



**SHEEPSCOT VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT #12**

**665 PATRICKTOWN ROAD, SUITE 2,  
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Howard Tuttle, Superintendent of Schools  
Deborah Taylor, Director of Curriculum and Technology  
Delia Dearnley, Director of Special Services

Larry Dancer, Director of Operations  
Belinda Waterhouse, Business Manager

## **RSU 12 Curriculum, Learning, and Instruction Committee Agenda/Minutes**

**Thursday, December 14, 2017**

**Chelsea Elementary School – 5:30 pm**

Present: Barbara Baston, Deb Taylor, Keith Marple, Will Sugg, Becky Malinowski, Dale Haywood (arrived at 6:00)

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 9, 2017: (5 minutes)**

**Unanimous**

### **2. CURRICULUM UPDATE: (15 minutes)**

In late November, the Superintendent and I attended a two-day conference at Bates College on Student-Centered Coaching. We learned how to use coaching strategies to work with teachers in a collaborative examination of student learning data, goal setting based on that data, and deliberate practice for improved student learning. We learned some specific strategies for improving teacher practice and, thereby student learning. Among these was a practice called instructional rounds, which is modeled after the medical approach to learning wherein a group of medical students collaborate in the analysis of a medical issue and treatment plan. Instructional rounds allows a small group of educators to observe several learning experiences focusing on student learning as evidenced through student behaviors and discourse. The group of educators then meets to discuss what they observed and the implications for learning and for instructional practice. We plan to bring our learning back to the district in a couple of ways. First, we intend to design of professional development on this topic for administrators to help them be more effective in the support and development of their teachers. Second, we intend to form a cohort of educators who serve in coaching roles (both formal and informal) with their peers so that we can share this professional development and allow them to support each other in their work with their colleagues.

- Here is a [link to a Harvard Education Letter](#) that provides a more detailed description of Instructional Rounds for those who are interested.
- Learn more about Student-Centered Coaching at <https://dianesweeney.com/>.

RSU 12 is working with the Maine Cohort for Customized Learning (MCCL) to apply for a Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Education Services (FEDES) grant from the Maine Department of Education. The goal of this grant application is to fund the development of a digital reflection and self-assessment tool that would then inform expanded professional development opportunities to support implementation of proficiency-based, customized learning. The expanded professional development opportunities would include leadership development and coaching, online learning modules, a summer institute for teachers, and digital credentialing.

### **3. MATH COACHING PROJECT: (30 minutes)**

Becky Malinowski, classroom teacher at Windsor Elementary and Math Coaching Project participant, presented about her experience in the Maine Mathematics Coaching Project (MMCP). Becky's participation is being funded through MDOE school improvement funds available to Palermo Consolidated School because of its status as a FOCUS school. Becky provided a series of professional development sessions to Palermo staff in 2016-17 grounded in staff survey and needs assessment results. This work enabled her to forge relationships with Palermo staff and opened the door to coaching relationships in multiple classrooms in Palermo in 2017-18. Becky is targeting this year's professional development on the development of intentional talk in Mathematics. Intentional talk involves helping students articulate their approach to problems and problem solving and is grounded in an inquiry model. Becky will be leading a book study using the text *Intentional Talk: How to Structure and Lead Productive Mathematical Discussions*. Discussion about Becky's experience with the course work, coaching, and



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implementing these strategies in the classroom with learners. Dale Haywood, Principal of Palermo Consolidated, shared her perspective on the value of Becky's professional development for the staff and students.

4. OTHER: (5 minutes)
5. COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS (Once marked complete, the item will be removed from the list for the following month):
6. ACTION FOR NEXT MEETING:
7. NEXT MEETING DATE: January 11, 2017 at 5:30 at Chelsea Elementary School

END TIME: 6:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Taylor  
Director of Curriculum and Technology