

Oyster River Cooperative School District  
REGULAR MEETING

**March 1, 2023**

**ORMS – Recital Hall**

**7:00 PM**

- O. 6:30 PM MANIFEST REVIEW/APPROVAL AT EACH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
- I. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM

**Non-Public – RSA 91-A:3 II (c)**

- Superintendent Evaluation
- Facilities Fees
- Business Administrator Recommendation

\*\*\* ACKNOWLEDGE Michael Williams and Yusi Turell for their years of service on the School Board.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA *{Estimated to begin this portion of the meeting around 7:30}***

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS *(Total allotted time for public comment is 30 minutes)***

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Motion to approve 02/15/23 Regular Meeting Minutes

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS**

- A. District
- B. Board

**VI. DISTRICT REPORTS**

- A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction Report(s)
  - Monitoring Student Growth
- B. Superintendent’s Report
- C. Business Administrator
- D. Student Representative (Paige Burt)
- E. Finance Committee Report
- F. Other:

**VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA *{Requires unanimous approval. Individual items may be removed by any Board Member for separate discussion and vote}***

- List of Policies for second read/adoption: BIB & R – Board Members Development Opportunities & Procedure, Policy EG – District Communication Plan, Policy IHBG – Home Education. *Motion to approve list of Policies for second read/adoption: BIB & R – Board Members Development Opportunities & Procedure, EG – District Communication Plan, IHBG – Home Education.*

**VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

**IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS *(Total allotted time for public comment is 30 minutes)***

**XI. CLOSING ACTIONS**

- A. Future meeting dates: March 22, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall- **{This meeting moved from March 15<sup>th</sup> due to Later Voting Day}**  
April 5, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II **{Moved to Beginning of the Meeting}****

**NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A2 I **{If Needed}****

\*\*\* Closing Remarks from Chair Michael Williams

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

The School Board reserves the right to take action on any item on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Superintendent

**Oyster River Cooperative School District  
SAU #5**

Welcome to the School Board meeting. If you wish to be heard by the Board, please note “Public Comment” at the beginning of the agenda (reverse side). During the comment section of the agenda each speaker may have up to three (3) minutes within the time frame allowed. Board Chair may limit time allotment as deemed necessary. Occasionally, the Board may “suspend its rules” to allow visitor participation at the time an issue of specific interest is being addressed. A speaker will not be recognized for a second time on a particular topic.

Visitors should not expect a Board response to their comments or questions under the above since the Board may not have discussed or taken a position on the matter. The Superintendent, without speaking for the Board, may offer clarification as appropriate.

Agendas and background information are available on the district website prior to meetings. Agendas and additional information are generally available at the entrance to the meeting room or distributed at the time the item is introduced for discussion.

The ORCSD School Board will meet in regular session on the first and third Wednesdays of the month with additional meetings when necessary. The School Board appreciates your attendance at these meetings and invites your continued interest in its work on behalf of the children and residents of the District.

**Oyster River Cooperative School District Members:**

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Michael Williams, Chair | Term on Board: 2020 - 2023 |
| • Denise Day, Vice-Chair  | Term on Board: 2020 - 2023 |
| • Brian Cisneros          | Term on Board: 2021 –2024  |
| • Daniel Klein            | Term on Board: 2021 - 2024 |
| • Yusi Turell             | Term on Board: 2021 - 2024 |
| • Matthew Bacon           | Term on Board: 2022 - 2025 |
| • Heather Smith           | Term on Board: 2022 - 2025 |

**Information Regarding Nonpublic Session**

On occasion, the Board agenda may include (or be adjusted to include) a Nonpublic Session. When a motion is made to do so, it will be done under the provisions of the NH State Law RSA 91-A:3 II, and one or more of the following reasons will be claimed for entering Nonpublic Session:

- The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request will be granted.
- The hiring of any person as a public employee.
- Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting.
- Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real property or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.
- Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the body or agency of any sub-division thereof, or against any member thereof because of his membership in such body or agency, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled.

## Oyster River Cooperative School Board

### Regular Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2023

DRAFT

**SCHOOL BOARD PRESENT:** Michael Williams, Denise Day, Brian Cisneros, Dan Klein, Yusi Turell, Heather Smith, Matt Bacon

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:** Paige Burt (Absent)

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Suzanne Filippone, Sue Caswell, Rachael Blansett, Rebecca Noe

**STAFF PRESENT:** SRO Mike Nicolosi

**GUEST PRESENT:**

**ABSENT:** Dr. Morse, Catherine Plourde

**I. CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 PM by Michael Williams**

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Michael Williams moved to approve the agenda as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Darren Keller of Lee shared a handout with the Board that explained his disagreement with Electric Vehicle (EV) charging of non-ORCSD vehicles at the middle school. He asked the Board to rescind their motion and eliminate electric charging rights to staff. He stated the chargers were purchased by the residents and 100% should go back to the taxpayers. He felt that charging was inequitable across the district, taxpayers who funded the solar array should be the ones to recoup, it's a large cost over the lifetime of the system & the daily rate was disingenuous. Regarding solar hours, Darren stated that charging before sunrise and after sunset would be fully off grid power, not solar, and when it's cloudy or the array is snow or ice covered there would be zero solar power used for charging. He argued that sustainability was overstated at the last meeting since he argued that EVs use the highest charging rate during initial plug in, which is early morning and no solar. He also said that the production of EV vehicles comes at an environmental impact and batteries in cold climates last only 8-12 years. He cautioned what the district pushes as sustainable and felt the memo from Dr. Morse was misleading.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Brian Cisneros moved to approve the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Regular & Non-Public Meeting Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Bacon.**

Yusi Turell submitted the following addition to the regular meeting minutes:

Under the Discussion & Action Item titled "Comprehensive Update on Status of School Board Goals..." add the following statements to the last comment: "Yusi requested a list of the main tasks remaining on the way to a stable K12 competency-based system and each task's percent complete. Dr. Morse said that he and Suzanne would craft a progress report format to share with the Board for review."

**Motion passed with addition 7-0.**

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS**

**A. District**

Rebecca Noe of ORHS announced the following awards and commendations:

**Swimming – Division 2 State Championship**

BOYS - William Carrico set a new school record & UNH pool record for the 200 individual medley and a new school record for the 100 breaststroke. Boys won 4<sup>th</sup> overall with only 5 swimmers.

