WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING Tuesday, October 25, 2022 Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School 6:30 p.m.

The videoconferencing link was published several places including on the meeting agenda.

Present: Jim Kofalt, Brianne Lavallee, Alex LoVerme (7:10pm), Jonathan Vanderhoof, Dennis Golding, Matt Mannarino, Charlie Post (7:04pm, attended Budget Co. Mtg.) and Darlene Anzalone

Superintendent Peter Weaver, Business Administrator Kristie LaPlante, Principals Sarah Edmunds and Kathleen Chenette, Technology Director Nicholas Buroker, Curriculum Coordinator Samantha Dignan, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kofalt called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

 Requests were made for the following adjustments, remove policy JICK, add ESSER request, and remove Director of Student Support Services Report.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee to accept the adjustments to the agenda.

An additional adjustment was requested to move the December 13 meeting to December 20 if agreeable with the Budget Committee.

Ms. Lavallee amended her MOTION to include accepting all the adjustments to the agenda and SECONDED by Mr. Golding. Voting: seven ayes; one nay from Mr. Vanderhoof, motion carried.

IV. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

a. Reports

i. Business Administrator's Report

Ms. LaPlante reported getting the DOE 25 completed and submitted, she will send around the forms for signature on both DOE 25 and MS 25. She did receive an extension from the DOE to complete this. She reported on the amount being returned after it was analyzed which is more than \$600,000. She reviewed the per pupil cost. The amount has increased and notes we had 17 less students. She does not see any anomalies. The invitation to bid went out for transportation and is due back on November 17 and that is the day the bids will be opened. The options will be presented to the Board on November 29. The budget process has begun and the work on the CIP continues. We talked about it at length and she wanted to touch on the concerns a board member brought up about the paint chipping in the kitchen at WLC and the status of the floor. She expressed we take that very seriously and did a walk through with the Board Chairman and confirmed where the paint is chipping it is above the hood and appears to be from condensation, we will take care of this during December break. The floor where the grease trap was is where they installed plywood to make it less of a fall/ tripping hazard for staff. We will be painting the plywood in the coming week and because of the depth and scope of the work, it will take 4 solid days to complete the flooring; will be done on December break. She spoke of the fixed price contract for energy sales expiring on October 31. We received four prices (details on her report). She would like to lock in with Constellation for a 36-month contract pricing at \$0.14970. Chairman Kofalt thanked Ms. LaPlante for addressing the concerns, he was alarmed by what he heard and was put at ease when he did the walkthrough; things are pretty well in order there. Regarding the electrical rates, Chairman Kofalt asked if it requires a formal vote, Ms. LaPlante confirms just a nod of approval. Chairman Kofalt asked the Board if there were any concerns with the recommended

contract with Constellation, noting this was the lowest rate and locked in for 36-months. No objection or concerns heard. ii. Director of Student Support Services Report

This report will be moved to the next Board meeting.

iii. Director of Technology's Report

Mr. Buroker reported the tickets have gone down, they have spent time working on issues from the beginning of the year. Tickets have gone to an average of 10, which is his goal. The response time had gone up due to the beginning of year tickets took longer to work out. The 3 high-powered machines he spoke of last meeting have been deployed; the 5th one went out since his report. He has conducted a layer 1 audit, turned off unused ports per the security report, and assigned mandatory cybersecurity overview course to all staff. A question was raised regarding the timeline for the 2-factor authentication. He wants administration to have this by winter, the problem with staff is general is we didn't issue them cell phones and that is the

easiest way. There is an understanding we may not be able to do it with everyone, we wouldn't do it with the first grade for example. A question was raised what the cybersecurity course consists of. He explained it is a brief overview, if the policy is approved it will be added to it. He gave an example of you could get questions like what is the street you grew up on and your pets name etc. It is unlikely those are malicious but just don't do them, don't write things down and if you get an email from a random Gmail account from Peter Weaver for example asking you to update his direct deposit information do not answer it.

iv. Curriculum Coordinator's Report-iReady Benchmark

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Ms. Dignan reported this presentation is about where we are now and where we are going. She reviewed the slides (copy can be found with the minutes). She reports we do benchmark assessments 3 times a year grades 1-12 in September, January and May. The kindergarten students will take it in November, January and May. She reviewed the reading historical data from iReady. Slide 6 compares current scores to last spring when students had a full year of academic support, in the fall they have not had that yet. There are no HS results as there is no historical data. The first blue line is iReady diagnostic 2017, 2018 and 2019 that is designed to show pre-pandemic performance and the change since the pandemic. The light blue is spring 2021; still showing the same population of nationwide students and the following year is spring of 2022. Things are going back up again but in some areas, it is not going up as quickly as we would like. The next slide is the same information, same students nationwide from iReady diagnostic assessment and the same years. Those slides 6 and 7 review nationwide data, we now will review how we compare to that. Fall of 2022, we are comparing apples to oranges because it is spring data compared to fall data, in the spring they had a full academic year and fall they did not. The green line has not had the full year of instruction yet but we are on or above grade level. Chairman Kofalt added, it looks bad but it really is saying that at this time, 4% of our students are where they should be by the end of the year. Ms. Dignan responds yes. She confirms the dark blue or light blue are not our students (we do not have iReady data from last year). It was clarified the first 3 slides are end of year data for everyone nationwide. The green bar is a work in progress, where dark blue, light blue and teal are the end of year. Slide 10 shows our data, this is the fall and you can see the green indicates students are on or above grade level, yellow are a grade level behind and the red are 2 or more years behind. The yellow has not had the grade level instruction yet. We took the assessment 2 weeks into the school year. At this point, the yellow is not a bad thing. A question was raised if there is any nationwide data to show were everyone else is typically at this time of year. It may or may not reflect performance in district but it at least provides a more accurate picture perhaps of where we are relative to other schools in the nation. Ms. Dignan did not see that data yet but imagines it will become available. Slide 11 is HS reading data, again red is on or above, vellow is one year behind, red 2 years or more behind. She was asked to confirm that in grade 10 46% are 2 or more years behind in reading, she confirmed yes according to the iReady assessment. Slide 12 is math historical data, same as before looking at historical data from 2017, 2018, 2019 spring data, the teal is spring 2021 and green is spring 2022 and green is our students. You can see it is interesting, a lot of 11% on or above grade level already. Slide 13 is our iReady math scores and where we are going. There is a lot of yellow, a lot of students are ready for grade level material that is what that is showing. A question was raised if on page 13, it could represent the number of students as opposed to what it is showing, the percentage. With our class sizes 3% swing in one class vs. another class is a wide range. It was asked for this to be included in the future. She clarified on the math historical iReady slide there is a typo the 2 should be a 20. Slide 14 is HS math data, which she reviewed. Concern was raised because of PSAT and SAT; the hope is they are performing better on those tests. It was questioned how accurate is the HS data, how much effort are the students were putting in. The slide shows 90% in the 12 grade are 2 or more years behind and that is hard to believe. Principal Edmunds agrees that effort is probably part of it. For the 11th graders it was the first time they took any benchmark test since they were in 8th grade. She already flags those that go too fast on the test. Clearly, there is work we need to do here. Ms. Dignan will review the action steps we will take, we will reassess in January; this is unacceptable. It was noted this is a multifaceted issue that we are seeing. Superintendent voiced one of the things we want to do with seniors is look at the SAT scores; it is tough with just one data point. They don't see a benefit to take it; they know they are going to college, or the military etc. Does it even make sense to get a benchmark test for seniors? The data crosses the southwest region and we are on par with districts our size but we do have work to do. He believes the columns will go up in January but he is not confident with the 12th grade. Ms. Anzalone knows STAR and iReady are not the same but questioned if there is a way to compare last year to other schools to get some sense of how we are doing nationally. Ms. Dignan does not think comparing those would serve us well and would not give us any data that would help us make any other decisions. She is not sure about the national data. Ms. Anzalone is curious to see them side by side. She would like to see the differences in what is measured. Ms. Dignan responded iReady is more rigorous than STAR and takes longer and the questions are more challenging. Principal Chenette added there are enough districts in NH using it and we should be able to get benchmark data. A question was raised if there is anything in particular that jumps out at Ms. Dignan. Ms. Dignan responded the red is concerning and noticed the nationwide math scores seem to take a stronger hit than reading nationwide across all grades. It speaks to some kind of push to catch up on learning loss. We saw a great victory on slide 9 for the 7th grade in reading, it shows they are already on or above in the fall 2022 that is better than where they were in the spring when they had the full year of instruction. Our reading data grades 2-8 is really close to where students were in the spring after a full year of instruction. She noticed math did take that huge hit but 20% of students are on or above grade level in the first 2 weeks of school. She spoke of where we are going, the first thing we did was utilize data protocols, staff reviews the data without judgement or opinion and uses it to determine the needs of students and come up with an instructional plan. We did ongoing instruction with iReady, how to maximize the data and maximize the "My Pathway" personalized instruction. My Pathway is personalized instruction based on the assessment. If the student is lacking skills, it assigns them a lesson and if they struggle with that, the teacher sees it and a warning sign pops up. The HS students below grade level can access the My Pathway also. She reviewed the action plans for WLC and FRES. Staff participated in data meetings and worked at integrating math and reading into other classes, trying to promote as much ELA and math as they can.

