



NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, INC.
COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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May 6, 2020

Jean Wheeler
Principal
Oxbow Union High School
36 Oxbow Drive
Bradford, VT 05033

Dear Ms. Wheeler:

The Commission on Public Schools, at its April 16, 2020 meeting, voted to accept the Five-Year Progress Report of Oxbow Union High School and to continue the school's accreditation.

While the report described many positive aspects of the school, the Commission was pleased to learn of the following:

- the development of the mission statement through the process of creating the portrait of the graduate
- the development of transferable skills
- the creation of school-wide analytical rubrics aligned to 21st century learning expectations
- the use of the core values, beliefs, and 21st century learning expectations to drive curriculum, instruction, and assessment
- the completion of written curriculum documents for each course using a common format that includes units of study, with essential questions, concepts, and skills, connections to transferable skills, and learning expectations with school-wide rubrics
- the development of course-specific rubrics to support instructional strategies and assessment practices
- the plan in place to ensure effective curriculum coordination and vertical alignment
- the increase in data driven decisions for programs to assist student learning
- the opportunities for students to receive extra help
- the professional development focused on increasing student-driven inquiry, problem-solving, and higher order thinking

- the development of proficiency-based graduation requirements and a proficiency-based report card
- the involvement of students in the development of their personalized learning plan
- the further development and refinement of the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)
- the regular collaboration of the media specialist in classrooms
- the long-range plan developed to address facility needs

The school is scheduled to host its Decennial Accreditation visit in the calendar year 2026. Please note, this date reflects a postponement of one year from the previous decennial cycle.

The school's next Accreditation cycle will begin in the fall of 2023. The school will be using the new CPS 2020 Vision for Learning Standards for Accreditation and Accreditation process. Information about the new Standards for Accreditation and Accreditation process is available on our website. Representatives from your school will be invited to an informational meeting about the new Accreditation process in the spring of 2023.

In the interim, the school community should review the new Accreditation Standards and plan to review and revise their core values, beliefs, and vision of the graduate based on research, multiple data sources, as well as district and school community priorities. Information related to the development/revision of the school's document will be available soon on our website at <http://cpss.neasc.org>.

The school's accreditation will be reviewed when the Commission considers the report resulting from the 2024 Collaborative Conference visit. School officials are reminded of their responsibility to keep the Commission apprised of any substantive changes in the school prior to the Decennial Accreditation visit. For your convenience, we have enclosed a copy of the Substantive Change Policy. As well, please notify the Commission office immediately of any changes in the names of the principal and/or superintendent along with their corresponding e-mail addresses by submitting this information electronically to cpss-air@neasc.org.

Sincerely,



Kathleen A. Montagano

KAM/mv
Enclosure

cc: Emilie Knisley, Superintendent, Oxbow Unified Union School District
Danielle Corti, Chair, Oxbow Unified Union School District Board
Heather Bouchey, Deputy Secretary, Vermont Agency of Education
Robert N. Baldwin, Chair, Commission on Public Schools

