

MAINE MARITIME MUSEUM

Superintendent Manuel introduced Jonathan Wells, Education Coordinator at Maine Maritime Museum and stated that Mr. Wells has been helpful in regaining our relationship with the museum, finding grants, and working with our teachers to adapt their offerings to our curriculum. Dr. Manuel felt it would be beneficial for the Board and the public to hear about some of the projects that we have going on in the district with the museum.

Mr. Wells reported that he met with Superintendent Manuel last spring to inform him that Maine Maritime Museum received funding that would give the museum an opportunity to make a connection once again with RSU 1. The program that was created from those funds is called a "Sense of Place" which is geared towards students in grades 2, 4, and 7. Mr. Wells stated that he is hoping to expand the program to include our 10th grades as well. Mr. Wells gave an overview of the program which included pictures of the 7th graders at work. A lot of effort has been put into the 7th grade portion of the program this year which includes four visits to the museum and a month-long exhibit of their work at the museum. Each 7th grader received a copy of the book *Maine and the Sea* to go along with their in class assignments and hands-on work. The curriculum ties into the state's science and technology standards. Mr. Wells met with our teachers in August to talk about the program and is working to finalize the curriculum for the 2nd and 4th grade which will be tailored to each class. Mr. Wells reported that the museum has a portion of the funding for the 2nd and 3rd year and will be pursuing other funding to continue the program after seeing success in the first year. Mr. Wells expressed his appreciation to everyone that has been supportive of this program.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Technology Director Dean Emmerson stated the one of the goals this year is to be more purposeful about the use of technology by looking at how much screen time the students get and what are they doing with it. RSU1 recently showed the documentary Screenagers to all students in grades 6-12 with the goal of generating discussions in our community, raise awareness, and help us all be more purposeful about our use of technology. The Patten Free Library had a community showing of the documentary as well and had approximately 50 people in attendance. Mr. Emmerson reported that the feedback he received was that these showings started good meaningful discussions in and out of class about the use of technology. One challenge Mr. Emmerson faces is how and when to get staff trained. Around 30-40 staff members attended technology sessions that were offered in June and August. Mr. Emmerson stated that these training sessions are a great opportunity for teachers to share their successes with one another. The technology department will continue to refine the training sessions and look at ways to boost enrollment. RSU 1 had 15 staff members attend the ACTEM conference in Augusta which was geared toward using technology in the classroom.

Technology Integrator Robert Jordan shared the ways in which he is helping the teachers use technology effectively in their classroom and help them become more confident with the technology. Mr. Jordan reported that the challenge he faces is finding a time to meet with the teachers during their busy day. Mr. Jordan has done a presentation for all staff in grades 6-12 to make sure that they are aware that he is available to help them.

Mr. Emmerson stated staff will be very involved in the conversations and process when planning what technology will be available in the new Morse High School.

MORSE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

Superintendent Manuel reported that the option to purchase the Wing Farm property has been signed and is currently being surveyed. We are beginning to look at what the building will look

like from the outside such as where it will be located on the property. The architects are confident that the property is large enough to have a state of the art high school with sufficient room for parking, playing fields, buses and traffic flow. Dr. Manuel hopes to have the straw poll vote scheduled before the next Board meeting in November. In the meantime we have had some staff visit the Mt. Blue Regional School District to look at their technology center. The architects have temporarily included some things in the plans that would not be covered by the state. The Board, community and staff will have an opportunity to weigh in on the primarily plans that include the items that are considered extra costs. The vote will eventually go out to referendum which will include the amount of state support as well as the local share.

Chairperson Harkins asked that the Board and community are provided with a schedule of when the process begins, when they will have an opportunity to weigh in on preliminary plans, and then the final decision will be made. Mr. Harkins felt that it is important to get the community involved particularly because we will be asking to spend additional funds beyond what the state is going to pay for.