GIRLS - Jenna Parks finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in diving setting a new school record. Podium finishers included Libby Davidson for the 50 and 100 freestyle, Laura Kelly for the 100 breaststroke, and Una Bleckmann for the 200 freestyle. Girls placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

### **Track & Field – Division 2 State Championship**

GIRLS - Erin Carty, Mackenzie Cook, Haley Kavanagh, & Talia Banafato placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 4x400 relay. Podium finishers included Mackenzie Cook for the 3000 & 1500, Haley Kavanagh for the 1500 & 1000, Avery Baumgardt for the long jump, Amalie Trump for the high jump, Erin Carty for the 55 hurdles and Erin Carty, Shea Sullivan, Avery Baumgardt & Talia Banafato for the 4x200 relay. Girls placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall.

BOYS –Ty Dorow, Keane Swiesz, Talon Oullette & Chris Jernigan placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 4x400 relay. Ty Dorow placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 300 and other podium finishers were Talon Ouellette for the 300, Chris Jernigan for the 600, Ty Dorow for the 55, Dan Doherty for the long jump and Keane Swiesz, Eli Mariacher, Ty Dorow, & Nick Jurrissen for the 4x200 relay. Boys placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.

### **Scholastic Art Competition**

In the Scholastic Art Competition, the following students received awards:

Emily Macpherson – Gold & Honorable Mention

Sofia Self – Gold & Honorable Mention

Connor Wilson – Gold

Ana Figueiredo – Silver

Sebastian Gullo – Silver

Madeline Healey – Silver

Grace Wentworth – Silver & Honorable Mention

Abigail Frankiewicz – Honorable Mention

Jessica Li – Honorable Mention

Stella Pillet-Shore – Honorable Mention

Ella Roberge – Honorable Mention

Artwork from these extremely talented artists will be on display at the Durham Public Library.

In March playoffs will be held as well as the following:

3/2 Mental Health Panel from 6-8 pm at the ORHS auditorium

3/3 Progress Reports

3/20 Try outs start for Spring Sports

3/21 Barrington Course Night

3/22 PSATs (sophomores)/SATs (Juniors)

DEIJ Coordinator Rachael Blansett reminded the listening audience that Tona Brown will be visiting in late March. Advertising will begin after Feb. break, and it will include a link to register for the free concert. Tona will hold a master class with students, a meet & greet with students and staff, as well as a Q & A panel interview at UNH. Rachael shared that she held her first PD session “Let’s Talk About Race” with the elementary staff. Tomorrow there will be a session for the middle and high school teachers, and during the day she will be facilitating a BIPOC (Black, Indigenous & People of Color) student space during middle school FLEX. The next DEIJ Community Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm in the library.

### **B. Board**

Denise Day enjoyed attending Moharimet’s recent 3<sup>rd</sup> grade chorus concert. She said the students looked like they were having a fun time and she congratulated them on their performance.

Heather Smith shared that the Winter Carnival sponsored by Moharimet's PTO was a huge success. It was held at the high school, and she gave a big shout out to custodians Marek and Salao for being so accommodating and great to work with. She also thanked art teacher Tricia Hall for having students create banners to decorate the hallway. Tricia is always supportive of extra art projects and puts in a lot of extra work for events.

Chair Michael Williams gave board members his personal notes on the capital planning process. He made a general recommendation for the Board to consider the current policies regarding committees, particularly the definition, hosting, and minutes.

## **VI. DISTRICT REPORTS**

### **A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction Report(s)**

#### Sabbatical Committee Decision update

Suzanne Filippone reported that the Sabbatical Committee received three half-year sabbatical submissions and they forwarded the proposal by high school teacher Jen Weeks for approval. Jen's focus would be on developing curriculum for the advisory program "One Trusted Adult." This fall she would work closely with students, counselors, and administrators to create a 9-12 curriculum.

**Denise Day moved to approve the sabbatical recommendation for the fall 2023 half-year proposal, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

**B. Superintendent's Report** – None provided

**C. Business Administrator** – None provided

**D. Student Representative Report** – None provided

**E. Finance Committee Report** – None provided

**F. Other** – None provided

**VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA – Michael Williams asked if any items needed to be discussed separately and the board had no concerns.**

- Mast Way Librarian Letter of Retirement.
- ORMS Maternity Leave of Absence from April 4, 2023 through the end of school year and for the 2023-24 school year.

**Michael Williams made a motion to approve the Unanimous Consent Agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heather Smith. Motion passed 7-0.**

## **VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

### School Resource Officer (SRO) – Role and Responsibilities – Officer Michael Nicolosi

SRO Mike Nicolosi summarized his position for the Board. His role encompasses a wide range of responsibilities in and outside of the building, with a large focus on safety and supporting students. During mornings and afternoons Nicolosi monitors the traffic to help make it safer for vehicles, walkers, and cyclists, as well as to cut down the departure time. He investigates accidents and parking issues, speaks with unsafe drivers, and helps to address improper stopping for buses. He played a big part in the traffic planning for the new parking lot and assists at special events, such as vaccination clinics, voting, and graduation.

Officer Nicolosi's presence at school acts not only as a deterrent, but also as a vital liaison to emergency services. He has helped identify and improve safety deficiencies in addition to creating emergency operation plans and classroom flipcharts. His work involves conducting drills, making medical calls, locating missing students and responding to safety concerns that may have to do with the property, SAU, and student body.

Facilitating trainings for the staff and attending workshops are another part of Officer Nicolosi's responsibilities. He has led ALICE trainings for all four schools and several tabletop exercises, in addition to attending trainings on

a variety of topics that he feels may be helpful to his job. For example, he has participated in work centered around de-escalation, active shooter preparedness, bomb threat management, cyberbullying, vaping, addiction, youth mental health, and understanding implicit bias to name a few. Officer Nicolosi is also part of the educational day, taking part in forensic, health and driver's education classes, and classroom activities around the fourth amendment, internet safety as well as future planning with seniors.

Nicolosi feels the most important part of his job and what he enjoys the most is the relationships he forms with students and the school community. He is an active part of the school experience attending recess and gym classes, class fundraisers, student games, bicycle rodeos and even the 8<sup>th</sup> grade DC trip. Students call him when they need a ride to school and have no other means to get there, and to address truancy, he tries to find the root of the problem by working with parents in order to get a better outcome. On top of all that, Officer Nicolosi will fulfill any role needed, such as answering the phone in the front office and doing lunch duties when staff are out.

Yusi Turell stated how amazing it is to see the breadth of work that ranges from intimate conversations to safety for the building. She told Officer Nicolosi how fortunate the district is to have his positivity, creativity, and dedication.

Denise Day thanked Officer Nicolosi and thought it was interesting to see the wide range of activities he's involved in and the relationships he has across the district.

Michael Williams commented on how informative the work has been for the district, especially concerning safety and being a bridge between school and emergency services.

List of Policies for first read: BEDH & R – Public Comments at Board Meetings & Procedure, BIB & R – Board Members Development Opportunities & Procedure, EG – District Communication Plan, JJJ – Access to Public School Programs by Non-Public, Charter Schools and Home Education, Pupils, IHBG – Home Education.

