

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 40

Friendship • Union • Waldoboro • Warren • Washington
1070 Heald Highway, PO Box 701, Union, Maine 04862
207.785.2277

Steve Nolan, Superintendent
Christina Wotton, Assistant Superintendent

Karen Pike, Business Manager
Karen Brackett, Director of Special Services

Curriculum Committee Meeting Thursday, December 10, 2020 Virtual or at Central Office 5:00 p.m.

Join by Computer: Audio and Visual
meet.google.com/ubi-enjt-cmn

or

Join by phone: Audio Only
(US) +1 302-643-2539 PIN: 961 428 283#

Committee Members: Sara Andrews, Erik Amundsen, Morgan Hynd, Emily Trask-Eaton, Bob Williams and Melvin Williams

Ex-Officio Members: Danny Jackson/Board Chair, Steve Nolan/Superintendent, Christina Wotton/Assistant Superintendent and Linda Pease/Principal Medomak Valley High School

Guests: Angela Arteaga, Justin Catapano-Kangas, Alexis Saba, Rebekah Smith, Elizabeth Simmons and Sarah Matari

Minutes

I. Called to Order 5:04 p.m.

- A. Declaration of Quorum
- B. Note Absences – Emily Trask - Eaton
- C. Approve Minutes from November 12, 2020
Motion: Danny Jackson Second: Melvin Williams
The Committee voted unanimously to approve.

II. Action Items

III. Other Items

- A. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in RSU 40 (45 min.)
 - i. Sarah Matari, Program Manager, Institutional Implementation of Restorative Practices and Alexis Sab, Program Manager for School Equity Maine Youth Action Network.
 - a) Sarah shared background information about restorative justice and how RJP works with schools to train educators and administrators in restorative justice practices. Sarah shared that restorative circles are complementary to DEI trainings.
 - b) Examples of other school communities success
 - c) Opportunities for RSU 40 families, students and staff to support diversity, equity and inclusion

- ii. Justin Kangas, Warren Community School Principal shared about his experience training in Restorative Practices last year
 - a) Justin participated in RJP's 42 hour training and found it transformative. He found their framework to be authentic and flexible. As they have built a stronger sense of community at WCS, they have become more comfortable with addressing conflict and are able to do that more in the moment. Justin shared that restorative justice is very intentional and it is best to experience it first through training in order to understand how it works. Everyone who participates in RJ has an opportunity to speak and everyone's voice is heard if they want to be heard. Justin found that it allowed people to make connections more quickly. It is a good framework for addressing equity in schools. Before COVID, Justin was able to try the circles with volunteer staff and the staff found it very helpful and they were able to see their colleagues in a different light. Staff needs to be committed to the process before engaging students into the process.
 - iii. Rebekah Smith and Elizabeth Simmons, two parent leaders in our community share their experience, knowledge and desire for RSU 40
 - a) Parent Recommendations for RSU 40: Offer implicit bias training, improve curriculum so students have a better understanding of history from all perspectives, and provide diversity training for staff.
 - iv. Christina Wotton will share our survey results from the 40/40 Feedback Survey around diversity group interest.
 - a) Christina shared the save the date for the DEI meeting on January 12th from 5:30-6:30. All Committee members are invited to attend.
 - v. Next Steps for RSU 40
- B. Second Step Curriculum – what it looks like in kindergarten
- i. Video of Darci Campbell, FVS Kindergarten Teacher
 - a) This was not viewed and will be sent to Committee members to watch on their own.
- C. +/-Delta Exercise (5 min.)

IV. Adjourn 6:30 p.m.

Curriculum Committee Norms:

- Start and end meetings on time
- Follow the agenda
- Maintain positive intentions for each meeting
- Listen respectfully without side conversations and be open to different opinions
- Ensure evidence-based decision-making with students at the forefront of all decisions

All meetings of the Board, except executive sessions, will be open to the public. All actions of the Board will be taken openly and the deliberations leading to Board action will likewise be conducted openly. The public and district employees are encouraged to attend Board meetings. A time of up to thirty minutes in duration for comments by visitors at Board meetings will be scheduled at the beginning of the Board's agenda. Board committee meetings are open to the public. Public input is welcomed but the Board Chair may need to limit discussion.

Regional School Unit 40 promotes a fragrance-free workplace. Thank you for not wearing any of the following during your visit: cologne, aftershave lotion, perfume, perfumed hand lotion, fragranced hair products, scented laundry detergent and/or similar products. Students and staff thank you for keeping our environment safe.

