

Educational Policy Committee

Agenda Minutes

December 5, 2023

7:00 - 8:15 pm

The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all.

Members: Deb Smith, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher

Other Board Members Present:

Staff: James Black, Christian Elkington, Joel Smith

Other Staff Present: Doug Hodum

1. Call Meeting to Order - Vice Chair Smith
2. Review Committee
 - a. [Minutes](#)
 - b. Questions?
 - i. None
3. Updates - Elkington
 - a. RSU 9 Multilingual Learners FYIs - Elkington
 - Moved to next meeting
 - b. [Tier 2](#)
 - i. Review of Tier 2
 - Superintendent reviewed what the measurements are that determine placement.
 - ii. Presentations
 1. [MBHS](#) - Joel Smith
 - Completed a certified Needs Assessment (CNA)
 - Discussion on Chronic Absenteeism
 - Why are there so many days missed?
 - Lots of discussion and questions.
 - What do we do to celebrate student attendance improvement?
 - The RSU 9 Leadership Team is focused on attendance.
 - Attendance is the area we are keying on
 - Attendance is an important factor of learning success

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- Joel Smith reviewed 8 areas that affect attendance
- Using BARR structure model around attendance and the importance of knowing the child and family
- Lots of data review
 - Reviewed breakdowns of attendance
 - Review of staff responsibilities
- **We need to ask our kids more about why they come or why they don't.**

2. [MBMS](#) - James Black

- Different indicators than MBHS
- Completed a certified Needs Assessment (CNA)
- Discussion on Chronic Absenteeism
 - Same as MBHS
- Need to also focus on what we are doing well
- The coaching that was promised is not yet available
- The parameters for exiting have not yet been clearly defined
- Leadership Team is focused on attendance
- The Root-Cause Analysis needs to be looked at more in greater depth per more data analysis
- Lots of data to be reviewed
 - What specific areas in the math and English assessment are our kids having difficulty with?
- Speaking to kids will be critical!
- Having grades 6-12 in alignment will help students and parents understand the expectations around being present.

c. Community Schools - Elkington

- More info has come out
- See Finance Committee notes.

4. [Approve Maine Outdoor Learning Initiative Grant - Alt Ed.](#) - Elkington/Smith

- [Grant info](#)
- [RSU 9 Grant](#)
- Questions
 - None
- Approval
 - 3-0

5. Policy Work - Elkington

- Policy Folders

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- i. Review (or no meaningful changes)
 1. [BDB Board Officers](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Approve Review Only
 2. [GCI Professional Staff Development](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Approve Review Only
 3. [GCOA Supervision and Evaluation of Professional Staff](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Approve Review Only
 4. [GCSA Employee Internet Use](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Approve Review Only
 5. [GCSA - R Employee Internet Use - Regulation](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Approve Review Only

- There were no real questions, all five were approved 3-0 yes.
- ii. Basic Updates and Changes
 1. [GCOC Evaluations of Administrators](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Move to the Board for one reading only?
 2. [JRA Student Records and Information](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Move to the Board for one reading only?
 3. [JRA-R Student Record Retention](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Move to the Board for one reading only?
 4. [JRA- E FERPA Notice](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Move to the Board for one reading only?

- There were few questions with all approved to go to the Board for one reading, 3-0 yes.
- iii. Major Updates
 1. [JHB Truancy](#)
 - a. Review
 - b. Questions?
 - c. Next Steps?
 2. [JLCC Communicable Diseases](#)
 - a. Questions?
 - b. Move to the Board for two readings.

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- There were few questions. Approved to go to the Board for two readings, 3-0 yes.
6. Next Mtg. Jan 2, 2023
7. Adjourned at 8:27 pm
8. Future Agenda Items -
- Volunteer Hour expectations for school boards
 - KF - Building Use Discussion
 - Has had many changes over the last ten years
 - Do you want staff to be like nonprofits around custodial cleanup and costs?
 - [KF](#): Community Use of School Facilities
 - [KF-R1](#): Community Use of School Facilities - Regulations
 - Phonics, Mystery Science, & Math Book implementation/transition
 - Curriculum Rotation Plan
 - Elementary World Language
 - March 5th Review of SEL Playbook & Resources - Joel Smith
 - Grant Updates:
 - Transitions & Goals
 - Community Schools
 - ESEA
 - ESSER
 - Special Ed.
 - BARR
 - Other?