

Membership Present:

L. Berger, G. Emery, T. Forti, K. Gamage, R. Gilson, D. Johanson, B. Pearce, J. Lucarelli, M. A. McLean, L. Schooley.

The outcomes for this meeting included the following:

Summary of Meeting Outcomes:

1. This meeting began with a review of the agenda and it was noted that no new communications had been received since the last TAG meeting in November. In terms of general updates and sharing, the following points were highlighted:
 - Principals Schooley & Forti noted the need to begin developing a formal mission statement for Oceanside High School (OHS). This work will commence in January with the formation of the NEASC Accreditation Steering Committee. This is a component of benchmark 2K within the continuing work plan, and at an earlier TAG meeting this benchmark was repositioned to phase 3 of the plan upon principals' recommendation.
 - TAG discussed and agreed to forego the meeting scheduled for January 3, 2011. This meeting was held on December 13th due to a weather cancellation for the meeting originally scheduled for December 6th. TAG members agreed that with the holiday school vacation and limited work dates between scheduled meetings, a next meeting date for February 7, 2011 would be more productive.
 - Dr. Lucarelli noted that she has asked Principals Forti & Schooley to consider name distinctions for the two campuses of OHS that would allow for the differentiation of mailing addresses and other pragmatic considerations – while preserving the articulation of a unified 8-12 program. The principals will share their recommendation with TAG at the February 7th meeting.
2. Superintendent Lucarelli led a review and discussion of the benchmarks contained within Phase II of the Continuing Work Plan. Each benchmark was considered, and TAG group members offered questions and suggestions for altering timelines, clarifying those responsible for actions, or modifying intended procedures. Benchmarks that were highlighted in this review included:
 - 2C – Unified Grading. As noted at the November 1st meeting, it has been determined that the schools will not be prepared to implement a unified, standards-based grading system in September of 2011. This benchmark has been modified to intend implementation of unified grading procedures for the 8-9 campus within that timeline, which will then transition to grades 10-12 on a successive, yearly basis. A working group remains in place to carry this work forward and is currently deliberating the degree to which related factors (homework, class participation, classroom behavior, habits of work, etc.) should, or will impact grading procedures. This group will also consider any formal policy recommendations that may be necessary.
 - 2G - 8-12 Program of Studies. Joint faculty work sessions are continuing, typically after school hours and grant funding has been leveraged to pay participants for this work beyond contract. Another round of work sessions for most content areas is anticipated for December 14th. It is intended that a first draft document will be compiled over the holiday break so that it can be shared at a joint faculty meeting scheduled for early January.

- 2H – Assessment of Facility Needs. A comprehensive walk-through/survey process for both campuses has been completed resulting in highlighted facility enhancement needs identified in advance of the 2011-2012 budgeting process. The RSU 13 Business Manager, Scott Vaitones has assigned priority status to needs related to essential program issues. Based upon initial survey results there are clearly more facility enhancement needs indicated for the Rockland campus. Enhancements that need to be considered at that location include science labs, rest rooms, cafeteria, reconfiguration of technology labs, and additional furniture.
- 2L – Student Activities. Principals Forti & Schooley updated the TAG membership regarding student activities planned to facilitate unification of the student body and advance transition planning. Student bodies from both schools will meet together at RDHS for a joint student government meeting on December 20th. In this joint session four student generated bills will be introduced and acted upon. In January a joint student dance is being held, and plans are advancing for tours of the Rockland campus for all students in grades 9-11, and tours of the Thomaston campus for all 7-8 grade students in the RSU. Plans are also being contemplated for bringing students together for additional transition activities facilitated by Trekkers or Camp Kieve.

These considerations and amendments, along with other benchmark progress notes, will be included in the Continuing Work Plan updates for December. This updated work plan document will be posted on the TAG website during the week of December 27th.

3. Principals Forti and Schooley reported that collaborative teams consisting of faculty from both RDHS & GVHS have completed professional development visitations to Searsport and Noble high schools. A third visitation will take place at Mt. Desert High School on December 15th. These opportunities are highlighting model approaches for providing academic interventions; structuring writing, literacy, and math labs; showcasing other methods for providing differentiated instruction; and providing examples for alternative, standards-based grading methods. Participating faculty have been providing feedback and visitation overviews to colleagues during faculty meetings. A fourth visitation to Casco Bay High School will be planned for January.
4. The TAG membership continued its work in formulating a longer-term evaluation plan to track progress and assess outcomes as the 8-12 configuration is implemented. In this work session essential questions were identified for the following two goal statements; (1) We will prepare all students to be successful in post secondary options; (2) We will realize a graduation rate that equals or exceeds 90%. Three essential questions were identified for each goal statement. These questions in turn will be utilized to structure tools for data gathering and on-going analysis in measuring progress towards these goals. TAG members agreed to provide input regarding essential questions for the remaining three goal statements in advance of the February meeting. Neal Guyer will provide work materials for this purpose in mid-January.
5. The TAG membership confirmed that the next meeting will occur on Monday, February 7, 2011. This meeting will take place at the Superintendent's Office, conference room, 3:00 – 5:00 PM.

This meeting was adjourned by Superintendent Lucarelli at 5:00 PM.