Public Notice of Meeting WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School 6:30 p.m.

Videoconferencing: meet.google.com/ckh-gaxn-fmo

Audio: +1 402-726-1266 PIN: 631 164 056#

All videoconferencing options may be subject to modifications. Please check <u>www.sau63.org</u> for the latest information.

- I. CALL TO ORDER-Dennis Golding-Chair
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
 - i. SRO (School Resource Officer)
 - ii. Boilers
 - iii. Tennis Courts
 - iv. Architect
 - v. Vacancies
 - vi. B-wing Bathrooms

V. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Reports
 - i. Business Administrator' Report
 - ii. Director of Student Support Services Report
- iii. Curriculum Coordinator Report/iReady Data Presentation

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

- a. **FY 2024-2025**
 - i. Prior Follow Up
 - ii. LCS/FRES
 - iii. WLC MS/HS
 - iv. Athletic Director
 - v. Curriculum Coordinator

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is the public's opportunity to speak to items on the agenda. In the interest of preserving individual privacy and due process rights, the Board requests that comments (including complaints) regarding individual employees or students be directed to the Superintendent in accord with the processes set forth in School Board Policies KE, KEB and BEDH.

VIII. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION

IX. POLICIES

- a. 3rd Read
 - i. GBEBA-Staff Dress Code
 - ii. IKFA-Early Graduation

- X. ACTION ITEMS
 - a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting
- XI. YTD REPORTING
- XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - i. Budget Liaison Negotiations
- XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- XIV. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
- XV. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (B) (C)
 - i. Review the nonpublic minutes
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT
- XVII. NON-MEETING-NEGOTIATIONS

INFORMATION: Next School Board Meeting-November 14, 6:30 PM at WLC

The Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, handicap, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or marital status in its administration of educational programs, activities or employment practice.



Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District School Administrative Unit #63

192 Forest Road Lyndeborough, NH 03082 603-732-9227

Peter Weaver Superintendent of Schools Ned Pratt
Director of Student Support Services

Kristie LaPlante Business Administrator

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

October 24, 2023

Since my last report to the Board in August, I have been involved in several projects:

- Collaborative meetings with my ALICE Instructor colleagues Katie Gosselin and Meghan Levesque and our Wilton Police Department partners to roll out our new emergency response protocols to staff and soft rollouts to students.
- Closed out the remainder of the FY23 budget year with completion and submission of the **DOE** Financial Form ("DOE-25") to the Department of Education.
 - Once I receive approval from the DOE, I will submit the appropriate Year-End FY23 financials and updated FY24 Estimated Revenue to the Department of Revenue for tax rate setting.
 - o It is important to note that this submission was delayed by several weeks (with proper approvals) to pivot and build the first draft of the FY25 Budget by the Budget Committee's September 26th deadline.
- Held in-depth meetings with all Administrators to develop the **first full draft of the FY25 Budget** which was submitted to the Budget Committee and School Board for review/discussion starting September 26th. This was a significant ask of our Administrators who had to dedicate significant time towards building their FY25 budgets as they were starting to open their buildings and get their programs running for the 23/24 School Year.
- As a result of the Budget Committee's October 10th directive to develop the FY25 Budget with a target \$0 increase, we went back to the drawing board to develop a **second draft of the FY25 Budget** with identifiable reductions and worked to identify contractual and non-negotiable hard costs. This will be discussed during the Budget portion of this meeting.
- Participation in Negotiation meetings for the next WLC Teacher's Association Contract.
- Thoroughly vetted all our Free and Reduced Meal Applications and have been working closely with our Food Service Director Megan Nantel to ensure the start-up of our Food Service program is following all National School Lunch Program regulations.

I want to highlight the **hard work our Food Service staff** are doing to feed our students. Going into this School Year we were down two food service positions from last school year. Despite our best efforts, we have been unable to fill those vacancies. Our Food Service Director Megan Nantel has devised some innovative ways to fill those vacancies and has hired four of our existing District staff and one high-school student to work in the afternoons to complete food prep for the week. This has enabled our existing kitchen staff (Tammy Smith and Donna Garnham at FRES and Mel Jones at WLC) to focus on cooking and preparing meals each day without the time-consuming prep work. This staffing model would not be possible without the flexibility and dedication of all of our Food Service staff.

Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District provides a safe and educational environment that promotes student exploration, critical thinking and responsible citizenship.



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Student Support Services Report – October, 2023

This month's Student Support Services report will focus upon changes from the FY'24 budget to the proposed FY'25 budget. We are providing you these changes in advance of the November 14th presentation so that you may digest them and be ready for further discussion on that date.

- The proposed FY'25 Student Services budget is \$1,196,800. The FY'24 budget was \$892,950. The difference between the two budgets is \$303,850 which is a 25.4% increase
- Special education tuitions are \$295,000 in FY'24 vs \$424,000 in FY'25. This accounts for a \$129,000 (30.6%) increase in this line item from last year
- School Psychologist/LMHC contracted service fees are \$118,900 in FY'24 vs \$175,000 in FY'25. This accounts for a \$56,100 (32.1%) increase in this line item from last year
- Speech/Language Therapist contracted service fees are \$179,000 in FY'24 vs \$235,000 in FY'25. This accounts for a \$56,000 (23.9%) increase in this line item from last year.
- Reading Specialist contracted service fees are \$65,200 in FY'24 vs \$113,000 in FY'25. This accounts for a \$47,800 (42.3%) increase in this line item from last year
- Physical Therapy contracted service fees are \$23,100 in FY'24 vs \$30,000 in FY'25. This accounts for a \$6,900 (23.0%) increase in this line item from last year.
- Occupational Therapy contracted service fees are \$91,600 in FY'24 vs \$100,000 in FY'25. This accounts for a \$8,400 (8.4%) increase in this line item from last year.

The total increase in the student services budget of \$303,850 is offset within a few hundred dollars by these 6 areas of the student services budget.

We have shifted \$134,634 from what we budgeted within the IDEA grant in FY'24 to the proposed FY'25 grant which will be written in July of 2024. We are making this shift due to a doubtful full funding scenario of the IDEA budget in FY'25.

When you subtract the amount that was shifted from the grant to the local budget request in the areas of School Psych/LMHS, SLP, and Reading Specialist (\$134,634), the actual service increase for FY'25 is \$169,216. This represents a 13.8% increase in the student support budget for next year.



Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District School Administrative Unit #63

192 Forest Road Lyndeborough, NH 03082 603-732-9227

Peter Weaver Superintendent of Schools Samantha Dignan Curriculum Coordinator Kristie LaPlante Business Administrator

Curriculum Coordinator Report October 24, 2023

Professional Learning

Professional Development

We had a professional development day for staff October 6th. On this day, we had several different opportunities for staff to participate in. We have such a wonderfully dedicated staff who are trained in a variety of different programs. Without these trainers in-district, we would not have been able to provide as many opportunities. One of these activities included an iReady trainer coming to both FRES and WLC to provide training that was tailored to our teachers and they learned how to use another component of the assessment. Unified Arts teachers at WLC were CPR/AED/First Aid certified with Cathleen Bertoncini and learned more about Nearpod with Nicholas Buroker. We also had the FRES Specialists, School Counselors, and several other staff members get Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) certified with Lisa Boaen. The nurses completed epilepsy training through the Epilepsy Foundation and prepared a speech to share out with staff at the next faculty meeting. The middle and high school also met to discuss what a common syllabus would look like, which will be implemented throughout the middle/high school. There was a lot of personalized learning happening for teachers, which made for quite the productive day.

New Teacher Program

We had our second New Teacher Meeting in October where we had a "choose your own adventure" style professional development. Teachers were given two topics to choose from depending on their needs. This month, the topics were IEPs and 504s, how to read each and basic information about both, the second topic was about family engagement and how to work with families to support students.

Curriculum

Teachers at FRES have continued to review and update their competencies by grade-level. Included in this process is updating their report card to include these updated competencies. Teachers at WLC-MS are using the NH SAS writing rubric to develop a common writing rubric to use throughout classes. The intention behind this is to support students in writing quality pieces across the content areas. Additionally, students at WLC-HS are being exposed to more SAT prep type questions. They are being given time during advisory to work on those questions, and other SAT prep tips are being shared at this time. WLC will host an SAT information session night on November 29th at 6pm. This is offered to parents of students in grades 8-11. This event will share information about the PSAT/SAT and how we can work together to prepare students for these high-stakes assessments.

Instruction

I have continued to do classroom observations at FRES, having observed all of the new teachers at FRES and LCS once. These observations include a pre and a post observation conference where we discuss what students will be learning, and discuss instructional strategies for this lesson at the pre observation conference, and then feedback and the formative assessments used at the post observation conference.

Assessment

The iReady assessments have wrapped up in grades K-10. Students took iReady assessments in both reading and math. Reports were sent home to families with information on how to read the reports.

Both FRES and WLC have spent time reviewing and analyzing the data from the iReady diagnostic assessment. After analyzing the data, teams have met to develop plans for individual learners in order to maximize their learning time.

WLC students in grade 11 just completed the PSAT/NMSQT assessment this month. Families can view scores for this by logging into the College Board website. In the spring, we will hold the PSAT 9, PSAT 10, and SAT for juniors.

Committees

Professional Development Committee

The Professional Development Committee has representation from three out of the four buildings in the district. We had our first meeting of the year at the beginning of October. At this meeting, we discussed our Professional Development Master Plan for the district. This plan was developed by a previous committee, and is quite extensive. We left with some "homework" to continue to read the plan, mark it up and meet again to discuss any changes we see relevant.

Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee is composed of members from all four buildings in the district as well as a community member/board member. This committee is reviewing an ELA program to see if it would support our development of our ELA curriculum in grades 2-8. We are currently comparing this program to a checklist we developed last year as a committee as a way to vet potential program adoptions. If the committee feels this program meets the criteria in the checklist, we will develop a sub-committee of relevant stakeholders to review the program.

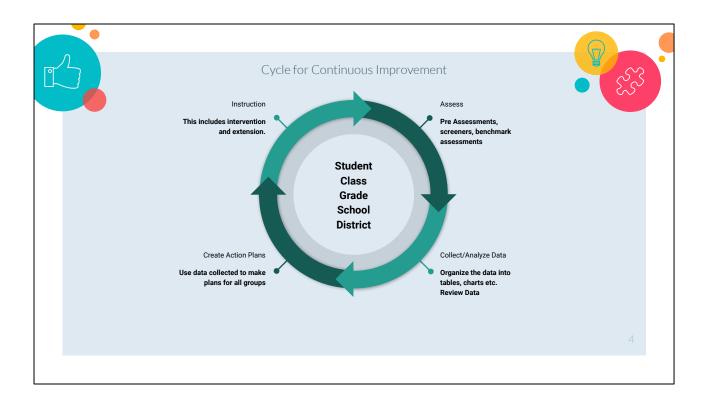
Upcoming Events:

- October 23 New Teacher Meeting
- November 6 Curriculum Committee Meeting
- November 29 SAT Information Session
- December 11 Professional Development Committee Meeting

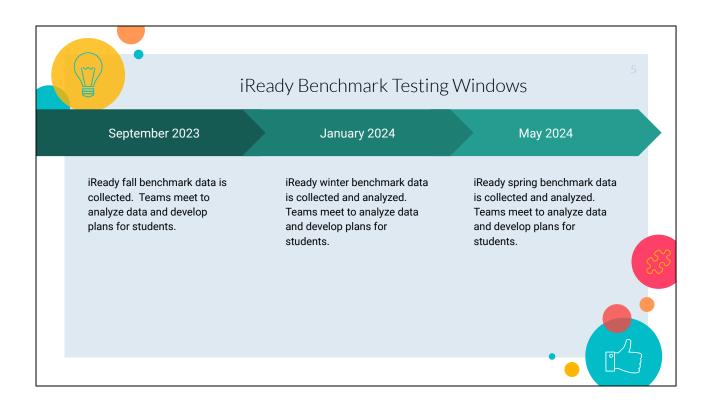




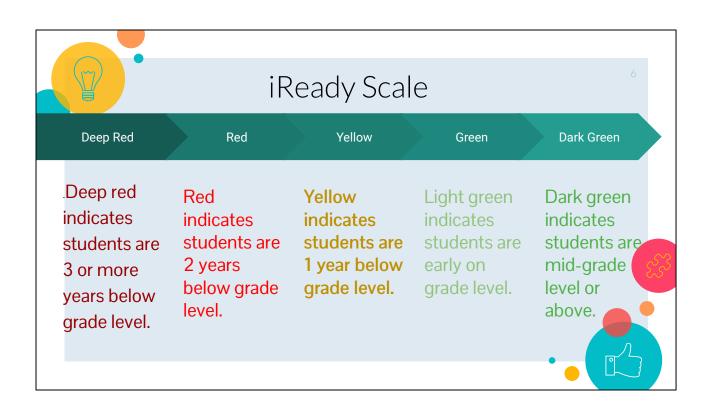
This quote is here to remind us that as we continue this journey of continuous improvement, it does not happen overnight. We are making small steps all the time to make improvements for our students, classes, grades, schools, and district.