Board members asked questions about the policies for first read. Regarding policy JJJ, Heather Smith asked if students would have 1:1 technology access to online resources. Since it is new law and a required policy, Denise Day said she will address this with the committee and bring the policy back to the next meeting. Policy BEDH-R will be revisited regarding the language in statement #1. Denise announced a change to Policy BEDH which included combining statements from #3 into #4.

Policies BEDH, BEDH-R and JJJ were removed from the motion for the committee to review and revise. Any changes will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.

**Denise Day made a motion to approve list of Policies for first read: BIB & BIB-R – Board Members for Development Opportunities & Procedure, EG – District Communication Plan, IHBG – Home Education, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

#### School Board Self Evaluations

The Board held its annual self-evaluation that is required by policy. Chair Michael Williams led a discussion of general observations regarding Board effectiveness, productivity, priorities, and overall outcomes. Each board member was given the opportunity to speak, and their summarized points are as follows:

Michael Williams – He stated that this year the Board was able to return to ordinary topics and they did an overall good job with statutory obligations.

Paige Burt – (written comments shared by Michael) She appreciated that she could ask questions and be actively involved, and she felt her voice was valued. She felt the Board generally cares about school and student experiences.

Denise Day – As her 9<sup>th</sup> year, she felt it was also the smoothest year, especially since there was no derailment from hot button topics. She thanked Michael for his leadership stating that the board functioned effectively and thoughtfully. She felt hiring a DEIJ Coordinator and Communications Specialist were noteworthy accomplishments.

Brian Cisneros – He agreed with Denise's comments and shared that although the budget worked out well it wasn't the process and budget they wanted. He said the city can present challenges with issues regarding policy

and budget, but he felt that overall, the Board uses procedures and processes that work well, and they provide a good level of service.

Matt Bacon – He agreed with the previous comments made and added that he'd like to see board members take on more of the burden of the goals since it falls mostly on administration and faculty.

Heather Smith – She felt there was progress made on many goals, noting the hiring of a superintendent search firm and a communications specialist. In terms of the grading and reporting changes made at ORMS, she would like to have had the parent/student feedback prior to the second round of progress reports as was discussed. Regarding new positions and their roll out, she wondered how the board can provide support to the superintendent and administration during unfavorable reactions or sticky situations that arise.

Yusi Turell – She felt the Board was efficient and attempted to build systems of accountability, and she liked the process for goal development. Regarding competencies, she felt they made development, but she wished they got further with political and community facing questions. She enjoyed the presentations by students and administration and her only concern was for documentation and follow through of any requests made during them with a timely follow up.

Dan Klein – He credited new members Matt and Heather for hitting the ground running. He felt the Board is in a good place and is well-equipped for the changes that lie ahead.

Suzanne Filippone – She felt there was a lot of movement toward goals, and she would like to see the student perspective continued.

In closing, Michael encouraged board members to consider the benefit of contributing more individually and what that might look like. He recognized that their competency work is not finished but they have made gains, specifically toward transition.

## **IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES**

The Manifest Committee met and completed the following manifests.

Payroll Manifest #16 Total is \$1,090,443.81

Vendor Manifest #17 Total is \$424,915.58

Brian Cisneros let the Board know that the commissioner may be making changes to licensing that would reduce the number of requirements for positions, including administrative ones.

Heather Smith provided a Sustainability update. She said they are still working on their goals for reducing waste since there is contention and discomfort in students manning the bins, which was a solution they had previously discussed. They are starting to prepare for Earth Week at the middle and high schools, and regarding the Community Dinner, they had 300 people attend making it a huge success. They hope to organize another one for April.

Matt Bacon reported that the Wellness Committee is currently looking into how to best show and navigate information on the webpages. He thanked counselors for all the hard work they do.

## **X. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Darren Keller of Lee let the Board know that the audio was bad from where he was sitting tonight, which was behind the Board in the first row. He felt the acoustics may be great for musical performances but not for speaking. Yusi agreed stating there was difficulty hearing during the Deliberative Session.

## **XI. CLOSING ACTIONS**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** March 1, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall  
 March 22, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall –  
**{This meeting moved from March 15<sup>th</sup> due to Later Voting Day}**  
 April 5, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall

February 15, 2023

Draft

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**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II {If Needed}**

**NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A2 I {If Needed}**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**The School Board reserves the right to take action on any item on the agenda.**

**Brian Cisneros made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heater Smith. Motion passed 7-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karyn Laird, Records Keeper



# Student Data: Monitoring Student Growth

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Update on Star Testing Data Grades 2 - 8  
Winter 2023



Why do we give students assessments?

*To assess what kids know and are able to do, to inform instruction, and determine interventions where appropriate.*

- **Focus tonight is on STAR Data**

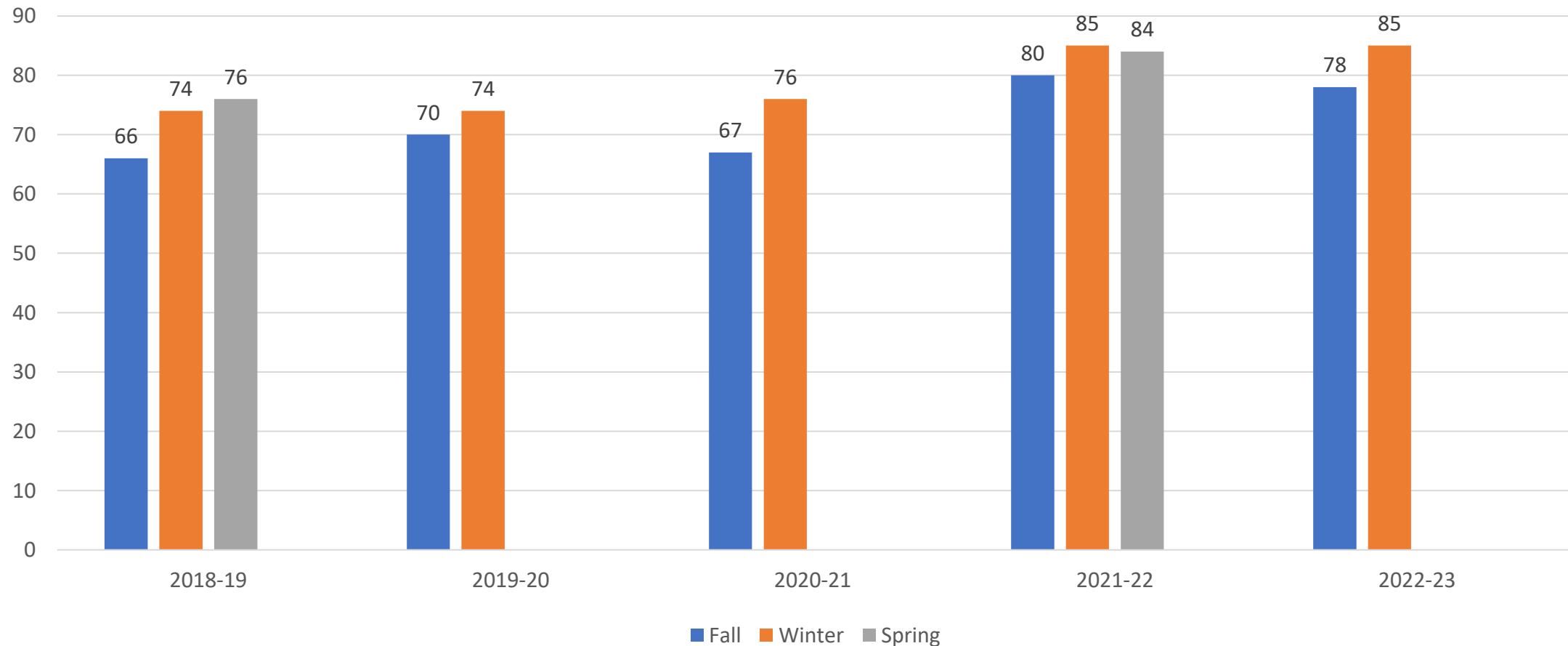
- Individual student scores are one of several measures that are used to help teachers and families understand student progress.

