

Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
Union #46 School Board Meeting
6:30 p.m., January 8, 2009
Essex High School Library
2 Educational Drive, Essex Junction

Board Members Present: Jeff Culkin, Al Bombardier, Tim Kemerer, Jack Behlendorf, G Miller, Craig Smith

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy DeNova, Grant Geisler, Rob Reardon

Others Present: Frank Jordan, Norm Faunce, Lawrence Yandow, Elton Ernest

Jeff Culkin called the meeting to order at: 6:33 p.m.

Budget Work Session

Presentation on first pass FY'10 Budget from Grant Geisler, including EHS and CTE components. There were clarifying questions from the board.

Questions/Comments from the public included:

- How many reductions in teachers?
 - Response: Budgeting for a net of 5.25
- Tuition is not charging full amount - who pays the rest?
 - Grant Geisler will follow up with details on what must be excluded from tuition we charge sending towns.

Vermont has the third highest property taxes in nation (according to the *Wall Street Journal*) and is the eighth highest in the nation for income taxes.

The number of students statewide is decreasing while the number of teachers and administrators is increasing.

- To consider:
 - Take cue from UVM and stop all construction
 - Flat 5% cut, try on to fit, and see what it does
 - High # public w/ no involvement in school system...

As salaries are hooked to each other, the board asked if a plan was shared to separate so can give different groups increases individually. Response: Some work has been done over time to flatten the scale to give more to lower levels.

It was suggested to put together a simple story on key points (like declining students = declining FTEs), to share with the public to help them understand the basics of the budget situation. Local newspapers are key communication vehicles (and the web-site too). Communication is key! Communication between boards is important too.

The board thanked all members of the public helping out by coming to these budget work sessions. Public input is critical to our process.

Upcoming meetings are: January 15 (budget work session), January 19 (regular meeting), January 22 (budget work session), January 27 (budget work session - if needed). All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the EHS library

Executive Session: Collective Bargaining

G Miller moved and Tim Kemerer seconded the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of Collective Bargaining. The motion passed 6-0.

The board entered into Executive Session at 9:32 p.m. and exited Executive Session at 10:10 p.m. No action was taken.

Adjourn

The board adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Timothy Kemerer, Clerk