We are doing PLC's and department meetings and reviewing My Pathway data. A question was raised regarding a lot of talk about students struggling but what about those who are already proficient. Ms. Dignan responded it would still give them what they need. They could also struggle too at some point and that would be flagged. A question was raised how much time passes between students taking test, going through the data, making the adjustments before they are tested again. Ms. Dignan responded you have a 4-month gap. We did the data protocol, had some iReady training again, we talked about all the students and developed domain specific goals. The PLC meetings are ongoing and we are constantly looking at data. Ms. Lavallee likes the pathways it gives real time data. She commented on how enthusiastic the teachers were. Ms. Dignan noted the iReady trainer had mentioned that as well. Even at the HS level there is a level of excitement, they are working skills into their class and they are excited to see the resources available to them. Principal Edmunds is pleased to see their ability to look at data and move their instruction in ways it has to go. Principal Chenette noted at FRES, we need to beef up our math instruction. Mr. Vanderhoof spoke about the fact that you cannot extrapolate the exact test the student took. He asked if there are concerns about that, it gives you all the information on where they are struggling but no raw data. Ms. Dignan responded it is a starting point it is not the end, we are using it to make better decisions and dig deeper. If you use My Pathway and iReady said, they are struggling with what a noun is, and if they use My Pathway and ace it, you can adjust My Pathway. She has not seen an exact replica of the My Pathway to the benchmark assessment. It is designed to look similar to the assessment.

Chairman Kofalt asked if there was an objection from either Board or Budget Committee to move the December 13 meeting to December 20 as Ms. LaPlante could not attend. Ms. Fowler confirmed a formal vote is not needed. No objection heard to move the December 13 School Board meeting and joint session with the Budget Committee to December 20.

V. 7:00PM JOINT BOARD & BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION

Present: Jeff Jones, Leslie Browne, Lisa Post, Geoffrey Allen, Caitlin Maki, Bill Ryan, Adam Lavallee and Jennifer Bernet

The Budget Committee meeting was called to order at 7:19pm.

a. FY 2023-2024

i. Prior Meeting Follow-up

Chairman Jones reported he had asked for the agenda item "follow up" to be added to each meeting for us to close any loops from the prior meeting. He asked administration to be prepared to answer any questions regarding the follow up.

Chairman Jones voiced we had a question for Principal Edmunds on the 3 year plan for basketball hoops. Ms. LaPlante responded it is for 3 years to phase in, we do not have quotes for each year and are waiting for quotes (for hoops and pulleys and score board) to determine how to better fit it into the 3 years. Principal Edmunds does have a quote for a manual drill (better than what they have now) which is about \$1,000 for each pulley system and is waiting on quotes for the baseball scoreboard and a more automated system. She believes the intention was to do one hoop a year, we have 3 that we need to do. Chairman Jones notes it seems odd to have them come out and install 3 times. Principal Edmunds will get a quote. Chairman Jones reported we had questions for more detail as it relates to the WLC budget is that something Principal Edmunds will be sharing. Principal Edmunds reported she did provide that to Ms. LaPlante it just didn't make it into the report. Ms. LaPlante will send that out. Superintendent was asked if he spoke to the coaches and how much they are spending out of pocket. Superintendent responded he did not speak with a number of coaches but the ones he did talk to are spending almost their entire stipend on the kids. Mr. Lavallee spoke of the pitching machine Mr. Scott Dowling owns and what happens when he is not coaching any longer. He doesn't imagine he will leave it. Mr. LoVerme added coaches spend money on bats etc. Superintendent responded it is a reasonable statement and as a former coach, he didn't have much left from that stipend, many times, it was just an expectation as a coach. A pitching machine is great to have but sometimes it is that vs. something else. He spoke of his experience with a fundraiser for a basketball machine that helps you shoot when you are alone. That equipment has not been used since he used it last. He is hoping to start to make sense of the Athletic Director (AD) budget, storage containers to tennis courts we have been talking about athletics for a year and we keep throwing money at it. He found a box of uniforms next to the stage that were discarded but the MS students could have used them. There is a lot of work to do with athletics. He wants to be careful not to throw money at it but do it in a more cohesive way. Mr. Lavallee disagrees that a lot of money has been thrown at athletics. He knows kids choose not to play because of a lack of resources. Superintendent responded we could have a larger group but we don't have the kids. We want to make sure the ones who want to play are fully supported. Ms. Lavallee spoke that she thinks it is a multifaceted problem. She hears in the community and from kids that we don't invest in the programs. Her concern is without an AD will we see the best return on this to affect kids. She asked if the coaches are involved in the process; if we want to spend money appropriately, we should dive down and determine what we need and without talking to the coaches, we don't know. Mr. LoVerme voiced he has been saying it for 12 years and it falls on deaf ears, we invest in the boys sports and very little in the girls. The boys have nicer uniforms, nicer fields, look at the fencing. We are not throwing money at it, it is an investment and if we cannot invest in our kid's sports then do away with it. We should do it the right way. Chairman Jones voiced he hopes we have an AD in place, we talked about having a program with long-term goals and what does that look like. Let us get through the year, buy what we need and move forward and have an AD.

ii. Curriculum, LCS & FRES

Ms. LaPlante reported providing the cumulative budget, LCS, FRES and Curriculum. She will include the budget details in the next one.

Principal Chenette asked if there were any questions regarding the LCS budget. Mr. Vanderhoof questioned that it seems we are consistently under budget by a significant amount. Principal Chenette responded that she doesn't know the history but this is everything that was asked for and she asks staff to identify what they need and additional things they would like to have. There will be additional components like facilities etc. Ms. LaPlante spoke that the amount unspent is the testing line, line 6, that we discovered is in the tech budget. We cannot confirm if it was double funded, but this is where iReady will be funded. We used to budget for a contracted nurse and tuition reimbursement that is \$3,000 for the LCS staff and that was not utilized. Altogether, this makes up about \$6,500 unspent. A question was raised regarding books and printed material that it seems "pretty light". Principal Chenette responded they have many books and the building libraries are changing out all the time. It depends on what they need as it changes all the time.

