

Proficiency-based Learning Steering Committee

Proficiency-based Learning District Goals – 2016-17

Our overall goal, as stated in our 2016-17 Educational Goals, is to continue to build capacity for a Proficiency-based Learning (PbL) system. This is a cornerstone of strengthening teaching and learning throughout all of our schools and improving learning outcomes for our students.

The PbL Steering committee will continue to be an important coach and guide in this process. While detailed work to build capacity is happening at the school level, the teacher leader level and the administrative team level, our hope is to present key challenges to our steering committee and to get feedback and guidance as we move ahead.

On October 4 the PbL Steering Committee had a general discussion of goals for the year. The following goals reflect this discussion and are grouped into three broad areas: Public, Practice and Policy.

Public

1. At the school and district level we will work to provide continued and consistent information about our work with Proficiency-based Learning through written communications, meetings and conferences in order to better engage students and parents as partners in this work.
2. We will develop a School Profile for South Portland High School that clearly communicates our program and provides a context to evaluate student performance.
3. We will inform and work closely with colleges to ensure that they understand our PbL transcript to best advantage our students in the application and financial aid process.

Practice

1. Ongoing professional development at all levels will focus on what is good instructional practice in a PbL system.
2. Grade level and content area teacher teams led by Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction teacher leaders, will focus on defining rigor levels in relation to our Essential Learning Targets.
3. Explore ways to engage students in conversation about PbL as a means to inform ongoing implementation of a PbL system.
4. Work to ensure that our grading guide reflects our philosophy around a PbL system and supports our practice.

Policy

1. Review co-curricular eligibility policy and make recommendations to the policy committee for revisions to existing School Board policy.
2. Revise Honor and Recognition system policy to align with PbL system.
3. Revisit graduation requirements policy to ensure alignment with state statute LD 1627.
4. Review Grading Policy to ensure consistency with PbL implementation.