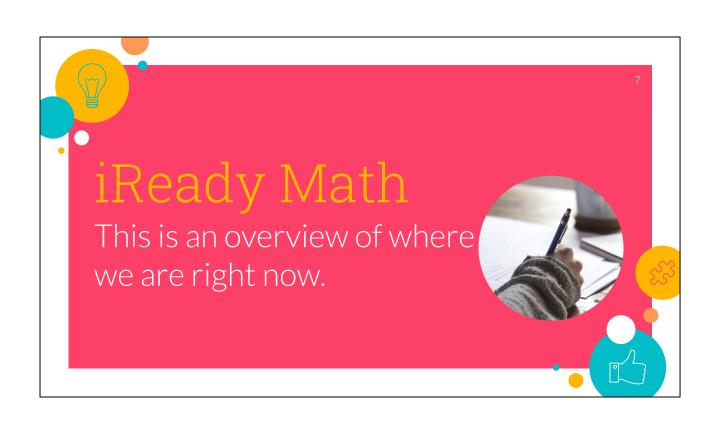
As we work through this year, our goal is continuous improvement for all. This starts with individual students and goes all the way up to the district as a whole. We are working at all levels to improve our outcomes for students.

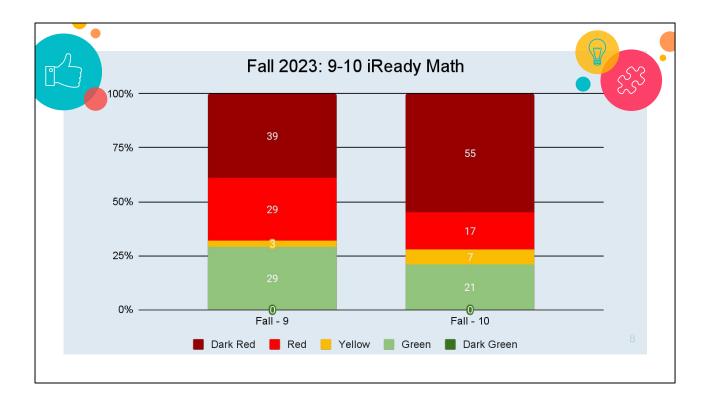


We take our iReady benchmark assessment three times a year. This year our kindergarten students took their assessment at the end of our diagnostic window so we could have data as early as possible for this group of students. This was within the recommended window from iReady which is 4-6 weeks into school for K students.

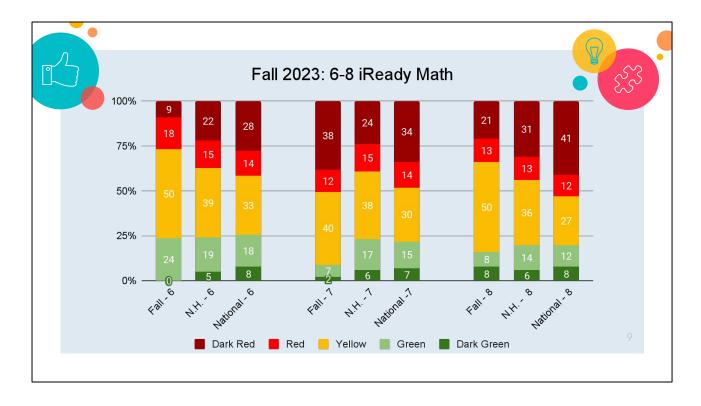


Just to review what each of our colors means. I know it has been a while, so to orient you to the colors, yellow is where most students should be scoring at this point in the year because they have not had the opportunity to access grade-level curriculum/content yet.





This is where our high school students are scoring in math right now. These numbers are the percentage of students in each band. Later, we will review how these students are doing relative to their performance last year. As you can see more than 50% of our students in 9th and 10th grade are scoring 2 or more grade-levels behind at this point in the year.



This graph has a lot of information on it, so I want to take a moment to orient you to what you are looking at. There are three sets of bars. The first set is 6th grade, second set is 6th grade, and the final set is 8th grade. Each grade has three bars for a reason. Our scores for our students are the first bar for each grade. So as you can see 24% of our students are on or above grade level in 6th grade math. For this point in the year, that means they are ahead of where they should be. 50% of our student are scoring in the yellow which means those students are ready for grade-level material and are exactly where they need to be.

What you are comparing our students to is the column directly next to us is the Year to Date New Hampshire overall scores. So overall we have a larger percentage of students ready to learn grade-level material than the state overall does.

Then that final column is the Year to Date National scores. This third column shows that a larger percentage of our sixth graders are ready to learn grade-level content than the percentage of students in the nation ready to learn grade-level content.

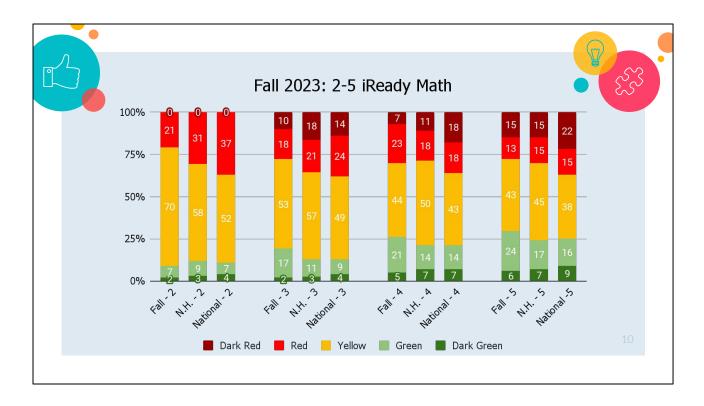
Let's take a minute to look at 7th grade. We have 49% of our student who are on, above, or ready to receive grade-level instruction. In New Hampshire, 61% of students are on, above, or ready to receive grade-level instruction and in the nation, 52% of students are on, above, or ready to receive grade-level instruction. So this shows us that our students are relatively close to aligning with all other 7th grade students who take iReady.

Finally, 8th grade. Looking at the graphs makes it pretty clear that our students are out performing the state and the nation as far as students who are ready to receive grade-level instruction.

Summer Math Academy:

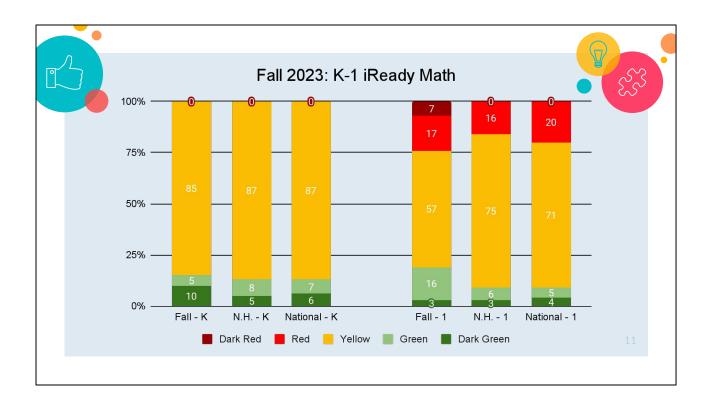
This was offered to ALL students entering into 6-12.

Only 3 students participated in Summer Math academy at WLC. All three students went up one grade-level in their iReady Math scores from May 2023 to September 2023.



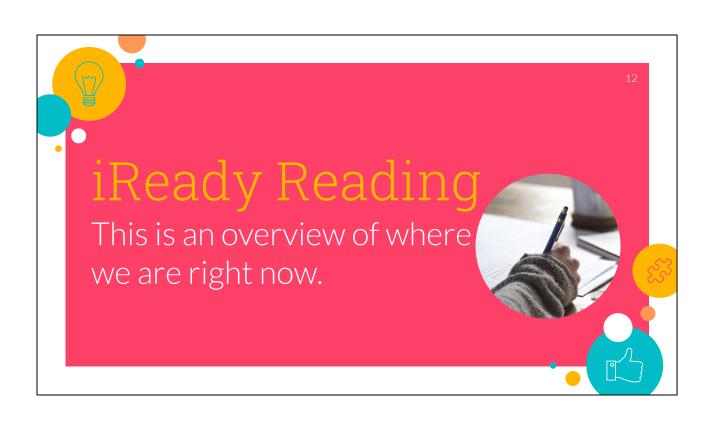
This graph is the same as the previous one for grades 2-5. Reminder, students who are in the yellow are exactly where they should be at this point in the year. They are showing that they are ready for grade-level instruction.

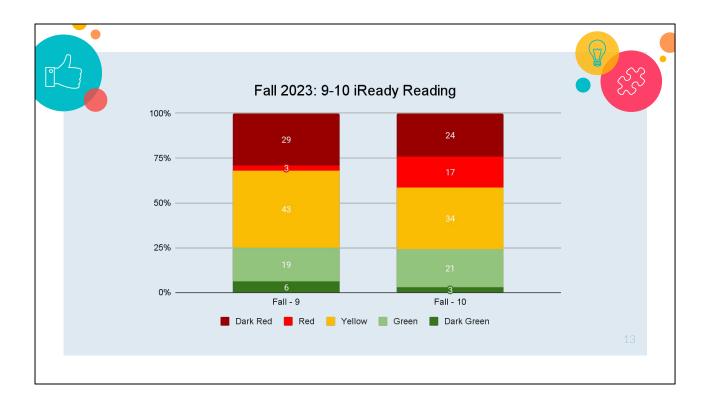
Across the board 2-5, our students are outperforming the state and national students in math.



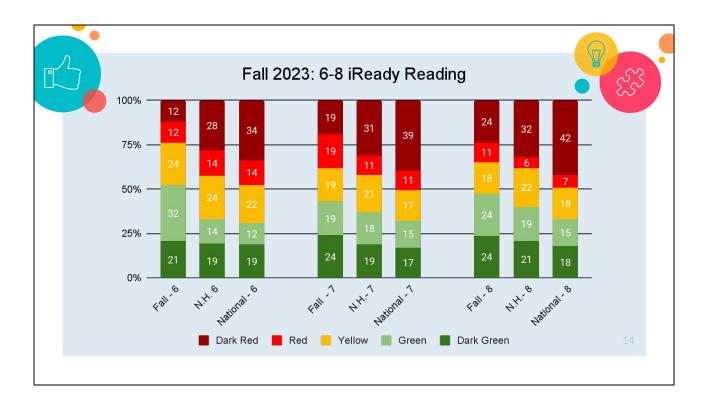
This graph is our Kindergarten and grade 1 students. You can see we still have more students on, above, or ready to receive grade-level instruction than both the state and the nation.

You will note, there are no students in K scoring in the red because it is impossible to score 2 grade-levels below in kindergarten.