Principal Chenette moved to the FRES budget, noting you will find it similar. There are additions and changes to lines and the descriptions. She asked for specific questions. She pointed out there will be requests in the salary lines and will talk about those when it is time.

Ms. Dignan reviewed the curriculum budget; it is straight forward, not a lot of changes from last year. She asked for any questions. A question was raised regarding iReady and services. We talked about there being certain services we are getting free this year and would have to pay for next year. Ms. Dignan responded it would be in the tech budget. My Pathway is what we are talking about and they gave it to us this year as part of the package, there is actual data they shared with me about the amount of increase in student achievement using it. It was asked when the tech budget is presented to have some data on that and information from our teachers to see how useful they feel it is. Ms. Dignan will put a survey out to teachers. She confirms we have been using it but were not as educated in it as we are now. It was also asked to find out if other schools are using it. A question was raised where we are in our 3-year cycles such as building up the library materials and the math program. Ms. Dignan confirms FRES and LCS got a new program 2 years ago. The library materials is what Principal Chenette spoke about. It was clarified the question about library materials is did we finish the 3-year cycle. Ms. Dignan is not sure about that. She confirms that right now we are not in any replacement cycle for any core subject. The Curriculum Committee will meet tomorrow and will look at replacement cycles and what we need to make the decisions. She confirms that is for all 3 schools. It was noted in the FRES and LCS budget, outside of salaries and benefits we are spending \$374.60 per student. It doesn't seem like much.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Ms. Alyssa Lavoie, Lyndeborough was present and read her public comment. She spoke as a parent and community member and spoke of Principal Chenette being the 3rd principal since 2018 and that LCS has had more of an unstable principal experience. She spoke of being cautious but hopeful when Principal Chenette started and hoped she would be the latest person coming in to get us where we needed to be and the school board has learned lessons along the way. The district has had many battles with administration so far and it was critical the right person had to step into the role and step up. It was very clear very quickly that she was that person. Ms. Lavoie was fortunate to spend time in the schools as a parent, substitute and PTO member and she spoke of the impact Principal Chenette has made. It is evident everywhere you turn and with every person you talk with. Teachers have told her she is the best leader they have ever worked under. She spoke of some of the experiences she has witnessed. Notice of Principal Chenette's resignation came as an extreme disappointment to me. Feelings of sadness for teachers and students losing someone important to them, frustration we have to start all over again, concern that her departure could lead to staff leaving because they have had enough changes and feelings of anger that the school board is not doing enough to protect the parents and most importantly the students with the constant disruption in such a key role. This made her dig into this more and try to put things into perspective. Whether the following has anything to do with Principal Chenette's leaving, she is not aware but she hopes the Board will consider it. We have taken many steps the past few years and if the Board does not act swiftly, we will take many steps backwards. The teachers at FRES and LCS need to be sure the person put in charge to lead them is being supported by the School Board for them to be allowed to do their job to the fullest extent. This is what has stood out to me. Principal Chenette took on an additional role this year with LCS, her responsibilities expanded and the number of students increased yet the support stayed the same. WLC operates with a principal, assistant principal, 2 guidance counselors in a single building. FRES and LCS operate with 1 guidance counselor and 1 principal in two separate buildings. There are about 25 more students and 20 more staff at FRES than WLC and 3 classes bursting at capacity. This requires extra support for her to manage the large class sizes. At the same time, the School Board asks questions like what is the plan if we get more students. How is one person supposed to manage the daily classes, manage staff shortages, be a leader, ensure quality education, budget needs, and so on for 2 buildings. The math does not add up and she believes the School Board's expectations for one person is very unrealistic. It is rationalized to meet budget constraints. She understands it may not be very simple, but also it may be as simple as that. Does Principal Chenette or anyone else have the ability to be successful at

this role or is the School Board continuingly setting someone up to fail no matter who we hire, if so it is failing the teachers and students that entrusted them to be strategic in creating an environment and structure that enables and fosters success in education. In her opinion, if anyone could or would have been successful it would have been Kathleen Chenette.

Superintendent called out each name and number online asking if they wish to comment.

Mr. Jeff Jones speaking as a member of the public spoke of concern reading the school board materials and seeing Principal Chenette's resignation. She has been great and advocated for his daughter she led conversations around that. Everything Ms. Lavoie has said he agrees with. He is concerned with the leadership ability in this district. He spoke of FRES being a great school and the kids love it there. His second punch in the stomach was the iReady scores. He understands it is early in school but looking at the HS seeing zero 11th graders proficient in math is unacceptable. Seeing the numbers says there is a big problem in this school, he sees it and spoke to the Board in this summer about it and the numbers prove it out and is the reason a lot of students are leaving the district and parents are afraid to move in. We took a step back this week and he is not sure we can recover. Chairman Kofalt responded to the data. There is a very important part to point out when you are looking at the data that he was not clear on when he first looked at it. That is that when you put SAU 63 scores alongside national scores, the national scores are the number of students proficient at the end of the year and we are looking at our district showing the number of students proficient at the beginning of the year. He agrees there were numbers very concerning around HS math in particular and some numbers that were impressive because some of reading scores are outperforming their peers nationwide at the end of the year, they are a year ahead. He agrees and is not excusing there is some catching up to do around HS math. He wants people to be clear when they look at the numbers and put it into context as it is comparing apples to oranges when you are looking at national vs. SAU 63 numbers.

Mr. Adam Lavallee asked why we are not looking at the number of people behind. Chairman Kofalt responded that is also in the data. The first part of the slides is looking at proficiency at the end of the year nationwide compared to our students at the beginning of the year where they have not had the benefit of going through the year and learning it. Later in the data, there is a green, yellow, red. Green means you are at the beginning of the year but testing at or better than what is needed at the end of the year, yellow you have not gotten there yet but essentially on track, red is two or more years behind. In 11th and 12th grade math the red percentages is in 90s for both, it is high. Nationwide if you look at the historical numbers over past couple of years the math numbers took a stronger hit from COVID than the ELA numbers. There was also some discussion about why are the numbers are the way they are because people that have a sense of the kids in 11th and 12th grade noted they did not think it represented them. He agrees it is a concern.

Mr. Geoffrey Allen, Lyndeborough commented that you on the Board are elected to represent Wilton and Lyndeborough and administration is hired to represent Wilton and Lyndeborough. He echoes the turnover of staff that Ms. Lavoie spoke of. He views it largely as the responsibility of the School Board and the Superintendent who are sitting here. He echoes what Ms. Lavoie said that working with Principal Chenette as president of the PTO regarding her dedication, drive, and love for the students. He also sat on the hiring committee for that position and for us to continue this rate of turnover is unacceptable. It falls to you to fix it whatever that may be. He voiced he is not blind to the fact that he don't why she is resigning, it may have nothing to do with here, but you are responsible for finding someone to serve the towns.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavallee SECONDED by Mr. Allen to adjourn the Budget Committee portion of the meeting at 7:58pm.

Voting: all aye, motion passes unanimously.

VII. YTD REPORTS

 Ms. LaPlante provided YTD reports through September 30. We have 16.6% of the budget remaining as uncommitted and unspent. Nine percent of the total uncommitted is wages and benefits. We have adequate amounts budgeted for substitutes and on non-wages we have \$1,280,000 tied up in encumbrances, the numbers we are seeing include all the transportation, energy cost etc., all the heavy hitting is locked in. She will look at encumbrances and see what we can re-evaluate for the second half of the current year. She has no concerns where we are budget wise and asks for questions. None heard.

