

RSU 54/MSAD 54
Educational Policy/Program Committee
MINUTES
November 9, 2021
6:00 PM
Skowhegan Area High School –Library

Committee Attendance: Sarah Bunker- **Chair**, Amy Rouse, Goff French, Mike Lambke, Peggy Lovejoy, Lynda Quinn

Also Present: Jon Moody, Mark Hatch, Jason Bellerose, David Dorr

1. Portrait of a Graduate Presentation

David Dorr and Jason Bellerose shared an overview of the district’s work on “Portrait of a Graduate” including the history and process to create a vision of what we want our students to look like when they graduate. The district leadership team, SCTC staff, and the high school leadership team all took part in the discussions about the work. This K-12 effort included connecting with area businesses, teachers, and partners in the district to identify the most important student skills/competencies. These competencies, which reflect what we want our students to be able to do align with the district vision as well as the needs students have identified over the past two years. Mr. Bellerose shared that the timing of this work is perfect as it closely aligns to the accreditation process the high school will be going through over the next couple years. The committee participated in an activity and discussion of the competencies identified. The work will continue through discussions with additional staff /groups throughout the district to collect feedback which will inform future work.

2. COVID-19 Pooled Testing Update

Assistant Superintendent Hatch shared that pooled testing is in its third week of implementation and is going well. The district currently has approximately 300 students in pooled testing. As of the meeting, over 35 students have been able to stay in school and avoid quarantine as a result of pooled testing. Mr. Hatch explained nuances of the process and answered questions from committee members. The district will continue to provide messaging to parents to encourage those students who are unvaccinated to participate.

3. Review New Policy ACAF – Workplace Bullying

The committee reviewed draft policy ACAF, a policy required as a result of a law that just recently went into effect. The required policy has overlap with current policies addressing harassment, affirmative action and workplace situations. The committee will revisit a draft of this policy at the December committee meeting.

4. Athletic Requirements/Winter Sports Season

The Superintendent shared information about the upcoming winter athletic season. The committee discussed the winter season and potential options for athletic events. Administration is hopeful that the MPA (Maine Principals Association) will provide additional guidance in advance of the next board meeting. Regardless, the full board will need to review guidelines for winter athletics by the next meeting: 11/18.

5. Use of Federal Funds

The Superintendent provided an update on the use of federal funds to support students in schools. Federal funds are allocated over the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 school years.

6. District Budget

The Superintendent reviewed adjustments to the FY22 budget. These adjustments reflect current actual expenses and do not include new future items or programs. Recommended changes include adjustments to the budget to reflect contract negotiations (both Teacher/Ed-Tech's & Support Services), lost subsidy for SCTC, and additional required special education positions. The Superintendent will review this information with Support Services at their next meeting and will bring to the full board in December.

7. Report from Assistant Superintendent/Superintendent

Administration reviewed false information that had been posed on social media, and in some media outlets over the past couple of weeks. The information was patently false. The committee discussed the need for parents and community members to reach out to the schools when they hear rumors or have concerns regarding anything they have heard at school.