

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 19



TO: RSU 19 Board of Directors

FR: Ryan Parker / Mike Hammer

DT: November 30

RE: **Education Committee Meeting Agenda**

DAY: Tuesday

DATE: **December 7, 2021**

TIME: 6:30 PM

PLACE: **Library at Nokomis Regional Middle School**

Alternative Education Tour and Overview

The Committee received an Alternative Education Tour and Overview from Mr. Giallombardo and Mrs. Nadeau. Mr. Giallombardo's program is for at-risk students. At-risk is defined as academic failure and/or risk of drop-out. The ultimate goals of the program are to get these students ready to graduate with their four year cohort. Most students are referred to the program by their guidance counselor, and come for a variety of reasons including poor attendance, social anxiety, behavior issues, and an inability to handle a traditional educational setting. They typically need more 1:1 time and they get that with smaller classes and Mr. Giallombardo's program. Mrs. Nadeau speaks extremely highly of Mr. Giallombardo, his skill set, and his program, specifically highlighting his ability to meet students where they are with empathy but also hold them accountable.

The students receive a combination of individualized digital learning and hands-on project based learning which ranges across disciplines but usually involves some sort of physical activity. We received a tour of the Alternative Ed classroom which includes two sections of classroom space, one with desks, a library and supplies, and another with the aquaponics infrastructure that Mr. Giallombardo has built up. In the hands-on, project based curricula, students learn lessons that Mr. Giallombardo has worked (in collaboration with subject area teachers) to align to Nokomis learning standards. He has also reconfigured the digital platform "Edmentum" so the curriculum it provides meets Nokomis standards but also takes into account the unique learning needs of his students.

The students not only run the aquaponics program but also grow and sell produce, mostly herbs from it and the outdoor greenhouses and growing outdoor garden located just outside the classroom. The money they earn is put back into the program.

NWEA Data Review

The Committee also received an update from Curriculum coordinator, Mrs. Merrow regarding NWEA testing and results. Mrs. Merrow's charts outlining comparisons as possible are included in this report. One thing she pointed out is that the NWEA test was changed at the same time the state adopted it for universal testing, and at the beginning of the pandemic. This, coupled with other factors changed by the state (mostly around subcategory subject assessments) make it impossible to compare current data to anything before Fall 2020. But, we now have data to compare between Fall 2020 and Fall 2021. We will be collecting data this spring that will allow comparisons between spring 2021 and spring 2022. Even these are limited though because the state keeps changing subgroup assessment norms. Mrs. Merrow and Mr. Hammer indicated that Superintendents and Curriculum Coordinators around the state have almost universally provided feedback that this frequent changing needs to stop so the testing can be used to full advantage.

Teaching staff do not necessarily use the overall numbers shown in the chart in their review of testing data. Rather, NWEA allows teachers to dive deeper into the data so they can see specifically which topics students have difficulty with. So instead of "math" they can divide that into geometry, algebraic reasoning, etc. and see if there are trends which require more targeted intervention.

Principals, Mrs. Merrow, and Mr. Hammer all agreed that this new test is very useful for teachers and much more useful than the old manner in which NWEA was administered and scored because it allows for this more acute data dive. But they would like the state to keep subgroups consistent across years for a while.

Overall, the administration thinks there is a long way to go to recover from the year of remote learning but that we are headed in the right direction, which is reflected when you compare proficiency scores which generally increased from one spring to the next (notwithstanding covid disruptions and state fluctuations in testing norms).

Update on Afterschool Grant Funded Programs

The Superintendent and Administration updated the Committee on some of the after school intervention programs that have been and need to be implemented with the ESSR funding that had to be targeted to recovery programming. Programs have been successfully implemented at Sebasticook and NRMS and programs are being developed for Somerset and NRH. The programs at Sebasticook were broken up by grade level and included after school clubs which included after school snack programs and transportation directly to students' homes after club activities. The same is true of the middle school but the club membership went across grade level.

Membership in the clubs was handled on a first come first served basis except when many applications came in all at once. In those instances staff collaborated to ensure the students who were showing the most need for social interaction (particularly after returning to in-person learning after a year of remote learning) were included and served

by these programs.

The grant funding pays for these interventions and that includes materials as well as staff. There has been some difficulty with staffing these programs. It requires coordinators and teachers and in some cases schools have been able to get one and not the other. They are still working to close these staffing gaps and implement more after school programs in the new year.

Calendar Adjustments

Due to an oversight which resulted in the shifting of workshop and in-service days around going remote and then returning to in-person, we currently have 7 workshop days in the calendar but we are only allowed to have 5 (per contract). To fix this, the Superintendent recommends we remove the two extra days that are inadvertently in the calendar. Specifically, Mr. Hammer recommends we change a workshop day at the beginning of the new year, and that March 10th become a full student day (March 11 would be a half day).

Furthermore, Mr. Hammer reported that other districts in the Tri-county sphere of influence have decided to change their calendars to make December 20, 21, and 22 vacation days. He recommended we consider that as well. The Education Committee discussed this and several other options and the Committee recommends Wednesday, December 22, be changed to a vacation day.

