Memorandum

To: BBRSD School Committee
From: Sally-Ann Stukuls
Director of Curriculum and Grants, Grades 6-12
Date: 8/27/24
Re: September 2024 Report

Summer is the time when districts apply for the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) Grants which involve Title I, Title IIA, and Title IV. Title I grants support our Title I program which is a support to those students identified as in need of assistance in the areas of English Language Arts and math. Title IIA supports several professional development opportunities for district staff in the areas of academic course content and social emotional learning. Title IV will support our ongoing efforts to develop our Portrait of a Graduate initiative and Internship program, as well as beginning stages of Strategic Planning for the district. Once the applications have been approved by DESE, a report on the funding allocated will be submitted to the school committee.

The district held its New Staff Orientation on Friday, August 23rd, 2024 from 8 am to 2 pm at Tahanto Regional Middle School. This was an opportunity for new teachers and paraprofessionals to meet one another, the administrative team, learn about certain district protocols, take tours of all three schools, and meet and talk with their district assigned mentors as part of the mentoring program. Many thanks to Gail Kelleher, our Mentor Coordinator, for all her hard work and dedication to ensuring our mentoring program is successful and beneficial to our new teachers and for helping to organize this event.

Members of our administrative team and I took part in a free, three day Leadership Institute sponsored by DESE this summer at Holy Cross. During this conference, we were given DESE's new vision and some excellent tools to help teachers unpack their units, examine current curriculum and make changes where needed, as well as to examine student work.

Once the new Wellness Policy is approved, the Wellness Committee has developed a proactive presentation to be taken on the road to various groups such as school councils, faculty meetings, the PTO, the Boosters Club, as well as a informational evening for families to educate our community on why the policy is important, what alternatives we can suggest to help us adjust to the new policy, and to answer questions and concerns.