Wilton Lyndeborough Cooperative MS/HS Principal's Report From The Desk Of: Brian Bagley February 12, 2013

WLC News:

Alternative programs being investigated: We continue to explore ways of offering alternative education opportunities for students who might have struggles with the traditional course selections currently being offered. This is a challenging endeavor but one that we continue to pursue. I will keep you updated.

Common Core Standards: We're offering vast Professional Development opportunities for our staff and teachers. Members of the Leadership Team will be meeting with consultants from the DOE preparing for this implementation. On March 14th we have a staff in-service day dedicated to the Common Core State Standards. We also have members from all departments attending common core workshops. These members are sharing this information with members within their departments. Our technology department has been involved in preparing for the transition from the NECAP Assessment tool to the online assessment, Smarter Balanced. As we continue to move forward I will keep you updated on our progress.

Grade 6 move update: The 6th Grade has successfully moved into the Middle School with relatively few "bumps in the road". The transition has been well received by parents, students, and the community. They are a welcome addition to our school bringing with them a new life and energy that's really added to the personality of WLC. We're looking into making a few positive changes concerning scheduling which we feel will be beneficial to the students. I will keep you informed as we move forward.

Competency-based grading update: The Competency Based Grading Transition is in year two of a three year plan. All teachers in the High School are currently using competency grading in at least one class. A competency committee has been formed and is overseeing the process. The plan was to fully implement this new type of grading next year. There have been discussions about pushing this full implementation into the following year, 2014-2015. The reason for this change is to better prepare the teachers, students and parents for this new initiative. Presently we are using Professional Learning Communities within our school to collaboratively work together to better educate our staff to this new grading process.

NEASC Special Report Update: We just recently submitted a special report to NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) and are waiting for their response. In the report we answered several questions concerning curriculum, rubrics, academic expectations, and ADA Issues within the school. We're hopeful that our answers will be well received.

WLC has gone GOOGLE: This means each student will now be assigned a secure (within WLC network only) email account. This will allow students and teachers to communicate via email as well as access Google Docs to enhance the classroom curriculum. Students may access this account from outside WLC to communicate within the WLC network; this account does not allow students to have access to anyone beyond the WLC community of users. WLC is excited to provide this technology to our students. If you have any concerns regarding this please feel free to contact administration. Written by Sue Ballou!