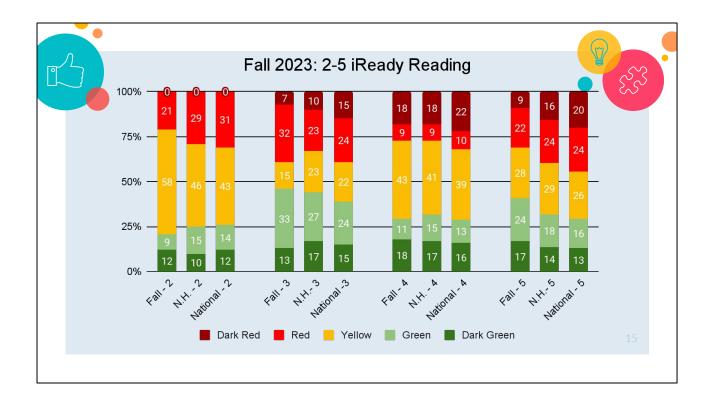




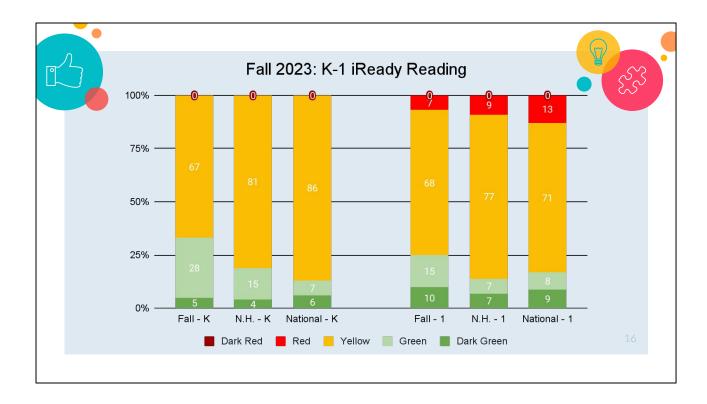
This is where our high school students are scoring in reading right now. Our reading scores are showing that 68% of our 9th grade students are on, above, or ready to receive grade-level instruction in reading. 58% of our students in 10th grade are on, above, or ready to receive grade-level instruction in reading.



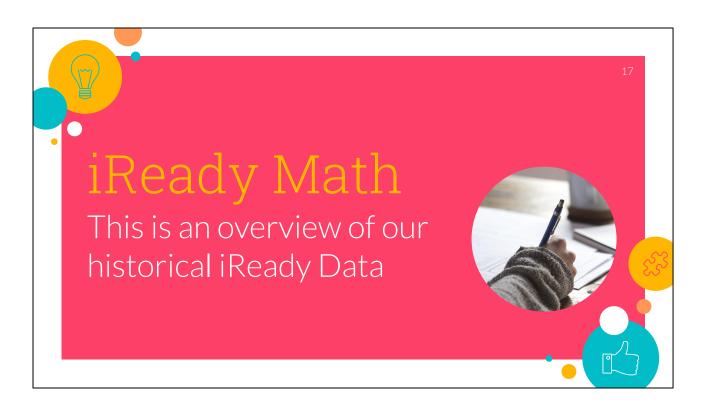
This graph mirrors the middle school math graph where the first column is our students, the second column is the Year to Date New Hampshire information, and the last column is the Year to Date National information for each grade-level. As you can see again, we are outperforming the state, and nation for our reading scores.



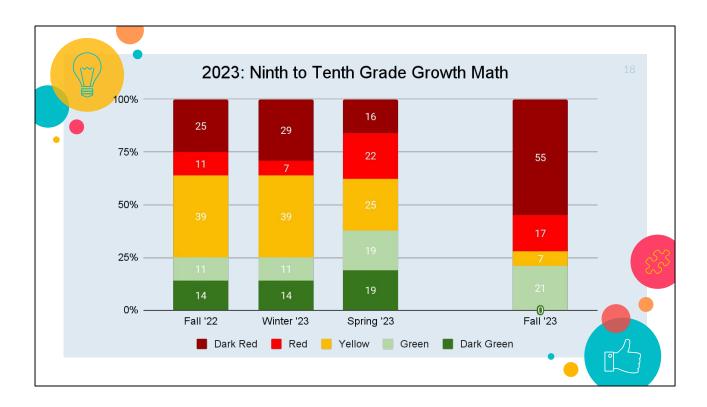
Almost across the board, more students at FRES are on, above, or ready for grade-level instruction.



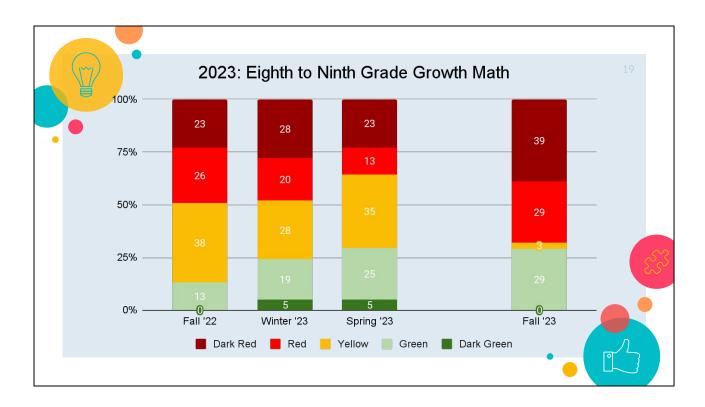
Again, a higher percentage of our K-1 student are on, above, or ready for grade-level instruction. Overall, this has happened due to the interventions we put into place last year. Teachers have worked hard to use not just iReady data, but other assessments as well to support all students making continuous improvement. We are continuing to make adjustments to our instruction based on the information provided to us by the data we have.



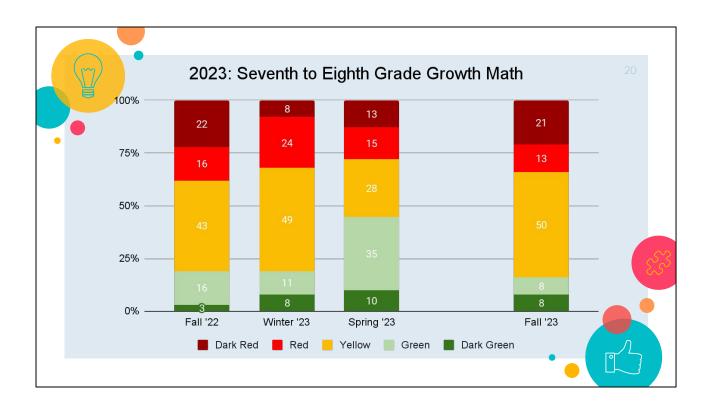
This next round of graphs is a review of the students iReady data last year, compared to this year. This data is following one particular group.



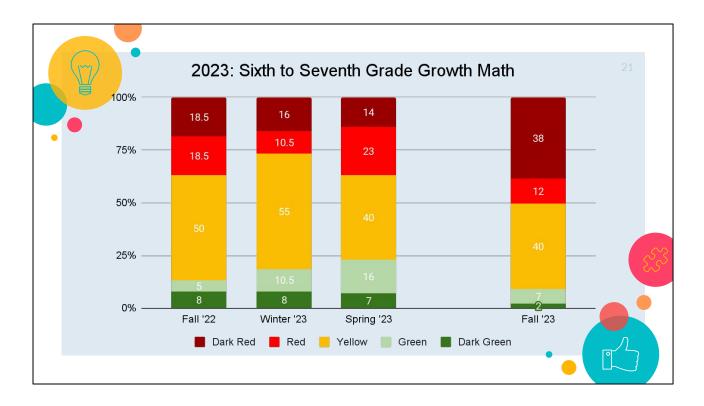
This graph is looking at our current 10th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. The first three columns are last years data, and the final column is how the students scored this fall. As you can see, this group did better in the Fall of '22.



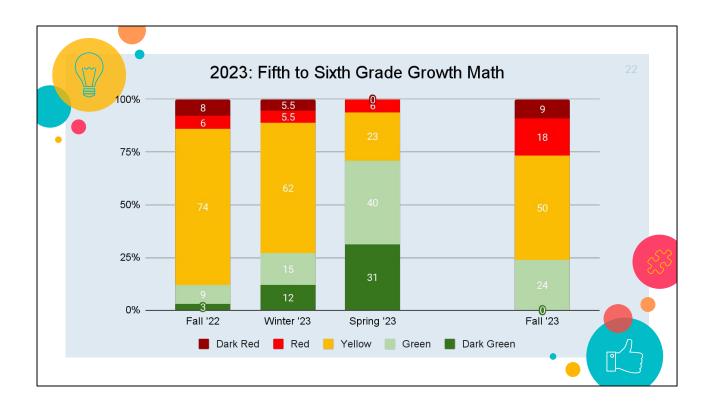
This graph is looking at our current 9th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. As you can see this group has more students on or above grade level than they did at this point last year, however the amount of students scoring 3 or more grade-levels below has also increased.



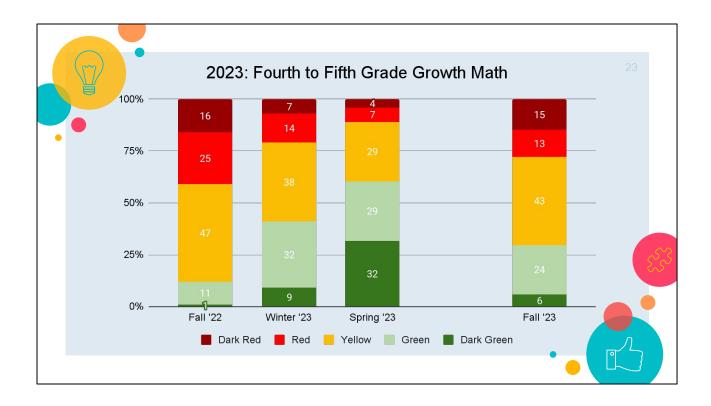
This graph is looking at our current 8th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. They are scoring relatively similarly to how they scored in the fall of their 7th grade year.



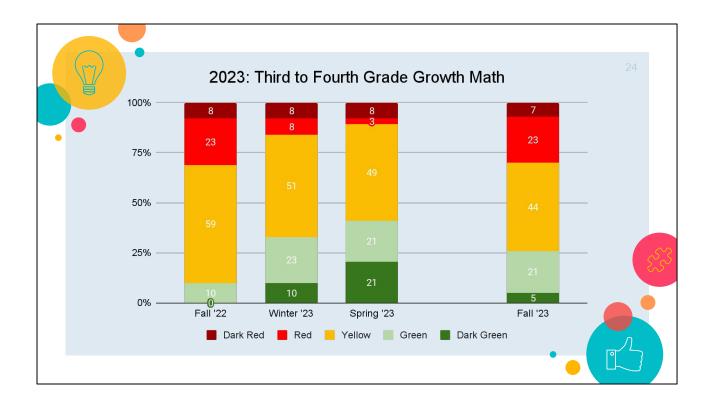
This graph is looking at our current 7th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. This group has increased the percentage of students who are in the deep red by almost double.



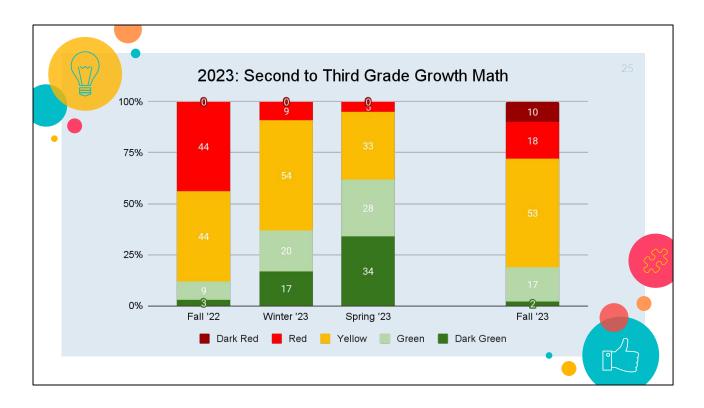
This graph is looking at our current 6th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. As you can see this group of students has increased the percentage of students on or above grade-level from fall of last year.



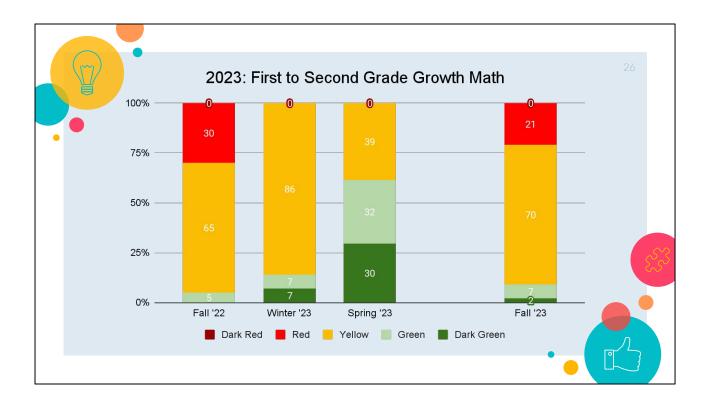
This graph is looking at our current 5th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. This group of students has decreased the percentage of students in the two different reds and increased the percentage of students in the two greens from last fall.