PROFICIENCY-BASED LEARNING UPDATE

Assistant Superintendent Judy Harvey stated that she felt that the technology integrator has been the best addition to 6-12 education in the district since she has been working here. She felt that Mr. Jordan is doing an amazing job with the teachers as well as working with the administrators. Ms. Harvey was pleased to hear Mr. Wells talk about the standards during the Maine Maritime Museum presentation. Everything we do in the classroom needs to be aligned with the standards and organizations that give support to school systems should be aware of and talking about the standards. This year's focus is on getting vertical alignment. Coach Katie Thompson has been working with representatives from the middle and high school by subject area to share what they are doing and have done in their classroom. We need to pay attention to making certain K-8 is supporting the graduation standards. The professional development day on November 8th will be on proficiency-based education from K-12. Most of the planning for the day was done this summer by the teachers. Ms. Harvey would like to do a workshop before the November meeting in order to get the Board up to speed on what proficiency-based education is and where the district has been and where we are going.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Superintendent Manuel reported that the group discussed the state school construction list and Facilities Director David Richards reviewed the work that was done over the summer. The facility use form may come back to the Board for review. We have been receiving some unique requests to use our facilities and we may add some language to the form to help address these requests.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Manuel reported on the following:

- Congratulations to Mary Welner, Special Education Ed Tech II at Bath Middle School, for being selected by the MEA to receive the Inspiring Educators award. Mrs. Welner will be featured on an upcoming news segment on News Center. Mrs. Welner is a very hardworking, conscientious, and dedicated employee and we are very fortunate to have her at Bath Middle School.
- High school teacher Jeff DeRosa, Special Education teacher Julia Skidmore and Social Worker Lydia Crafts have created a new mentoring program at Fisher-Mitchell School. Once a week some of the high school football players go to Fisher-Mitchell to work with

students in our behavior support program to act as positive role models by modeling respect, sportsmanship, and team work.

- During the October 7th Professional Development day the high school staff focused on proficiency-based learning. The Bath Middle School staff became students for the day and experienced the Green Crab expedition which was planned by BMS teachers Vice Shatto and Monica Wright. The elementary teachers spent the day focusing on how students deal with trauma in their life and how it impacts their daily life and their behavior at school. The day consisted of presentations by outside organizations and RSU 1 staff. Dr. Manuel thanked the elementary principals and Judy Harvey for their work in planning the day.
- The administrative team has been visiting classrooms together and providing feedback to teachers and each other. The principals have all set their goals for this year around instruction as well as data at their schools.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Business Manager Debra Clark presented the financial report for the month ending September 30, 2016. To date, \$3.8 million or 13.61% of the budget has been spent which is in line with last year's 12.5%. Revenue is currently at 28.1% while last year at this time we had reported receiving 24%. This is the time of year that we start looking at hiring versus budgeted and we came in pretty close. In comparing the number of tuition students budgeted versus actual number of tuition students enrolled, we found that are numbers are down by two students. We won't know what the impact will be until the new tuition rates are determined by the state. The auditors will be coming next week to finish the financial process for the 2015-16 school year.

UPDATE ON 2014 CONSTRUCTION BOND

Business Manager Debra Clark provided the Board with a copy of a summary of what was done this summer with the 2014 construction bond. Mrs. Clark worked with our financial advisor and attorney in July and August to put together a detailed report about the district, financial situation and community. The result of this report was an official statement that went out on the web in order to sell the bonds. Through the process RSU 1 received a AA rating from Standards and Poor's. The bonds were split in two separate increments – Series A and Series B as recommended by our attorneys. We received 8 bids for Series A and 7 for Series B. The interest costs came in at 1.4% and 1.9%. We had planned on 2.85% so the overall cost was \$231,000 less than anticipated and \$25,000 less annually for the debt service payment. The funds went into our account and we paid off our loan with Bath Savings. The first payment due in February will be just for interest and principal payments following the budget year.

Chairperson Harkins addressed Special Education Director Justin Keleher's Board report that stated that we have 41 new unanticipated students entering the district with special education requirements. Mr. Harkins requested that Mrs. Clark meet with Mr. Keleher to put together a report that will show how this impacts the special education budget this year.

REVIEW OF 2016-2017 BOARD GOALS

Board member Ritch-Smith suggested that the Board look at the goals during each meeting to see whether we have touched on any of the Board goals during the meeting. Ms. Ritch-Smith reviewed the ways in which the Board addressed each goal during this meeting.

SECOND READING OF POLICY JICK – BULLYING AND CYBERBULLYING IN SCHOOLS

The Board discussed the reference to the state forms in the policy. Superintendent Manuel felt that the forms were cumbersome and although documentation is important, there is a system in

