



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

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

RACHELLE TOME
ACTING COMMISSIONER

December 3, 2014

Tina Meserve
Superintendent of Schools
RSU 16
3 Aggregate Road
Poland, ME 04274

Dear Superintendent Meserve:

This letter acknowledges receipt of RSU 16's request for an extension to meet the proficiency-based graduation requirements. The information and evidence presented in RSU 16's request for Extension Option 2 gives the Department reasonable confidence that the benchmarks established for the 2014 -2015 school year will be met supporting Poland High School's preparedness to award proficiency-based diplomas representing readiness for college and career experiences without the need for remediation.

Under a provision in Maine's Basic School Approval Statutes (Maine Revised Statutes 20-A §4502, subsection 8), I grant a waiver of the requirement to award proficiency-based diplomas after January 1, 2018 and extend the time to transition to proficiency-based graduation requirements to after July 1, 2018. This extension is given with trust in the good faith and effort of the staff and students of RSU 16 to work diligently to meet these benchmarks and is contingent upon an annual report to the Maine Department of Education regarding the school administrative units progress toward meeting the requirements of Maine Revised Statutes 20-A §4722-A. This annual report will be embedded in the Confirmation of Readiness application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachelle Tome".

Rachelle Tome, Acting Commissioner
Maine Department of Education