



Lisbon High School

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www.lisbonschoolsme.org

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Kenneth J. Healey, Principal
Zachary J. Longyear, Assistant Principal/Co-Curricular Director

Jean M. Dolan, Guidance Counselor
David P. Ferrick, Guidance Counselor

November 17, 2011

Mrs. Janet D. Allison, Director
New England Association of Schools and Colleges Inc.
Commission on Public Secondary Schools
209 Burlington Road
Bedford, Massachusetts 01730-1433

Dear Mrs. Allison:

The below Substantive Changes are reported in accordance with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Substantive Change Policy:

Due to budgetary constraints, the Lisbon School District reduced one social studies teacher district-wide for the 2011-2012 school year. As a result of this reduction in force and the Lisbon Education Associations (LEA) interpretation of language in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, there has been a reduction of three Social Studies classes available to students which has negatively impacted Lisbon High School. These reductions in classes, or 3/5 of a position, has reduced the number of Social Studies elective course opportunities for all students in Lisbon High School.

Last year Lisbon High School offered four social studies courses (American Citizenship (½ year elective), U. S. History, AP European History (elective), and World History. Because of the loss of these three classes and changes in the Maine Department of Education's State Graduation requirements, Lisbon High School started the school year offering two social studies courses American Citizenship and U. S. History. As a result of concerns from Lisbon High School staff, parents and students, Lisbon High School administration implemented an additional social studies ½ year elective in History of World Cultures & Beliefs and plan to offer one additional ½ year social studies elective for the second semester to be named later. Students do have access to additional Social Study courses online and plans are place to add these three classes back into the schedule for 2012-2013.

The Maine Department of Education currently requires two credits in Social Studies for graduation. Even with this reduction in classes in social studies, Lisbon High School students will continue to be able to meet the Social Studies graduation requirement.

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Additionally, due to inadequate space and equipment needs, the Lisbon School Committee decided not to continue the ½ time Industrial Arts Program. This decision reduced the elective opportunities for students in carpentry, electricity and small engine repair. The positive news is we were able to establish a full time Jobs for Maine's Graduates (JMG) Program. The JMG Program is designed to help students be better prepared to go onto the work force or post secondary education opportunities and will help fill the elective course offering gap created by the loss of the Industrial arts program. The JMG Program is currently serving 26 students.

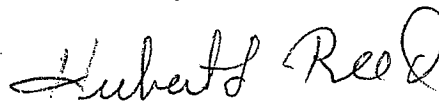
If you have any questions about this Substantive Change letter please do not hesitate to contact Lisbon High School via email khealey@lisbonschoolsme.org or call (207) 353-3030 extension number 2005.

Sincerely,



Kenneth J. Healey
Principal

Sincerely,



Pete Reed
Chair, Follow-up Committee

Cc: Mr. Richard A. Green, Superintendent, Lisbon School Department
Mrs. Traci Austin, Chair, Lisbon School Committee