

1 **PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**  
2 **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
3 **EHS LIBRARY**  
4 **2 EDUCATIONAL DRIVE, ESSEX JUNCTION, VT**  
5 **Monday, October 17, 2011**  
6

7 **MINUTES**

8 **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Charlee Day, David Riester, Michael Smith, John Gazo,  
9 Marla Durham

10 **OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Martha Heath, Andre Roy, Mark Drapa, Jack  
11 Behlendorf ,Albert Bombardier, Erin Knox, Lezlee Sprenger, Allison Weinhalen (Missing were  
12 Ryan McLaren, Brian Donahue, Marilyn McConnell)

13 **ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Michael Deweese, Judy DeNova, Grant Geisler, Amy Cole,  
14 Robert Reardon, Bob Travers

15 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Andrea Sharp, Joshua Sharp

16 Charlee Day, Chair of the Prudential Committee and CCSU Board, called the meeting to order at  
17 6:30P.M.

18 **Common Board Topics:**

19 -Michael Deweese and Judy DeNova briefed the boards about current improvements to their web  
20 site. The Parent Portal was available to Westford, EHS, and CTE students and parents on  
21 October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Judy demonstrated how to navigate within the Parent Portal. A large number of  
22 students and parents are already using the Parent Portal.

23  
24 -Amy Cole shared with board members the initial findings of the Science NECAP scores. Please  
25 see attached report.

26  
27 -Jack Behlendorf , one of the Executive Committee Chairs, discussed the direction of a pending  
28 School Climate Advisory Committee to include teachers, principals and board members.

29  
30 - At a prior meeting, the board members charged the Leaders at Work Committee with  
31 developing a revised Superintendent's evaluation model. Michael Deweese updated the boards  
32 with the progress to date. Please see attached report/examples of the committee's work.

33  
34 The three boards recessed at 7:15 P.M.

35  
36 The Prudential Committee reconvened at 7:19 PM in the Library Periodicals section and was  
37 joined by Superintendent Michael Deweese.

38 Prudential Committee Minutes

39 October 17, 2011 - (Continued)

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41 **Visitors to be Heard: None**

42 **Principal's Reports:**

43 Marla Durham briefly summarized the principals' reports for Albert D. Lawton, Summit Street,  
44 Thomas J. Fleming and Hiawatha schools.

45

46 • All schools are utilizing professional coaches/consultants to meet their Action Plan  
47 Goals. Respectful learning is similar with each school having their own twist.

48 • All open houses have been held and were successful. Next year the board should  
49 consider planning and communicating around these events that have the largest draw and  
50 turnout of parents.

51 • Parent/teacher conferences for Summit have been held. Hiawatha, Fleming and ADL  
52 will take place in the next week.

53 • Fleming School is very excited about their student fundraising for Irene, because it has  
54 positively impacted three communities.

55 • Kelly McClintock, 2010 Teacher of the Year Award, presented photos and an audio tape  
56 of her trip to Ghana to the Thomas Fleming staff during inservice.

57 • Fleming attributes their increase in Science NECAP scores, from 53% to 59% of  
58 students meeting/exceeding standards, to their 3-year constructive response with writing.

59 • Summit reports Dave Riester was awarded a \$1,000 IBM grant for the Four Winds  
60 Science Program.

61 • Essex Junction Planning Commission will be reviewing Summit's natural playground  
62 design. The Natural Playground Committee still needs volunteers.

63 • Hiawatha teacher, Mary Beth Funtow, will be honored on October 19<sup>th</sup> at the UVM  
64 Outstanding Teacher Recognition Event.

65 • Hiawatha reports that the newly funded .5 Math Specialist and 1.0 Math Specialist Tutor  
66 have completed math assessments for grades K-3. First time a body of assessment work  
67 on this scale has been accomplished.

68 • Hiawatha had 133 referrals to the time away room or Principal's office. Over 6 weeks,  
69 one child was responsible for 50 and 5 students for 100 incidents. To ensure a safe  
70 learning environment, considerable effort and programming have been put in place to  
71 support these children.

72 • Each ADL student shared in the responsibility of creating a school-wide social contract,  
73 which is hanging in the cafeteria.

74 • ADL is interested in 1:1 computing for students. Students should be assessed on content  
75 knowledge instead of computing ability.

76 • The PC Board is interested in important events that happen to the teachers and staff  
77 (births, death, etc.) and want this information included in the Principals' reports.

78 • Parts of the principals' report can be excluded--principals will suggest changes.

79

80 Michael Smith volunteered to review the Principals' Reports for the November meeting with  
81 John Gazo serving as back up.

