



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

THOMAS A. DESJARDIN
ACTING COMMISSIONER

December 31, 2014

Dr. William Crumley
Superintendent of Schools
MSAD 12
606 Main Street
Jackman, ME 04945

Dear Superintendent Crumley:

This letter acknowledges receipt of MSAD 12's application to confirm readiness of Forest Hills High School to meet the proficiency-based graduation requirements. The Department commends you for your efforts to advance proficiency based education.

Given the evidence provided in the application, the Maine DOE has reservations about the district's readiness to meet the proficiency-based graduation requirements needed to be in place now for students in the 2018 Cohort and recommends that you consider resubmitting an application for Extension Option 3. The criteria in this extension are more closely aligned with the evidence submitted with your application. You may or may not need the full time offered in Extension Option 3 and will not be penalized if you are ready to award proficiency-based diplomas before July 1, 2020. The extension renewal process provides an opportunity to reassess preparedness each year and select the option that best fits your progress.

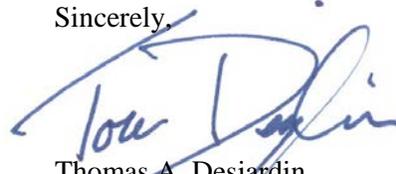
If you do not seek an alternate application, the Maine DOE recommends the following adjustments and actions would be needed for MSAD 12's application to be aligned to the criteria in the Confirmation of Readiness application.

- Evidence in the application materials of the link to MSAD 12's Measurement Topics and learning target progressions for all 8 content areas and the Guiding Principles
- Evidence of an assessment and its criteria for proficiency at the graduation level for each content area
- Evidence of all MSAD 12's required courses and recommended sequence of courses for each content area in the updated Course Registration Booklet
- Evidence and assurance that students in the General Course sequence have opportunity to learn and demonstrate proficiency at a level of complexity and cognitive demand that prepares them to exit high school prepared for career or college without the need for remediation
- Evidence of 2014 adopted policies pertaining to the opportunity to learn and demonstrate proficiency for the 2018 Cohort (e.g. IKF, IHA, IKAB, IKE, IHC, IJJ)
- Evidence of effective strategies currently in use to close student achievement gaps in all 8 content areas for students in the 2018 Cohort

- Evidence students are allowed to attain proficiency through multiple pathways
- Evidence of the methodology for determining proficiency of the 5 Guiding Principles for graduation

Please provide the requested evidence and/or submit an application for an extension option by 8 am on January 19, 2014. If the Maine DOE does not receive the requested materials within the stated timeframe, we will assume that MSAD 12 is moving forward with the submitted confirmation of readiness plan notwithstanding the recommendations for adjustments. Please contact Diana Doiron (diana.doiron@maine.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Desjardin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "D".

Thomas A. Desjardin
Acting Commissioner of Education