

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13
SCHOOL BOARD
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 2010

Committee Members Present : S. Carleton, L. Andrews, G. Emery, J. Doubleday,
Other Board Members Present : R.A. Hohfeld
Staff Members Present : N. Guyer
Others Present : St. George parent
Location : Superintendent's Office – McLain Building

I. Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Sally Carleton, Curriculum Committee Chair, at 5:25 PM.

II. Update on curriculum work accomplished over the summer months – N. Guyer:

Neal Guyer reiterated and expanded upon points that were made in the monthly Curriculum School Board Report for September highlighting summer work accomplishments. These included:

- Expanding the district-wide writing assessment through grade 12.*
- 9th grade team training and coordination activities for RDHS and GVHS.*
- Grade 8-12 Program of Studies work in August.*
- University of Maine Literacy Partnership activities involving all teachers in the new South School configuration.*
- Grade K-8 writing assessment upgrades based upon teacher recommendations solicited in the spring of 2010.*
- Expeditionary Learning planning that occurred at both Thomaston Grammar School and the St. George School.*

III. Review of Assessment/RTI Calendar for 2010-2011 - N. Guyer:

Copies of this document were distributed and discussed so that committee members are aware of assessment periods that occur throughout the year, the content of those assessments, and how the variety of assessments provide information supporting the Response to Intervention (RTI) system.

This calendar will be posted on the district's website, within the 'assessment' link under the 'central office' banner, and will be updated periodically throughout the year. Committee members were also reminded that this site also includes an inventory of assessment tools utilized along with a variety of assessment summary reports.

Neal Guyer noted that a similar calendar is being formulated to capture the full range of professional development activities that will occur throughout the year. This calendar will be presented and reviewed at the October Curriculum Committee meeting.

IV. Preview of highlighted curriculum initiatives for 2010-2011- N. Guyer:

Neal Guyer reported that as a result of administrative team deliberations that occurred in August, the following have been highlighted as premier curriculum initiatives for the coming year:

- *Grade 8-12 reconfiguration via the work plan that has been put in place and is being monitored by the Transition Advisory Group (TAG).*
- *Confirming district-wide trimester benchmarks for reading and mathematics for grades K-8 that are aligned to the recently adopted Common Core Standards.*
- *Formulating and bringing to the Curriculum Committee a proposal for establishing equity and consistency in World Language programming for grades K-8 district-wide.*
- *Continuing our work with the UMO Literacy Partnership at the South School.*
- *RSU 13 K-8 principals will be spearheading an effort to standardize expectations for instruction within physical education, music, and art.*
- *Beginning in January, grades K-8 will begin the orientation to and piloting of a revised Literacy Planning Guide that will further serve to unify literacy practices and the consistent use of data district-wide.*

The Curriculum Committee will be updated regularly regarding these endeavors throughout year.

V. Other/Adjourn:

In addition to the topics note above (IV), committee members also expressed interest in addressing the following topics in meetings planned for 2010-2011:

- *Update on the expansion of the Mid-Level Alternative Education Program being conducted in coordination with the Herring Gut Learning Center (HGLC).*
- *Review of the proposed 8-12 Program of Studies in January.*
- *Update and review of mathematics programming.*

This meeting was adjourned by Sally Carleton at 7:00 PM.