Derry School Board
18 South Main St
Derry, NH 03038

December 20, 2011

Dear Parents and Residents of Derry:

The search for a new Superintendent of Schools in Derry is well underway. A very important part of the process is to solicit community input about the attributes, experience, and knowledge that our new superintendent should possess.

In addition, participants will be asked for input on the Long Range Strategic Plan for the Derry School District. This is an opportunity for you to identify immediate tasks that the new superintendent should address as well as the long-term needs of the Derry School District. The information and input received at the focus group sessions will help establish the foundation for the superintendent search as well as the goals for the School District in the years ahead.

Dr. Ken DeBenedictis, a search consultant with New England School Development Council (NESDEC) will meet with interested staff, parents, and community members in focus groups. Participation in a focus group will require about 1 to 1½ hours of your time. The dates and times are listed below. We hope that you will attend and participate. No previous sign-up is required. Each person's contribution is very important to the process.

The focus groups for community members and parents will be held January 4, 2012, at 10:00 am, in the DEEP wing of Gilbert H. Hood Middle School (please check in at the school office); and January 9, 2012, at 6:30 pm in the Gilbert H. Hood Middle School dining hall.

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, we would be pleased to receive your comments in writing. Direct them to: Dr. Ken DeBenedictis, NESDEC, Derry Superintendent Search, 28 Lord Road, Marlborough, MA 01752.

The Derry School Board values your opinions. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to participate.

Sincerely,

The Derry School Board
Kevin Gordon, Chairman
Mark Beland
Ken Linehan
Dan McKenna
Neal Ochs
Wendy Smith
Brenda Willis