

## Message from the Superintendent

Dear Marathon community members,

My name is Rebecca Stone and I am looking forward to being the new superintendent of the Marathon Central School District. Prior to coming to Marathon I have had teaching experience as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade math and science teacher in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and an 8<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher in Salt Lake City, Utah. My administrative experiences include an administrative internship/vice-principalship in a middle school in Salt Lake City and ten years as the elementary principal in the South Jefferson Central School District in Adams, NY. I grew up in a small town in upstate New York and have really enjoyed living in a small community. I cannot tell you how welcome the Marathon community has made me feel in the short time I have been here. My family and I were astounded by the welcome that was given at the special board meeting in June. We are all very excited to be part of your community.

The first Board of Education goal I will focus on this year is establishing positive lines of communication. To begin this process I will meet with people both in the school system and in the Marathon community to gain a better understanding of our district. Through these meetings I will learn what is working well in the district and what people would like to see addressed as we move into the future. In addition to meeting with individuals or community groups, I will learn more about my new community by attending upcoming school events along with community events throughout the year. Later in the school year I will meet with the community to discuss my findings and propose goals and action plans to promote student and teacher success and increased achievement.

A second way to promote communication is to encourage parents and community to follow the proper chain of command when a problem arises. Often problems evolve due to a miscommunication and a simple phone call can bring help immediately. Student/classroom concerns should be addressed by the teacher or coach. If the problem cannot be resolved, the principals or our new Committee on Special Education (CSE) chairperson, Mrs. Schuler, can assist you. If the concern involves the district in general or if the problem has not been resolved at the teacher or principal level, I would be more than willing to be of assistance. If you have general thoughts or concerns you would like to share about the district, please feel free to call my office (849-3117). Mrs. LoPresti will either get me your message or make an appointment to meet in person.

I look forward to meeting all of you as the year progresses. We will face many challenges throughout the year, but my focus will be on the triumphs of our students and the positive progress we make. I would like to thank the Board of Education for this opportunity. I promise to work hard to continue the many fine traditions at Marathon Central School District and build upon the solid foundations that make Marathon Central School District a school that students, staff and community are proud of.