



**ISLESBORO SCHOOL DEPT
159 Alumni Drive P.O. Box 118
Islesboro, ME 04848**

August 24, 2016

George and Elizabeth Stevens
P.O. Box 228
Islesboro, ME 04848

Dear George and Elizabeth,

At our last regular school board meeting in August, we were reviewing the significant improvements that are currently underway around the school this summer. As I updated the board on the new storage space, the upgraded gardens in the front of the school, and the improvements to the entrance road, I also asked about the very noticeable tree work going on along the entrance road. I had assumed that the work had been conducted by the town, with whom we have been partnering on similar work elsewhere on the school property. I was quickly corrected by several board members who commented that the property along the road is not a town responsibility, but rather is privately owned.

It then came to light that this work had been undertaken by your family. Everyone on the board, and our administration and staff, are all very appreciative of this very extensive work. Earlier in this past school year, as noted above, I met with Arch Gillies and Janet Anderson to talk about taking care of long-overdue tree work on the school grounds, and was happy to get their support for accelerating the work using both school and town resources. We made good progress around the athletic field and on the island, but it was very clear that much more work needed to be done along the road. And this is where your family stepped in!

On behalf of the board and staff, I wish to send along our deep gratitude for the commitment to keeping the entrance to the school looking presentable, and to model sustainable woodlot management for our students and for the many townspeople who frequent the school. Your example is a positive beacon for others to follow!

Please do not hesitate to let me know how I might be helpful in any way. The progress is remarkable!

Sincerely,

Patrick R. Phillips
Superintendent of Schools