REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13 SCHOOL BOARD CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES January 22, 2015

Committee Members Present : S. Carleton, G. Emery, D. Robishaw, S. Roberts

Other Board Members Present : L. Andrews

Staff Members Present : C. Veit, R. Thompson, J. McDonald, N. Guyer

K. Harrison, B. Heidemann

Others Present : BDN & Village Soup/Courier-Gazette Press

Location : McLain Building - Rockland

I. Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Curriculum Committee Chair, S. Carleton at 5:00 PM.

II. Four 'As' Text Protocol; C. Veit, R. Thompson, N. Guyer:

Neal Guyer noted that the RSU 13 Proficiency Based Steering Committee (PBSC),as a component of its on-going work district-wide, has developed professional development training modules that can be accomplished within a 40 minute timeframe. These are being designed and piloted specifically to be accomplished during faculty common planning times and are intended to engage faculty in reading and reflecting upon research-based information concerning professional practice that supports proficiency based learning. Curriculum Committee members received materials at the December 18th meeting and agreed to preview a professional reading and participate in a training module at this January 22nd meeting as an opportunity for a firsthand experience with the training strategy, and as a learning opportunity for committee members.

The Four 'As' Text Protocol session was led by Principal Thompson and Carissa Veit. Committee members shared impressions and points of view gleaned from the reading of "Reconcilable Difference? Standards-Based Teaching and Differentiation" by Carol Tomlinson. In debriefing the experience, committee members agreed that the text protocol utilized would be of benefit for inclusion in Board workshops as an effective methodology for expanded learning involving the full Board membership.

III. Gifted and Talented Education – Planning Directions for FY 16; J. McDonald, N. Guyer:

Superintendent McDonald highlighted the program components that are required if RSU 13 is to have an 'approved' program that will become fully reimbursable within State guidelines. These components include identification criteria and support services for students within academics as well as the visual and performing arts. With approved programming criteria verified and in place, the district's GT program would become budget neutral after the initial year of implementation. Committee members endorsed continued program and budget planning that would support an approved program for FY 16.

IV. Discussion – Continuing Work of the Curriculum Committee; Chair Carleton.

Committee members pursued a general discussion regarding the continuing work/role of the Curriculum Committee. Committee member Roberts suggested that the committee offer a stronger voice in articulating educational program priorities for the district and work more closely with other board committees in how these priorities might inform their consideration of facility planning, finance, technology, and other issues. Discussion points emphasized the necessity of working closely with administrative and program personnel in a coordinated approach in identifying directions and priorities for the future, and the need to rely on research-based evidence as options are considered. Committee members agreed to continue this discussion at their February meeting.

V. Other/Adjourn:

This meeting was adjourned by the Curriculum Committee Chair, S. Carleton at 6:20 PM.