

Chittenden Central Supervisory Union Board  
Essex High School Library  
Essex Junction, VT  
6:00PM, Monday, April 16, 2007

Minutes

Board Members Present: Jeff Culkin, G Miller, Beth Lane, Linda Waite-Simpson, Al Bombardier, Martha Heath

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

Jeff Culkin called the meeting to order at 6:04PM.

There were no visitors to be heard.

**G Miller made a motion to accept the first four items of the consent agenda:**

- Approval of Minutes of January 29, 2007
- Approval of Warrants
- Adopt AY'08 School Calendar
- Adopt AY'08 Board Meeting Calendar

**Motion seconded by Martha Heath.** Mike Deweese reported that the Essex Junction School District had requested an additional day in the spring for Parent Teacher Conferences, to be exchanged for a professional development day. The Prudential Committee will discuss the calendar change and approach the CCSU board with the noted changes. **Motion passed 6-0.**

**Linda Waite-Simpson made a motion to approve the FY'08 SU Budget in the amount of \$2,719,703. Motion seconded by Martha Heath.** G Miller asked if adopting this budget before the high school has a successful budget vote would limit their options. Mike reported that it would take a very large reduction at the SU level in order to have a real impact on the high school's budget. Linda Waite-Simpson asked if moving Property Services completely over to the SU budget (vs. being a shared cost) might have made a difference in the total high school increase since the stated

budget amount on the ballot does not account for revenues. Locating this cost item in the high school budget might make their budget look artificially higher than it really is. The bottom line assessments to local boards would not change since they are already shared services - it would require shifting the items from one budget category to another, but it would mean that the high school budget would not be the 'home' of this kind of SU-wide budget item. Mike reported that if we don't approve the SU budget at this meeting, he will lose the appropriate hiring window for the Education Technology Specialist. Martha asked if we could grant the superintendent specific hiring authority for that position since it is fully funded only by the K-8 school districts, Essex Junction and Westford. After discussion, it was decided that we would leave the budget alone this year but stressed the importance of locating these cost items in the appropriate budget next year. **Motion passed 5-1, (G Miller opposed.)**

## **Policy**

Paul O'Brian reported that the policy sub-committee has nearly completed their review of Section A of the policy manual, Foundations and Basic Commitments. It was the consensus of the sub-committee that many of the policies in this section should be removed because they were either redundant or were archival and historic documents but not policy. Slated for first reading for removal are the following:

- Policy AA: School District Legal Status (historic, archival)
- Policy AB: The People and Their School District (redundant)
- Policy AC: Non-discrimination (being replaced by contemporary policy to have first reading later in this meeting)
- Policy ACA: Non-discrimination on the Basis of Gender (included in the revised contemporary Policy AC)
- Procedure ACA-R: Procedure for Grieving Alleged Gender-Based Discrimination
- Removal of Procedure AE-R: Supervisory Union Goals and Objectives (replaced by contemporary Pillars of Planning model.)

**Martha Heath made a motion to remove the above policies and procedures for first reading. Motion seconded by Al Bombardier. Motion passed 6-0.**

**Al Bombardier made a motion to accept Policy JEE: Attendance (a county-wide effort to have a consistent method of dealing with truancy); and Policy AC: Non-discrimination (a contemporary revision that identifies all legally protected classes) for first reading. Martha Heath seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.**

**Al Bombardier made a motion to accept Policy JIE: Wellness and Policy JHCE: Nits and Head Lice for second reading. Motion seconded by Martha Heath.** Paul O'Brian noted that the Wellness policy has been in development for over a year and has been vetted by a number of internal groups as well as the policy sub-committee and that it is the consensus of all parties that the policy allows practical procedures to be set by the SU board vs. mandatory procedures. Al asked if the policy will prevent the tech center food program from expanding service to after-school events and it was reported that it would not impact that expansion. The policy states that healthy foods must be available but does not prohibit sale of other foods. Linda Waite-Simpson noted that there was a minor change of the Policy on Nits and Head Lice not included in this version. Administration distributed the corrected policy. **Motion passed 6-0.**

The board adjourned at 6:32PM.

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