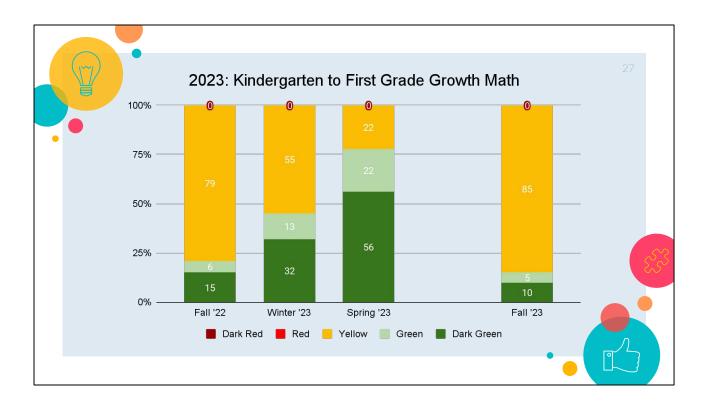
This graph is looking at our current 4th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. This group of students has increased their percentage of students in both green, and decreased their percentage of students in the yellow from fall to fall.



This graph is looking at our current 3rd grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. The current third grade students have drastically cut the percentage of students in the red from last fall to this fall.



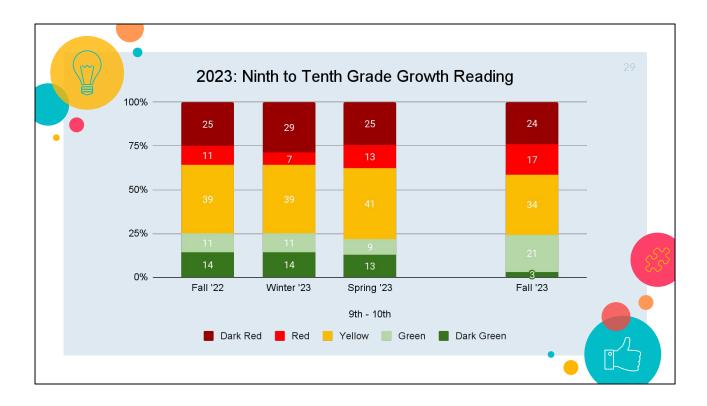
This graph is looking at our current 2nd grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. This group of student has again decreased the percentage of students in the red, and increased both the yellow and the green.



This graph is looking at our current 1st grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady math assessment. This group of students is relatively the same as far as percentage of students in each color band from fall to fall.

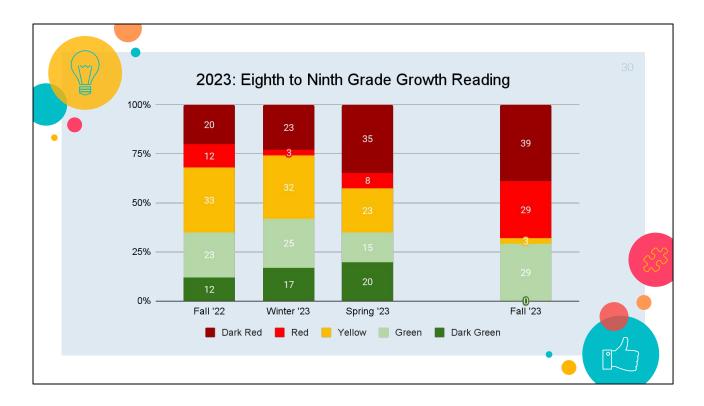


This section is designed the same way as the previous section, where it is a review of the students iReady data last year, compared to this year.

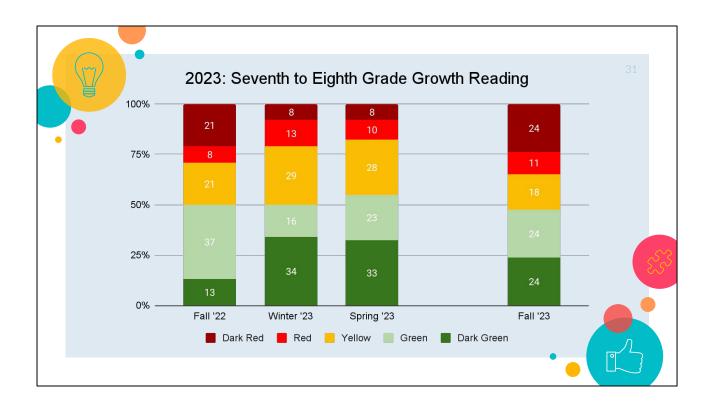


This graph is looking at our current 10th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. The first three columns are last years data, and the final column is how the students scored this fall.

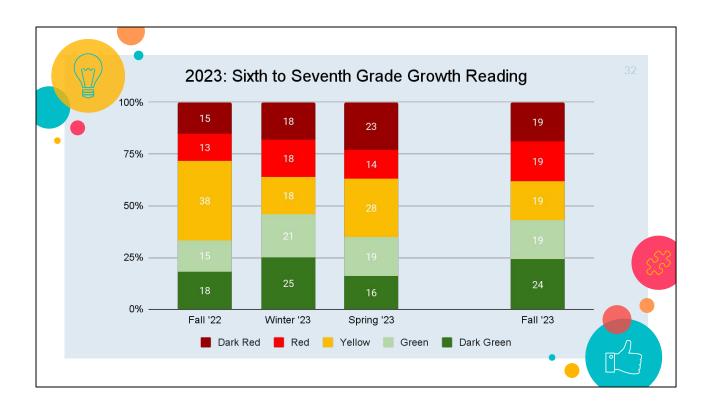
This group of students maintained the percentage of students who scored in the green, but a large percentage of students in the yellow seems to have shifted to the red, and deep red.



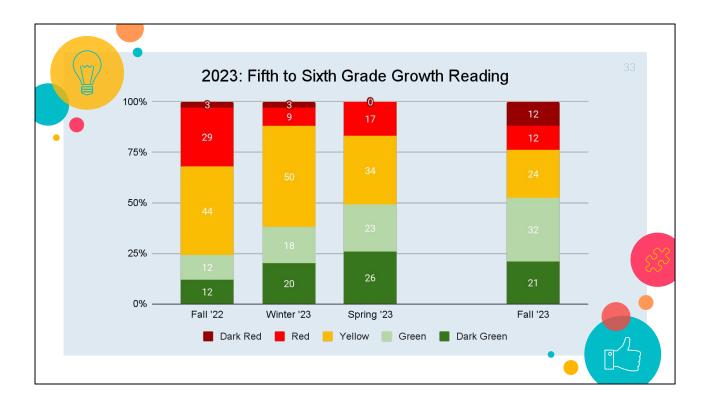
This graph is looking at our current 9th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. The percentage of students scoring in both reds have increased from fall to fall.



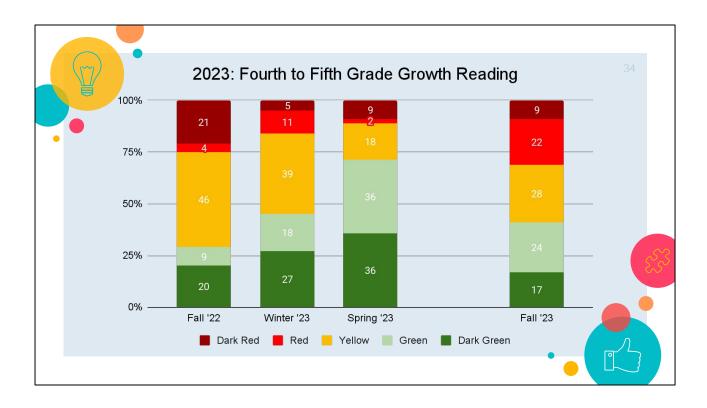
This graph is looking at our current 8th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. The percentage of students in each category have remained similar from fall to fall. However you will notice the percentage of students in deep green has almost doubled from last fall.



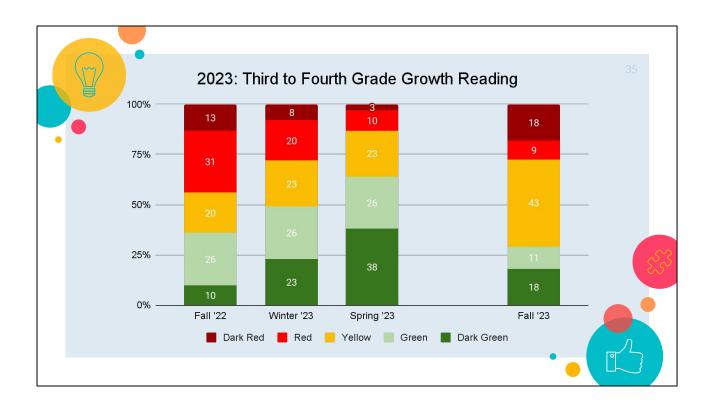
This graph is looking at our current 7th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. The percentage of students in both greens has increased from 23% to 33%.



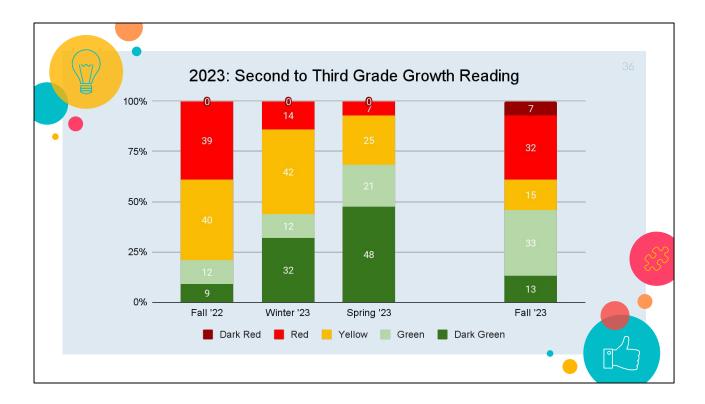
This graph is looking at our current 6th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. This group of students is particularly interesting because what they are scoring currently is what you would expect around mid-year. They have continued to grow even over the summer.



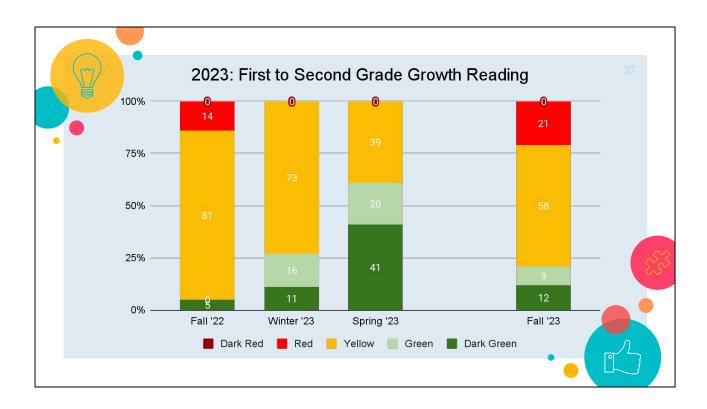
This graph is looking at our current 5th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. The percentage of students in the deep red and red have switched, which implies that the students who were 3 or more years below last fall have decreased and are now closer to grade-level.