- Results inform MTSS Teams regarding individual student learning and supports where appropriate.

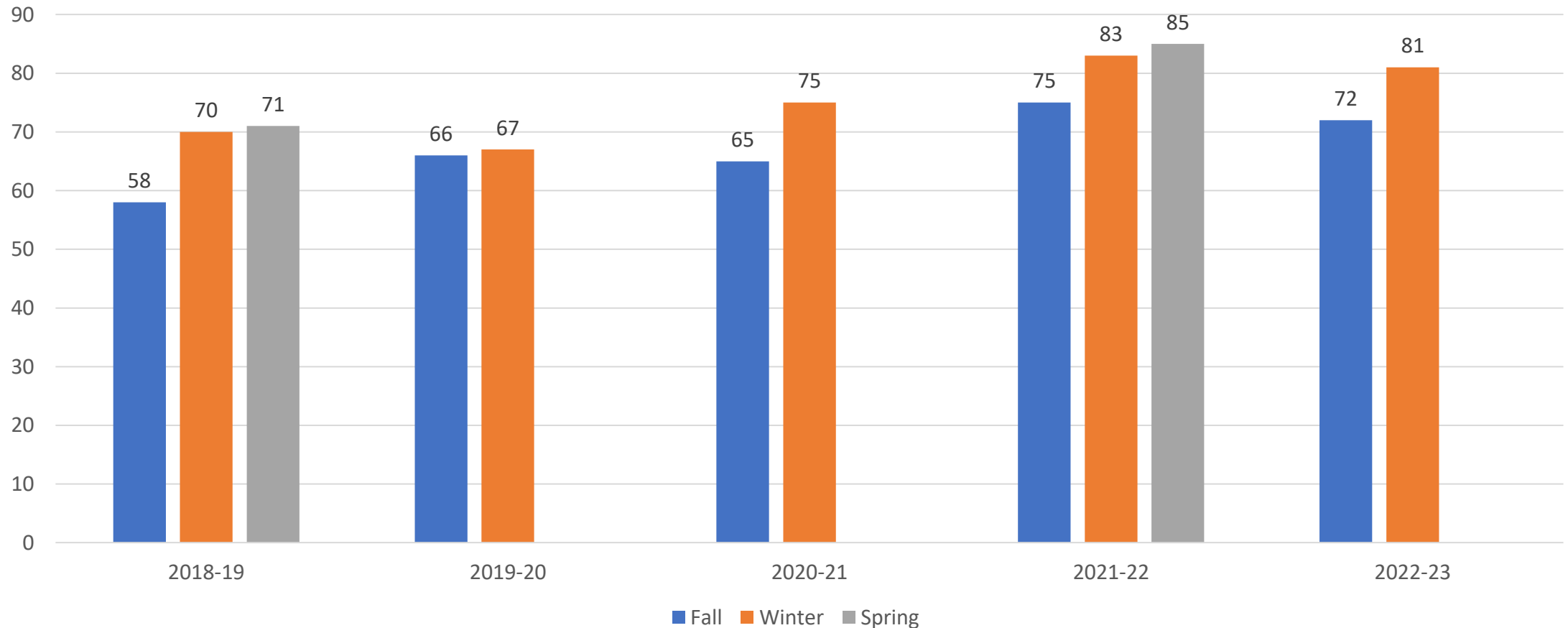
## Reminders about Star

- Fall, Winter, and Spring data includes benchmark adjustments according to expected student growth.
- Star is a computer-adaptive test continually adjusting questions based on the child's previous response.
- The percentile rank is a norm-referenced score that provides a measure of a student's ability compared to other students in the same grade nationally.
- Star also offers criterion referenced scores based on a standard (which allows teachers to drive instruction).
- The Benchmark is set by the district.