Future Agenda Items

- Job shadow program. ELO
- Barr Grant update.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Parker, Committee Chair

NWEA Data 2021-2022

No Spring 2020 - due to COVID 19 Pandemic

Grade	Fall 2020 - MATH				Spring 2021 - MATH				Fall 2021 - MATH				Spring 2022 - MATH			
	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	
Kindergarten																
One	13%	22%	11%	43%	16%	30%	28%	69%								
Two	25%	17%	11%	36%	21%	15%	7%	29%	25%	27%	13%	50%				
Three	18%	17%	19%	37%	27%	19%	3%	36%	30%	17%	16%	45%				
Four	19%	25%	7%	42%	21%	18%	7%	34%	18%	23%	7%	43%				
Five	18%	17%	3%	28%	20%	10%	2%	19%	25%	15%	6%	36%				
Six	19%	16%	6%	28%	25%	12%	4%	30%	24%	16%	4%	32%				
Seven	22%	11%	2%	25%	23%	9%	2%	21%	22%	14%	6%	29%				
Eight	26%	17%	7%	39%	30%	10%	7%	34%	21%	18%	4%	31%				
Nine									24%	18%	9%	40%				
Ten									33%	16%	10%	42%				
Eleven					17%	23%	13%	46%	27%	13%	20%	48%				

Proficiency - at or above grade-level mean RIT.

Grade	Fall 2020 - READING				Spring 2021 - READING				Fall 2021 - READING				Spring 2022 - READING			
	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	
Kindergarten																
One	16%	18%	16%	41%	23%	9%	20%	62%	26%	21%	13%	45%				
Two	19%	19%	6%	31%	22%	16%	5%	29%	19%	20%	8%	36%				
Three	10%	18%	25%	47%	21%	22%	13%	45%	17%	21%	16%	40%				
Four	22%	31%	17%	60%	25%	17%	13%	47%	23%	18%	17%	52%				
Five	20%	25%	10%	43%	22%	13%	7%	37%	21%	17%	16%	44%				
Six	22%	18%	12%	40%	20%	21%	7%	36%	22%	19%	12%	40%				
Seven	24%	29%	9%	50%	18%	21%	3%	31%	18%	15%	11%	36%				
Eight	22%	17%	8%	36%	21%	21%	7%	41%	28%	19%	11%	39%				
Nine									28%	23%	8%	46%				
Ten									31%	26%	12%	59%				
Eleven					18%	34%	30%	64%	25%	30%	14%	61%				

Grade	Fall 2020 - LANG. USAGE				Spring 2021 - LANG. USAGE				Fall 2021 - LANG. USAGE				Spring 2022 - LANG. USAGE			
	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	Proficient	Average	High Average	High	
Kindergarten																
One																
Two	11%	5%	15%	26%	14%	11%	12%	32%								
Three	20%	9%	18%	42%	22%	17%	11%	39%	16%	20%	15%	40%				
Four	20%	19%	10%	47%	22%	18%	9%	38%	20%	23%	10%	44%				
Five	22%	11%	10%	29%	18%	14%	7%	24%	24%	17%	10%	38%				
Six	23%	12%	8%	31%	15%	18%	7%	29%	26%	19%	2%	31%				
Seven	20%	22%	7%	40%	21%	14%	5%	30%	25%	16%	10%	37%				
Eight	26%	19%	8%	41%	16%	20%	6%	37%	21%	19%	7%	37%				
Nine									25%	22%	11%	47%				
Ten									25%	24%	17%	56%				
Eleven									26%	25%	16%	53%				

Proficiency is based on performing at the 50th percentile or above

REVISED REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 19 CALENDAR 2021 – 2022

[illegible]

Holidays

Sept 6 – Labor Day

Oct 11 – Indigenous Peoples Day

Nov 11 – Veterans Day

Nov 25 – Thanksgiving Day

Dec 24 – Christmas (Holiday)

Dec 31— New Year's (Holiday)

Jan 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Feb 21 – Presidents' Day

Apr 18 – Patriot's Day

May 30 – Memorial Day

Vacation Days (V)

November 26

December 22, 23, 27 -30

February 22 - 25

April 19 - 22

Trimester Schools

December 03

March 18

June 21

Academic Quarter Schools

Quarter 1 Nov 05

Quarter 2 Jan 28

Quarter 3 Apr 08

Workshop Days (W) TRD

WORKSHOP DAYS (W)
Aug 30 & 31 Oct 8 Nov 12

Aug 30 & 31, Oct. 8, NOV 12
 13 March 11 May 27 June

Fun Days (C) Nov 24 & April

Student Days 175

5 WS; 2 Comp 7

182 Teacher Days

2 New Teacher

184 Total New Tea

(Students released around noon)

Oct 7. ~~Nov 10~~ Dec 8. Jan 19

March ~~10~~ 11. May 18

⑨

***Payroll Week**

NRH GRADUATION is Friday, June 10, 2022

Approved: 05/18/21; Revised: 12/14/21