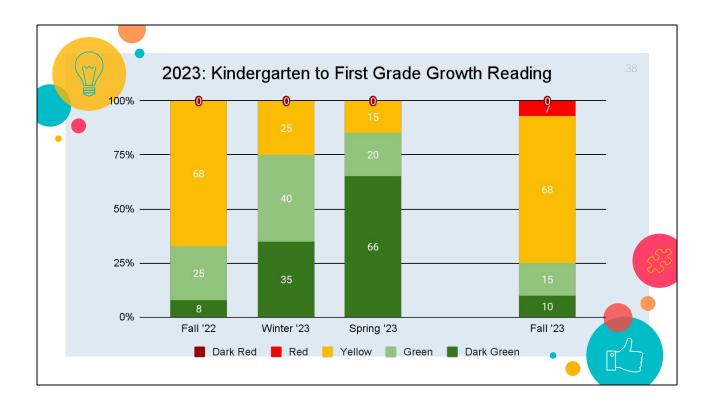
This graph is looking at our current 4th grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. This group of student has cut the percentage of students in the red category from fall to fall.



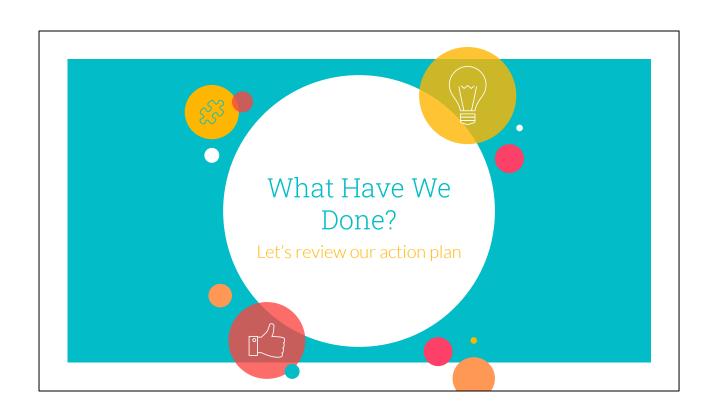
This graph is looking at our current 3rd grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. This group of students is interesting for the same reason the current 6th grade is interesting. You would expect this graph in the middle of the year rather than the beginning.



This graph is looking at our current 2nd grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. From fall to fall, the percentage of students in both green has increased as well as the percentage of students in the red has increased.



This graph is looking at our current 1st grade students and how they scored last year compared to this year on their iReady reading assessment. We have moved a larger percentage of students in to the red and the dark green categories.

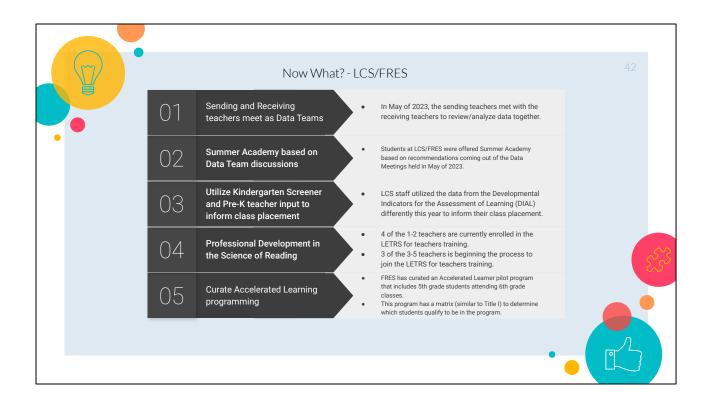


Now What? - District Wide				
01	Ongoing professional development about iReady	:	New Teachers were provided with iReady training prior to the start of school. iReady met with the leadership teams from both schools to re-invigorate staff iReady Tailored Professional Development Day 10/6	
02	Streamlined evaluation process to focus on effective teaching practices		The building level administrative team have met and developed a rubric for "look fors" that is shared with teachers at their pre-observation meeting conference. We plan to review our supervision and evaluation document this year.	
03	Data Meetings 3 times a year		FRES had held their first round of data meetings already. Data was triangulated and student action plans were developed.	
04	Transition Meetings between the buildings		In May of 2023, meetings were held with staff working with students in grades that transition from one building to another.	8
05	Continue to develop and vet curriculum		Curriculum Committee has met, developed goals for the year, and is using our data to make informed decisions regarding curriculum.	

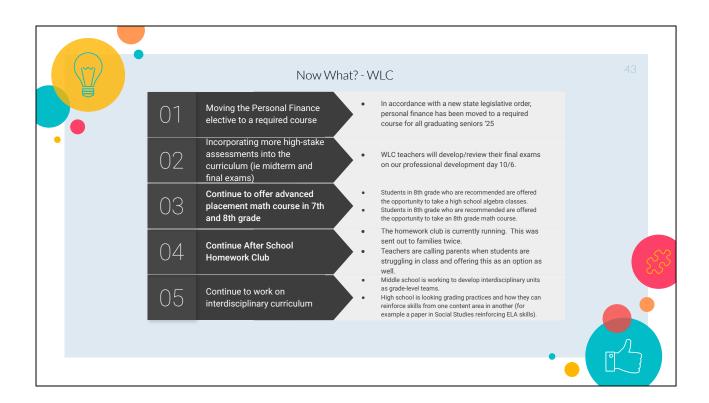
These are the items we listed in our presentation in the spring as our ways to support continuous improvement for our students.



These are the items we listed in our presentation in the spring.



These are the items we listed in our presentation in the spring.



These are the items we listed in our presentation in the spring.

Now What? - WLC

06	Continue PSAT and SAT prep into curriculum and WIN
07	Adjust the use of the PLC model
08	Implement motivators for students taking standardized assessments (NH SAS, SAT, iReady etc.)
09	Format classroom assessments
10	Emphasize the importance and rationale behind the assessments

- Every week during advisory all high school students are given PSAT/SAT prep.
- WLC will host an SAT Informational Night on 11/29 for families in grades 8-11.
- WLC Math teachers are grouped in a PLC as a department, allowing these groups of teachers to have time to collaborate.
- Information from PLC meetings are now being
- Information from PLC meetings are now being embedded into departmental meetings. Awards will be given for students who drastically improve on their iReady. Gift cards will be given to students who are performing at their academic best on standardized assessments Privileges will be teld to scores on standardized assessments moving forward.
- We are working to improve the rigor on classroom

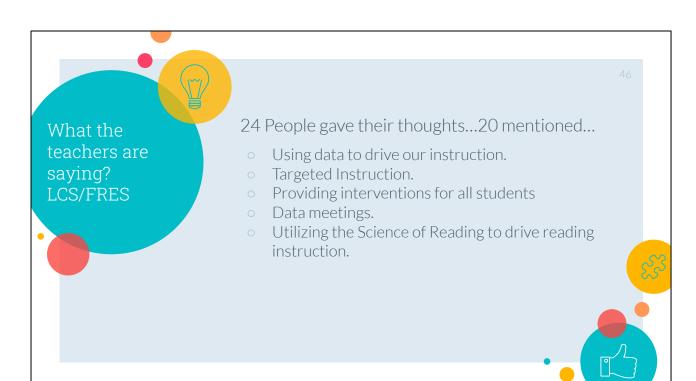
summative assessments.

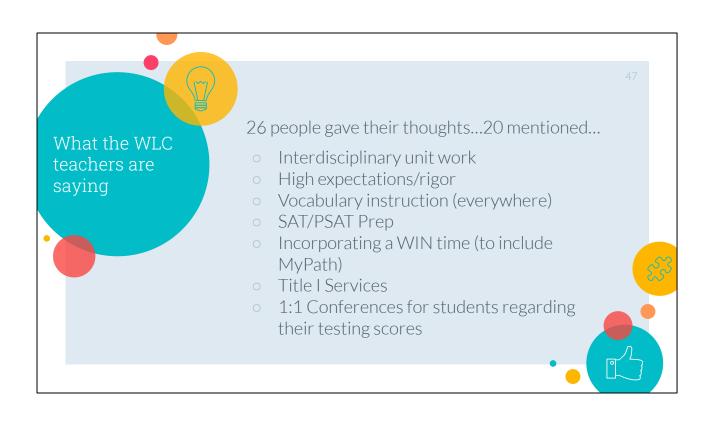
Prior to iReady, the middle and high school had assemblies with Mr. Ronning explaining the importance of these assessments. Our catch phrases are "Academic Best" and "Best Version of Self".



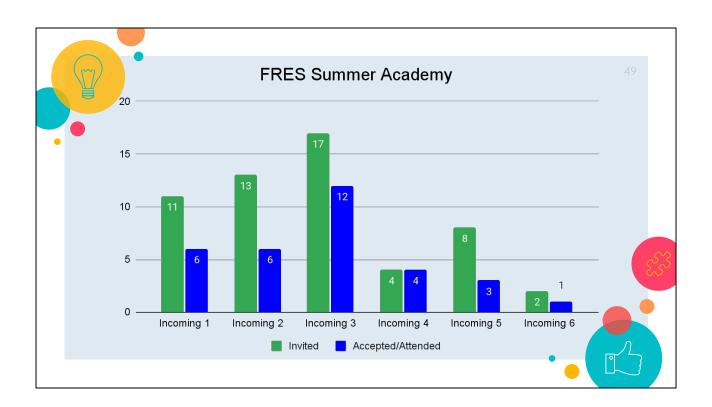


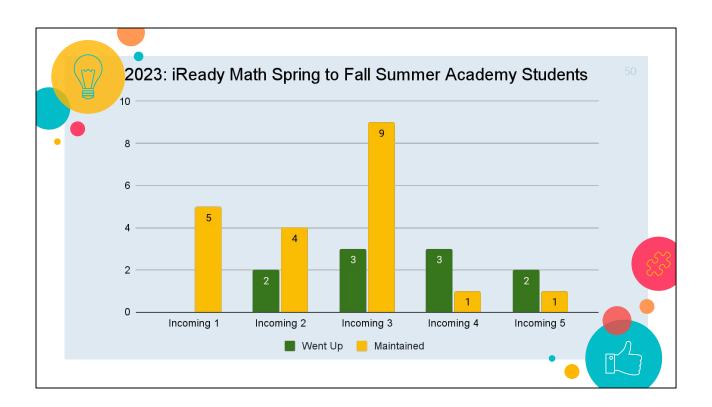


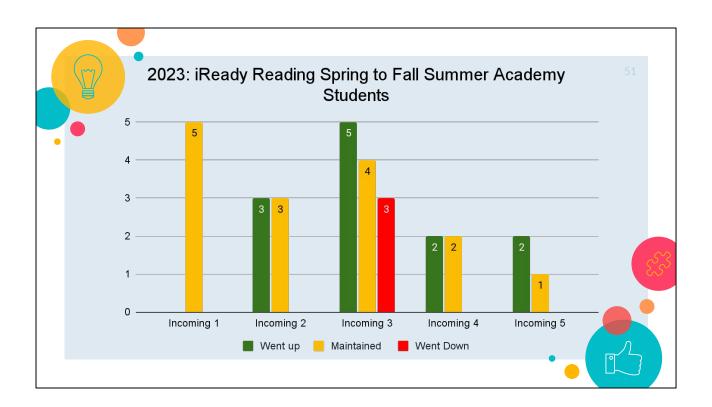












GBEBA - STAFF DRESS CODE

The Wilton Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board understands that professionally appropriate attire in the classroom and workplace will promote a more positive learning environment, allow teachers to serve as role models for students, and promote respect for our professional staff.

The Board recognizes that professionally appropriate attire for their role will vary depending on the position held by the individual. Employees should wear attire suitable for the type of work they perform. Administration retains the authority to evaluate attire. Clothing and accessories are considered appropriate if it does not disrupt the educational or workplace environment. While individual style will be recognized, there are minimum standards of grooming and attire to which employees must abide. The following minimum standards, within law, apply to staff when present within the schools.

Minimum Standards

- All employees shall be neat and clean when reporting to work.
- Clothing will be professionally appropriate for their role, while being free from holes, stains or obvious distressing, and should not expose undergarments, buttocks, chests, or midriffs.
- Clothing and exposed body art shall be free from
 - profanity
 - obscene gestures
 - o sexually graphic pictures
 - o supportive references to alcohol, cigarettes, drugs or sexual activity
 - messages degrading others on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability
 - Jewelry may be prohibited or limited in certain learning spaces for safety reasons or to preserve the quality of school materials.
- Staff may wear themed clothing on days that are designated for school spirit or fund raising as approved by the Superintendent of Schools.
- No gang related apparel or items are permitted
- Caps, hats, and sunglasses may be worn outside only
- Shoes or sandals must be worn
- All employees will abide by all health and safety rules relating to their specific assignment. Example: hairnest for food services workers or close-toed shoes for custodial staff

The Board recognizes that all employees enjoy full rights of citizenship and liberty as guaranteed by the Constitutions of the United States and New Hampshire. However, individual freedom of expression of employees must be balanced with the impressionability of students. Accordingly,

- Religious symbols or emblems are permissible as long as they do not proselytize or disparage religion, and
- Clothing should be free of non-neutral political messages.