# Elementary School Star Math: Percent Proficient 2018-2023 (winter, grades 2-4)

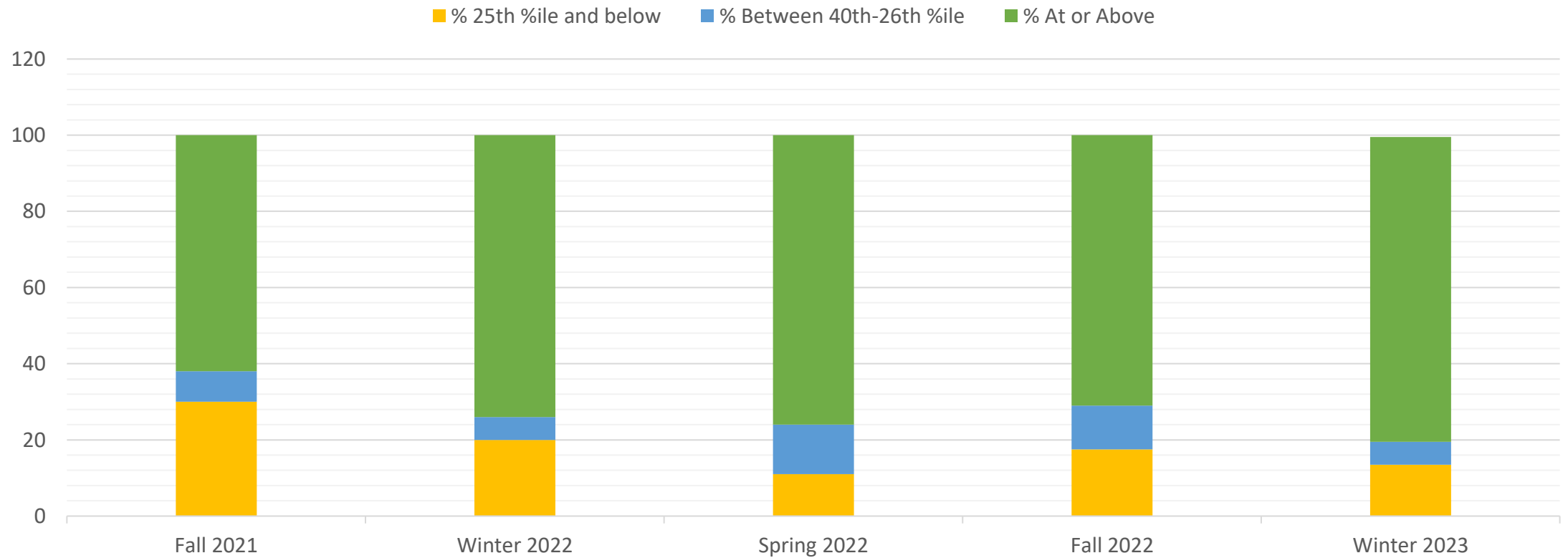


# Elementary School Star Reading: Percent Proficient 2018-2023 (winter, grades 2-4)



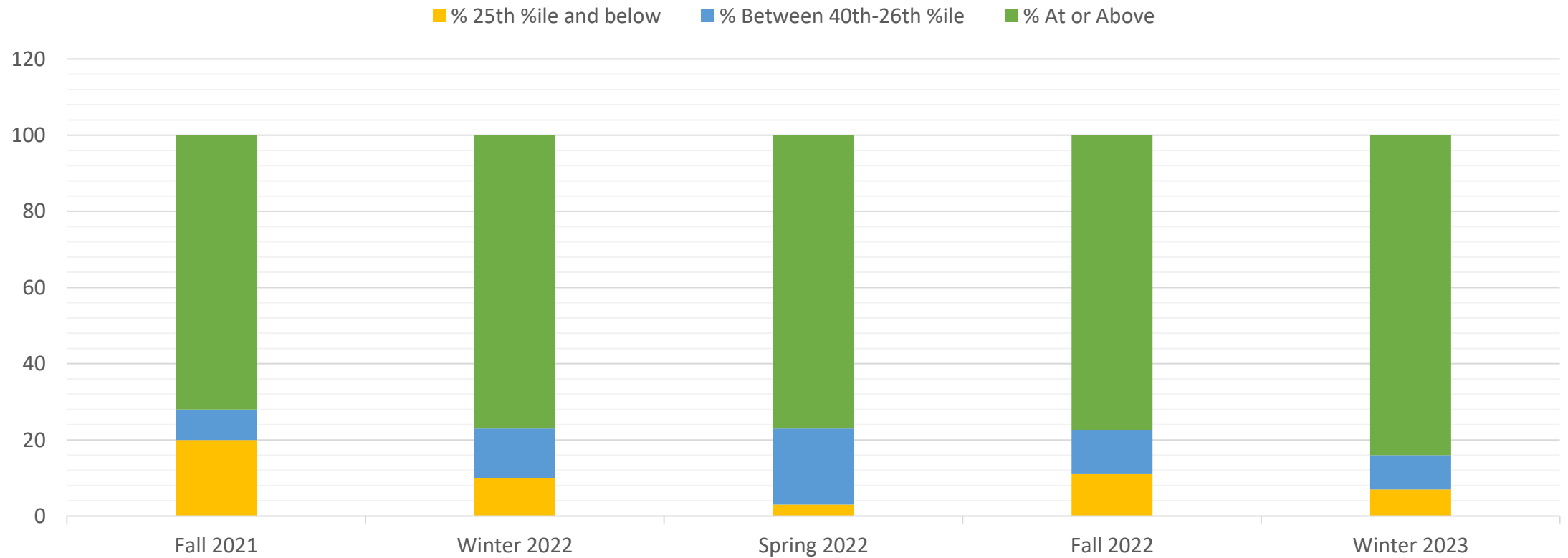
# Class of 2032 Reading

Star Proficiency

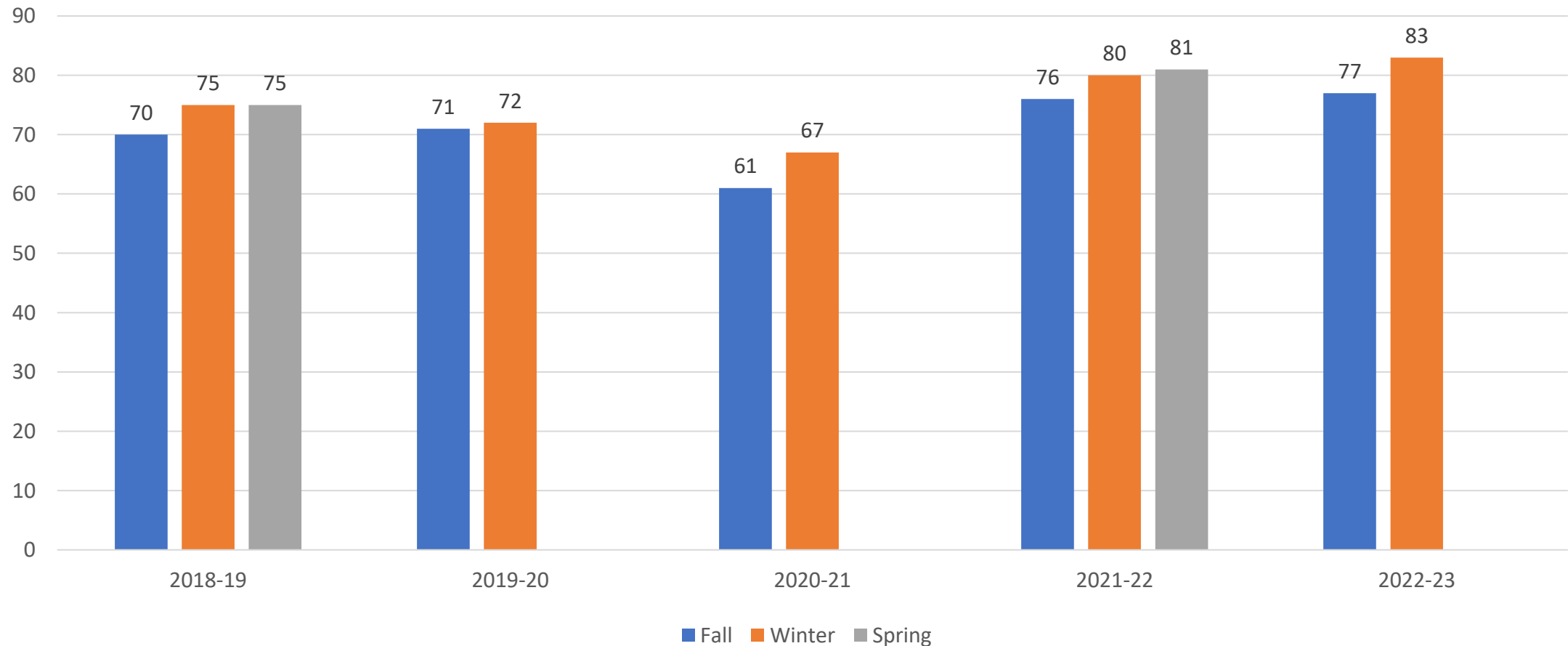


# Class of 2032 Math

Star Proficiency

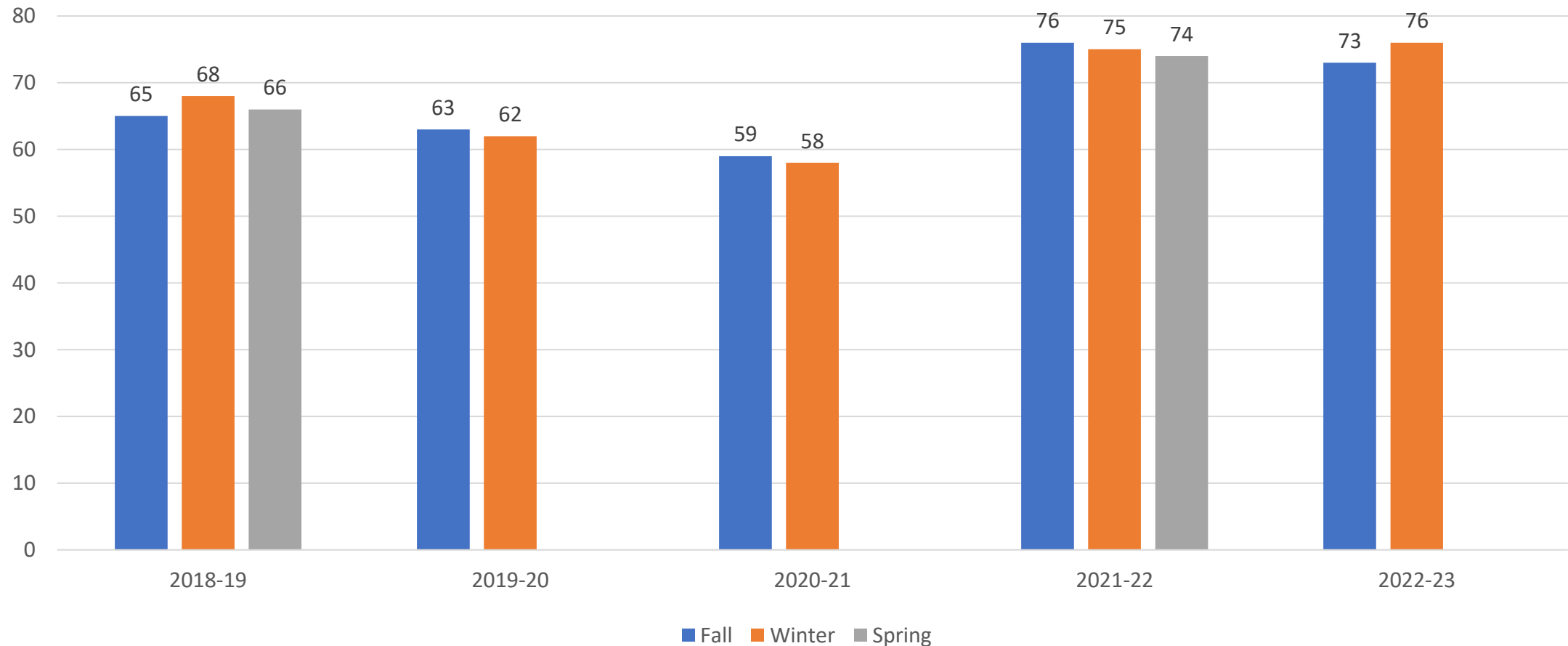


# Middle School Star Math: Percent Proficient 2018-2023 (winter, grades 5-8)





# Middle School Star Reading: Percent Proficient 2018-2023 (winter, grades 5-8)



# Action Items

Continue Multi Tiered System of Supports

Reassemble District MTSS Team for Evaluation of District Goals and Systems

Work with students on sustaining focus, executive skills, and school wide expectations

Continue to implement individualized interventions when appropriate

Continue to implement Foundations for Grade 3 as needs are identified

Preparation for implementation of Eureka Squared Updated Eureka Math Program (grades k-5)

Continue to explore effective progress monitoring tools for mathematics

Proactive use of “FLEX”ible time at the middle school for interventions and support

Policies for  
 First/Second Read/Adoption/Deletion  
**SB Meeting of**  
**March 1, 2023 – Second Read/Adoption**

Title	Code
<b>Policies for First Read</b>	
<b>Policies for Second Read/Adoption – Unanimous Consent</b>	
Board Member Development Opportunities	BIB
Procedure	BIB-R
District Communication Plan	EG
Home Education	IHBG
