

CCSU Common School Board Meeting
Essex Junction School District
Union 46 High School District
Westford School District
Essex High School Library
December 11, 2006, 6:30PM

Board Members Present:

- U-46 – Jeff Culkin, G Miller, Robert Simms, Jack Behlendorf, Al Bombardier
- Prudential Committee – Linda Waite-Simpson, Brenda Dawson-Crocket, Marla Durham, Beth Ward
- Westford – Martha Heath, Allison Weinhagen, Jennifer Townsend, Andre Roy, Beth Lane

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy Prince, Linda Keating, Grant Geisler, Robb Reardon, Kathy Finck, Vince Gonillo,

Others Present: Dave Willey and Rosalind Andreas from the Unified Union Study Committee.

Call to order: Linda Waite-Simpson called the meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 6:34PM; Jeff Culkin called the meeting of the Union 46 High School Board to order at 6:34PM; and Martha Heath called the meeting of the Westford School Board to order at 6:34PM.

Visitors to be heard: There were no visitors to be heard.

Education Technology Plan - Linda Keating presented the boards with an update on the status of the CCSU Education Technology Plan. The current plan expires at the end of June 2007 and she is working with a committee to develop a new plan which will be in effect through 2011. The committee consists of administration, teachers, information technology specialists, library and media specialist and at least one parent. The technology plan is required by the federal government (No Child Left Behind) and the Vermont Department of Education.

Technology goals identified so far include:

- Establishing an overarching vision for technology proficiency and integration that provides clear direction for all CCSU members
- Developing grade level curriculum-based strategies and practices in order to enhance student learning
- Providing professional development that reflects clear relationships to standards of learning.

Linda identified the action steps necessary to implement the goals and these steps will become a part of the plan to be submitted to the VT DoE. In addition to meeting NCLB requirements, this plan must also address technological integration, technological

literacy, professional development, effective teaching practices, assessment of student technological literacy, leadership, budget implications, an implementation plan and evaluation. Highlights of the focus of the new plan are:

- Working with a Technology Integration Specialist (new position proposed in the CCSU 2008 budget)
- Completion and implementation of clear curricular framework for technology integration
- Professional development
- Student Assessment
- Full integration of library/medial specialists into planning.

Al Bombardier asked if teachers understood where they are going under the new plan and Linda responded that we should communicate the directions we are moving in over a 4 year plan and that perhaps that communication should accompany the CCSU vision statement. Al also asked if it would be preferable to bring in consultants to work in professional development. Linda responded that because of budget constraints, we are almost always in a position to use consultants to ‘train the trainer’ rather than the broader spectrum of teachers.

Unified Union Update – The study committee has postponed their vote on the school district merger until the fall of 2007 in order to provide distance from the difficulties that are developing on the municipal merger issue. A communication sub-committee has been established to coordinate communications after the study group has voted on the charter. There has been progress in reaching consensus on many individual articles although there are several key parts that the group continues to debate. Some of the outstanding articles are going to require decisions and consensus at the local board level before the study group can move forward. Facilitator Brian O’Regan has been appointed to a position with the Vermont Department of Education and will be vacating his position with the study group. Study group members expressed their sincere appreciation for his outstanding contribution to their work. It is expected that this group will finalize the charter early in 2007.

Task Team Updates:

- Building Blocks Task Team has published a request for proposal for the development of a new web-page. Proposals are due on December 15.
- Policy Sub-Committee met for the second time on December 4. They are in the process of setting priorities on what work needs to be done; determining how they will structure their work; and also determining how they will communication and involve various stakeholders in their work. The next meeting is scheduled for December 19.
- Future Framing model was adopted at the last CCSU board meeting.

The group board meeting recessed at 7:30PM.

