



## **ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA**

Chairperson Harkins adjusted the agenda to include Item 8.4 Bath Tsugaru Exchange Program Report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **TECHNOLOGY UPDATE**

Technology Integrator Bob Jordan presented an overview on how the Technology Integrator position facilitates the use of technology to support student learning in RSU1 classrooms. This year the Technology Integrator position will be more important due to the transition to Chromebooks.

Mr. Jordan stated that providing individual and group support to teachers will be the most effective way to support their efforts in the classroom. Mr. Jordan's approach to promoting the effective use of new technology includes consulting with classroom teachers, and then, when needed, providing instruction that includes an immediate opportunity for students to use the new technology skills. Mr. Jordan then provides ongoing support to teachers and students.

Mr. Jordan introduced examples of classroom systems that help classrooms operate well and efficiently. Examples of how classrooms used application support was provided such as video applications, slideshows, and infographics used to create presentations for the Academy program, Mr. O'Leary's English classes and the JMG program. Mr. Jordan explained that part of his job is to find applications that fit well in the classroom that do not require unnecessary work or training.

Mr. Jordan has also helped make some administrative tasks simpler and more efficient. A Google form has been set up for teachers to provide a student report for IEP meetings which has proven to be more convenient for teachers and helps the special education department receive information in a more timely and useful way. Another example of administrative support is a web page that records daily announcements and dismissals to help reduce the number of emails sent and received.

Mr. Jordan has also provided technology support to high school staff who will be introducing the Guiding Principles to the incoming ninth grade class next year. A Guiding Principles Toolkit website has been developed to help teachers and students implement this element of Proficiency-Based Learning. Teachers will use Google Classroom to track and assess student progress on the Guiding Principles. The website also shows how students will be able to create a digital portfolio that documents their progress on the Guiding Principles and highlights their academic and extracurricular accomplishments. .

RSU 1 has demonstrated a commitment to support learning with technology by investing in Chromebooks and providing professional development opportunities for staff focused on individual needs and skill levels. The technology department is in a good position to help us do this well with an excellent staff that can service the devices and maintain them. Mr. Jordan will be available to help teachers and students have the skills that they need to use these tools in the classroom.

## RTI GRADES K-5

Dike-Newell School Principal Jennifer Vose presented the district's Response to Intervention (RTI) Plan which is a three-tiered system that helps to identify students with learning and behavior needs early. Ms. Vose reviewed the screening process for students in grades K-5 in math and literacy and what skills and competencies are assessed in order to identify student needs. The RTI model is divided into three tiers. All students receive instruction on the bottom tier and as students show that need more support they will move up to the secondary level. If that level is not meeting their needs then they will be moved up to the tertiary level in order to receive more support in smaller classes. The collaboration component is when a student's team meets to discuss where the student is and develop plans to address skill deficits, identify who will be administering the interventions and how often, and when the team will be meeting again to review the student's progress. When looking at the behavior piece of the RTI plan it was determined that schools have different pieces in place so a group was formed to help define our approach to behavioral RTI. It is important that the behavior component is included in the RTI plan and that we look at behavior problems as skill deficits that can be taught and addressed. The team is working with the IT department to put a universal screener in place that looks at student behavior. We have piloted it on paper at Dike-Newell last year and will be looking at beginning the web based program this year at Dike-Newell and have the other schools start with the paper based component. A survey was given to K-5 teachers to identify the top challenging behaviors so that we address them through some tier one interventions. Ms. Vose reviewed the three tiers associated with the behavior component. The needs and next steps include a possible oversight and coordinator person, tightening up timelines for collaborations and progress monitoring, systematic documentation of interventions and an additional progress monitoring system. The next steps and needs for math and literacy and behavior include professional development, identifying individual school-based needs, and intervention support.

Phippsburg Principal Sandra Gorsuch-Plummer recognized the social workers and guidance counselors for their willingness to work on this plan and the amount of work they did over a short period of time.

Considering the cultural differences and differences in community need, Vice Chairperson August inquired as to what the common measurement will be when we report back to the community so show that we made progress. Ms. Vose responded that each school has their own PBIS matrix and defines under each school's rules what the expected behaviors are like in all areas of the school. This approach gives us a fluid product that we can give to the students that they can understand at each grade level. The measureable piece would be the screener which will be the same rating system across the district.

Principal Gorsuch-Plummer felt that we will see a decrease in special education referrals by using the tier I and tier II system and teaching the students expected behavior.

Fisher-Mitchell Principal Ross Berkowitz provided a scenario where two students with behavioral needs followed the same tier I and tier II system with two different outcomes. In addition to screening the data, Mr. Berkowitz stated that each school has specific ways to monitor whether the intervention is working and, if not, what other strategies could be used in order for the student to be successful.

Woolwich Central School Principal Jason Libby stated that Woolwich does not qualify for Title I services and has one K-4 literacy interventionist on staff which leaves a significant amount of students at risk in the higher grades. Woolwich does not have anyone specifically

designated as a math interventionist. Board member Ritch-Smith expressed how important it is for families to apply for free/reduced meals because the level of Title I services available for our students is dependent on the percentage of students that qualify for free/reduced meals.

## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Board member Ensel introduced the committee members in attendance and thanked them for being present to report on what they have been working on over the last several months. Committee member Karen DSilva reviewed the purpose of the committee and provided a short biography on each of the committee members. The goals of the committee include establishing an overall communication goal and develop one clear voice to plot a course to improve communication. The committee sent a survey to principals and teachers to get a sense of what they felt worked in their schools. The committee then split into two groups to evaluate the current RSU 1 site and the schools' websites. In looking at all the information the groups obtained the committee created a SWOT Analysis which listed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats in the RSU 1 community. The Communication Strategy is to go back to the core of RSU 1's community roots by using today's technology to embrace our existing values. Good communication is about supporting RSU 1's Mission "Think.Care.Act" and the RSU 1's Communications Mission "One Strong Voice." Ms. DSilva reviewed the short, medium and long term goals that were recommended by the committee.