<b>Policies for Deletion/Replacement</b>	
<b>Policies in Process</b>	
Public Comments at Board Meetings	BEDH
Procedure	BEDH-R
Access to Public School Programs by Non-Public, Charter Schools & Home Education Pupils	JJJ
Discipline Policies to be reviewed	JIDD
Graduation	IKF
Early Graduation	IKFA
Website Accessibility and Grievance	KEE

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: BIB Previously: BHB
Date of Adoption: June 15, 1988 Date of Revisions: 3/19/97, 4/21/99, 11/18/99 Review School Board First Read: November 7, 2012 School Board Second read/Adoption: November 14, 2012 <a href="#">Review by Policy Committee – January 12, 2023 &amp; 2/9/23</a> <a href="#">School Board First Read: February 15, 2023</a> <a href="#">School Board Second Read/Adoption: March 1, 2023</a>	Page 1 of 1 Category: Recommended

## BOARD MEMBER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Oyster River School Board places a high priority on the importance of a planned and continuing program of in-service education for its members. The central purpose of the program is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of public school governance in our community. The Board shall attempt to plan specific in-service activities designed to assist Board members in their efforts to improve their skills as members of a policy-making body; to expand their knowledge about trends, issues, and new ideas affecting the continued welfare of our local schools; and to deepen their insights into the nature of leadership in a modern democratic society.

