

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13
SCHOOL BOARD
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
May 15, 2014

Committee Members Present	:	S. Carleton, G. Emery, C. Bachofner
Other Board Members Present	:	L. Andrews,
Staff Members Present	:	M. Wilhelm, N. Guyer, C. Veit, T. Forti, L. Schooley, J. Curtis, J. Mahar, M. Tolman, D. Johanson
Others Present	:	NA
Location	:	RSU 13 Board Meeting Room – McLain Building

I. Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Curriculum Committee Chair, S. Carleton at 5:35 PM.

II. Updates regarding Proficiency Based Learning Initiative, implications and directions for RSU 13:

Carissa Veit informed committee members that a community forum will be held on the evening of May 29th. This will occur at the McLain Building in Rockland beginning at 6:00 PM. This informational forum will focus on the steps being taken in RSU 13 to transition to a system of proficiency-based teaching and learning. Particular focus will be on the class of 2018 and the proficiency-based transcripts that will be in place for this graduating class. The forum will include a panel presentation and a question and answer session with representatives from colleges in Maine regarding the transition to proficiency-based transcripts and implications for the college admissions process. Representatives from Colby College and the University of Maine system will participate on this panel.

Committee members noted that the RSU 13 School Board would benefit from more regular presentations and updates regarding the district's proficiency-based initiative, and suggested that brief presentations be included on the agenda of regular school board meetings in the future.

III. 2014-2015 modular scheduling plan for OHS-E:

Jenn Curtis (OHS-E science instructor) and Principal Forti profiled a modular scheduling plan being worked on by OHS-E faculty members. The goal of this plan will be to institute a scheduling system that will include both 40 and 80 minute instructional blocks. Such a scheduling plan would:

- *Allow extended time for in-depth activities and inquiry-based lab investigations*
- *Allow for 40 minute/daily mathematics and bridge course instructional periods*
- *Provide more uninterrupted instructional time*
- *Provide additional lunch periods resulting in less crowded use of the cafeteria space*

Some of the challenges of this scheduling plan were also acknowledged including the restricted single 'singleton' offering of some electives, and the complexity of the scheduling process that is not supported with adaptable technology. If remaining challenges are not able to be worked out, the default will be to remain with the existing schedule for another year while this scheduling design work continues.

Committee members congratulated the OHS-E staff on this innovative effort.

IV. Highlighted review of 04-14-14 updated Oceanside High School Evaluation Plan:

OHS Principals Schooley and Forti highlighted aspects of the continuing OHS Evaluation Plan that was most recently updated in April. The updated plan is accessible via each campus website. Highlights included:

- *Positive growth in all categories of the Student Feedback Survey – page 11.*
- *A 90.7% success rate for 8th grade students and 82.69% for 9th grade students for the first semester of this year. While the 9th grade success rate is lower, it is also more in line with historical 10th – 12th grade success rates. This also represents a continuing trend for the decrease in 9th grade failure rates – pages 14 & 17.*
- *Principal Forti noted the over-all successful profile for the class of 2014, with a 1st semester success rate of 90.67% and continuing improvements in honor roll attainment – page 26.*
- *Another trend noted was the decrease in truancy letters being issued across all grades.*
- *Participation in fall athletics increased while winter athletics and participation in other activities has remained consistent with the 2012-2013 pattern of student participation rates.*

The OHS Evaluation Plan will be updated again at the conclusion of the year following NWEA testing and a second administration of the Student Feedback Survey.

V. Other/Adjourn:

The Committee confirmed that the next scheduled Curriculum Committee meeting will take place on June 19, 2014. Agenda items will include a report on grades 1 – 5 proficiency/automaticity with basic math facts, a discussion of the status of the Gifted and Talented Program, and an update on elementary science curriculum work.

Committee members received an overview of the K-5 Next Generation Science Standards for review prior to the June meeting.

This meeting was adjourned by the Curriculum Committee Chair, S. Carleton at 6:55 PM.