VIII. POLICIES

a. 1st Read

i. EHAB-Data Governance and Security

Ms. Lavallee reported these policies are the read; we have removed JICK from the agenda to allow the committee to spend additional time looking at it. This policy was put together in collaboration with the Technology Director and Administration.

We have most things in place in regard to the actual plan or procedure with a timeline of June hopefully. We discussed it with the NHSBA attorney to verify it was OK for us to move forward without all of it in place. He said, first comes the law, then policy, then administration creating a procedure. The committee's recommendation was to move forward quickly as it was supposed to be in place a couple of years ago.

ii. IHAM-Health Education & Exemption From Instruction

Ms. Lavallee reported this policy was reviewed as a result of language changes you will see in red. We incorporated the sexuality education, HIV, and Aids information in this policy, which was a separate policy prior. We combined the two and updated the legal references. If this passes, we will recommend withdrawing the other policy. Ms. Anzalone questioned what specifically is included in sexuality education, it is vague here, and she read the section. She voiced that further down it talks about parents and guardians being notified by email in advance of the curriculum. She has had 2 kids go through the 5th grade who watched the video; she watched it and had no problem. In what grades is anything like this covered and what is being covered if anything in 6, 7, 8, 9 grades. She has not been notified to decide whether it is appropriate or not and would like more information on this. Ms. Lavallee responded when we write the policy we look at the law and RSA which does not define what will be covered and when, we can find out but it is not what the Policy Committee covers, we are focused on law and writing the policy. Mr. Vanderhoof asked where we could put that information, as a general heads up to say these topics will be covered, is it in the student handbook. Superintendent responded it is not in the student handbook but it can be provided to you. If you need specifics to curriculum, it should be made available to you as a parent. Ms. Anzalone added she doesn't think as a parent she should have to dig and ask for it. When she came to orientation for her kids, she wanted to see the textbooks and syllabus. One teacher gave her a book and another teacher questioned if she should even get it. When the kids came home with the syllabus there was no curriculum to say what they are learning just these are the rules of my class. She would like to see teachers hand out the syllabus for each quarter and when things are due, so that she can help with time management. She would like to see that given to parents vs. having to dig around or ask for it. Chairman Kofalt noted she hit on two separate issues, one is in general how proactive are we with our parents on what our kids are learning and what is expected of them and that sounds like something we ought to explore if it is an issue. Ms. Anzalone being on the Curriculum Committee can explore that or can set up time to meet with the Superintendent for discussion and include the Chairman. The more parents are involved kids learn more. The second issue is about sexuality education in particular. The whole point of the changes to the policies is that parents no longer have to go digging necessarily it is that every parent will be notified and if you want to know more we can provide that information to you. This is increasing the visibility of this to parents and proactively giving parents a head up. He thinks it is a step in the right direction personally. Ms. Anzalone thanked him, it sounds like it will be happening in the future. Ms. Lavallee is not sure what the practice is now, options are email, and written notice sent home or phone call. The Policy Committee took out posting it on the website or social media. We do not want parents to have to dig for it. Ms. Anzalone suggests a step further to have a permission slip. She had to sign a slip for her kids to watch a PG movie; a permission slip should go out for this. Several members voiced they have had to sign a permission slip. Mr. Vanderhoof suggested something we could add to the policy is that there is written approval from the parent not just notification of. Chairman Kofalt added perhaps if it is practice, we should put it in the policy. Superintendent was asked if that is the current practice. Superintendent responded he doesn't think it is but he will find out. If the Board wants to add it, we should hold off on the policy. Superintendent will find out and send out communication to members. He understands the sensitivity. The more we communicate in advance to parents the more they will understand and if any objection, it gives teachers more time to plan for alternate instruction. If we want to do it and we are not then we need to add that in the policy. Ms. Lavallee notes we will discuss it at the next meeting and gather the information.

iii. IHAM-R Health and Sex Education Exemption/Objectionable Course Material: Opt-Out Form

Ms. Lavallee reports this is the related document language has been updated. It is the form that will be used. She suggested doing something with the size of the font to get it on one page.

iv. JI-Student Rights and Responsibilities

Ms. Lavallee explained the changes were really just adding the word annually, which is in response to other policies we were updating. Regarding the reference policy, we change JIA to JIC because that was the one we had already changed.

v. JICK-Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention - Bullying

This was removed from the agenda.

vi. GBCD-Background Investigation and Criminal History Records Check

Ms. Lavallee reported we went through this policy last year and after we adopted it, there were additional changes about background investigations.

. Withdrawal

i. GBJ-R Personnel Records

This was not discussed.

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a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme to approve the minutes of October 11, 2022 as written.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

ESSER REQUEST

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417 418 Superintendent requested to use ESSER funds of \$10,000 plus benefits, the ask is not to exceed \$13,000 to increase the curriculum coordinator to 5 days a week. Ms. Lavoie hit on it; instructional leadership takes a backseat from managing the building. He gave an example that happened today where it took up a lot of time dealing with one issue to make sure the student had their needs met; everything else had to stop. Ms. Samantha Dignan is on board with this to continue the curriculum coordinator role and part of that to support the principal. Moving her office to FRES vs. WLC and being an integral part of managing the building and allowing the principal to do leadership, data dives, instruction etc. It is a challenge to move a district forward. He asks for the Board's support and thinks it will have a strong impact on whoever is principal and is what LCS and FRES need. He and Ms. LaPlante are working to look at the salary lines and how to incorporate it into the budget for next year; they will be looking at other staffing as well. A question was raised how much would it cost to have someone there more days a week and have an assistant principal (AP) full time. Superintendent responded if its 40 hours a week, (for example) 20 hours would focus on management of the building. That provides more time for the principal to zero in on instruction etc. We would look to take some duties off the curriculum coordinator's plate. She will continue with being the point person for iReady, she has tried to learn it well and we need a person to be an expert in that. There are other things we can take off her plate; he is doing all the Title Grants normally the curriculum coordinator would do that. Mentoring we can divide so it doesn't become overwhelming. Ms. Dignan has been here 16 years and has no aspirations of being a principal, she likes the idea of helping manage the building and being the curriculum coordinator. He is sure it will evolve if you approve it. He thinks who ever steps into Principal Chenette's shoes will need help. Ms. Anzalone asked if there has been talk of adding an assistant principal for both schools. Superintendent responded we are looking at how to add it into the budget; we do not want to add another administrator. We have been looking at our staffing needs and have some good ideas. Ms. Lavallee voiced being in support but understands what Ms. Anzalone is saying, over the last week she tried to step back and look at the district as a whole and look at one position and how to shift things around. She is concerned about the trickle-down effect that will happen. It is great we can put a Band-Aid here and there every time we shift duties it takes time away from other duties. We have open positions, people not applying, we lost 2 paras tonight; we need to look at it regarding what we need to do this year. Is there an interim position we need to create, between the AD and Principal Chenette and all those positions open she worries about the Superintendent and the rest of the administration team and if they are doing other duties what does that takes you away from. As much as she likes the creativity, will we reach a point where we need to look outside the buildings? At the end of the day, it trickles down to the kids. It is good for us to plan for next year and how do we want to fill these positions. She is open to hearing from the Superintendent if we need to look at hiring an interim for this year to cover this. She is concerned if we lose more staff over this. Superintendent responded the goal for us is the idea of continuity and consistency. There are systems in place that were not in place 2 years ago. The kids are happy and teachers feel they are focused on the right things they are focused on data. It was not like that when I got here. We have a culture in place that we don't want to disrupt. We need to decide what team will lead the building to minimize the change. He worked at SAU 21 for 10 years where the budget was unlimited, and that is not the case here and that is the reality we have to deal with. He and Ms. LaPlante have to be cognizant of the community we are in. There are other ways districts have done it that will work. The key is continuity and focusing on the right things. We can't fill the Title I positions because there are no benefits. He and Ms. LaPlante are thinking of asking to use ESSER money to fund the benefits. Is that the right decision in terms of spending? Those positions are critical in supporting kids. He cannot get anyone to do Title I regardless of the salary. This is the kind of thing we are thinking about to support FRES and WLC. A question was raised where we are at with salary savings now. Ms. LaPlante responded looking at savings from just the new hires it is about \$200,000. Currently we have \$939,000 that is unspent but she doesn't know if any portion is tied up for stipends or etc. She is not comfortable saying that is available but is comfortable with the \$200,000 in savings. A question was raised, is that an area we should look at. There has to be some ways we can think outside the box and come up with solutions other than moving duties around. Superintendent responded there are a number of other districts that have openings in core instruction. He thinks the predication is a 62% turnover in education. He spoke of the salary schedules being different from Amherst, Milford etc. but it doesn't mean this is not a good place to work. The ESSER position was at \$85,000 and we only had one applicant. He even increased the salary and the applicant still didn't take the position. He can't just keep going up; he has a budget he has to work in. Ms. Lavallee thanked him for everything he is doing, she thinks he is doing a great job with what he can and she acknowledges it is not a problem just in our district. Superintendent noted it is incredibly complicated and we just take the issues as they come and make the best decisions we can and plan long-term as much as we can. We don't have an issue with the administration team and it would not be right for him to ask for more administrators or hours, we have what we need as a district we just need to balance it. Mr. Mannarino voiced he takes exception when the Superintendent says we have enough with the administration team, we have heard from a high functioning administrator that said we don't have enough resources; there is too much work with the systems in place. He would like to see that addressed on a more permanent basis. Superintendent responded it is difficult to run a HS with 200 kids yourself; you need another person to help you make those decisions. The Principals have to be actively involved in learning, instruction and assessments; you can't just leave it to the teachers. The Principal has to lead the building. The challenge is that management of a building is unpredictable He spoke of some examples. The hard look at FRES is important not just for this year but up coming years. Mr. Vanderhoof noted moving

