
February, 2021

Sharon School Directors' Report

I hope that this report finds you all well and in good spirits. Please take the time to review the reports and projected 20-21 revenue/expenditure report prior to the meeting. I have been spending time the last couple of weeks reflecting on the huge amount of progress our S.U. has realized even in the midst of Covid-19. I'm incredibly proud of the administrative team and teachers/staff. There is still a tremendous amount of work to accomplish, but the groundwork has been laid for us to successfully achieve the articulated WRVSU goals. Please note that we will also be discussing the details and approach to our upcoming 21-22 annual budget informational meeting and proposed parking lot project. I've once again invited Lyall Smith to join us on Tuesday evening.

1) The WRVSU will form and sustain a comprehensive MTSS that:

- **Utilizes evidence based best practices in instruction**
- **Utilizes student data to ensure student growth**
- **Encourages a rigorous, innovative and relevant learning environment**
- **Encourages the integration of PLP and Flexible Pathways to best meet the needs of all students.**

We continue to work across the WRVSU to strengthen our system of supports. Our focus currently is on how we can best support our member schools socially/emotionally in a systematic and preventative manner. This has resulted in us identifying the need for further intensive social/emotional supports across our eight schools, while also developing intensive alternative programming for grades 9-12 starting next school year. The additional S.U. level supports are coming from further partnership with the Clara Martin Center to provide additional contracted service in both Behavioral Analysis and Therapeutic Interventions. Both of these contracts will be S.U. wide and paid for by the use of medicaid funds. Therefore, we are adding additional services while not impacting the bottom line. With a focus on ensuring that we have a systematic approach that is responsive to the needs of our students and families.

We are finalizing our universal academic assessments this month, and you can expect data reports in March for math and reading. In addition, we will be providing a WRVSU special education data report in February. The reading and math data will be used to inform universal instruction, set individual student goals, and to analyze the results of interventions/supports. We are continuing to work toward the creation of a culture that progress monitors all students with fidelity in order to ensure continuous academic progress.

Jamie Kinnarney, Superintendent
Tara Weatherell, Business Manager
Donald McMahon, Director of Special Services
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2) WRVSU will implement a PK-12 Proficiency Based Learning System. WRVSU school will utilize a comprehensive approach to ensure relevancy, rigor, and personalization. This will be achieved through the following:

- **Curriculum**
- **Instruction**
- **Assessment**

The WRVSU continues to work toward expanding our educational opportunities for students through the lens of experiential learning, personalized learning, and pathways. With a focus on ensuring that all schools are working toward the same common goals, while differentiating their approach based on the actuality of what is occurring in each individual school/district. We are also looking at what systems can be implemented in order to ensure that we are sharing resources and learning from each other. This will be a point of emphasis throughout the next several months.

I'm interested in moving forward with a plan to have student learning and celebration on display monthly at each school district meeting. This would allow for us to ensure that the conversations are always focused on what is best for our students, while prioritizing the focus on student achievement/growth. My hope is that we can begin piloting this practice in the months of April/May with the commitment of continuing it monthly beginning next October.

3) The WRVSU will improve student learning and increase equitable educational opportunities through the development of a culture that promotes interdependence among all stakeholders and enhances student achievement, choice and voice.

We met in our WRVSU policy committee on Monday, January 25th to once again review the draft of the WRVSU Anti Racism policy. In addition to policy work on equity and antiracism, we are also moving forward with a grant received to fund professional development in this area for faculty/staff. We plan to begin this process in February in order to increase internal capacity for further professional development in the late spring and fall. It is critical that we all have a common understanding and language when it comes to providing explicit instruction in equity.

Finally, I will be working diligently to ensure that the board stays updated and informed on all legislative changes that occur specific to education during the current legislative session. The focus appears to be on increasing multiple pathways toward graduation, increasing incentives for SUs to collaborate, and other concepts specific to education funding. It promises to be a busy couple months in virtual Montpelier.

I also wanted to let you know that I've given Principal Hayley this evening off.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Kinnarney
Superintendent of Schools, WRVSU