

Rebecca Graf

To Whom It May Concern:

As a parent and board member of the Dover Sherborn Education Fund (DSEF), I recently learned that our Superintendent of Schools, Steven Bliss, has elected to move on to explore new opportunities. In short, it will be very difficult to fill Steve's shoes, as he has been an open-minded, innovative, inspirational leader for six years, setting the standard at a very high level. Steve has left an indelible footprint in Dover and Sherborn and his legacy will continue to have an impact for years to come.

Knowing Steve from the perspective of a parent, he never failed to go the extra mile, frequently attending events where he could be close to the kids, teachers, and staff, always with a smile. In a community with actively involved parents with high expectations, Steve has always successfully negotiated through challenging situations, bringing the focus back to delivering the best education to our children. His dedication, professionalism and approachability endeared him to all who were lucky enough to make his acquaintance.

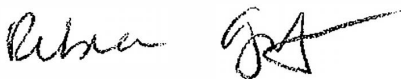
Steve's accomplishments were many in our school district, and he was particularly successful as a collaborative leader. People wanted to work with him, as he implemented innovative ideas, gathering enthusiasm among faculty, staff, and parents to explore new opportunities to improve the educational experience. With Steve's guidance and support the Dover Sherborn school system consistently ranks among the top in the state. Simply put, there is no one better than Steve in this role.

The Dover Sherborn Education Fund (DSEF) is a parent-based group in Dover-Sherborn that supports the public schools with the resources necessary to improve curriculum, programs and services beyond that which is supported in the annual school budgets. As a Board Member, I worked with Steve and others to explore grant-making opportunities to fund new programs, technologies, presentations, etc., and to be there financially at the point where tax dollars were exhausted. His cost-conscious approach, making sure that funds weren't spent simply because they were available, was appreciated and respected by all.

Finally, we will all miss Steve as a person. He is one of a kind, a truly inspirational, caring, intelligent, amazing man, who I am quite sure will shine just as brightly in his next endeavor.

Wishing Steve great success!

Sincerely,



Rebecca Graf