



Date: December 4, 2024

To: Curriculum/Policy/Technology/Communications Subcommittee of the Granby Board of Education

From: Jennifer M. Parsons, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Subject: December Monthly Update

Implementation of New Educator and Leader Evaluation and Support Plans

Work continues on implementing the New Educator Support Plan. The first round of observations are well under way. Evaluators met to discuss a method for providing feedback called “Claim-Connect-Action.” District leaders continue to discuss how to embed the new rubric into ongoing professional learning conversations. The Leader version of the Evaluation and Support Plan forms are receiving their final touches and administrators will be finalizing goal setting following their school reports.

English Language Arts Programming

On December 4th the Curriculum Subcommittee will be hearing a recommendation from the two elementary literacy coaches, the two elementary principals and myself to adopt the Harcourt Houghton Mifflin *Into Reading Series* for English Language Arts Instruction K-5. After a lengthy process of submitting multiple waiver requests to the State, Granby is required to choose a new reading program from the list approved by the Connecticut State Department of Education and implement the program by 2025. This past fall, K-3 teachers piloted the two programs that most closely align to our District Literacy Philosophy. In November teachers provided feedback on a comprehensive rubric that was analyzed alongside student achievement data and the cost proposals for the two programs before providing the recommendation. The teachers, coaches and principals did an excellent job with the pilot process and are eager to continue working with the materials moving forward.

Supporting Scheduling

As the Board heard at the November 6th meeting, the Scheduling Consultants have concluded their focus groups and analysis of data gained during those meetings as well as through a review of current scheduling practices. There are several recommendations we will now discuss as a Guiding Coalition Committee to determine a 3-5 year action plan. It is still the Committee’s desire to align bell schedules as early as next school year which will allow for staff and students to freely travel across both buildings and open up opportunities for students and staff alike.

Budget Development

Work is well underway to create a budget that will support the goals of the district. Work leading up to the budget creation includes identifying district priorities, reviewing new courses, texts and initiatives as well as establishing enrollment and section counts. Schools and programs presented their plus one requests internally and operating budgets were also reviewed. Central Office teams are working to review and streamline requests across the district and integrate these proposals with current data to ensure alignment of the work across the district.