

Joint Meeting of
Chittenden Central Supervisory Union Local Boards
Essex High School Library
Essex Junction, VT
6:30PM, Monday, April 16, 2007

Minutes

U46 Board Members Present: Jeff Culkin, G Miller, Jack Behlendorf, Jonathan Chappel-Sokol, Al bombardier, Robert Simms

Prudential Committee Members Present: Linda Waite-Simpson, Charlee Day, Brenda Dawson Crocket, Dave Riester

Westford Board Members Present: Martha Heath, Beth Lane, Jennifer Townsend, Allison Weinhagen

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy Prince, Paul O'Brian, Linda Keating, Erin Maguire, Grant Geisler, Rob Reardon, Pat Hartnet

Linda Waite-Simpson called the meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 6:35PM. Jeff Culkin called the meeting of U46 Board to order at 6:35PM. Martha Heath called the meeting of the Westford School Board to order at 6:35PM.

Educational Presentation:

Erin Maguire presented the board with an overview of the SU's Educational Support System Intervention model. There are four components to our intervention for students who are struggling or who are at risk: building-based EST guidelines, math interventions, literacy interventions and behavioral interventions. There are three tiers to the math, literacy and behavioral components: core, supplemental and intensive. Students are evaluated for appropriate interventions based on response to instruction. Erin reported that Essex High School has developed the most systematic approach to response to instruction/failure of any high school in the state. High school professionals work diligently with students to ensure that have the most successful outcome possible. Key aspects of their work are:

- Accountability
- Published reports and results
- One database to capture information, accessible to all teachers
- Collaboration between teachers
- Sustainability of the process

Erin also reported that the task team working on the above model has also drafted grade level power standards for literacy that are linked to Vermont standards. A draft copy of "Guaranteed Viable Curriculum Literacy Safety Net" was provided to the board.

Al Bombardier recommended that the task team mandate rather than suggest that certain actions be taken at the individual building level. Erin responded that the expectations are taken very seriously, regardless of the semantics in the building level recommendations.

Web-Site Development

Judy Prince reported that Steve Herr continues to work on the new web-site and that it has been vetted through the Building Blocks Task Team as well as the Educational Leadership Team. The new site will be available for preview at the May Pillars of Planning meeting.

AYP

Linda Keating reported on Annual Yearly Progress requirement of No Child Left Behind or how closely we met established measurable objective targets as schools and as 'at risk' subgroups. There were two influences this year: 1) Essex Junction School District was identified as not meeting progress benchmarks, although no individual school within the district was identified (due to the small size of the subgroups at the individual school level); 2) the high school progress was based only on graduation rates due to the transition away from NSRE and the unavailability of test scores for comparison. The high school met their progress benchmark by graduating 85% of their students (they were required to graduate 70%.) Next year, the target benchmark will be the 11th grade October scores in reading and math. Essex Junction School District had 61 students that did not meet yearly progress benchmarks, however, these students are spread out over 4 schools and as such, no individual school was identified as failing. The Vermont DoE does not supply the same level of support when a district is identified as failing as they do when a school is identified. Linda reported that the district improvement plan does address this at each school and that we are closing the gap with the subgroup of students on free and reduced lunch, especially in math. She stated that the irony of this model is that disabled students who are identified as needing additional support because of a lack of response to instruction (through the intervention model) are the students who are not meeting the annual yearly progress benchmarks in regular education. Linda reported that Westford School District met their targets this year.

School Scheduling

Judy Prince reported that the Educational Leadership Team is looking at school start times in a preK-12 lens to ensure the interconnectedness of services. Administration will make a recommendation at a future meeting.

Unified Union School District

Mike Deweese reported that the UU Articles were approved by the State Board of Education on April 10, 2007. He has suggested that we have a joint meeting with Essex Town School Board on April 30 to discuss the following:

- implications of a unified school district
- roles of local boards and board members during the communication phase, May-November 2007
- roles of boards during the transition period (through June, 2009) should the communities vote to unified their school districts
- roles of central office staff both at CCSU and ET during the communication phase and the transition phase
- budget implications

Jonathan Chappel-Sokol suggested that the agenda for the 30th be an informational meeting and that we need an additional meeting to discuss the above points. Martha Heath stated that new board members may need education but the boards as a whole are already up to date. She is very concerned about the communication with the community - what is the role of the local school board vs. board members vs. study committee members during this May-November timeframe? She encouraged the study committee to ramp up their communication efforts. It was the consensus of the boards that Mike work with the UU study committee members to frame the agenda for the 30th. Kent Booraem, Chair of the Unified Union Study Committee, stated that the first communication piece was produced as soon as the State Board of Education approved the articles (last week) and he provided that brochure to all board members. There was a short discussion of the difference between education/explanation and advocacy and that we need to include that topic in the discussion with Essex Town School Board.

At this time, the Westford School Board reconvened at another location in the library to continue their local meeting.

