

The Union #46 School Board



Jack Behlendorf, Board Chair: Jack was elected to the U#46 School Board from Essex Junction in 2006, and has been Board Chairman since April, 2010. A Village resident since 1988, Jack and his wife have two grown children, both of whom completed CCSU schools from kindergarten through EHS. He is currently employed as a program manager with General Dynamics Armament & Technical Products, having previously been employed by IBM in Essex Junction. Jack has served on the Chittenden County Court Diversion board since 2005. He qualified as a US Navy Surface Warfare Officer and Engineering Duty Officer, retiring as a Commander in 2004. Jack graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, and received his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University of Virginia.



Brian Donahue, Board Member: Brian is Vice-President for Finance and Operations/CFO at VT Public Radio and previously served as Chief Operations Officer for CCSU. Brian oversaw the early development of the Saint Michael College's MOVE (Mobilization of Volunteer Efforts) program and was the executive director of a hands-on children's museum in Essex Junction. Brian has also coached youth sports, served on various boards/committees, and participated in the coordination of the Essex Youth Soccer program for a number of years. He holds a BA in Political Science from Saint Michael's College and an MBA from Concordia University in Montreal. He and his wife Linda lived in Essex Town for 11 years and now reside in Essex Junction; they have children attending Essex High School and Fleming.



Al Bombardier, Board Clerk: Al has served as a board member for 10 years, with experience on the Union #46 School Board and the CCSU Board. He currently serves as an Essex Town representative to the board and is employed by the Department of Homeland Security. A former IBM employee, Al graduated from St. Michaels College with a Master of Science in the Administration and Advanced Management Studies Program. Additionally, Al holds a BS in Business Administration from Trinity College. Originally from St. Albans, Al has served his country in the military and has lived in Essex Town for 30 years with his wife Marie. Their three children are all graduates of Essex schools.



Lezlee Sprenger, Member: Lezlee is an Essex Town representative for the U#46 School Board with a daughter at EHS and a son in the Town schools. She and her family have resided in Essex Town for 12 years. Lezlee has worked for the Speaker's Office in the Canadian House of Commons and for Southwest Airlines' Governmental Affairs Department in Texas. Lezlee is a breast cancer survivor, a mountain biker, an anti-violence advocate for women and girls, and recently completed the Teacher Apprenticeship Program at EHS for Social Studies. She currently substitute teaches part-time at area schools and has an honors degree from the University of Texas at Dallas in Government and Politics.



Ryan McLaren, Board Member: Ryan McLaren was appointed to the U#46 School Board from the Town of Essex in 2010. Ryan is a constituent correspondent in the Office of Governor Peter Shumlin. Previously, he served as the Volunteer Outreach Coordinator for Everybody Wins! Vermont, and worked for Earth Day Network promoting environmental literacy in America's public schools and universities. Ryan was educated in the Essex Town School District, and graduated from Essex High School in 2004. In 2008, he received his Bachelor's degree in American Studies with honors from Wesleyan University.



Erin Kennedy-Knox: Erin was appointed to the board as a representative for Essex Junction in January of 2011. She resides in the Village with her husband and 4-year old son. She is currently Director of Sales and Marketing for Pillsbury Manor in South Burlington, VT and is a member of the Essex Rotary. As the daughter of an educator, she is passionate about the importance of education in our community, our nation, and our future. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of New Hampshire.