

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT
DECEMBER 15, 2011

2011 DISTRICT REPORT CARD – Demographic, educational, and financial data which serve as the foundation of the District’s accountability system have been updated to include the most current national, state, and district information. The District Report Card, the narrative reporting of this data, has also been revised to reflect this new information. Last year this report was included in the District’s Annual Report and it is assumed that the Board wishes to continue this practice. (Information disseminated via email)

REPORTING AND GRADING – Middle and high school accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) includes an on-site visit every ten years; however, the work to meet continued accreditation takes place between visits. Per the latest communication EHS is required to submit by April 1, 2012 a high school reporting system which aligns with the school’s learning expectations which in our case is the District Competencies for Learning (previously named District Learning Expectations). It is important to note that this reporting system must also meet the NHDOE requirement to award high school credit based on students demonstrating competency. The District Leadership Team (DLT) has also started a conversation about reporting and grading and has agreed to develop district reporting and grading guidelines for all schools.

In preparation for this discussion and work a review of educational research and best practice has been completed and draft guidelines have been developed for discussion later this month. EHS Principal Kyle Repucci and I have also worked together to develop a draft report card that meets NHDOE and NEASC criteria. On the PD day held December 9 the draft report card was shared with EHS teachers. The tentative timeline calls for EHS to finish their work in January, an initial report to the School Board in February, and School Board approval of the report card concept in March to meet the April 1st deadline.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – The NH Department of Education forwarded an email from Learning Forward (formerly National Staff Development Council) which is the basis for NH’s model professional development plan and the District’s professional development plan. Learning Forward had requested knowing if any NH Districts had formally adopted their standards. Epping School District was identified as 1 out of 4 NH Districts that have progressive professional learning practices in which professional learning is no longer determined by clock hours at off-site workshops, but by an evidence-based measure of professional learning on-site.

NHDOE PROVIDED STUDENT DATA SOFTWARE – The NHDOE has notified the District that the state will no longer be able to provide Performance Tracker which is used to house and analyze student assessment results from the state test NECAP, the national test NWEA, and other district assessments. The Epping cost is approximately \$1,800. In response a staff Survey Monkey has been sent to all teachers and administrators requesting information on their current use of state provided Performance

Tracker and District provided Assessment Builder and Performance Pathways TechPaths software. This information will be used to prioritize the District's need for curriculum/assessment software, make appropriate decisions to meet teacher need, and live within budget. The survey closes December 14th.

POLICY – SECOND READING – The following policies were recommended for revision by the NH School Boards Association and are subject to a second reading. There were no changes made after the first reading.

- 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.

POLICY – FIRST READING – The following policies have been recommended for athletics.

- Policy GEA – Athletic Team Coaches is a new policy governing District practice on selecting, compensating, and continuing athletic coaches. This policy was recommended by the NH School Boards Association and revised/approved by School Principal and Athletic Director.
- Policy JLCJ – Concussions and Head Injuries is a new policy governing District practice on concussions and head injuries. This is an area of serious concern as more information on the ramifications of head injuries on health and education are known. The NH Department of Education, NH School Boards Association, NH Interscholastic Athletic Association, and Epping School Administration are recommending that students participating in competitive athletic activities have a baseline concussion test for eligibility. The policy addresses various administrative responsibilities, protocol for eligibility to play, protocol for return to play, concussion awareness and training, and academic issues in concussed student.
- Policy JLCA – Physical Examinations of Students has been revised to reflect recommended Policy JLCJ above.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS – Per your request timelines have been added to the outstanding items list.

- Emergency shelter – December 22 emergency management meeting has been scheduled with town to obtain response on questions of responsibility.

- Blizzard bags – The District Leadership Team is scheduled to discuss blizzard bags.
- Review of annual policy – Review is scheduled for after school board elections.
- EHS gym broadcasting – Approved by School Board. Status of ETV equipment to be determined.
- Emergency generator bids – On hold pending emergency shelter decision above.
- EES facilities work session – To be scheduled after first of the year.
- Natural gas advocacy – Responsibility and deadline to be determined.

NONPUBLIC –

- Student due process
- Student bullying report
- Adverse reputation
- Personnel updates

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