

Statement by Northern Adirondack Board of Education

July 2026

The Board of Education has been made aware of various recent social media posts commenting about our newly hired elementary school principal, Kaela Hurteau. The Board is very proud and pleased to have hired Ms. Hurteau and stands by that decision. At the same time, the Board is troubled by false statements and misinformation contained in many recent social media posts about her hiring.

In looking for a new elementary school principal, the District engaged a thorough, comprehensive search. It received multiple applications, all of which were considered. Four candidates were interviewed. Our final decision was to offer the position to Ms. Hurteau as the most qualified educator to lead the elementary school. The Superintendent's recommendation to hire Kaela was unanimously supported by the Board of Education.

The Superintendent and Board were aware of the circumstances in the Salmon River School District that are referenced in some of the social media posts. We are equally aware that reports by an independent outside law firm as well as the State Education Department, found no fault on the part of Ms. Hurteau. Any allegations or claims to the contrary are false and without any foundation in fact. It is troubling that people use social media platforms to spread misinformation. The Board decision to hire Kaela was based on a solid educational background and proven record.

As the Board looks forward to the start of the new school year, we realize the District faces numerous challenges. These challenges are opportunities for growth and prosperity in Northern Adirondack, including at the elementary school. We are confident Kaela possesses the qualities necessary to lead the elementary school successfully this year and beyond.

* If anyone is interested in further context, please visit the Salmon River Central School District website to examine the minutes from their March 11, 2026, Board of Education meeting using the following link. <https://go.boarddocs.com/ny/sari/Board.nsf/Public>