

# Principal's Introduction Letter - July 2021

Dear Atkinson Academy Students & Families,

It is an honor to join the Atkinson community as the principal of Atkinson Academy. I hope that this note finds you enjoying summer and that you and your children are looking forward to beginning a wonderful school year together, starting August 30<sup>th</sup>.



I share in Atkinson's commitment to caring for your children each and every day while providing them a world-class learning environment. As we move into the 2021/2022 school year, my priority will be getting to know our students, families, staff, district, and the Atkinson community. I am looking forward to meeting everyone, learning about the school community and how we can all best support the learning, growth, and development of our Atkinson students. I strongly support the statements, "Schools are for students," and "It takes a village," as both highlight the commitment to do what's best for children.

I have been a New Hampshire educator since 1992, working as a substitute teacher, middle school science teacher (13 years), elementary assistant principal (3 years), middle school principal (3 years), and elementary principal (10 years). My varied experiences and background have well-prepared me for this new leadership role within the Atkinson Academy and Timberlane community. I'm married with four children and we have a family dog named Guapo.

To continue the tradition of excellence here at the Academy, I am committed to always exploring new ways to meet the needs of all students and to more effectively communicate with parents and community members. We will be meeting with students, parents, and staff throughout the year to identify specific goals in the areas of student achievement, school climate, and communication.

Students, I cannot wait to meet you all! I hope that you are excited for this coming school year and that you are enjoying your summer playing with friends and spending time with your family. Don't forget to get some summer reading in! It is going to be a fun year learning together.

Families, please look for more school information (procedures, guidelines, teacher assignments, etc.) as we move into the month of August.

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime if you have any questions, positive input, or would just like to say hello. Let us always keep our students the primary focus of our work. I look forward to celebrating our successes during the 2021/2022 school year. Enjoy the remaining days of summer!

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S HARRISES". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephen HARRISES, Principal  
Atkinson Academy