REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 13

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2011

Committee Members Present	:	S. Carleton, C. Bachofner, L. Andrews, G. Emery, E. Schenk
Other Board Members Present	:	none
Staff Members Present	:	N. Guyer
Others Present	:	none
Location	:	Superintendent's Office – McLain Building

I.   Call to order:

This meeting was called to order by Sally Carleton, Curriculum Committee Chair at 5:35 PM.

II.   Discussion and planning for Curriculum Committee goals 2011-2012:

Committee members engaged in a wide-ranging discussion of potential goals for the 2011-2012 academic year. Central to this discussion was the over-arching goal of establishing and maintaining parity of learning opportunities within all schools of RSU 13. Committee members agreed that parity is not intended to mean strict equality in terms of program and services, but equity within opportunities to learn. It is recognized that unique needs and circumstances school-to-school may warrant the need for variances in program delivery, yet levels of opportunity should not be differentiated based upon geography as is the case now where some grade levels receive the opportunity to learn a world language while others do not. It was within this context that the Curriculum Committee articulated the following goal statement at its August 25th meeting:

> **The Curriculum Committee will research and develop an implementation plan to extend world language programming to all schools in RSU 13 for grades K-7 in 2012/2013. This plan will consider the full range of coordinated curriculum and learning services for all schools, and will detail financial implications to be considered within the 2012/2013 budget planning process.**

The Curriculum Committee also agreed to supplement this goal statement with the expressed intent to:

> **Work with the administrative team to analyze and identify additional areas where parity of learning opportunities do not exist and, and to advance strategies for resolving discrepant areas.**

Advancing literacy skills was also discussed as central to the Curriculum Committee's broad objectives for the year with the intent that all students achieve literacy proficiency. The committee believes that fostering programs to secure developmental, grade-level literacy skills is essential for maintaining successful growth and progress throughout a student's educational career and beyond. This is seen as a foundational mission for the Curriculum Committee and to that end:

> **The Curriculum Committee will work with the administrative team to research and implement pilot programs to strengthen literacy learning at all grade levels. Of special interest to the committee will be projects that capitalize on the power of educational technology to advance the goal of 100% literacy proficiency.**

Finally, committee members discussed the importance of remaining informed and engaged regarding the formative conversations and developments associated with the "Many Flags" project within the context of proposed curriculum and expanded opportunities for learning. In maintaining this focus:

> **The Curriculum Committee will receive regular updates regarding planning and advancement of the Many Flags initiative as it pertains to curriculum and innovative strategies for supporting learning within 21st Century Skills. The committee will remain conversant with RSU 13 initiatives, particularly at Oceanside High School, that are occurring in tandem with the Many Flags effort and advancing innovative models and structures for learning.**

III.   Highlighted topics & presentations for future Curriculum Committee meetings:

Time did not permit extensive committee discussion within this agenda item. In follow-up conversation with Chair Carlson, it was determined that the October meeting of the Curriculum Committee will focus primarily on curriculum and program development efforts at Oceanside High School. Principals Schooley and Forti will join the committee on October 20th to review and discuss:

- *21 Century Skills and their relation to on-going NEASC accreditation efforts – current activities within this multi-year process will be profiled.*
- *The 8-12 Program Evaluation Plan, the introduction of the College Work Readiness Assessment, and additional program evaluation components that are in process.*
- *Collaboration with the Great Schools Partnership - involving the I-Walkthrough project and planning for how this data will support curriculum and program improvement.*
- *Presentation of the Oceanside High School syllabus template, the rationale behind the structure being utilized, and methods established for student and parent access.*
- *Overview of the Oceanside High School Literacy Initiative, profile of professional development activities occurring on October 7th, and continuing goals/efforts within this initiative planned for 2011-2012.*

IV.   Other/Adjourn:

*The Curriculum Committee confirmed its next meeting will occur on October 20, 2011. It was also agreed that committee **meetings for the remainder of 2011-2012 will begin at 5:40 PM**. On October 20th the committee will again briefly review Curriculum Committee goals for 2011-2012, and Principals Schooley and Forti will be present to review transition and start-up features for Oceanside High School. Time permitting, committee members will also identify highlighted areas for presentation and review in subsequent meetings. The following topics have been suggested for consideration:*

Potential Curriculum Committee Topics for 2011-2012:

Alternative Education – Mid Level & High School & update on gifted & talented programming

Herring Gut Learning Center (HGLC) collaboration

Interdisciplinary Course Development – HGLC & MCST/Many Flags

Oceanside High School – Program Evaluation Plan, adoption of the College Work Readiness Assessment   (CWRA), new syllabus template, writing guide, etc.

Review of band programs

Review of RSU 13 Math Audit & resulting administrative recommendations

Learning targets K-7 for English Language Arts & Mathematics

Articulating a developmental sequence for 'Habbits of Work" - K through graduation

Beginning program review & learning target development in Science

Comprehensive Intervention Model for Maine (CIMME) data system, Response to Intervention (RTI), and Literacy   Planning – emerging standards of practice

Review of assessment data via RSU 13 web site (Central Office Banner – Assessment)

School-based reports and professional development updates (South School/Literacy Partnership, team training initiatives to support common planning time, Rockland District Middle School/Station Maine, other ..)

Restorative Discipline pilots

World Language Program Development

Implementation of 'common planning time' – implications for curriculum, assessment, & instruction

This meeting was adjourned by Sally Carleton at 7:05 PM.