



Maine Curriculum Leaders' Association

Annual Report

(July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)

The Maine Curriculum Leaders' Association (MCLA) was formed in 2006 by a group of Maine curriculum leaders and incorporated as a 501 (c) (3) membership organization in 2008. ***MCLA's mission is to support curriculum leaders and to champion curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices and policies that enhance learning.*** The MCLA Board of Directors and members work together by:

- Promoting and providing professional learning.
- Influencing policy and decision-making.
- Advancing the use of effective practices.
- Developing and fostering partnerships with organizations consistent with our mission.
- Supporting opportunities for networking and sharing.

MCLA is staffed by a contracted Executive Director, a bookkeeper, and a webmaster. It is governed by a board of directors which includes one representative from each of nine superintendent's regions and several at-large members. Regional representatives are selected by the curriculum leaders in the region and at-large members are chosen by the board. The FY '14 Board of Directors:

Lois Brewer, *Aroostook*
Beth Clifford, *Washington County, Secretary*
Wayne Dorr, *Midcoast*
Gail Gordon, *Penquis*
Lee Graham, *Treasurer*
Erica Mazzeo, *Hancock*
Chris Howell, *Cumberland, Past President*

Tom Keller, *At-Large*
Julie Meltzer, *At-Large*
Gayla LaBreck, *At-Large*
Barbara Maling, *York*
Cathy McCue, *Western Maine, President*
Deb McIntyre, *Kennebec*
Diana Doiron, *Liaison Maine DOE*

Our Members

- Eighty-three (83) Maine districts (65%) employed designated curriculum leaders during the 2013-14 school year, up from 74 in FY '13 (designated curriculum leaders include assistant superintendents and curriculum directors/coordinators).
- MCLA's 2014 membership included 70% of the state's curriculum leaders.
- MCLA selects the Maine Curriculum Leader of the Year from its membership. The 2014 recipient was Mary Giard, Curriculum Director in RSU 22.
- MCLA's members impacted 97,000 Maine students.

Promoting and providing professional learning. 370 educators from 86 districts attended at least one of MCLA's five proficiency-based learning opportunities during the 2013-14 school year:

- *Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Overview*
- *Engaging all Students with the Next Generation Science Standards*
- *Helping Stakeholders Understand Standards and Proficiency: Communicating about Proficiency-based Diplomas*
- *Choosing a Tracking and Reporting System: Deciding How to Decide*
- *Choosing Graduation Standards and Providing Opportunity to Learn*

MCLA formed a Professional Learning Team in February 2014. This standing committee, composed of board members and members, identifies needs and frames MCLA events and opportunities.

Influencing policy and decision-making. MCLA represented curriculum leaders in several state-level policy discussions in FY '14. Board members and the director served on the Maine Department of Education's Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Advisory Committee and the state's teacher effectiveness system executive committee. MCLA also participated in the Maine Principals Association's *Summit on the Principalship*.

Advancing the use of effective practices. MCLA's learning opportunities, and its e-newsletter and web page, highlight effective practices. MCLA's director also provided members with alignment studies documenting what the new Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium's tests will measure in English Language Arts and mathematics in grades 3, 8, and 11.

Developing and fostering partnerships with organizations consistent with our mission. MCLA worked with the Western Maine Education Collaborative (WMEC) to develop a clear list of essential steps to guide proficiency-based learning implementation. These essential steps drove the development of MCLA's professional learning opportunities in 2014. WMEC and MCLA also began sharing event calendars and learning designs. The Maine Department of Education asked MCLA to partner with them in an assessment exemplar development process. MCLA worked with the department to develop the overall process and invited curriculum leaders and high school teachers to participate. MCLA also worked with the Maine Content Literacy Project to house their resources on our web site.

Supporting opportunities for networking and sharing. MCLA maintains a general listserv for anyone interested in curriculum, instruction and assessment. The listserv is used frequently by its subscribers to collect information about local programs and practices, promote professional learning opportunities, and explore complex education issues. MCLA's director also attended regional curriculum leaders' meetings across the state to learn how MCLA could increase support to its members.

Fiscal Year 2014 Financial Status. MCLA generated revenue from membership dues (\$6,800) and conference and event fees (\$65,695) to support its FY '14 operating budget of \$62,800. MCLA ended FY '14 with net income of \$14,147.