the office of the curriculum coordinator to FRES was discussed 3 years ago. There are open questions regarding what the principal position looks like. We don't have answers to those. In hindsight, we were given \$684,000 because of COVID; looking at the list, he thinks we kind of screwed up. He does not have an issue asking for the boiler, it's a one-time expense and we need it but it's this kind of stuff as a taxpayer that makes me think you are creeping up on adding staff. It doesn't cost anything but it doesn't go away. He doesn't know how many staff we have at WLC, FRES and the SAU. He guesses that overall, it is high, maybe we are not using our resources properly as to who we hire and what they are doing. He doesn't think we are using ESSER money properly we need to come up with a plan to spend that money to effect student outcomes we are not doing that. We are spending \$13,000 here, \$12,000 there, and \$80,000 here and at the end we will say it didn't amount to much, we didn't get any lasting effect and still have the same problems. He has so many questions. The way it being done and the way it is being funded, he doesn't think we are doing the best to serve our students. This is an example of something we can probably fund in the budget vs. ESSER. He thinks we are wasting the opportunity to use this money. There is not a clear vision here from what he is being told. He does not recommend throwing more money at it. Mr. Golding questioned if this is approved, how much of the remaining \$268,000 we need to commit to learning loss. Ms. LaPlante does not have that tonight but will get it to him. A questioned was raised if we approve this how much is left and how can we use that effectively to cover what we need and do we know how much may come in the future. Superintendent responded we are trying to think about what is the evidence when we spend this much money, what is the effect. Instructional Pathway is \$30,000-\$35,000 and that goes directly to students in grades 1-8. It goes directly to the issue of learning and that is an option for us so we can have money for the IT technician and balance out the need. Ideally, we would want to buy another boiler but are looking at \$200,000 and is that the right answer. He wants to spend it on ways we can impact kids. Instructional Pathways will cost \$70,000 in the next 2 years and we talked about more storage containers. The ESSER money will go away September 2024 and the resources for kids at some point we will need to consume the cost into our budget. Mr. Golding voiced being appalled by the junior and senior numbers, having \$268,000 seems like we should use it for those reasons to make sure those numbers never pop up again and make sure we are sending students out of the district being somewhat prepared and it doesn't seem like we are doing that. Superintendent responded we can reason it away but there is some truth to the data. He is not sure if the red band is as deep as it shows but it is deep enough. The ESSER position you approved is ideal but we can't fill it. He doesn't know if increasing the budget would matter. Mr. Vanderhoof voiced his understanding is you want to move the curriculum coordinator to FRES, go from 4 to 5 days and change the responsibilities. Can you do those things without the 5th day to see how it works or is it not possible? You can move her anytime. Superintendent responded we are adding 25% to her hours. She works 30 hours and we are adding a 5th day to get her to 40 hours. Ms. Anzalone voiced looking at these numbers is she is working 4 days a week, we need to focus on getting those scores up. She doesn't know how much it would cost for an AP. She was upset to hear Principal Chenette was leaving and she feels like she has done a lot and there will be a big gap. We should have an AP it is a key position; she understands we would be asking the taxpayers for more but she thinks it is something we can justify. She is not arguing with having someone in this year. Superintendent responded the idea we have been working is doable and he believes it will have an impact. He is reluctant to add another administrator. He believes he will be able to divide those tasks. He has no problem doing the grants, everyone works hard, iReady is important, and we just implemented that. We have a lot of work to do and Ms. Dignan believes she can lead us through that. The mentoring we have always had here and we scaled it down and modified the program, we can easily take that off her plate. Vector was new and Mr. Buroker has taken an active role in it. When teachers need help they don't need to go to the building Principal. He is confident we can balance it out. He wants to focus on the ESSER position and we have a long-term sub that may take the position for the remainder of the year after January. We have to focus on Title 1, 5 hours a day. We have to be careful that we don't increase it so much that it becomes unequitable. Ms. Lavallee voiced we spoke of stress and financial burdens. We as a Board, we need to look at how we are supporting our staff and not financially, how are we supporting the addressing problems and concerns. Ms. Lavallee will make the motion to approve and can revisit the other discussions and looks forward to the information the Superintendent will bring.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme to approve the ESSER funding request one day a week at FRES as written cost not to exceed \$13,000.

Chairman Kofalt expressed we need to improve outcomes one-way or another whether the money comes from ESSER or elsewhere. We have a need for additional administration support at FRES and have someone who knows the district well and is underutilized. He thinks it makes sense to move forward.