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

**Chittenden Center Supervisory Union
Prudential Committee School Board Meeting
Essex High School – Room B117
Essex Junction, VT
December 11, 2007, 7:35 PM**

Minutes

Board Members Present: Linda Waite-Simpson, Beth Ward, Brenda Dawson-Crocket, Marla Durham, Charlee Day (7:50 PM)

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy Prince, Laurie Singer, Kevin Barber, Linda Keating

Others Present: Sun Ray Security personnel, Diane Clemens

Call to order: Linda Waite-Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM

Visitors to be Heard: N/A

Park Street School: Currently in use with ACE leasing and a temporary occupancy by IT while the high school is under renovation. Mike stated that we need a long term plan for Park Street School property. The Unified Union Study Committee does not want to take on additional debt when they are in a start-up mode and this building will need at least \$1 million to fit up. The Prudential Committee has committed \$650,000 toward renovations and absent a long term educational or community purpose for the building, no renovations have been done to date. Some options to consider:

- 1) Keep the building local (lease)
- 2) Aggressive search for future tenants – public and/or governmental uses.
- 3) \$650,000 cap of Prudential Committee dollars.

Administration asked for board permission to proceed with seeking potential long term tenant. It was the consensus of the board that administration should proceed with the search.

Unified Union Study Committee: There are two issues emerging for the Prudential Committee as a result of this study committee. First, the UUSC has advised that they do not want to take on additional debt at the onset and would prefer to make use of pre-existing facilities. Potential sites for central office have been identified as:

- 1) Essex Town Supervisory office.
- 2) 21 New England Drive.

UUSC expressed interested in Park Street School, but not at additional expense. Mike Deweese recommends the Prudential Committee think about this broadly and to have a long term plan that does not necessarily include a unified school district.

Mike Deweese also noted that the ownership of the Saxon Hill property which is currently under lease to Essex Town Parks Dept. would pass on to the new unified school district should there be a positive vote. Marla Durham asked that we check with the Village Trustees on this issue to make sure that they do not want to take it back into municipal ownership.

Skate the J: Skate the J is an ad hoc citizens group trying to raise funds for a skate park. The Village owns the land at Maple Street Park (the Trustees must approve the site) and the Prudential Committee (through its management of the recreation programming) is prepared to assume operational oversight. Essex CHIPS is serving Skate the J as a fiduciary agent. Once a formalized agreement is entered into, Skate the J will float an RFP for the skate park, with an official price of acquisition. Once this money is raised (through Essex CHIPS) they will transfer to the funds to EJRP who will be responsible for the installation and operational oversight. It is anticipated that the agreement will be in place by the end of January with a 12 to 18 month timeline for completion.

Curriculum Power Standard: Linda Keating presented on the SU-wide work to date on the establishments of Power Standards. Linda reviewed the need for Power Standards and how curriculum committees “unpack” content standards and develop essential questions.

Middle School Directions: Laurie Singer and Kevin Barber presented a slideshow on the needs of middle school students, contemporary middle school philosophy and the specific directions they, along with the teachers, are leading ADL.

Enrollment: Bill Smith has compiled enrollment projection data. Judy Prince presented this data. With full year kindergarten now installed in the District, enhanced stability is likely. It is anticipated that student population in Essex Junction will remain stable over the next decade.

Charlee Day made a motion to award the Security/Camera Upgrade Bid to Vortech Security and Communications in the amount of \$51,365.00 as recommended by the superintendent. Marla Durham seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Beth Ward motioned to enter into executive session at 9:51 PM to discuss collective bargaining and a personnel matter. Marla Durham seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

The Board returned to open session at 10:12 PM

Marla Durham Motioned to accept Leave of Absence with Administration's recommended and conditions by Marla Durham, seconded by Beth Ward; Motion passed 5-0.

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of November 13, 2006 Meeting Minutes
- 2) Approval of Warrant
- 3) Accept Donations
- 4) Accept Retirements
- 5) Accept Bid for ADL Science Lab – Beth would like weigh in from the three science teachers before we accept this bid. She would like a consensus that their needs are being met. It was agreed that this agenda item would be tabled until there is time for teacher feedback and we would vote on this item in a special meeting within a week.

Charlee Day motioned to approve the consent agenda with Approval to Accept the Bid for the ADL Science Lab and Ratification of the Support Staff Agreements pulled. Marla Durham seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Future Agenda Items:

- Future Framing Discussion
- Essex Junction Recreation and Parks Needs Assessment
- End of year report/mid-year financial status
- Unified Union School District

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlee Day
Clerk of the Prudential Committee