

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT  
NOVEMBER 17, 2011

POLICY – DISTRIBUTION – Congratulations on completely reviewing and revising the School Board Policy Book. Now it is a matter of revising policy for new law, NH School Boards Association recommendations, and district/school needs. There are still a few outstanding. The following policies are being distributed for future action. Copies will be distributed at meeting.

- BB – School Board Legal Status – policy revision to reflect state law requiring school boards to establish structure, accountability, advocacy, and delivery of instruction.
- BBAA – Board Member Authority – policy revision per NHSBA recommendation on authority of school board members.
- BEAB – School Board Member Use of Electronic Communication Devices During School Board Meetings – new policy per NHSBA requesting members to refrain from using electronic communication devices during meetings.
- GDS – Recognition of Bargaining Units – new policy per NHSBA reflecting state law.
- JEC – Manifest Educational Hardship – policy revision recommended by NHSBA to address time conflicts in implementing the policy.
- KFA – Public Conduct on School Property/Assaults – policy revision recommended by NHSBA to address inappropriate public conduct on school property.

TRANSPORTATION – School bus route student counts and times were requested to monitor the effectiveness of the school's transportation system. It was noted that the student counts were a bit high on elementary routes 4 and 6 in comparison to other routes. Adjustments have been made. Route times for both the elementary and middle/high school runs are in the range of 35 to 45 minutes.

You may have received a letter regarding a bus stop change. I just wanted to let you know that I had already resolved the matter before receiving the letter as the Principal had notified me of the situation.

SST LEGISLATIVE MEETING – On October 31<sup>st</sup> SST held a meeting with Exeter and sending schools representatives to discuss career and technical education funding and other school district issues. Thank you to Sue Kimball for attending. No legislative representatives for Epping attended the meeting. We discussed the downshifting of costs due to elimination of state contribution to retirement, reduction in funding for SST, and timing of making decisions impacting school district budgets and operation. It was reported that the retirement changes were not to impact local budgets and that funding for SST was to be kept the same. School districts present reported that this was not the case. It was agreed that the timing of these changes was not ideal and a study of the state and local budget calendars was needed.

OCTOBER 28 PD DAY – EMS/EHS Principal Kyle Repucci requested a presentation on “where we are and where we’re going” with middle and high school staff. The presentation centered on the influences of NEASC, Common Core, and NH Public School Standards and our plan. We reviewed the steps we were taking, showed how it related to NEASC, and talked about the status of this work. There was some good questions and discussion. Copies of presentation materials will be distributed at meeting. I also participated in the science assessment work at the high school.

NEASC - There has been some confusion about NEASC as communications from the organization suddenly just focused on the high school. It was discovered that there was a policy decision made by NEASC. This has been cleared up and accreditation will cover both the middle and high schools. The actual visitation is not expected until 2015, but there are reports required throughout the ten year period between visitations. The next report due in June 2012 expects the inclusion of a new high school reporting system to reflect the learning expectations (concept and skill competencies) as required for both NEASC accreditation and NH Public School approval.

As a result the District Leadership Team has begun a discussion on one of the district goals to link student reporting to proficiency statements, course competency statements, and district learning expectations. We are starting with the high school reporting system as this is the priority as stated above. Our intent is to have a system that smoothly transitions students from one school to the next recognizing that reporting for grade level spans will be different and knowing that students will ultimately receive high school credit by meeting competencies not by grade or seat time. Please note that this is in the discussion phase and no action will be taken without inclusive conversation and extensive communication.

NAEP RESULTS – The 2011 results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) have just been released. It is important to note that Epping Schools participated in this testing. Overall NH tested in the top 10. Schools do not receive their individual results.

- Grade 4 reading – average score of 230 in comparison to 220 nationally (3<sup>rd</sup> place)
- Grade 4 mathematics – average score of 252 in comparison to 240 nationally (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- Grade 8 reading – average score of 272 in comparison to 264 nationally (8<sup>th</sup> place)
- Grade 8 mathematics – average score of 292 in comparison to 283 nationally (6<sup>th</sup> place)

NON-PUBLIC –

- Student tuition request
- Student bullying report
- Personnel leave
- Personnel contract

Barbara D. Munsey