Voting: seven ayes; one nay from Mr. Vanderhoof, motion carried.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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i. Budget Liaison

Mr. Post reported we met at the start of the school board meeting tonight; they have many concerns around the CIP, complaints about lack of trust in it and that is what drives the warrants. They questioned the spending. He articulated to them we are level setting what the expectations are for the CIP and what sort of projects need to be on there. They had real concerns about that, they were considering requiring individual warrants for individual projects such as roof, boilers etc. He gave feedback that he thought it was untenable and included that it would make district meeting very long and hard to manage. The best way to address it is come up with a buttoned up CIP, present it to the Board for review and acceptance and drive the money for the warrant into that based on that formula. They discussed other things mostly in preparation for the meeting, they are aware the

School Board are the ones to formulate the warrant articles and they can vote for or against it whether they endorse it. Mr. Vanderhoof voiced that the continued CIP discussion baffles him. He questions if everyone has the same definition of CIP and maybe we should start there. He doesn't understand why there is so much confusion about having a project put on the schedule for some time in the future and preliminary discussions on cost and putting it out there and funding it over time so when the time comes to do the project the money is there. As you get closer, 2 years out, you get more serious about verifying the costs. He doesn't understand why there is so much confusion or trust regarding the CIP. It is really a very basic thing. He questions if they think the CIP should be funded over and above what the costs of the projects on the CIP. Mr. Post voiced there was discussion regarding the expenses. The way you described is the way it should operate and they do not believe it operates in that manner. Mr. Vanderhoof added the current CIP is a just 5-year look. He questions if they looked at it, did they look at the math behind the numbers. It is simple math, this is how much it will cost and this is how much the warrant article should be. Mr. Post noted they did, there is their perception and then what the CIP is. He suggested that perhaps the Facilities Committee could in collaboration; put together a presentation he could bring to the Budget Committee about that. Ms. Lavallee voiced that she had a community member contact her and she started to look at it today. Some of the things they have concerns about are some things they see need repair in the buildings that are on there and there is not a lot of detail. She was going to look at other districts CIP's; she was told they have tabs so you look at the café renovation for example you can see the detail on the project. They understand the purpose but what is the cost that rises the project to the CIP, does the Facilities Committee do regular walk-throughs, do we have projects on there we don't need to do vs. ones not on there. She agrees facilities may need to look at the CIP and respond to some of those questions. Mr. Post added on the low end, there are thing that should be in the budget, tables, chairs etc., at the high end we should be requesting a bond. The other issue is when the warrant is first introduced there is not historical data; we don't know what the original language was. Chairman Kofalt noted if we fund individual warrants vs. funding the CIP, we are tying our hands. We are saying the voters approved a certain amount for this project and we cannot use it for the other projects. He suggests Mr. Post may want to bring that back to the Budget Committee as well.

Mr. Golding asked if Mr. Post brought up from the last meeting to increase the legal line on the SAU budget. Mr. Post did not; they did not get to any discussions other than warrants. He will next time.

ii. Negotiations

Mr. Mannarino reported the committee met last night. It was a productive meeting, got a lot of things wrapped up with a few changes to the CBA. He reviewed 7.3, 7.12, 7.19, 10.8 they are extremely minimal. He thanked Ms. LaPlante for doing a lot of the cleanup she made their job easier. A couple other things, 2 weeks' notice for training, written job descriptions, which we previously discussed, and then there is a counter proposal to the wage scale he will share later.

iii. Policy Committee

Ms. Lavallee reported she had written an update regarding what the committee is working on. She asked members to reach out to her if there are questions. The committee continues to work on policies.

XI. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

a. Resignation-Kathleen Chenette-FRES/LCS Principal

Superintendent reviewed the resignation of Principal Chenette, effective December 15.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme to accept the resignation of Ms. Kathleen Chenette, Principal of FRES and LCS.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

b. Resignation-Christina Morrissey-WLC Paraeducator

c. Resignation-Jamin LaPonsie-WLC Paraeducator

Superintendent reviewed the resignations.

XII. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Vanderhoof questioned how much of the budget has been prepared that they have not seen. Ms. LaPlante responded nothing has been prepared. Mr. Vanderhoof voiced that in the past we have done it this way, we move along, then the final number comes in, and then all the questions come because no one has a perspective of what that is. He is not asking that you put it all together, it is kind of warning that it will go through the way it is and then once we see the full budget it will slow down with all the questions coming. Especially when the salaries and benefits are the last thing to hit and everyone thinks it is going well and then you get 80% of the budget toward the end. Ms. LaPlante responded it is a great point as it is now we don't have a full wrap up until December 20 and January is the last time to prepare for the public hearing. She can reach out to the Budget Committee to see if we can move everything up. She doesn't want to wait until January 10 and find out we have make a bunch of adjustments. Mr. Vanderhoof notes it is up to the Board, a lot of time is wasted on the early meetings because we just don't know. Not having it all is hard to drill down to what we need. People are hesitant to ask questions because we done that the full ask is. Ms. LaPlante responded she could start programming it in so the next meeting we will see the effect of the budget. He can leave the salary and benefits to December 20 as we don't have the health insurance numbers or she can move the whole thing up. Superintendent added one challenge we have is that he is used to having a ceiling to work with so we can work within it. When we have an undefined ceiling, it becomes wants and needs so we set our own ceiling. Moving forward if we could have some kind of number to work with. Chairman Kofalt voiced it is not until you have enough pieces of the puzzle

that you can start to see a picture in order to ask the questions and salaries and benefits is a major portion of that. He loves the idea of bringing salaries and benefits earlier in the process. He understands the position you are in to take a guess at what number is acceptable, that is how the process unfolds. It makes sense to think about the annual budget cycles in those terms and could we do salaries earlier in the process. He asked if we have a clear picture of what the benefits increase will be. Ms. LaPlante responded we would know late November. Mr. Post noted a big swing in the cost of the budget would be what we do with buses. Ms. LaPlante noted we would have that on November 29.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Superintendent called out all the phone numbers and names joined in the meeting asking if they wanted to comment.

Mr. Geoffrey Allen commented he can assure the school board that multiple people (on Budget Co.) do know what a CIP is and how it operates. We are looking for more clarification when we get to the facilities portion.

Ms. Alyssa Lavoie was in the Budget Committee meeting today and doesn't know if she and Mr. Post were in a different meeting or if she misunderstood what his interpretation of what he presented to the Board. She was on the Facilities Committee last year and many questions came up especially as a taxpayer. We made little to no progress, and did not have the proper information to put it together. The current CIP is not a CIP it is extension of a line item budget, no true planning. There are questions and concerns of accuracy of line items on there and questions that have not been answered. Although a certain number of dollars are approved based on the CIP, the expenses are not related to what is on the CIP, money is being spent on whatever happened to come up and it is not being accounted for and questions on expenditures not answered. That is where the conversation started about breaking down the CIP to individual warrant articles to have more detailed information. It is a long-standing issue she is surprised the School Board and Budget Committee have not caught this.

XIV. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Post voiced in terms of the comments to the Board about the meeting, he doesn't feel like he needs to provide every level of detail it is a summary and some statements a board member can't say that they said in there. He thought he captured the flavor of the meeting. He notes he took some criticism tonight about that but that is what happened from his perspective.

Mr. Golding expressed for lack of a better term, he is sad to see Principal Chenette go and really hopes the approval of the ESSER funds is not putting a Band-Aid on the situation and hopes it will not explode in our face.

Mr. Vanderhoof commented that if the Budget Committee or the Facilities Committee have specific questions or concerns about the CIP, they should get a clear understanding of what those are. He knows it is only 5 years out and knows it looks like income and outgo are the same; they are very close for the next 3 years and it was explained at voting time last year. It is due to the lack of attention it has gotten. He thought Ms. Lavallee was right having tabs with more information regarding quotes or general information on the project is a good idea and it was discussed last year. He agrees the CIP needs attention. Things need to be added to it but as it stands, it is fully funded the way it was presented last year as far as income and outgo. He would be happy to attend the next Facilities Committee meeting if you would like that he can break down how it was put together.

Mr. Mannarino personally thanked Principal Chenette and thanked Ms. Lavoie for her comments. She echoed a lot of what he was feeling. It is a huge loss for the district and students and is sad to see her go.