The Board regards the following as examples of activities and services appropriate for implementing this policy:

1. Participation in School Board Association conferences, workshops, and conventions.
2. District-sponsored training sessions for Board members.
3. Subscriptions to publications addressed to the concerns of Board members.

~~In order to control both the investment of time and funds necessary to implement this policy, the board establishes these principles and procedures;~~

- ~~1. A calendar of school board conferences, conventions, and workshops shall be maintained by the superintendent. The board will periodically decide which meetings appear to be most promising in terms of producing direct and indirect benefits to the school district.~~
- ~~2. Funds for participation at such meetings will be budgeted on an annual basis. When funds are limited, the board will designate which of its members would be the most appropriate to participate at a given meeting.~~
- ~~3. Board members shall be reimbursed their expenses in attending approved development opportunities.~~
- ~~4. When a conference, convention, or workshop is not attended by the full Board, those who do participate will be requested to share information, recommendations, and materials acquired at the meeting.~~

School board members are encouraged to attend workshops presented by the state and national school boards associations.

Cross Reference:

BIB-R - Board Member Development Opportunities

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: BIB-R Previously: BHB
Date of Adoption: June 15, 1988 Date of Revisions: 3/19/97, 4/21/99, 11/18/99 School Board: November 14, 2012 <a href="#">Review by Policy Committee: January 12, 2023 &amp; 2/9/23</a> <a href="#">School Board First Read: February 15, 2023</a> <a href="#">School Board Second Read/Adoption: March 1, 2023</a>	Page 1 of 1

## BOARD MEMBER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES - PROCEDURE

In order to control both the investment of time and funds necessary to implement this policy, the board establishes these principles and procedures;

- School board will be made aware of conferences, conventions, and workshops. The board will periodically decide which meetings appear to be most promising in terms of producing direct and indirect benefits to the school district.
- Funds for participation at such meetings will be budgeted on an annual basis. When funds are limited, the board will designate which of its members would be the most appropriate to participate at a given meeting.
- Board members shall be reimbursed their expenses in attending approved development opportunities.
- When a conference, convention, or workshop is not attended by the full Board, those who do participate will be requested to share information, recommendations, and materials acquired at the meeting.

Cross Reference:

BIB – Board Member Development Opportunities  
DKC – Expense Reimbursement

<b>OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD</b>	<b>Policy Code: EG</b>
<b>Policy Review: February 9, 2023</b> <b><u>School Board First Read: February 15, 2023</u></b> <b><u>School Board Second Read/Adoption: March 1, 2023</u></b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b> <b>Category: Recommended</b>

### **District Communication Plan**

The Oyster River Cooperative School Board's objective is to improve internal and external communications by providing clarity and consistency in school communications amongst stakeholders. ~~The Board directs the District will have the Superintendent or designee/Communication Specialist to prepare a Communications Plan, that addresses at least the following:~~

- ~~1. Plan goals and general provisions – identifies the general goals of the Plan, identifies the multiple audiences/recipients of District communication, and identifies the available methods and modes of communication with some consideration of the pros and cons of each.~~
- ~~2. Implementation – describes how components of the Plan will be implemented and will specify which staff members are responsible.~~
- ~~3. Communication to Internal Stakeholders – describes how to best communicate general or specific information to staff, students, and volunteers.~~
- ~~4. Communication to External Stakeholders – describes how to best communicate with external stakeholders (i.e., parents, the community, parent groups, other districts, etc.).~~
- ~~5. Crisis Communications Plan – coordinates the Communication Plan to the relevant provisions of the District Crisis Prevention and Response Plan and site-specific Emergency Operations Plans prepared under Board policy EBCA, including staff responsibilities, training requirements, communication tools, media plans, and message-specific templates.~~
- ~~6. School Cancellations – outlines protocols for communicating a school day cancellation, delay, or early release due to inclement weather or other emergency reasons as provided by Board policy EBCD.~~
- ~~7. Off-campus School activities – outlines how to best communicate incidents or emergencies that occur while students are off campus on field trips or travel sporting events (i.e., anywhere that students are transported by the District).~~
- ~~8. Recommendations – outlines suggestions and recommendations relating to infrastructure or resources for future improvements to communication channels.~~
- ~~9. Other – Such other information, recommendation and provisions the [Superintendent, deemed appropriate.~~

### **Biennial/Annual Review and Update**

The Superintendent and/or designee shall ensure that the Communication Plans and all procedures and protocols adopted pursuant to this policy are reviewed ~~no less than every two (2) years~~ annually and updated as necessary. Copies of the updated Plan and procedures should be provided to the Board, ~~no later than the start of each school year.~~

### **Cross References:**

Procedure EG-R – District Communication Plan

Policy BHC – Board-Employee Communication

Policy EBCA – Emergency Plans

Policy EBCD – Emergency Closing

Policy IJO – School, Family and Community Partnership

Policy JRB – Confidential Student Information

Policy KD – School District Social Media Website/Platform

Policy KEB – Public Complaints about School Personnel, Employees, Students or Administration to the Board

<b>OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD</b>	<b>Policy Code: EG-R</b>
<b>Policy Review: February 9, 2023</b> <b><u>School Board Review: February 15, 2023</u></b> <b><u>School Board Second Read/Adoption: March 1, 2023</u></b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b> <b>Category: Recommended</b>

### **District Communication Plan**

The Oyster River Cooperative School Board’s objective is to improve internal and external communications by providing clarity and consistency in school communications amongst stakeholders. ~~The Board directs the District will have the Superintendent or designee/Communication Specialist to prepare a Communications Plan that addresses at least the following:~~

1. Plan goals and general provisions - identifies the general goals of the Plan, identifies the multiple audiences/recipients of District communication, and identifies the available methods and modes of communication with some consideration of the pros and cons of each.
2. Implementation – describes how components of the Plan will be implemented and will specify which staff members are responsible.
3. Communication to Internal Stakeholders – describes how to best communicate general or specific information to staff, students, and volunteers.
4. Communication to External Stakeholders – describes how to best communicate with external stakeholders (i.e., parents, the community, parent groups, other districts, etc.).
5. Crisis Communications Plan – coordinates the Communication Plan to the relevant provisions of the District Crisis Prevention and Response Plan and site-specific Emergency Operations Plans prepared under Board policy EBCA, including staff responsibilities, training requirements, communication tools, media plans, and message-specific templates.
6. School Cancellations - outlines protocols for communicating a school day cancellation, delay, or early release due to inclement weather or other emergency reasons as provided by Board policy EBCD.
7. Off-campus School activities - outlines how to best communicate incidents or emergencies that occur while students are off campus on field trips or travel sporting events (i.e., anywhere that students are transported by the District).
8. Recommendations - outlines suggestions and recommendations relating to infrastructure or resources for future improvements to communication channels.
9. Other - Such other information, recommendation and provisions the [Superintendent, deemed appropriate.

