

**Jane Durgin**  
**Director of Special Services**  
**Kittery School District**

I started my educational career in Kittery back in 1999 as the behavior strategist for the school district. After several years working in Kittery followed by a hiatus as an alternative education director in New Hampshire I returned to my beloved Kittery in the summer of 2007 as the Director of Special Services. I have been charged with forging the educational path and monitoring progress for all of our students with disabilities. The special education department and the students we serve are a great source of pride. The educators in the special services department are not only hard working they are also passionate and innovative. The special education programs in Kittery are superb because of the dedication, commitment and knowledge of our special educators. The staff makes my job enjoyable and manageable. I am fortunate to have such a stellar crew!

My roots run deep in Kittery. I grew up here and attended local schools K-12. My grandfather, father and my children all attended Kittery schools. My daughter is a Kittery resident and she owns Hillside Flowers and Gifts. Carley is also the assistant coach for the Traip girl's varsity soccer team. My son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter Ellie also live in Kittery. Nicholas and Katrina are both teachers in New Hampshire. Nicholas coaches the Winnacunnet girl's varsity soccer team. The sparks flew this past August as Traip scrimmaged Winnacunnet. As their mom I will remain impartial and not say who won. It is my sincere hope that when Ellie is older she will join the Ranger family.

As a young person I never envisioned a career in education. Although my dad is a retired superintendent and my mom owned a nursery school, I just didn't think schools were my thing. I started to get the "education" bug when I coached cheerleading and boys' track at Traip Academy in the 1990's. This stint included a number of state championships along the way. Coaching was all about teaching and motivating students. I liked the kids, I liked being in the school, and best of all I liked watching kids succeed. Throughout these years, when I wasn't coaching and raising my own kids, I chose to go back to school. I have an associate degree in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services and a Master of Science degree in Special Education.



I am engaged to a nice guy who also works in special education. He doesn't have nearly as much fun in his job as I do in mine but we both care deeply about kids! When we can find free time we like to kayak, hike, read and spend time at our camp in Shapleigh, Maine.

My mother was a devoted Kittery schools and sports fan. She proudly displayed her Public Education and Traip Academy pins on her purse for all to see. My mom was a Kittery coach, PTA president and a lover of all the small town traditions and advantages. She instilled a love for this town that my entire family shares.

I view our small town and school system as one BIG family. Do we always agree? No. Do we bring our unique perspectives and voices to the table? Yes. Do we celebrate our diversity? Yes we do! I am proud to be part of this very unique and special community.