



## ICS OUTCOMES STATEMENT

Prepared January, 2019

Public schools are subject to a variety of metrics which are intended to provide predictability of success, identify the need for improvement, and justify the effort and expense invested into our young people. Perhaps the most important factor is to consider what happens at the conclusion of the educational opportunity presented by the institution, in this case the Islesboro Central School (ICS). This *Outcomes* synopsis is intended to provide glimpse into the exceptional outcomes of the student experience as provided by the ICS. At the ICS we pride ourselves in a holistic approach, which identifies the needs of each student and the provision of services, programs of study and dialog that are perhaps unparalleled in this State of Maine. The greatest predictor in educational success is one in which students' preferences evolve into meaningful choices and then the informed passionate pursuit of individual interests; we believe that a student fully engaged in active choices in pursuit of work, the trades, certified programs or higher education is a force to be reckoned with.

Through early identification of students' needs in the early grades, right through the provision of opportunities through our purposeful *Pathways* program, we empower the student and teachers through traditional and experiential learning. The *Pathways* engagement begins in middle school and individual student interests are then encouraged and supported through to graduation. Our strength in a student centered experience provides for active participation of the students; we take the time along the way to stop and empower the student in scheduled teacher/parent/guidance counselor cohort discussions, and ask the student to participate in forming their specific needs and goals. These informed choices take the best from state and federal mandatory programs, but fully recognizes that mere adherence to ever changing state and federal "standards" or "proficiencies" is not enough. We rest on the premise that well-rounded socially responsible students must actively participate in substantive choices for their course of study, which provides the foundation for happy and successful adults in later life.



While all of the above sounds good in theory, our outcomes are exceptional by any measure. In the last five years Islesboro has graduated 37 seniors, which represents a 100% graduation rate. Every student has been provided with a supported *Pathway* into work, trade school, apprenticeships with mentors in private business and industry, continued education in certified programs, community college and four year degree programs. Of the 37 students graduated in the last five years, 29 of them have gone on to pursue post-secondary education at the following institutions: The University of Maine, U. Maine Machias, University of Southern Maine, U. Maine Farmington, Thomas College, St. Joseph's College, Unity College, Bowdoin College, Tulane University, Endicott University, Barnard College, Bryant College, Smith College, Belmont University (TN), Harvard University, Dartmouth College, The University of Chicago, Mt. Holyoke College, George Washington University, Villanova University, Northwestern University, Earlham College, The Academy of the Arts, Tufts University, and the University of New Hampshire. Additionally, in the current 2018/2019 college application cycle, of the three students applying to college programs, they have been respectively admitted to M.I.T., Yale University, and the Universities of St. Andrews, Glasgow and Stirling located in Scotland. It is remarkable to note that, in the last five years, five ICS students attend or have been admitted into five of the ten most competitive colleges in the United States.

We also fully acknowledge that 4 year college programs have their limitations and may delay and impede the *Pathways* of other graduates; we must encourage a diversity of career choices. Of our pool of 37 recent graduates, one student has pursued studies at the Maine Community College system, and seven have chosen to go directly into the workforce after taking advantage of the training and certifications provided by our partner school, the Mid Coast School of Technology, in such areas as EMS, CNA, Welding, and other trades programs. Several students have pursued maritime careers in lobster and crab harvesting and Coast Guard captain licensure.

The examples of success from colleges, programs and real world work described above demonstrate that the ICS focus on individual student Outcomes is extraordinarily successful. We are committed to teach and learn from each student who attends the ICS.