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83 October 17, 2011 - (Continued)

84

85 **Review of Meeting with Village Trustees:**

86 Marla Durham, Michael Smith and Charlee Day attended the village trustee meeting. The  
87 meeting was successful with discussion on the village-wide WiFi. The trustees voted to move  
88 ahead with looking into the village-wide WiFi further. Michael Deweese and Charlee Day  
89 charged to further discuss the village-wide WiFi . Three members from the PC board and three  
90 members from the Board of Trustees to meet for further WiFi discussion. It is too early to  
91 discuss price tag for the WiFi.

92

93 *David Riester moved and Michael Smith seconded the motion for the PC Board to move*  
94 *forward with the WiFi discussion. The motion passed 5 – 0.*

95 **Receive NESDEC PreK-8 Long-Range School Facilities Report:**

96 Michael Deweese briefly spoke about the written report. The board agreed to break the draft into  
97 two parts. Draft Sections A-I to be discussed in the November meeting capping at a 30 minute  
98 discussion to make it more manageable.

99

100 *Dave Riester moved and Michael Smith seconded the motion to receive the NESDEC PreK-8*  
101 *Long-Range School Facilities Report. The motion passed 5 - 0.*

102

103 **Consent Agenda:**

104 The Consent Agenda consisted of: approval of warrants, approval of September 7 and August 22,  
105 2011 meeting minutes, recommendation for Professional Appointment, and VSBIT Annual  
106 Meeting Proxy Vote.

107

108 *Marla Durham moved and David Riester seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.*  
109 *The motion passed 5 - 0.*

110

111 **Executive Session:**

112 *David Riester moved and Michael Smith seconded the motion to move into executive session at*  
113 *7:55 PM to discuss evaluations. The motion passed 5 -0.*

114

115 **Executive Session: Evaluation**

116 **The board re-entered open session at 8:51 PM.**

117

118 **Preliminary Board Goal-Setting:**

- 119 1. Training on roles and responsibilities (20 minute refresher)
- 120 2. Communication
- 121 3. Public engagement and interaction (discuss location of meetings)
- 122 4. Calendar for goal setting and evaluation of goals (Michael Smith, David Riester and John
- 123 Gazo are responsible for setting goals.)

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127 5. Lists need to be compiled on what has been accomplished this year, what has worked  
128 successfully, and what hasn't for the budget discussion.

129

130 **Future Agenda Items:**

- 131 • Beginning of budget discussion
- 132 • NESDEC PreK-8 Long-Range School Facilities Report, Sections A-I (30 minute  
133 cap)
- 134 • Climate Committee CSSU
- 135 • Goal drafts
- 136 • Summary of Principals' Reports by Michael Smith

137

138 **Post-Meeting Communication Opportunities:**

- 139 • Summit Street School - Fun Run on October 31, 2011
- 140 • Thomas J. Fleming School – Fun Run on November 6, 2011
- 141 • Planning Commission - Reviewing natural playground – October 20, 2011 (warn  
142 if more than 3 members plan to attend)

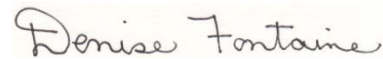
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145 **The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.**

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**Respectfully submitted,**



**Denise Fontaine**

**Board Recorder**

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School climate can affect our students and their learning processes. Through various inputs during the past year, including (but not limited to) data delivered as a result of the Vermont "Challenges for Change" law, the K-12 Insights report, surveys conducted by the Essex Junction / Westford Educational Association, and Administration reports to our various boards, it is the view of the Executive Committee (Board Chairs from U46, PC and Westford) that we measure, track, analyze, and inform school climate to our stakeholders. Furthermore, it is the Board's interest to establish longitudinal school climate information for an understanding of organizational trends for potential CCSU policy implications.

"School Climate" can be defined as "The process of measuring the subjective experiences and perceptions of a school's stakeholders. School climate is the set of dimensions present within the school environment, perceived directly or indirectly, which shape or color the opinions of the school's students, employees, parents, and community members."

Elements of School climate may include the dimensions of Teaching and Learning, Relationships, Morale, Structural; Safety; Environmental; Sense of School Community; Peer Norms; School-Home-Community Partnerships); and Learning Community. The CCSU Executive Committee has proposed (within CCSU policy and consistent with our student-centered, continuous improvement vision) formation of an Advisory Committee to consider these (and perhaps other) elements of School Climate, and charge that committee to make recommendations for positive steps to improve our school's climate. It is anticipated that the Advisory Committee will have seven to nine members, comprised of CCSU teachers and staff, administrators, and board members.

Drafts of the Committee's Charge are still being developed. The Superintendent, working with members of the EJWEA, <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ developing the final wording and recommending committee membership to the CCSU Board. The deliverables from the Advisory Committee will be made to the CCSU board by the end of this fiscal year.

It is expected that the final Committee Charge and committee membership assignments will be reviewed and approved by the CCSU Board, next Monday, Oct 24.

ATTACHMENT A