 For Example "VOTE" is permissible; "VOTE FOR SMITH!" is not

First Reading: September 14, 2010 Second Reading: October 12, 2010 Final Adoption: October 12, 2010

Reviewed: October 28, 2014, November 18, 2014

Revised: November 18, 2014

Reviewed: March 5, 2019, March 19, 2019

Revised: March 19, 2019

Policy Suspended: August 25, 2020 Policy Reinstated: August 1, 2023 First Reading: September 26, 2023 Second Reading: October 10, 2023

Revised:

IKFA - EARLY GRADUATION

Category: Priority/Required by Law

Related Policy IKF

The Wilton Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board supports early graduation as a means to earn a high school diploma. Parental involvement for students under the age of 18 is required. The high school principal shall approve such requests if he/she determines that all state and local graduation requirements will be met and that early graduation is related to career and/or educational plans of the student making the request. Students who intend to graduate early must complete the Early Graduate Application at the mid-year point of the year of graduation. Example: A Junior who would like to graduate at the end of their Junior year will need to complete the paperwork by the end of January. For WLC Graduation Requirements refer to the current student handbook and for minimum Graduation requirements for a NH State Graduation refer to policy IKF.

Upon approval by the high school principal, the minimum 4-unit requirement per year for enrolled students shall be waived and the student shall be awarded a high school diploma.

District Policy History:

First reading: September 26, 2023 Second reading: October 10, 2023 Adopted:

District revision history:

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(ad), Early Graduation

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WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School 6:30 p.m.

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

Present: Dennis Golding, Brianne Lavallee, Matt Mannarino, Tiffany Cloutier-Cabral, Darlene Anzalone, Geoffrey Allen, Diane Foss (6:36pm attended Budget Co. mtg.), Jonathan Lavoie, and HS School Board Student Representative, Hannah Hamilton

Superintendent Peter Weaver, Business Administrator Kristie LaPlante, Principal Tom Ronning and Associate Principal Bridgette Fuller, Assistant Principal Katie Gosselin, Director of Student Support Services Ned Pratt, Technology Director Nicholas Buroker, and Clerk Kristina Fowler

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Golding called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMEN

Superintendent spoke of a new monthly staff recognition award, the "Starfish Award". He explained this award is to recognize a staff person in the district who makes a difference one student at a time. This will be presented at the first board meeting each month and at the end of the year, one person will be chosen out of all them for a yearly award. He reviewed the starfish story, which is about making a difference one starfish at a time. Principal Fuller honored Ms. Christina Gauthier, administrative assistant at FRES with the "Starfish Award" for making a difference, one student, one parent, one teacher at a time. She reviewed many ways that Ms. Gauthier deserves this. She was congratulated and given a round of applause.

IV. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no adjustments requested.

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V. **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

a. Reports

i. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent informed the group that we are still struggling with filling the math and computer science positions. He have an introductory meeting, a prelude to an interview, with a math candidate tomorrow. If it goes well we will take the next step in the process. We received an email from a community member who is interested in tutoring to help with math. The community member is a robotics and computer teacher at a University. He will reach out to him. We have 66 survey responses. The mailer will go out and the survey will be completed by October 27. We may have to extend that if there is a need. We have hard copies at the schools as well and he confirmed the link is on the front page of the website.

ii. Student School Board Report

Student Hannah Hamilton reported that there was a lot happening this month. They had ALICE training and a senior trip to Mt. Monadnock. Some students have been frustrated with the new phone procedure. Students are excited about "Red Ribbon Week". They seem to like their new teachers this year. It has been a positive environment with all the new staff. A question was raised what is the biggest issue with the phones. Ms. Hamilton replied that during free period or passing through the halls some students feel they should be able to go on their phones but can't. Ms. Hamilton was asked about the trip to Mt. Monadnock. She spoke of the students hiking and being able to hike with some of the teachers. When asked about the classroom temperatures, she confirmed the climate has improved; there have not been many complaints. Ms. Hamilton was thanked for her attendance and her report.

iii. WLC Principal's Report

Principal Ronning thanked Ms. Hamilton for attending. He noted it is fantastic to have a student representative. There was a MS student representative as well but he has declined today. Principal Ronning will continue to look for another. He spoke of iReady testing and thanked Ms. Dignan who did a lot of work with the data. She presented to the staff today and spoke about how we can move forward. Teachers are analyzing data. With PSAT and SAT, it is the same situation. He spoke of Ms. Stephanie Erickson doing a lot of work with materials and types of questions to help with rigor and helps students feel more comfortable when they take the test. The WLC Newsletter was sent out to the Board, he will be bringing copies to the businesses in the area to let the community know of the good things happening. An Athletic Council is being formed as there have been many questions related to where athletics is going. We continue to work on the positives. Eighty-five Warrior Cards were sent out which represents about 30% of the student body. The Student Council meeting is this Thursday and he will talk about the phones with them and a few other items. Assistant Principal Gosselin spoke of September's discipline log. This year it looks a little different, she wanted to compare things and make it a little easier to do that. She reviewed 6% of the HS students had a log entry

that is specific to discipline office referrals. A new category has been added which is other. That can include things like suspension from the bus or athletics. The logs will be shared monthly. She was asked to provide more information on suspension from athletics. Assistant Principal Gosselin spoke, with an athlete; we expend equal if not better behavior. If there are areas in athletics it could be that, they are unkind to others, or showing poor sportsmanship. Those are a couple of examples. So far, it has not been a permanent suspension from the team but for a certain number of games. Principal Ronning confirms the Warrior Cards are mailed home to parents. He voiced appreciation when he gets calls from parents especially when there is a concern, allowing him to look into a situation and getting back to them.

iv. WLCTA Report

Ms. Rosana reported for the MS/HS that teachers feel student engagement is up and some think it is due to the cell phone policy. Some have said it is their favorite year teaching. They had a PD day on Friday and looked at syllabi and how to make them uniform. Teachers met about mid-terms and finals and how we could help make them more consistent between all classes and more rigorous. We have worked in our PLC to look at iReady scores and how they line up with the PSAT and SAT scores and some ways to implement those in our classrooms. She gave a shout out to Ms. Olympia Clark who has been helping in the cafeteria and her FACS students have been helping too. This shows students great citizenship. Overall moral is up compared to last year and a lot has to do with the great new hires this year. There is less slack teachers are picking up. Ms. Rosana reported on FRES and LCS. Teachers attended their first mid-year PD day on October 6. The accelerated math program has been implemented with 7 students participating at FRES and 3 fifth graders going up to WLC for math. Grades 1-5 and 6-10 have completed their first round of iReady testing and teachers spent a full day analyzing test scores and making plans to implement the most effective strategies for their specific learners. The first graders had their first field trip to pick apples at Windy Hill Orchard in Greenville and then made apple pies for all the students at FRES. We are nearing the end of our first quarter and preparing for Parent/Teacher Conferences on November 13. Report cards will be available at the conferences or the next day for anyone who can't make it. Students at FRES and LCS are preparing for their yearly Halloween parade. LCS will be parading at 12:15pm and FRES will start around 1pm; everyone is looking forward to this exciting tradition.

There was a little time before the Budget Committee was to join at 7pm and the time was used for approving minutes and reviewing a new hire, see below.

VI. 7:00 PM Joint Board & Budget Committee Session

Present: Jeff Jones, Adam Lavallee, Bill Ryan, Charlie Post, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Jennifer Bernet and Michele Alley

a. FY 2024-2025 Budget

i. Prior Follow Up

Chair Jones spoke about a request at the last meeting for a target for the budget. He expressed the committee is recommending a flat budget, a zero percent increase, exclusive of the teachers' contract. They also want to make it clear that they still want to hear "the asks and wants" from teachers and administration. They want to see those things and not have things taken off if we are just a little over from the target. This is meant to be a target from the Budget Committee. Mr. Lavallee reminded the group that the recommendation is flat exclusive of all the warrants, not just the teachers' contract. Ms. LaPlante asked if Chair Jones could help administration understand how the committee wants to have the "wants" given to them. She adds the budget that has been given includes a lot of that. She questioned for the next meeting, do you want us to go back to the drawing board and come up with a zero based budget to start presenting at that point. She confirms we are about 4% currently. Chair Jones responded that when we started, we asked for the bigger wants to be broken out at the bottom. Are there bigger wants in there? Ms. LaPlante confirms no. A question was raised if administration can prioritize what is there. The recommendation was reiterated for a zero based budget with the wants broken out below. The Board was asked if they had anything to add to that or provide any feedback, as they have to work together on the budget. Chair Golding noted the Budget Committee sets the budget, and our feedback is only that when we vote on it. Ms. LaPlante questioned if the Budget Committee would entertain a zero based budget excluding contracts such as we are entering year 2 of the WLCSSA CBA \$65,000 increase and the transportation contract is entering in year 2 with an automatic \$43,000 increase. It was questioned if you don't do that you will just essentially remove that from somewhere else. Ms. LaPlante confirms. A question was raised what are the big unexpended fund balance items, is there a way they can see what it is, what was the cost that made that up to see if it needs adjusting as they didn't spend a lot somewhere to create the unexpended fund balance. Ms. LaPlante was asked to review the contracts again, she mentioned before. She confirms a 4.9%, \$42,000 increase in transportation for year 2 of the contract and \$65,000 increase for the WLCSA CBA in year 2. She added there is also health insurance and dental, which we are contractually obligated to pay. Discussion was had that this is the danger of recommending a target that there are these things built in. Chair Jones noted if you want to build those things in that represents about a 1%-2% increase then we should just say that if the Budget Committee is comfortable with that so that we are not chasing those numbers all the time; this is his opinion. Discussion included we are either setting a target or not. The recommendation is a flat budget. Discussion was had regarding the bus issues this year and if there is anything in the contract that says if they do not deliver, we do not pay the \$42,000 or anything like that. Ms. LaPlante will look into that. A question was raised how much it costs to have our own buses like schools used to. Examples of the bus issues were given. Chair Jones reiterates the direction is a flat budget, none of the contractual increases included. The teachers' contract is a huge one and we are waiting to hear about it when the time is right.

ii. Technology

Mr. Buroker voiced he tried his best to deliver a flat budget. The biggest hurdle is that ESSER funding is ending and everything the Board approved has to be funded through this budget. The budget is at \$330,536 a 4.5% increase. Most of his budget lines

have gone down by just marginal cuts here and there trying to absorb the iReady Instructional Pathways. The software lines for schools went up significantly, that is almost exclusively Instructional Pathways. He had noticed the prior director budgeted SNAP equally for all schools and he did not think that was accurate and reapportioned that accordingly. He tried to cut everywhere he could and only where he felt it was reasonable to do so. A question was raised if on lines 410, 411, 412 software is listed for each school; he was asked if he could make those separate so they can be seen clearly. Is there a way to separate them by line items? Mr. Buroker will see what he can do; he has a list of them. He was asked to clarify the plan book as it is cut off on the print out. He will double-check that. A question was raised that Mr. Buroker said a lot of his budget is coming from things that were paid by ESSER. Is there any way the Budget Committee can get an idea of the total of his budget that did not exist because of ESSER funding. It was noted a lot or at least a portion of the fund balance was from spending federal dollars and not local. It would be good to know the impact. Mr. Buroker responded that right now he estimates about \$70,000. That is \$30,000 for Chromebooks that were purchased with ESSER and another \$40,000 for iReady Instructional Pathways and teacher Toolbox. That is about a quarter of his budget. A question was raised regarding the 20% replacement plan of Chromebooks and does he see this still accurate vs. just being part of the plan. Mr. Buroker responded it is part of the plan, if we don't purchase them right now we have 187 expiring (end of life) next year. The plan calls for buying 110 this year and having additional spares would be useful. A question was raised on line 430, a few things are listed like Microsoft, Blackboard website, template etc. what makes up the rest of that line. Mr. Buroker responded Blackboard was bought out by Finalsite and a fair amount is in website hosting. It was noted the description is not accurate. He confirms that is correct. It was asked that this be updated. Mr. Buroker was asked if he had to make cuts where would that be. Mr. Buroker responded probably in computer supplies. Although it is hard to predict how many projector bulbs or cords will need replacing. That also represents only about \$5,000. A question was raised if under "instructional" are all those programs in that block interdependent or if they were listed out could teachers and administration go through them to see if any can be discarded. Mr. Buroker responded some are very much on their own, some are not, some are tied to curriculum and he gave examples. He added in broad strokes yes, you could pull them apart. It was questioned if some are tied to curriculum why are they in technology and not in curriculum. Mr. Buroker responded per RSA 189:68, all software that students log into is part of student data privacy and needs to be approved through technology. We have a student digital privacy consortium that we are a member of that tracks that standard of privacy and as such, they didn't want anything to get around that approval thus falling out of compliance with that law. It was noted it would be interesting to see what parts of the budget are mandatory by law, or tied to curriculum because when you peel those away what is your actual budget for what you are trying to do. That is what we really should be looking at because if things are mandatory and others make the curriculum work it doesn't seem like we shouldn't be looking at that separately.

