

February 2021

Cabinet Report to Boards

Our mission

*"Windham Central Supervisory Union provides leadership and resources
to ensure a strong educational system for all students."*

Core Values

Windham Central Supervisory Union will...

- *place students at the center of decision-making.*
- *build trust and respect by acting ethically, transparently, and with integrity.*
- *operate as a community of learners, committed to developing the skills and capabilities of all.*
- *collaborate, share and seek creative solutions.*

Connections to the WCSU Mission Statement Core Values

- **Build trust and respect by acting ethically, transparently, and with integrity**
- [Letter sent to Colleagues](#)
- **Students at the Center** - During this month, Townshend Elementary School reopened for in person instruction for the first time in nearly 10 months. Much planning was done in advance of the return to in person instruction and we have begun collecting information on any changes in student needs while adapting to those needs in the moment now that they have returned. Customized plans were developed for students in need and excellent teamwork has allowed for success of all.
- **Community of Learners - Leadership Team:** The LT continues to use its monthly meeting to share resources and knowledge for working during the pandemic, be it in-person, hybrid, or remote learning. This month the LT continued its revisions and updates to the WCSU Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP), Information from the AOE suggests that changes will be made to the requirements of CIPs to incorporate ESSER fund opportunities and to ensure services to our historically marginalized populations. The LT has also agreed upon a foundational list of digital resources for students and teachers. The LT also dedicates time to reviewing and calibrating feedback for a classroom observation in an ongoing effort to solidify our work as instructional leaders.

Updates

We are excited to welcome our new **Director of Operations, Greg Frost**. He will begin Feb 8th. He will be a great addition to the WCSU team.

Great Article about what we are all going through right now and how we can continue to overcome challenges and move forward: [The Secret to Building Resilience](#)

From Director of Finance: **BIG NEWS with the Yield**-Due to the positive outlook in the education fund the yield has been proposed at \$11,385. A 6% increase!

[January 27, 2021 Education Legislative Report](#)

Academic Proficiency

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Academic Support Team (AST): The AST continues to meet weekly or biweekly. The purpose of these meetings is for the team to share resources for in-person and remote learning and to organize their efforts to ensure support is provided for math and reading, K -8. Schedules have been adjusted for the second semester in preparation for in-person learning at all of our schools.

C&I Office: The winter benchmark assessments are currently underway. Due to COVID restrictions some students and classes were assessed outside of the prescribed window. Schools and AST are now preparing for Data Meetings to plan intervention and support for students. Planning and preparations for the 2021-22 School Year have begun.

Professional Learning(PL): The January teacher inservice day was a building-based PL day. Schools focused on personalized learning, data analysis from winter benchmarks, wellness, and implicit bias training.

Director of Special Education

The Director of Curriculum and I have continued to work collaboratively to discover ways in which we can further share resources for training our special education and AST (Academic Support Team) staff. We have additionally worked with Administrators and building staff to meet benchmark testing deadlines that accommodated parent and guardian concerns for either in person or remote while ensuring accommodations were provided for students on IEPs.

Personalized Learning

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements (PBGR): The Teacher Leadership Team (TLC) at Leland and Gray continues to lead the PBGR work for their school. The inservice day at L&G this month was dedicated to departments working on the proficiencies and assessments, 6-12.

Director of Special Education

During this month, Townshend Elementary School reopened for in person instruction for the first time in nearly 10 months. Much planning was done in advance of the return to in person instruction and we have begun collecting information on any changes in student needs while adapting to those needs in the moment now that they have returned. Customized plans were developed for students in need and excellent teamwork has allowed for success of all.

High Quality Staffing

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Leadership Team: The LT continues to use its monthly meeting to share resources and knowledge for working during the pandemic, be it in-person, hybrid, or remote learning. This month the LT continued its revisions and updates to the WCSU Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP), Information from the AOE suggests that changes will be made to the requirements of CIPs to incorporate ESSER fund opportunities and to ensure services to our historically marginalized populations. The LT has also agreed upon a foundational list of digital resources for students and teachers. The LT also dedicates time to reviewing and calibrating feedback for a classroom observation in an ongoing effort to solidify our work as instructional leaders.

Supervision & Evaluation (S&E): As part of the WCSU S&E model, mid year reflections on professional goals have occurred or are scheduled. Observations of classroom instruction have continued creatively, with in person and remote learning options available.

Director of Special Education

We have resumed our special education department meetings which include separate meetings for each level (case management, elementary, secondary). These meetings promote sharing of ideas, support for one another, problem solving, updates on any rules and regulations, and review of student trends and needs. Our case management meetings have included a review of data from the Agency of Education (AOE) from previous years of compliance monitoring and planning for the future for ways in which we can continue to improve our practices and achieve the results we desire for our students.

Safe, Healthy Schools

Director of Special Education

We have worked hard to respond to student needs for training and instruction for health and safety due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have blended resources and partnered with one another and families to make sure students are able to follow the health and safety requirements at school. At this point, all elementary schools are open for in person instruction again and it seems like the incredible planning of everyone is working well. I am looking forward to Leland & Gray's anticipated reopening for in person instruction soon as well.

Financial Efficiencies

Director of Special Education

Much continued work has been done on regional collaboration as well as increasing our in-district continuum of offerings for students. We continue to coordinate with outside agencies such as HCRS, Families First, and Vocational Rehabilitation to plan for the future and discover financial efficiencies and increase in equity of available services and supports. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction and I are also continuing our work together to find efficiencies with training, curriculum, materials, and other resources for our staff.

Director of Finance

FY 22 Budgets and Tax Rate Implications

The following school boards have approved the FY 22 expense budgets:

- Windham Central [WCSU 10/28 Board Docs Including Budget Information](#)
- Marlboro
- Stratton
- Windham
- West River Modified Union Ed

BIG NEWS with the Yield-Due to the positive outlook in the education fund the yield has been proposed at \$11,385. A 6% increase!

EQP's will not be finalized until after the last resubmission date of January 22nd. As of this morning **STILL NOT FINALIZED**.

Human Resource/Payroll

W2s and 1099's are in the mail! We continue to watch federal legislation on extending and expanding The Families First Coronavirus Act in the next stimulus package coming out of Washington.

Covid Related Expense and Grant Funding Sources

- **UPDATE**- We have submitted for COVID reimbursements on behalf of all the school districts in the amount of 575K. This does not include HVAC reimbursements
- There is approximately 15m of CRF-LEA money left and most likely will be designated to additional air quality projects. Stay tuned for additional information on this
- Administrators have been submitting proposals for the ESSER I Grant and this will be applied for by March 20th
- ESSER II money, from the new stimulus (CRRSA act) will be available for use out to Sept 2023
 - The state received 126m of money, after admin expenses are removed will flow to the SU/SD's based on TI allocations
 - The money will primarily be used for school COVID recovery plans
- Child Nutrition Program will have some additional funds from the new stimulus package CRRSA act.
- Child Nutrition has requested the SU to collect information on Free and Reduced lunch applicants so that the state can issue EBT cards to those families that qualify. This major project will start next week.

Grant Management

As you can imagine after reading the above section the world of grants has become arduous. We continue to work in maintaining a complex web of grants that will best serve the needs of our students.

Audits

FY 20 still underway.