Service Model

Erin made recommendations to the U46 board and the Prudential Committee which are included in their individual consent agendas to be voted on later in the evening. The shift from para-educators to professional staff (an intervention facilitator at

the high school and math and literacy support at the EJ K-8 schools) is cost neutral and will better position the district to meet the needs of students.

Executive Session

Linda Waite-Simpson made a motion to move the Prudential Committee to executive session to discuss collective bargaining. Motion seconded by Charlee Day. Motion passed 4-0.

G Miller made a motion to move the U46 Board to executive session to discuss collective bargaining. Motion seconded by Jack Behlendorf. Motion passed 6-0.

The joint boards returned to open session at 7:50PM. The joint meeting of the boards was adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Waite-Simpson
Clerk of the CCSU Board

Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
Prudential Committee School Board Meeting
Essex High School Library
April 16, 2007
7:50 PM

Board Members Present: Linda Waite-Simpson, Charlee Day, Brenda Dawson-Crocket, Dave Riester

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy Prince, Grant Geisler, Erin Maguire, Paul O'Brien, Linda Keating, Bruce Murdough

Others Present: Nathan Hawley, John Mudgett, Tim Jerman, Larry Yandow, Deb Billado, John Lajza.

Call to order: Paul O'Brien called the meeting to order at 7:59.

Board Re-Organization.

Charlee Day moved to nominate Linda Waite-Simpson as Board Chair. Motion seconded by Brenda Dawson-Crocket. Motion passed 4-0.

Charlee Day moved to nominate Brenda Dawson-Crocket as Board Vice Chair. Motion seconded by Dave Riester. Motion passed 4-0.

Brenda Dawson-Crocket moved to nominate Charlee Day as Board Clerk. Motion seconded by Dave Riester. Motion passed 4-0.

Charlee Day moved to nominate Linda Waite-Simpson Brenda Dawson-Crocket and Charlee Day as the Board CCSU Representatives. Motion seconded by Brenda Dawson-Crocket. Motion passed 4-0.

Charlee Day moved to authorize Chair to appoint members to task groups and standing committees. Motion seconded by Dave Riester. Motion passed 4-0. Linda Waite-Simpson appointed the following committee members to CCSU Task Team positions:

- Building Blocks - Brenda Dawson-Crocket
- Leaders at Work - Linda Waite-Simpson
- Future Framers - Charlee Day

Charlee Day moved to appoint Christopher Leopold of Wells, Haug and Leopold as legal counsel for the Prudential Committee. Brenda Dawson-Crocket seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Brenda Dawson-Crocket moved to continue to hold monthly Prudential Committee Meetings on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 in the ADL Cafeteria. Motion seconded by Dave Riester. Motion passed 4-0.

Charlee Day moved to authorize Superintendent to accept and administer external grants and funds. Motion seconded by Dave Riester. Motion passed 4-0.

Brenda Dawson-Crocket moved to authorize payment of warrants prior to Board approval. Motion seconded by Dave Riester. Motion passed 4-0.

Visitors to be heard: N/A

FY'06 Audit Overview

Nathan Hawley and John Mudgett from the Audit firm of Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner presented an overview of the EJSD FY06 Financial Audit.

Discussion with the Village Trustees

Continuing the tradition of jointly meetings throughout the year, the Board met with the Village Trustees. Conversation included:

- A review of the efficacy of the new stop sign at the intersection of Groove and Central Streets which seems to be working well.
- The future of local facilities and buildings use, including Park Street School.
- Unified Union Update.
- Coordination of future voting dates.
- EJ Parks and Rec: Trustees expressed an interest in taking over management. Board agreed to look at this after the November 6, 2007 UUSC vote.

Review of Annual Meeting.

Board overview of the results and process of Annual Meeting. Budget passed by a 3-2 margin with just under 10% voter turnout. Mike Dewese opened a discussion of what might motivate higher voter turnout for next year.

ADL Correspondence

The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from an ADL student requesting consideration of a later school start time. The Board requested the Superintendent meaningfully study this topic for presentation at a future board meeting.

Essex Skate Park Update

"Skate the J" has been renamed to "Essex Skate Park" and is moving forward.

Consent Agenda:

- Approval of March 19, 2007 meeting minutes.
- Approval of Warrants.
- Authorize new positions.
- Approve Professional Appointments.
- Ratify Support Staff (2006-2009) Master Agreement.
- Accept Board Member Beth Ward's resignation with regrets.
- Accept Resignation of Recreation and Parks Director Peter Selikowitz with regrets.

Charlee Day moved to approve the consent agenda items. Brenda Dawson-Crocket. Motion passed 4-0.

Future Agenda items:

- Summer work plan scheduled.

- Recreation and Parks Advisory Counsel update.
- Capital Improvements.

Charlee Day moved to enter into executive session at 9:10 PM to discuss personnel. Dave Riester seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

The Board returned to open session at 9:22 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22PM

Respectfully submitted,
Charlee Day
Clerk of the Prudential Committee