#### **Biennial Review and Update**

~~The Superintendent and/or designee shall ensure that the Communication Plans and all procedures and protocols adopted pursuant to this policy are reviewed no less than every two (2) years and updated as necessary. Copies of the updated Plan and procedures should be provided to the Board no later than the start of each school year.~~

#### **Cross References:**

- Policy EG – District Communication Plan
- Policy BHC – Board-Employee Communication
- Policy EBCA – Emergency Plans
- Policy EBCD – Emergency Closing
- Policy IJO – School, Family and Community Partnership
- Policy JRB – Confidential Student Information
- Policy KD – School District Social Media Website/Platform
- Policy KEB – Public Complaints about School Personnel, Employees, Students or Administration to the Board

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: IHBG
Date of adoption: January 3, 2007 Policy Committee Review: October 10, 2018 School Board First Read: October 24, 2018 School Board Second Read/Adoption: November 7, 2018 <a href="#">School Board First Read: February 15, 2023</a> <a href="#">School Board Second Read/Adoption: March 1, 2023</a>	Page 1 of 3 Category: Recommended

## HOME EDUCATION

Home Education is an alternative to compulsory attendance at a public or private school and is an individualized form of instruction in accordance with New Hampshire RSA 193-A and Department of Education Rule Part 315 ("Ed. 315"). A parent or guardian may establish a home education program for any child between the ages six (6) and eighteen (18) years of age including one who is an "educationally disabled child" as defined under RSA 186-C:2, I, whether or not such child is previously enrolled in a school of the District.

### **A. Notices Required for Commencement of Home Education Program.**

#### **1. Notice for Students Withdrawing from District.**

State school attendance laws apply to each student until a parent/guardian commences a home education program. Similarly, the District's attendance policies apply to all students enrolled in schools of the Oyster River Cooperative School District.

Accordingly, when a parent/guardian of a child who is enrolled in a school of the District wishes to begin a home education program for the child, Ed. Rule 315.04 (e) requires that on or before the date the home education program begins, the parent/guardian must advise the Superintendent of the child's withdrawal from the District. The notice of withdrawal may be made in person, via telephone or in writing, at the parent/guardian's election.

#### **2. Written Notice of Program Required.**

In addition to the less formal notice required for a child being withdrawn from the District, RSA 193-A and Ed. 315 both require that the parent/guardian provide written notice of the commencement of a home education program either (at the parent/guardian's election) to the New Hampshire Department of Education, the Superintendent of the resident district, or to any non-public school principal.

The requirements of the notice are set forth in RSA 193-A:5 and Ed. 315.04, both of which can be accessed through the New Hampshire Department of Education's website.

Upon request, the Superintendent shall assist the parent/guardian to assure that the notification complies with the statutory requirements.

#### **3. No Annual Notice Required.**

Once established, the home education program remains in effect unless terminated pursuant Ed. 315.04 (k). The parent/guardian is not required to provide annual notification of continuation of a home education program.

### **B. Evaluation & Assessment.**

Under RSA 193-A:6, II, parents/guardians are required to provide for an annual educational evaluation for home educated children that documents "educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age and ability." Both the statute and Ed. 315.07 provide several options for parents/guardians to meet the statutory evaluation requirements. Some of the evaluation options available to parents/guardians under that statute and rules can involve District/Superintendent assistance, including, for instance, any state student assessment used by the District, or any other "valid" measurement tool mutually agreed upon by the parent/guardian and the Superintendent. Other options are available to parents/guardians as provided under RSA 193-A:6 and/or Ed. 315.07.



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Parents/guardians seeking to utilize evaluation services through the Superintendent, should contact the Superintendent's office as soon as practicable to assure adequate time to prepare any necessary materials and accommodations.

No fee will be required by the District when a parent uses evaluation services provided by the District.

**C. Records.**

The District shall maintain documents concerning home education programs in a manner consistent with other educational records. Additionally, the Superintendent shall maintain a list of all home education programs for which the Superintendent, as participating agency, has received notice. On October 1 of each year, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of the number of children for whom programs were established.

RSA 193-A:6, I - requires the parent/guardian to maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home education program. The portfolio shall consist of a log which designates by title the reading materials used, and also samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the child. The parent/guardian is required to preserve the portfolio for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.

For evaluations which are not provided by the District, parents/guardians need only provide copies to the District to the extent necessary to demonstrate proficiency in order to participate in school programs, and co/extra-curricular activities as provided under RSA 193-A:6, III.

**D. Re-enrollment into the School District.**

Parents/Guardians deciding to re-enroll their children into the District following a period of home education will make arrangements with the Principal for an evaluation to determine appropriate placement in the District's program. Placements will be consistent with the School Board policy governing student placements and are subject to the same appeal process.

Parents/Guardians should be attentive that when re-enrolling a student, there may be discrepancies between the home-schooling level of achievement and the scope and sequence of the District's curriculum.

All students are subject to same age, performance and prerequisite standards for admission to courses and co-curricular activities and are to maintain district/school standards to include but not limited to behavior, attendance, and class performance for purposes of grading and credit issuance. For courses requiring prerequisites, student will be asked to demonstrate academic achievement comparable to that required of fully enrolled students meeting prerequisite standards. School personnel will discuss with parents' alternative ways to demonstrate achievement. Final determination of qualifications to enroll will be made by the building principal.

**E. Graduation/Diplomas.**

The School Board will not award certificates or diplomas to home educated students. Students must enter the regular school program and complete all necessary graduation requirements of the District and the State to be eligible for a certificate or diploma.

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**~~F. — Participation in school curricular and co/extra-curricular activities.~~**

~~Regulations regarding the participation of home education students (as well as students of non-public or of public charter schools) in District curricular and co/extra-curricular programs— established consistent with RSA 193:1-c, any regulations shall not be more restrictive for non-public or home educated pupils than they are for students enrolled in the District.~~

Cross Reference: [III – Access to Public School Programs by Non-Public, Charter Schools and Home Education Pupils.](#)

**Legal References:**

- RSA 193-A, Home Education
- RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil
- RSA 193:1-a, Dual Enrollment
- RSA 193:1-c, Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic or Home Educated Pupils
- NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 315, Procedures for the Operation of Home Education Programs