

Administrator School Board Update 4/12/22
Michelle McClellan, Assistant Superintendent

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment update

- Our March 11th Professional Learning Workshop was a highly productive day. Given the time, teachers worked with colleagues, both in departments or teams and across buildings. The discussions were rich and focused on examining and improving outcomes for our students. Workshop days and early release afternoons are invaluable and allow for collegial dialogue and collaboration among faculty and staff that isn't fully possible during a regular school day. Here are a few of the activities and areas of focus staff will participate in next Friday.
 - After another engaging presentation by Dr. Delvina, teachers expressed their appreciation for a continued focus on staff wellness and asked that opportunities continue.
 - Content teachers across schools and teams continued to examine the learning progression as our students move from grade to grade and school to school. There was great energy as teachers identified curricular alignment and gaps. Teachers expressed the need for more of these conversations!
- The Maine DOE recently announced a change in terminology of what was previously known as EL (English Language learners) to ML (Multi Language Learners.) Although this seems like a small change, we're excited as it more accurately describes our students who are in the process of learning English and also proficient in other languages. Also exciting in our ML department - we recently filled our ed tech opening, allowing us to fully serve our students. Our two ML teachers - Emilee Conroe and Jessica Miller - have done an exceptional job balancing the many aspects of teaching and administering our program this year with minimal ed tech coverage. We're grateful for their efforts!
- Assessment Update: Our ML students finished up WIDA testing in March. Results of this assessment are expected in May. Maine Educational Assessments (MEA) will be administered in May with all students grades 3-8 participating in Reading, Math and Language Usage assessments. Grades 5, 8 and 11 will also participate in Science assessments.

Facilities

- Summer work plans for our building maintenance work are in the process of being developed. In order to best support the work of our summer team, custodians will participate in training sessions to increase effectiveness and efficiency of working in a team. Our custodians expressed appreciation of the training held last Fall. These coming sessions will continue to support their professional development.

Celebrate the Good

- Our Central Office team is made up of individuals who work behind the scenes to best support the systems and staff in our district. Often their work goes unnoticed, which is really a testament to their effectiveness and commitment. The recent addition of Susan Shaw, Director of Human Resources, enhances our team immensely and we are very excited to have her onboard. Prior to Susan's arrival, Denise Porciello stepped in to cover our HR needs while continuing her work as city and school departments' accountant. Denise's organized approach coupled with her dedication and commitment to customer service allowed both departments to meet the needs of our employees during this "gap" time. We are very grateful to have such a highly skilled professional on our team!