

Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
Prudential Committee School Board Meeting
Chittenden Central Supervisory Union Conference Room
27 New England Drive
Essex Junction, VT
August 14, 2006
6:30PM

Board Members Present: Dan Overton, Beth Ward, Marla Durham, Charlee Day, and Linda Waite-Simpson

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy Prince, Grant Geisler

Others Present: Bruce Murdough

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM

Visitors to be heard: Anne O'Neill and Chuck Barry asked to comment about the holiday policy later in the meeting.

Committee Updates:

1. Unified Union Study Committee - Dan Overton and Beth Ward reported that their work is nearly complete. They anticipate a final vote on all charter issues sometime in September. As such, the Prudential Committee asked for significant agenda time in September to review work to date. Dan and Beth will provide PC members with details in the September organizational notes.
2. Building Blocks Task Team (CCSU) - Linda Waite-Simpson reported that a comprehensive communication plan will be presented at the September Pillars of Planning meeting (September 25.) This group will be asking for resources to fund a complete redesign of the district website.
3. Leaders At Work Task Team (CCSU) - Dan Overton reported that a comprehensive written plan to review and overhaul board policies has been developed. This plan will be presented to the CCSU at the Pillars of Planning meeting.
4. Education Leadership Team - Judy Prince provided a comprehensive update from numerous meetings held over the summer.

- The CCSU Handbook has been redesigned with improvements to target increased return of parent/student informational forms. The information collected at the school building level will be included in the student profile available through the SASI system. Teachers will be able to access this information as well as student performance data (DAR, Gates-MacGinitie and NECAP.)
 - Judy reported that through EPSDT, Title IV and Tobbacco grant money, CCSU was able to hire Deb Henry (former ADL nurse) as a Prevention/Wellness Coordinator (CCSU district-wide position.) Wellness work will include developing a health index baseline for all district students. The index will be used to help determine the effectiveness of district wellness policies and initiatives.
 - The Ed Leadership Team is currently working on a Comprehensive Plan for Continuous Development and School Action Plans - these reports will be presented to the Prudential Committee at their September meeting.
 - Judy also provided a preview of Food Service News to be distributed to all students with their new handbook. School lunch prices will increase this year to \$2.25 for lunch and \$1.25 for breakfast. Increases are driven primarily by increased transportation costs. As part of CCSU's commitment to wellness initiatives, some of the changes to the food service program this year will include access to "MySchoolAccount" which will allow parents to monitor their child's food selections; an earlier start time to the breakfast program at ADL; inclusion of locally-produced foods with healthy ingredients; elimination of soda from all vending machines.
5. Negotiations - district negotiations with the teachers' union is at an impasse. Issues will proceed to the fact-finding level after Labor Day. The fact-finders report is due back to the district and union within 30 days.
 6. Other business - Vermont Secretary of Commerce Kevin Dorn has arranged for the Quebec Premier to visit ADL on September 15.

Holidays - Marla Durham and Linda Waite-Simpson presented their proposed changes to the Religious Holidays and School policy (IND.) Marla and Linda suggested that the Prudential Committee consider creating a new policy which would deal exclusively with issues around celebrations. This item will

be discussed at the September meeting after PC members and administration have had time to review and reflect on the proposed changes.

Summer Renovation Update - Bruce Murdough and Grant Geisler reported that the renovations to the gym at ADL are nearly complete (bleachers will be delivered and installed mid-September); curbing and new sidewalks are in place at ADL and paving will begin this week; the drain in the restroom at Fleming has been repaired; Holy Family parking lot sealing and striping will be done over the next 10 days. Board members asked that ADL include communication to parents around the new drop-off/pick-up routine along with their "Welcome Back" informational packet.

Citizen Advisory Committee - Dan Overton and Marla Durham reported that this group has met 2 times and will meet again. They will have a detailed report on the potential use of capital reserve fund for the Prudential Committee in September. It was noted that citizens appointed to this committee have not attended the meetings and that there will be a need for public feedback around this issue.

Funds Transfer Policy and Bidding and Purchasing Policy - Grant Geisler presented proposed changes to these two policies in order to bring them into alignment with current Vermont statutes and practices. This issue will be presented to the CCSU board at their September meeting.

ADL Extra Stipend Duty - Mike Dewese explained that the drama stipend was eliminated at ADL a few years back due to budget cuts. There is a renewed interest in the community around reinstating this position and in providing appropriate opportunities for middle school children to participate in a school-wide drama production. **Motion by Beth Ward to reinstate the drama advisor position/stipend not to exceed \$1,500. Motion seconded by Marla Durham. Motion passed 5-0.**

Policy Development and Revision Guidance - Dan Overton presented this information as part of the CCSU Leaders at Work report (see page 1.)

2006 Accountability Reports - Judy Prince reported that the accountability reports, per the Vermont Department of Education, are the result of the No Child Left Behind Act and that we are testing **all** students. Schools are

being identified as not meeting "Adequate Yearly Progress" (failing) due to the requirement that all disability groups be tested in the same manner as other students and that this may not be the best measurement of progress for these children. Due to the fact that this is the first year the NECAP was administrated to all students in grades 3-8, the 'safe harbor' provision cannot be applied to the Spring 2006 AYP decision. Results of district accountability reports (based on standardized student testing) will be analyzed to determine the specifics of the Comprehensive Plan for Continuous Improvement and School Action Plans (to be presented by Linda Keating in September.)

Consent Agenda - Motion by Beth Ward to approve the consent agenda with changes noted to June 19 and July 24 minutes and a return condition placed on the leave of absence request. Motion seconded by Charlee Day. Motion passed 5-0.

Future Agenda Items:

- Professional Appointments (we may need a special meeting before the start of school for this)
- Unified Union update and review (allow 45 minutes). Beth and Dan will provide details with the organizational notes to be distributed prior to the meeting.
- Holiday Policy and Proposed Policy on Celebrations - both board member feedback and administration feedback to be presented
- Citizens Advisory Facilities Committee report
- Skate the J (postponed from August meeting)
- Linda Keating's presentation on the district Comprehensive Plan for Continuous Improvement and School Action Plans
- Early Economic Indicators for budget development

Motion by Linda Waite-Simpson to enter executive session to discuss board self-evaluation and negotiations at 9:03PM. Motion seconded by Beth Ward. Motion passed 5-0.

The board returned to open session at 9:39PM. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Waite-Simpson
Clerk of the Prudential Committee