iii. Transportation

Ms. LaPlante reviewed transport is to and from school, SPED transport and the van lease was there before. It does not include athletics or field trips as that is lumped into the schools. Last year we went back out to bid, the Board awarded the bid to the only bidder, Butler Bus, and the fee increased significantly. Because of that, we did get a new one-time credit of \$15,000, which now goes away. Regarding SPED transportation, we contracted with Durham with a 3% increase. Discussion was had including adding athletics transport into this budget vs. in the schools budget, there was also discussion of leaving it in the schools because the function remains the same. Ms. LaPlante broke it out this way this year so that the athletic director could speak to it. The code is still transportation. A question was raised if there are transport issues getting students to and from school. Ms. LaPlante does not know of any issues like that other than the start of school. It was suggested to send a survey on that.

iv. SAU

The SAU budget is at \$40,147. The Superintendent reviewed there is a savings of about \$4,000. That was made by making marginal cuts across the lines. The only expenditure we don't have in there is potential for teacher retirements gifts that we gave last year but believe it can be covered in school board miscellaneous.

v. Business Office

Ms. LaPlante voiced at the last meeting she had said she could have staffing presented at the same time as the business office but afterwards determined that since the health and dental rates are not out until about the 2nd week of November she prefers to do it once those are in place. She reviewed that she took some costs such as teacher tuition and lumped it into the business office as well as FRES principal and interest on debt. There is a reduction of \$939 from last year. This is based on actuals and what she believes the need will be. Mr. Vanderhoof voiced he does not believe the teacher tuition should be listed in the business office since it is a mandatory expense. Ms. LaPlante confirms on lines 21, 22, 23 "sortable tab" food service needs to be fixed. She will also fix the line for principal on the "sortable tab" budget. A question was raised regarding what caused the year 2023 audit to increase. Ms. LaPlante responded going back to FY 22 there was significant costs with the audit as we transferred business administrators, which carried over into FY 23 and FY 23 encompasses two audit years by the way the audit fell. In FY 24, we will be over because we have some federal compliance issues we have to do that we did not know at the time. Once those are out of the way she does not see a larger increase.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Ms. Tatiana Franko spoke regarding the dress code. She is in favor of one. There are conservative parents in the community who would appreciate a staff dress code. Our children will naturally emulate the teachers and staff down to the way they present themselves. In a professional environment, discretion should be used with regard to tattoos, face piercings and unnaturally

colored hair. Even at Market Basket there is a terrific dress code that some of our students are familiar with because they work there. The School Board would be well advised to institute a casual dress code that brings honor to the teaching profession and teaches students what an appropriate casual dress looks like in the real world. She believes the Board is discussing nurse and counseling tonight. She wants to reiterate that counseling at FRES or WLC should be an opt-in basis and when it comes to sexuality with the nurses office and counseling some parents would rather that not be discussed that can be discussed at home. She wants to be sure if they institute a counselor at WLC, that it will be an opt-in where the parent has to sign approval for going to a counselor.

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

Ms. Mary Golding expressed to Ms. Hannah Hamilton, great job on your first report, she looks forward to hearing more. She spoke of it being a wonderful idea to bring the WLC Newsletter to the community. She thinks community members, taxpayers, and the like should know what the schools are doing and maybe get involved a little bit more. Great job. Regarding the cell phone policy, it is hard to adapt to change but it seems that students and parents might be liking it. It is an important policy that will benefit students, and seems teachers are already seeing a difference, and she hopes it stays in place. Yay Christina Gauthier! She is a blessing not just to Ms. Fuller but to all the staff as well. She is not just a starfish but a super star and deserving of the recognition. Ms. Golding thanked the Board for the hours they put in, time away from their family, dealing with people and issues that can be challenging at times. It is nice to see a cohesive and respectful Board again. I see you all and appreciate you all, everyone have a good night.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Ryan to recess the Budget Committee meeting to across the hall at 7:40pm.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

VIII. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION

Chair Golding asked the members what they thought of the committee's request for a flat budget. Discussion included it is a good target especially given the other things going on in the district and they left it open to say this is our target, they didn't say it will not go over. Ms. Foss spoke that she supports it, the biggest thing she thinks driving it is the concern about the teachers' contract and it not being decided yet. She has a lot of concern regarding it as well. She is concerned how much it will add burden to the town. She concurs she does not think it is a closed shut down deal if you can't get to a flat budget. If there is a good reason there is a good chance it will be approved and it is not a 7% or 10% increase that is the feeling she got. Discussion was had including agreeing with Ms. Foss, it is difficult to plan without a target, how much would you contribute to inflation and did we build that in. Ms. LaPlante confirms she does that have it but can try to get the information for next meeting. There was discussion at the last Budget Committee meeting that there is concern regarding the SRO and how much money it will be. Discussion included there is a lot of difference of opinion on what an SRO does. Ms. Foss spoke about her experience with an SRO and thought it would be an asset to a school but didn't consider that the SRO would prevent a school shooting. She thinks there is a feeling from the community that is one of the driving things for having one and they don't agree whether accurate or not those are concerns she has heard over and over again. One is about the money and the other it won't protect our kids from a violent situation. Ms. Anzalone spoke regarding the SRO, she looks at it as more of a resource to the students to turn to but she would be curious if people feel it won't do much to protect our kids. Everyone takes for granted that Wilton PD is right there but if they are on the edge of either town how long will it take to respond if they are not 2 minutes away, it makes a huge difference. We should look at again, at what the SRO can do and that a lot can happen in 15 minutes. Discussion was had regarding this including we don't have metal detectors, having an SRO is a deterrent, it could help with vaping issues, if something happens someone is right there right away, and it seems to be a big issue with money. Chair Golding noted the SRO would be on the "old business" portion of the agenda for the next meeting. A question was raised how much was the bathroom repairs roughly. Ms. LaPlante responded we budgeted \$45.000.

IX. NHSBA PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

Chair Golding spoke that the last couple of years we did this differently, last year the Board voted on each one. We voted on our own resolution to support it and voted down all others. Ms. Foss will attend the Delegate Assembly and vote the way the Board decides. Chair Golding asked how the members want to do this if they want to go through each or not and hopes that all members have had a chance to review them. He gave a brief overview of NHSBA's recommendations. Chairman Golding reviewed and read each one in its entirety prior to each vote and allowed time for discussion of each.

#8 Submitted by Oyster River Cooperative School Board

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to not support proposed resolution #8. Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

#9 Submitted by the Dover School Board

NHSBA supports alternative language for this resolution. There was a brief discussion, which included is it saying what parents say shouldn't matter, it doesn't say anything about age appropriate materials, and they are saying the librarian should be able to offer a good balance of all kinds of books. It was noted we have a policy in place, IJL that sets our ground rules and we don't have to support this. There was discussion of not supporting it although Ms. Cloutier-Cabral voiced she would be fine with it, and notes we have always been able to opt-out of things for our kids and our policy defines it for our school.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Foss and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to support NHSBA's alternative language to proposed resolution #9.

Voting: five ayes, and three nays from Mr. Allen, Ms. Anzalone and Mr. Lavoie, motion carried.

#10 Submitted by Raymond School Board

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavoie and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to NOT support proposed resolution #10. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

#11 Submitted by Monadnock Regional School Board

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavoie and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to support NHSBA's alternative language to proposed resolution #11.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

#12 Submitted by Monadnock Regional School Board

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavoie and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to support NHSBA's alternative language to proposed resolution #12.

Voting: 6

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

#13 Submitted by the Monadnock Regional School Board

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavoie and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to support proposed resolution #13. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

#14 Submitted by Manchester Board of School Committee

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Ms. Lavallee to support proposed resolution #14.

Mr. Lavoie voiced that he is a believer of the more the money gets away from the town the less we have control over it and the more is wasted with fees and lobbyists. A question was raised if this is asking NH State to tax people more to cover this type of building aid program; it is something to think about. Ms. Cloutier-Cabal spoke that she has given this a lot of thought with regard to facilities and ESSER funds, which has been a game changer for us, and now that we are losing the funding, we are squirreling around to find funds. We will always put it to good use. Discussion was had the funds come from us, if we delegate our funds well, that is a good thing but if others do not will they tax us for other districts who did not do it well. Discussion included many schools are in need of repair and no one is in a position to do unnecessary things. Chair Golding added the state has been underfunding the schools for years and they need to give us more and unfortunately it will come from us anyway regardless if this is passed or not.

Voting: five ayes; three nays from Ms. Anzalone, Mr. Lavoie and Mr. Allen, motion carried.

#15 Submitted by Manchester Board of School Committee

A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to NOT support the alternative language to proposed resolution #15.

Voting: six ayes, two abstentions Mr. Mannarino and Ms. Foss, motion carried.

There was a brief discussion regarding abstaining from a vote.

#16 Submitted by Manchester Board of School Committee

A MOTION was made by Mr. Lavoie and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to NOT support proposed resolution #16. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

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#17 Submitted by Manchester Board of School Committee

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Administration was asked if this would be helpful. Superintendent responded that they do not understand this. If Medicaid was used rather than what the state is doing there may be a single parent below the Medicaid line because they have insurance. The way we do free and reduced now we would catch that family. Administration does not make a recommendation one way or another because we do not understand it. Ms. LaPlante added if there is a resolution specifically about making Medicaid funds available, she supports that but if it is tied to free and reduced she does not. She is concerned with the impact it may have on our families. It was also noted that some families might not want others to know of their Medicaid coverage.

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A MOTION was made by Mr. Mannarino and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to NOT support proposed resolution #17 including all (3) alternative language provided.

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It was noted this resolution might be beneficial to Manchester. It was expressed there is not enough information to support it and they should bring it back with clearer language.

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Voting: all aye, motion carried.

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#18 Submitted by the NHSBA Board of Directors

327 328 A MOTION was made by Ms. Anzalone and SECONDED by Mr. Allen to support proposed resolution #18.

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Mr. Allen spoke that their rational is the same we discussed as to why we shouldn't belong to NHSBA. He thinks we should support this and we need to continue to look for alternative services.

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Voting: all aye, motion carried.

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#19 Submitted by the Concord School Board

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339 340 Mr. Lavoie questioned Superintendent Weaver if this would be a step toward the way of Federal getting closer to home with the choices, is that what this is attempting to do. Superintendent responded he is not sure what the intent is. The program in place now is for families who need support for free or reduced prices. To him, this is saying the program should be for almost everyone. The National School Lunch Program seems to work now and kids that are hungry are being fed in our district and every other district. If they were not, we would find a way to feed them. He is not sure what this is asking other than a universal way to feed everyone and no one pays.

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A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to NOT support, (not consider it or debate on it at Delegate Assembly) proposed resolution #19.

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Ms. Cloutier-Cabral voiced that she appreciates the spirit of it but thinks it needs more. If they bring it back next year with a better proposal, she would support it.

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Voting: all aye, motion carried.

