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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: New Brunswick School Department

Brunswick Superintendent Dr. Phil Potenziano is pleased to announce that the Brunswick School Board approved Dr. Jessica Yates as the new Director of Student Services in Brunswick School Department.



Dr. Yates has eight years of experience in school administration; the past four years have been within RSU 13 as the Director of Special Education. She has also previously worked as an Educational Technician, Special Education Teacher, and Assistant Special Education Director.

Dr. Yates holds a Doctorate of Philosophy from the University of Southern Maine in Public Policy with a Concentration in Educational Leadership and Policy and holds a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern Maine, a Master's Degree from the University of Maine and a Bachelor's Degree from Bowdoin College.

Dr. Potenziano, Superintendent of Schools, said, "The Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Yates, and with her knowledge, unique skills, and enthusiasm, I am confident she is the best person for this job. Dr. Yates is well known and respected in the field of education, and having her specialized skills in a time of uncertainty will help administration, staff, parents, and the community feel at ease."

Dr. Potenziano stated, "I am excited to have Dr. Yates as part of my team, and I am confident she will work tirelessly to keep our district and the Special Services Department moving forward as we continue to navigate what school will look like in the fall." "I am very much looking forward to supporting the Brunswick School Department during this uncertain time," said Yates. "I am a staunch advocate for students with disabilities, and firmly believe that the collaboration of all stakeholders is now even more essential to ensuring our students receive access to programming that supports their educational growth and progress."

The Maine values of hard work, innovation, and collaboration have shaped Dr. Yates' personal and professional lives. She grew up in Midcoast Maine, worked in her family's firewood business beginning at age ten, and, when attending Bowdoin, spent her summers working as a sternman. She later used these experiences, as well as her love of the outdoors, to help her connect with her students and staff in the various schools and districts in which she worked. Yates continues to maintain her lifelong connection to Maine and is fortunate to now live in the small fishing village of New Harbor with her daughter.