

2017 Pathways Retreat
Island Institute, Rockland
June 20-21, 2017

Present: J. Woods, K. Legere, M. Olson, R. McHugh, J. Kerr, J. McFarland, D. Farr, K. Kelley, C. Golann, H. Knight, J. Bolduc (Tuesday), P. Phillips (Wednesday)

Review and Reflection on first year's Pathways Progress

Guiding Questions:

- Does philosophy still work?
- Did we accomplish what we set out to do?
- What worked well?
- What will we focus on next year?

Evidence of our positive first year:

- o Structure of the K-12 master schedule
- o Met with every student 9-12 w/ 100% parent participation!
- o Enthusiasm!
- o Helped with meaningful experiences for kids with seniors going first
- o Meetings with staff and board
- o Individualizing for kids was a hit but a new approach for kids
- o Community involvement was evident with PYY, DHH and mainland options that we had parent connections such as Geo-Logic and Belfast Radio

Our target items to address this upcoming year:

- o Incorporate the Portfolio Process into the Pathways approach
- o Need to follow up on Pathway paperwork more closely
- o Use our Portfolio advisors as Case managers
- o Create feedback loops and evaluation tools
- o Continue to expand involvement with additional staff and community members
- o Explore Digital portfolio approaches using Pathbrite to capture performance based experiences
- o Define roles for parents, students and staff
- o Begin to craft the MS 6 Week exploration experience

Specific Tasks to Organize:

- o MS Habits of Work
- o Pre- HS pathway meeting w/ 8th grade & parents
- o Change of mindset "passion projects"
- o Senior pathway presentation to younger students- Casco Bay Model
- o Define Inquiry Based Learning
- o Habits of work as a part of the pathways committee
- o Student inventories- (Myers Briggs, Personality, PEAR)
- o MS Quarterly Cross curricular Themes

In this first year, it was apparent that our efforts were on the right track. We were pleased with the informal students' response to this approach and we feel adding feedback loops and evaluation tools will better identify our strengths and areas of need for future discussion.

Finally, we ended with saying that none of this work would have been possible without the support of the Islesboro School Board and superintendent, Patrick Phillips. Your guidance, your provisions of resources, leadership and the "permission" to innovate and create these opportunities was necessary and vital to our first year of success. Your vision is putting Islesboro in a position of leading the way on what it looks like to personalize and energize learning for our students. We are very proud to be here.