

Bob Baines is the Executive Director of STEAM Ahead NH, an education reform initiative based in Manchester, NH that focuses on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. He is a founder and serves as president of Manchester Proud-Championing Student Success which is a community-based, grassroots effort to create a vision for the Manchester Public Schools. He has served as the president of Chester College of New England was the Executive-in-Residence at Southern New Hampshire University, where he was also an adjunct professor in political science. He served as mayor of Manchester and as chairman of the Board of School Committee. Before being elected mayor, he was the principal of Manchester High School West for twenty years and is a past recipient of the Alumni Achievement Award from Keene State College and the Granite State Award from the University System of New Hampshire. Professional recognition include being named New Hampshire Principal of the Year in 1990 by the New Hampshire Association of School Principals, Educator of the Year in 1996 and Citizen of the Year in 2006 by the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce. He is a past president of the New Hampshire Association of School Principals and served on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Secondary School Principals, based in Reston, Virginia. He was a member of the 39th Army Band, New Hampshire Army National Guard.

Bob recently completed an eight-year term on the Board of Trustees of the University System of New Hampshire. He served on the Finance Committee and vice-chair of the Educational Excellence Committee.

Baines received his Bachelor of Education degree, with a major in music education, from Keene State College in 1968 and his Master of Education degree, with a major in school administration, from Rivier College in 1974. He completed additional graduate studies in music education at the University of New Hampshire.

Bob is a lifelong resident of Manchester and has been married to his wife Maureen for 45 years. Maureen is a retired reading specialist in the Manchester, and Bob and Maureen have three children, Christina, a third grade teacher in Derry, Timothy, the owner of Mint Bistro In Manchester and Catherine, a third grade teacher in Hollis.