's athletic department is in constant communication with other schools, and if we return, they will continue collaborating with peer schools to schedule athletic contests. In the interim, faculty are offering a unique set of afternoon programs to students remotely, including fitness classes, cycling and running challenges, eSports leagues, yoga, and much more.

Spring Family Weekend has been canceled. Given a delayed return to campus for students and a need to maximize class days with students on campus, we are canceling Spring Family Weekend. See Proctor on page 31

TOGETHER WE ARE COMMUNITY!