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X. POLICIES a. 2nd Read

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i. GBEBA-Staff Dress Code

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Ms. Lavallee reviewed this is the 2nd read on the dress code. The edits are included that we discussed and agreed upon at the last meeting. She asks for any questions or comments. None heard. This policy will come back for a 3rd read.

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ii. JLCJA-Emergency Plan for Sports Related Injuries and Additional Protocols for Athletics **Participation**

358 359 Ms. Lavallee reviewed there are no changes since the last read. She asked for any discussion. None heard.

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A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to accept policy JLCJA-Emergency Plan for Sports Related Injuries and Additional Protocols as written. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

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iii. JLC-Student Health Services & School Nurses

Ms. Lavallee reviewed there are no changes since the last read. She asked for any discussion. None heard.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Lavoie to accept policy JLC-Student Health Services & School Nurses as written.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

iv. JLCK-Special Physical Health Needs of Students

Ms. Lavallee reviewed there were no changes since the last reading. She asked for any questions or comments. None heard.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to accept policy JLCK-Special Physical Health Needs of Students as written.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

v. JLDBB-Suicide Prevention and Response

Ms. Lavallee reviewed there were no changes since the last reading. This is a required policy with required changes. She asked for any questions for comments. None heard.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to accept policy JLDBB-Suicide Prevention and Response as written.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

vi. IKFA-Early Graduation

Ms. Lavallee reviewed that she worked on this with the Superintendent and administration at WLC to include the comments made at the last meeting. We added language regarding the cutoff date for application for early graduation including an example and a sentence on where to find the graduation requirements for WLC vs. the minimum graduation requirements for the state graduation. She asked if the Board was happy with the wording and for any comments or questions. None heard. This will come back for a 3rd reading.

b. 3rd Read

i. JJJ-Access to Public School Programs

Ms. Lavallee reviewed there were no changes since the last reading. She asked for any questions or comments. None heard.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to accept policy JJJ-Access to Public School Programs as written.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

c. Withdrawal

i. EF-Food Service Management

The Policy Committee is recommending this policy be withdrawn, as it is more of a job description. Mr. LoVerme had requested it be presented with the job description (included in the Superintendent Report). She reviewed his concerns stated in the minutes. He wanted to be sure it included safe serve certification and that it be at the expense of the school. Ms. LaPlante informed the Board that this is something that is taken care of at the administrative level we already pay for it.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to withdraw policy EF-Food Service Management.

Voting: all aye, motion carried.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

A MOTION was made by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the minutes of September 26, 2023 as written.

Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Ms. Anzalone and Mr. Allen, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Lavallee and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to approve the non-public minutes of September 26, 2023 as written.

Voting: six ayes; two abstentions from Ms. Anzalone and Mr. Allen, motion carried.

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Budget Liaison

Ms. Foss reported the budget meeting was held on September 26, 2023. The meeting was broken into two sessions. The first 30 minutes was with just the Budget Committee members. The second half was held as a joint meeting with the Board. The first half of the meeting covered reviewing and passing the minutes for the August 15, 2023 meeting. In addition, the FY 25 budget was looked at in summary. This presentation was of a first draft with the understanding that a second draft could be expected in a few weeks. It is a comparison of the past budgets and discussion to prioritize needs vs. wants. The teacher contract is not determined yet and an overriding theme of concern not just discussed in this meeting but the one tonight as well. There were concerns voiced about the bus contract and the bus being late, not showing up etc. There were concerns and questions raised

about the hiring of an architect for the locker room. Budget Committee members were aware that this had already been done, but they just felt a need to voice concern again. There was no public comment at this meeting.

ii. Negotiations

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Ms. Anzalone reviewed they met on October 2 and went back to the WLCTA with the Board's feedback. At that meeting the WLCTA came back with a few additional changes they wanted to make and we will discuss those later. We let them know we will present back to them at the next meeting. The next meeting is October 16.

XIII. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES

a. FYI-New Hire-Maura Feller-WLC Title I Tutor

Superintendent reviewed the new hire. He informed the group that we have all our Title I Tutors filled and hopes for a positive impact for students as some need that 1 on 1 assistance. We really appreciate that help especially since we are still looking to fill a few positions.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment section of the agenda was read.

Mr. Jonathan Vanderhoof voiced we elect state reps every other year, right. You vote for who you think does the best, you can call them up, you can email them, knock on their door and say you want them to support this legislation or not this legislation and here is why. You can base your vote on the next election on how they perform, did they agree with you or not. Essentially, being your own advocate on what you want to happen. So you can make that decision to support them or not support them. What you can't do is not pay your taxes. What you all just did was sat there and decided what legislation should or should not be supported and the way you will do that is take money out of my pocket and give it to lobbyist and say this is what I want you to do with that. Whether you support it or don't support it you shouldn't be making that decision with other people's money and forcing to support or not because they can do that on their own. It is legal to do that if you do that with local funds and only local funds, which you are not, but it is illegal for state comingled funds or Federal. I will keep pushing that and I am going to push that as far as I have to. I don't know what the ramifications for you guys are going to be and I don't know what it will be for them but I am going to keep going after it because it is 100% wrong that you are taking money out of other peoples pockets and giving it to lobbyists to advocate for things they may or agree or disagree with. It's a horrible thing you are doing. You should have voted no on every single item, because you shouldn't be advocating for other people when you are taking money from them and giving it to lobbyists. If its money coming out of your pocket you say hey, I am going to pay you to go to the state with my money and say, I want you to support this legislation, I can't be there. That is one thing but you are doing it with other people's money and they don't have a choice whether they can give it to you or not. I have to pay my taxes or else it is all bad for me. We have your own representatives that, we elect every year. We elect to make these decisions based on how we feel as individuals not based on how some lobbyists feels based on 300 school board members from all over the state who voted however they wanted to. When you go up there you will have a situation where and probably multiple situations where this person will suggest a change and that person suggests a change and it will be a completely different resolution than what you thought you went up there to vote on and I have done it 2 years. It is really easy to go up there and vote no on everything when your directive is to not support lobbyists so we are just going to vote no on everything. Now you will have to decide when they make all the changes. Our intent was to vote yes, but now they changed a whole bunch of stuff and the intent of the resolution is kind of different and you have to decide if the Board wanted to support that or didn't want to support it because there is no general direction that we are not supporting lobbyists that are being paid with taxpayer funds. We are not supporting lobbyists because it is illegal based on the funding. I will keep pushing it as far as I can push it I don't know if there will be any ramifications or not, maybe it just keeps on going on like that. It's incredibly wrong and it's been going on for years. Shame on you guys for voting to support any of the resolutions based on the fact that you are taking money from other people and doing it. Funding people to be up there when you are at work, can't be there, and can't afford to pay for a lobbyist for themselves. I think it is bad and I do hope there are ramifications financially for the District and for the NHSBA.

Mr. Charlie Post, Lyndeborough spoke regarding the state publishing the scores for schools across the board. The scores for the HS math, here as were generally described in May, were incredibly low; it was 14% on achievement for HS math. It is remarkable, one of the lowest in the state. The thought was people didn't take the test seriously that is what I heard at the last meeting, it's the parents fault, it's the kids fault, its COVID and I also heard we always had these scores. Not like this, it's low, it is really low. The science portion of the test, they were at the state average. English was 50%, not at the state average but clearly, we are not teaching math at this HS. Grade 11 did poorly on that test. It is part of the community, it's our responsibility; now these kids are seniors, will graduate and when they get to college will they have to take algebra in college, will they get tutoring, will they work at Hitchiners, will they have the right skills in math, will they work for a contractor, will they be able to do that kind of work. It is a pretty big failure. It doesn't reflect well on the community. I think this Board needs to take this

seriously. You spend more time on policies than you do on teaching kids. Maybe the policy should be let's teach everybody, lets teach them as well as we can and that's clearly not happening. As a taxpayer and community member, it doesn't reflect well. A lot of parents are having the conversation now; I am not going to send my kid to that HS. I live here I am not going to send them here; there are members of the Board that don't send their kids here. You are seeing the participation drop. Lyndeborough has very low participation rate in terms of the number of kids that come here that live in Lyndeborough. It is time this is taken seriously. The Board needs to get out in front of this or the community will make the decision for you as to whether or not the HS continues. I have heard people say in the community, the school board seems to think everything is fine. Fourteen percent is not fine at all. Nobody should be accepting of this, you shouldn't be making excuses. You should form a committee or just do something, just do anything.

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

XV. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Allen voiced, great job Christina Gauthier. When his kids were at FRES, she was instrumental to a lot of things. She is well deserving of the first Starfish Award. Great job with the newsletter and nice it is going out in the community, the more community involvement we can get, more accountable we are, the more ideas, the better.

Mr. Lavoie echoed the support for Ms. Gauthier, thank you for the diligent work. He is happy to see we are maybe filling that last half of math position. That might help with community comments. We do have a new Board many of us are new and doing the best we can. He expressed he thinks we have accomplished quite a bit, the portion about the iReady scores and the poor performance in the past, this Board has taken steps to help alleviate that and we are going to take steps with what we believe will help the community as a whole to help with the teacher negotiations and trying to get some cohesiveness with staff to hopefully improve on those scores because we do recognize the scores have been low. We are trying to do something about it. It will be a step-by-step approach and we have to gauge if what we did this year will help in years to come, it is not going to happen all at once. We are taking steps in the right direction.

Ms. Cloutier-Cabral voiced that life is hard. Those issues you brought up are important to all of us and that is why we are sitting here and will continue to sit here every Tuesday and at all the committees. She spoke of growing up in an affluent community, didn't feel she benefited much from what was offered there, and looked at Wilton-Lyndeborough; her cousins were here and wished she went to this school. It has been my great privilege to raise 5 kids in this district she said. Math scores were not great this year it is not our finest moment. I am so proud of our kids who came out of this district and super proud of the ones I have seen come out of my house. I am proud of the community members that I run into on a regular basis that I know are raised in this district and I am proud of everybody that comes here and especially the 2 of you coming to all the meetings to contribute and to give us constructive criticism because we need that. Let's keep doing what we can. I invite the community to be here and invest in this school and in these kids and as we have seen when we do that, they show that they have spirit and that is what we have been hearing all throughout this year. I look forward to the next tests and we will keep trying to do the best we can.

Mr. Lavoie expressed regarding the math scores, he believes this is the first year we have FRES 5th graders coming to the HS for advance math. That is a step in the right direction; his son is part of that program. He is excited about it and working hard. What they are doing is taking taking 5th graders who have excelled in math and trying to keep them excelling. They are bringing some of the 5th graders up to the 6th grade level courses. He believes administrations intent behind that is to try to improve those math scores. It should help the scores when you have kids doing 6th grade math in 5th grade. That is a new program instituted this year and it's pushing in the right direction.

Chair Golding thanked everyone for a good meeting and good discussion.

XVI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (B) (C)

A MOTION was made by Mr. Mannarino and SECONDED by Ms. Cloutier-Cabral to enter Non-Public Session to discuss personnel matters RSA 91-A: 3 II (B) (C) at 8:52pm. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board entered public session at 9:14 pm.

A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

Ms. Lavallee informed the Board of a legislative change effective October 3rd that requires them to review any sealed meeting minutes to determine if they need to continue to be sealed. If they do, it would be for 10 years and if not, they will become public. If the minutes are not reviewed and determined to be sealed for 10 years they will automatically become public minutes. She reviewed a couple of options for creating a process to do this. A question was raised if there can be a motion to cover all

sealed minutes to be sealed for 10 years. She will look into this. She read the RSA and noted we need clarification of what is
"review". There was a brief discussion. Ms. Lavallee suggested there be a policy and procedure to follow. She suggested she
could work with Ms. Fowler to create a procedure to do this to be in compliance. Chair Golding noted we would get clarification
around this. Ms. Lavallee asked if there was any objection to her working with Ms. Fowler to come up with a procedure. No
objection heard.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Allen and SECONDED by Mr. Mannarino to adjourn the Board meeting at 9:21pm. Voting: all aye, motion carried.

XVIII. NON-MEETING-NEGOTIATIONS

A non-meeting was held for negotiations.

Respectfully submitted, Kristina Fowler

