

RSU 54/MSAD 54
Educational Policy/Program Committee
Minutes
February 27, 2024
6:00 PM
Skowhegan Area High School –Library

Committee Attendance: Karyn Curran, Samantha Delorie, Sarah Bunker, Jeannie Conley, Annmarie Dubois, Michael Lambke, Janice Malek, Michelle Taylor,

Also Present: Jon Moody, Mark Hatch, Erik Murray, Andrew Staples, Julian Paine

1. Elementary Technology Curriculum Presentation

Eric Murry, the MSAD 54 Technology Integrationist, shared an overview of the District K-5 Technology classes including the process used to develop the curriculum being taught in grades K-5. The curriculum, which was developed from a collaboration with teachers and utilized best practices and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards, covers a broad range of topics throughout the year and develops skills over time across grade levels. Technology classes occur roughly 3 weeks each month. The Committee thanked Mr. Murray and his staff for their work.

2. Update from Assistant Superintendent on Pre-K and K Registration

Mr. Hatch shared with the Committee that the District is working collaboratively with KVCAP to promote the District’s Pre-K program. Next year the District will provide transportation for Pre-K students, something that parents had identified was a barrier to enrollment in the past. David Leavitt and Terry Watson have worked on a plan that works with parents and students to make this a smooth transition. Kindergarten registration dates for each school have been set, posted on the website, and will be communicated in the upcoming newsletter.

3. Review of Flags in School

Administration reviewed the District practice of having principals screen and approve items brought forward from staff and student organizations that are posted in schools. Requests from outside groups are reviewed by the Superintendent to determine if they can be posted, made available on a table, or distributed directly to students.

The Committee reviewed laws around the displaying of flags, including the US and State flag. The Committee discussed a variety of instances including the hanging of flags in schools as part of recognizing foreign exchange students who attend school, banners to celebrate teams/clubs, and curricular / co-curricular activities, etc. The flag at the front entrance of the High School was specifically discussed and the committee recommended that the principal work with students on the civil rights team to develop a banner or message to replace the flag when it is taken down.

The Committee thanked administration for the explanation and expressed support for the District practice of determining what is posted in schools.

Upcoming meetings:
Tuesday, March 12th – Budget Review
Tuesday, March 19th – Budget Review