Regional School Unit No. 5

Strategic Communications Subcommittee Report

Date: June 4, 2014
Committee: Strategic Communications
Chair: Candice Decsipkes
In attendance: Candice Decsipkes, Kathryn Brown, Valy Steverlynck, Joe Makley
Meeting Date: May 28, 2014

Agenda Items and Discussion:

Strategic Plan Revisions:
- Pos Post Secondary comparison data is now provided by the Maine DOE
- Cross-curricular Standards are now being piloted at all grade levels
- Grade 2 Fountas and Pinnel Reading level scores are available
- Writing prompts baseline data is available for grades 7&8.
- AP Participation data is available for years 2008-2009 through 2012-2013.

Cross-curricular Standards Pilot report out:
The Cross-curricular Skills are being piloted in all buildings this year. Feedback is being collected from each group for final adjustments to procedures/protocols, to be determined in June. Professional development will be conducted in August. Policy IKE, IKF (that reference the new standards) have been submitted to the board and are in 1st Read. The new standards will be a component of the shift to a proficiency-based system for the class of 2018.

Writing Assessment Report out:
Joe Makley reported that the writing assessment for 8th grade (class of 2018) was completed with a baseline performance of 62% achieving a score of proficient or distinguished. The new local assessment is aligned with adopted curriculum (including state standards,) and will be a regular feature of writing instruction.

Superintendent’s email
The committee agreed to make a recommendation to the superintendent that official communications from the superintendent’s office be sent out from the superintendents’ email address, rather than that of the administrative assistant.

Improving communication
There was a discussion of ideas to improve communication, including: revising a list of current communications methods, establishing a new community opinion survey, and enriching the format of town government workshops and budget meetings.

Press release recommended? No
Submitted by: Joe Makley