As the website becomes "Information Central", the committee would like to see the alerts and announcements throughout the district come from one place, be better maintained, and more consistent navigation menus throughout the site. The committee felt that the district needs more consistency in how we send out information and how often to students and parents. The phase one goal would be to create a cohesive plan, build the tools, and educate the administrators and teachers.

Ms. DSilva reviewed why the RSU 1 site so important, where the information is coming from and the content on the website. The committee suggested creating a marketing club at Morse High School that would be managed by volunteers with the content produced by students. Ms. DSilva shared some of the ways in which we can measure how successful we are in communicating to the community. The committee thanked the Board for the opportunity to get involved with something as important as communication. The committee believes that they have an opportunity to move forward, continue to have these conversations as a group and with the technology department, and eventually talk about how to bring in student involvement.

Board member Ritch-Smith thanked the committee for volunteering their time and their work. Ms. Ritch-Smith stated that Bath and Greater Bath was mentioned throughout the presentation without any mention of the other towns in RSU 1. For any future presentations, Ms. Ritch-Smith stated that we like to think of RSU 1 as a whole with each community being unique and different.

Committee member Raye Leonard responded that Morse High School is the melting for the RSU 1 community. She agreed that it is important to respect that all towns and schools have their own identities; however, it creates a bit of a problem with communications because every school has their own way of doing things. It would be helpful for parents to have a place where they can access information district-wide regardless of where they live.

Chairperson Harkins stated that the Board will need to look at the directive that was given

from the committee, have the committee summarize their recommendations, and then work with administrators and Dean Emmerson to see if we can implement these recommendations.

## **PROFICIENCY-BASED LEARNING UPDATE**

Assistant Superintendent Harvey reported that since the last Board meeting the staff has been focused on the end of school activities and submitting student grades so none of the leadership teams have had an opportunity to meet.

## **TSUGARU EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

Chairperson Harkins thanked the administrators that have agreed to take part in either the adult delegation luncheon or dinner. The committee would like to work towards reintegrating the program into our schools and over the course of the summer our students are scheduled to visit Japan and, in turn, their students will be coming to Bath.

## **MHS BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**

Board member Walton reported that the committee is trying to nail down the local portion part of the project; however, the challenge has been getting the figures related to the cost of the geothermal system. Mr. Walton felt that we need to show the community that the building will be more efficient and less costly in the long run. Mr. Walton joined other committee members during a site visit to Hampden Academy and found the geothermal system to be very effective and worked great in the building. Mr. Walton was impressed with the condition of the interior of the building which is now 5 years old. The committee hopes to have some materials available during Heritage Days weekend so people can see the progress being made on the design of the building.

Vice Chairperson August announced that the committee will be meeting this Thursday at 10:00 am in Room 301 at BRCTC.

## **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Assistant Superintendent Harvey reported on the following:

- Dike-Newell teacher Kathy Henrikson was honored by UNUM as one of their 2017 Teacher Hall of Fame members during a ceremony before a Sea Dogs game this month.
- Morse High School graduation was held on a very hot day and went very smoothly. Ms. Harvey stated that she has attended many graduations and was struck at how the Morse graduation is always so student centered.
- The staff had lunch at Woolwich Central School during the last day of the school year. A ceremony was held after lunch to honor the retirees. The highlight of the afternoon was student speaker Graydon Petersen who shared his journey through his schooling and the challenges he has overcome which was a nice way to end the school year.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Business Manager Debra Clark provided the Board with the Financial Report for the month ending May 31, 2017. The report showed that we have spent \$22.5 million out of the \$28 million budget and has an encumbered amount of \$4.3 million which will be used during the month of June for accrued payroll through July and August. The revenue came in at 90% as expected at this time of the year. Mrs. Clark stated that the state has a law that allows for a





## PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE BID

**MOTION:** August

**SECOND:** Perkins

**VOTE:** Board (7-0)  
Students (1-0)

**TO:** Approve the Property and Casualty Insurance Bid from Cross Insurance as presented.

## COMPUTATION AND DECLARATION OF VOTES OF THE JUNE 13, 2017 BUDGET REFERENDUM

**MOTION:** August

**SECOND:** Ensel

**VOTE:** Board (7-0)  
Students (1-0)

**TO:** Approve the Computation and Declaration of Votes of the June 13, 2017 Budget Referendum as presented.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

## NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

- The Board discussed the possibility of having a short Board meeting in July to talk about negotiations. The Board tentatively set a meeting date of Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Superintendent's Office.
- Next regular Board meeting; Monday, August 28, 2017 – Location TBD

## ADJOURN

Chairperson Harkins took a moment to thank the Board members and the RSU 1 community as this would be his last Board meeting. Mr. Harkins shared the ways that being on the Board has defined him and enhanced his life in a positive way. Each Board member expressed their appreciation to Mr. Harkins for his dedication, leadership and willingness to serve the RSU 1 community. The Board recognized the enormous impact Mr. Harkins has had on education in the RSU 1 and thanked him for the integrity with which he communicated with the Board and the community.

**MOTION:** August

**SECOND:** Perkins

**VOTE:** Board (7-0)  
Students (1-0)

**TO:** Adjourn at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Harvey  
Secretary