

Superintendent Powden
Green Mountain Union School District Board
609 VT-103
Ludlow, VT 05149

September 16, 2019

Dear Superintendent Powden and the GMUSD Board:

I am requesting a full-year sabbatical for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Since joining the staff of Chester-Andover Elementary School in the fall of 2002, I have worked diligently to provide high quality, meaningful, and inspiring learning opportunities for all of my students. I have also been a part of numerous committees, initiatives, and programs in the building, across the district, and throughout the state. Each year, I set goals with my students, their parents, and for myself. To accomplish my goals for 2020 - 2021, I am requesting a full-year sabbatical.

I am in the process of finalizing a plan for a full academic program that includes a number of initiatives with the Southern New Hampshire University, the Two Rivers Supervisory Union, the University of Vermont, Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports, and the Vermont Archaeological Society. Additional opportunities may arise once the sabbatical is granted.

The goals for the sabbatical are to:

- Complete any and all requirements needed for Middle Level certification in Social Studies
- Complete as many requirements as possible for a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies degree through Southern New Hampshire University
- Participate to the extent possible in CAES 5/6 initiatives started in 2019 with the UVM Tarrant Institute
- Participate in the TRSU Professional Development and Wellness Committee - Leadership Project,
- Take courses and/ or participate in lab and field work with the University of Vermont - Consulting Archaeology Project
- Volunteer with VT Adaptive Ski and Sports to work with athletes with different cognitive, physical, and behavioral challenges
- Pursue other initiatives that will provide me with experiences and insights that will inspire, support, encourage, and ultimately help me teach the students in my class more effectively
- Upon completion of the sabbatical, I will return to teach at CAES for at least two years and probably many more

These initiatives are possible only through a full year sabbatical. The academic program outlined is rigorous. The time required to accomplish these goals is more than what is available during the school year. In all fairness to my students, a sabbatical is needed to do everything possible to complete this work so the program I provide to my students when I return is even more focused, robust, and aligned.

I am honored to represent Two Rivers Supervisory Union, Chester-Andover Elementary School, my students, and our communities at different events across the state and region. I share stories of lessons, readings, and, most importantly, student work. People are excited and curious to know more about what education in this “new era” looks like. This same enthusiasm applies to my students who have heard stories of athletes, projects, programs, and accomplishments that I have been part of. All of this clearly demonstrates that the efforts I put forth in these different areas impact our students, community, region, and state in many positive ways.

I appreciate the support that I receive from my colleagues, administration, board, and community. I would be happy to provide additional information as needed to further explain my intentions.

Respectfully,



Frank Kelley
Chester-Andover Elementary School
Grades 5 and 6 Teacher
72 Main Street
Chester, VT 05143

(802) 875-2108 (w) (802) 289-1540 (c)

frank.kelley@trsu.org