Ms. Anzalone is concerned about the test scores. The main reason she ran for School Board is to help improve the quality of the education of our students it is not a reflection on the teachers or staff. She has been here since 2017, has been impressed with the teachers, and thinks we have a great school here. She is concerned about the curriculum, how we choose it, what is proven data to show it works, and the results you should expect. She knows it is hard to get results, COVID had a huge impact but it is not the only reason why test scores were down before that. It is easy to say the kids are not trying as hard but it almost seems like they tried hard to get a bad score if 90% of the kids are not meeting it. It reflects a larger picture going on. We need to go back to focusing on why the schools are here and get back to the basics of educating kids. She voted for the extra day for Ms. Dignan but thinks she should be full time focusing on curriculum. They gave us percentages we are shooting for, that's great but how will we get there. She is sad to hear Principal Chenette is leaving and now hearing it is in December she is more scared. What is the plan? Are we trying to hire someone into that role between now and when she leaves. In general, she is concerned about what we are doing in our district, it is not a single persons fault, its not the teachers fault, and she doesn't even think it is necessarily the Board's fault. All of us have to work together to address the problems. We are seeing the issues; we are saying we need to address it but we are not focusing on the things that we really need to focus on. Curriculum has to be a bigger focus. She is new to the Board, not sure how much they got involved but feels we need to be more involved with the curriculum, how it is chosen etc. She doesn't want to second-guess the educators who know more about this but in the end, we are the ones who will be judged and blamed when people see the test scores. We need to be more involved. I would like to see us focus more on getting the test scores up and do what we need to do.

604 NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (C) 605 A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Golding to enter Non-Public Session to review the non-public 606 minutes, negotiations, security and Personnel matters RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) (C) at 9:33pm. 607 Voting: all aye, motion carried unanimously. 608 609 RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION 610 The Board entered public session at 11:36pm. 611 612 A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes by Mr. Mannarino and SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme. 613 Voting: all aye: motion carried unanimously. 614 615 ADJOURNMENT 616 A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to adjourn the Board meeting at 11:36pm. Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously. 617 618 619 Respectfully submitted,

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Kristina Fowler



Fall Data Presentation:

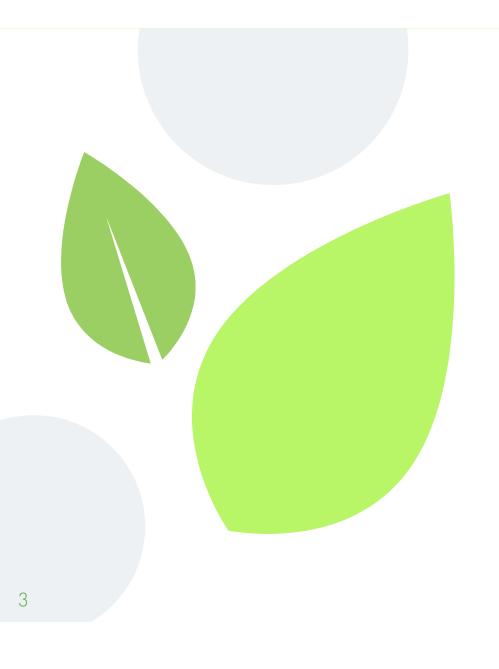
Where have we been? Where are we now?

Where are we going?



"Big things don't always happen with a leap. Big things happen when we take the next best step over and over again."

"Jill M. Siler



Agenda

Basics of iReady

Where have we been?

Where are we now?

Where are we going?

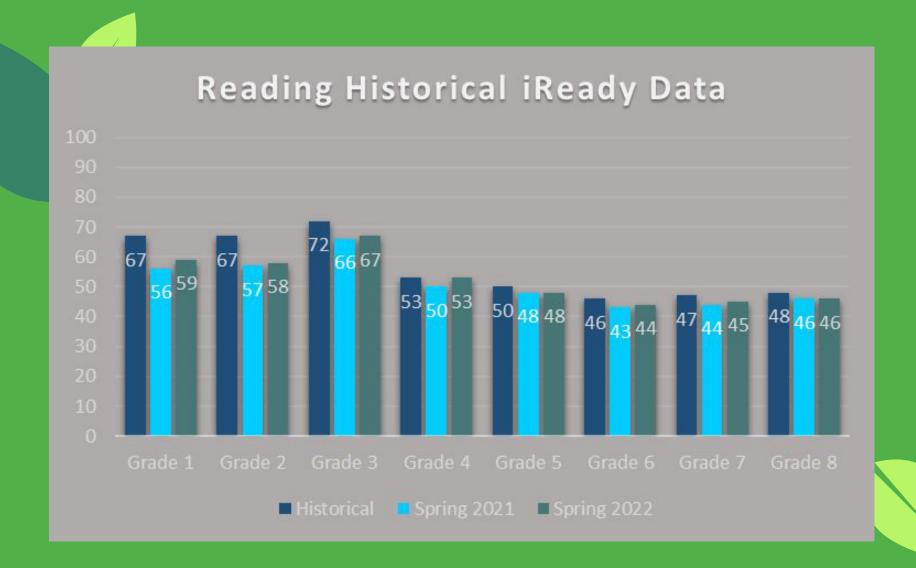


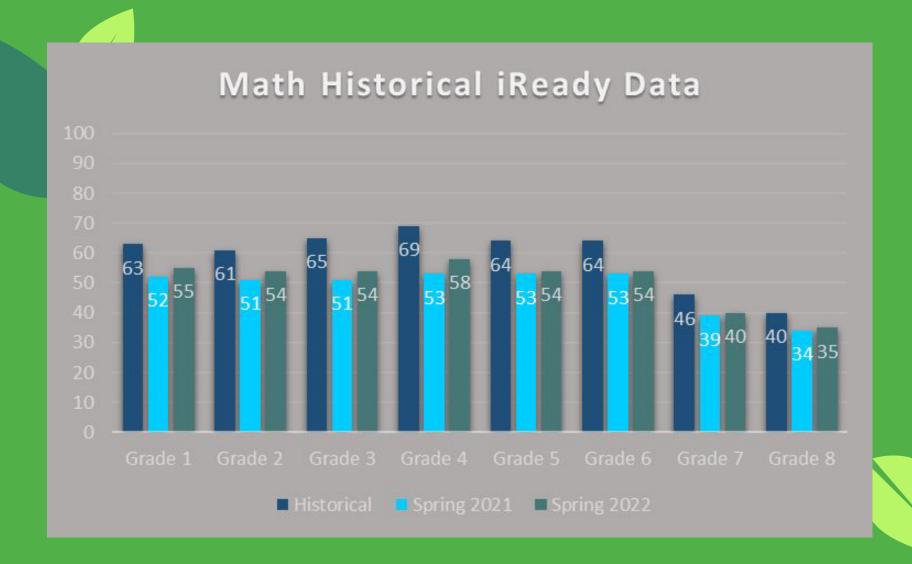
iReady Benchmark Assessment

- Taken three times a year 1-12
 September, January and May
- The K students will take it in November, January, and May.



1.
Past
Performance







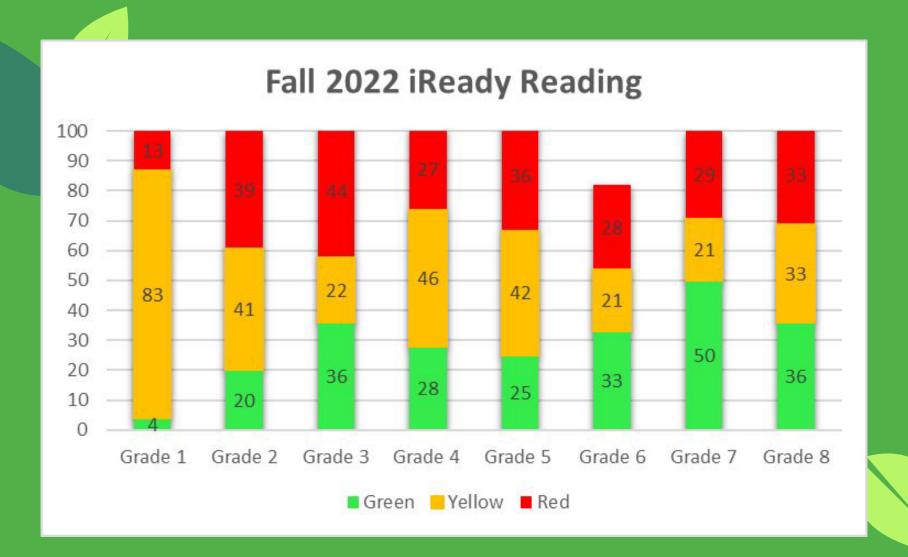
Where are we now?

Now that we have reviewed the nation-wide data, we will review how SAU 63 compares.

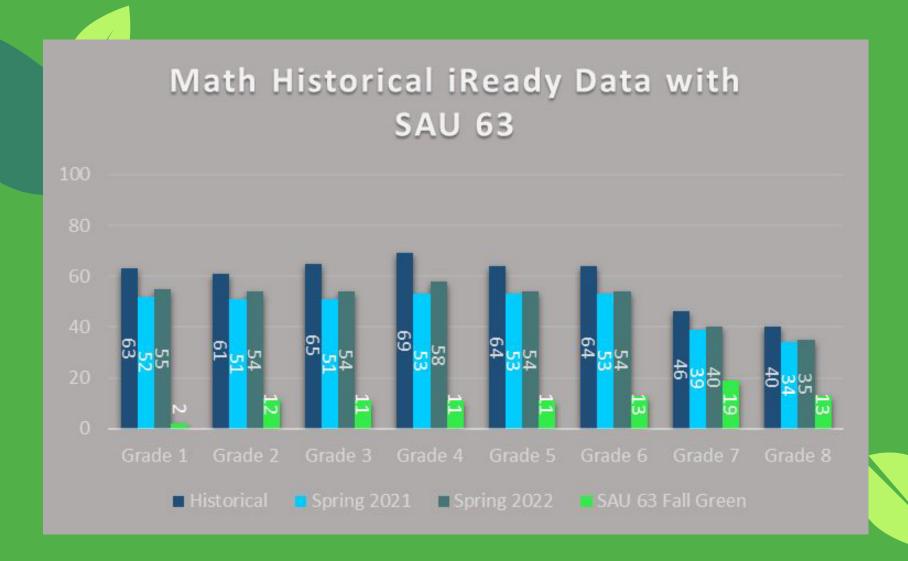
First benchmark assessment FALL of 2022.

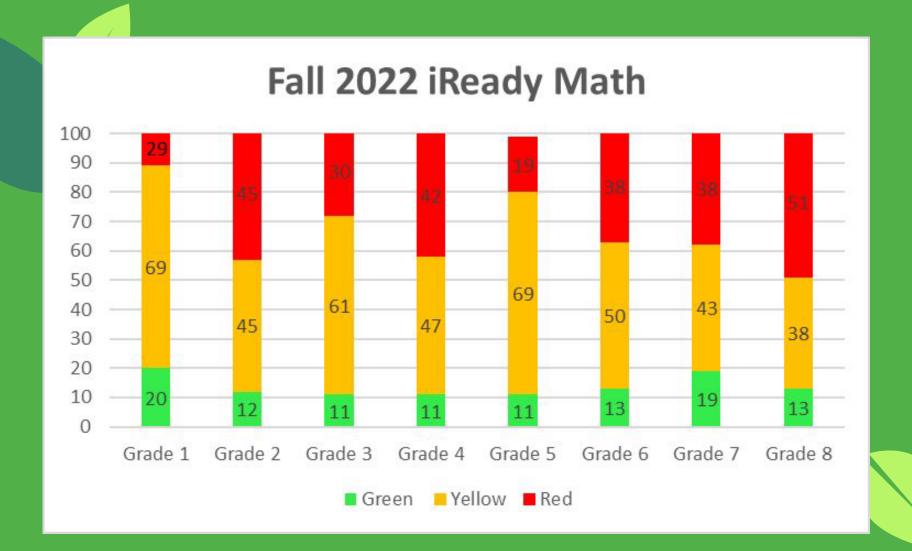


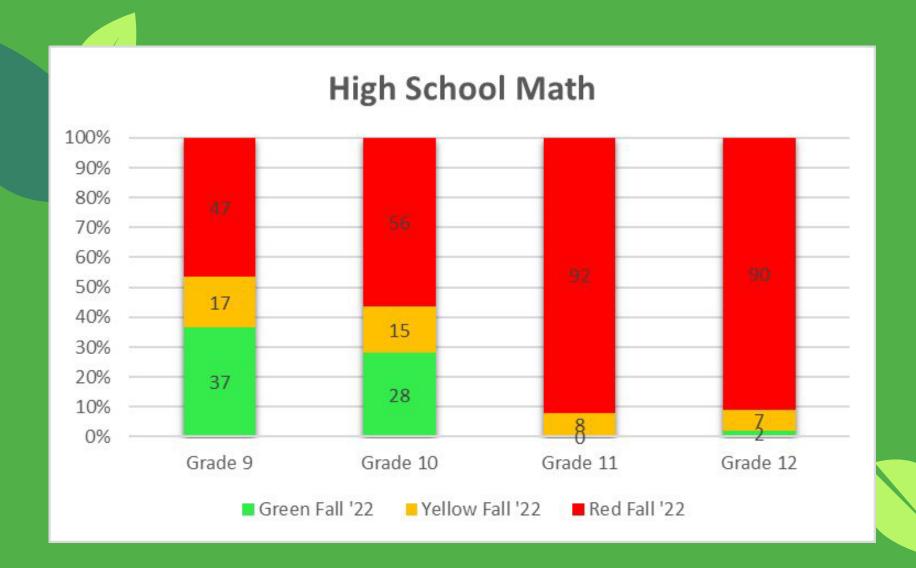




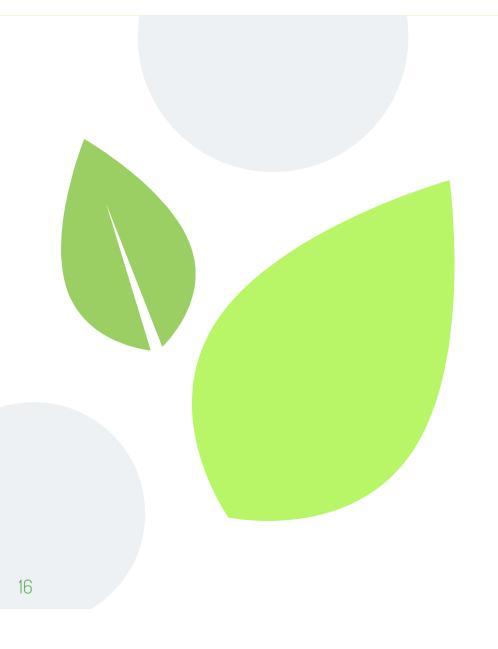












Action Plan

- Utilize data protocols to review and analyze data.
- Ongoing professional development about iReady.
- Ongoing professional development on effective instructional strategies in both reading and math
- iReady instructional pathways (K-8)



Action Plan Continued

- Developed plans for students at FRES
- Participate in data meetings
- Integrating math and ELA into other content areas when possible
- Developed domain specific goals
- Meet in PLCs and department meetings to analyze data

