

**Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
Union #46 School Board Meeting
March 22, 2010, 6:30 p.m.
EHS Library - 2 Educational Drive, Essex Junction**

Board Members Present: G Miller, Jack Behlendorf, Tim Kemerer, Albert Bombardier, Brian Donahue, Lezlee Sprenger

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy DeNova, Kathy Fink, Louise Strong

Others Present: Evelina Nikolic, Maya Nguyen, Jacob Lumbra, Jeff Ayers, Ashley Aubert, Jess Sankey, Tim McDonell, Barbara Burnham

G Miller called the meeting to order at: 6:31 p.m.

Visitors and Staff to be Heard

- Evelina Nikolic, president of the Environmental Club asked for the board to support comprehensive composting at EHS. Trash on the Lawn Day showed that 55% of our trash is compostable. Also offered to fundraise to offset costs.
- Maya Nguyen talked to the composting issues, including communication issues.
- Jacob Lumbra read voices of support for composting from EHS teachers and administrators.
- Students also delivered over 700 signatures on petition to re-introduce composting.
- Jeff Ayers, a parent and the St. Michael's Green Club advisor, is setting up outreach to EHS.
- Jess Sankey, the CWSD outreach coordinator; gave her support for the students' efforts.
- EHS Assistant Principal Louise Strong indicated she took down the comments and will make sure to share back with Principal Rob Reardon.
- Mike Deweese clarified that he feels composting has been suspended only until we can figure out how to make it work well.
- Jess Sankey recommended administrators coordinate with other schools for input on how they run their programs.

What are the reports of the High School and Technical Center principals?

CTE: Kathy Finck gave an update on the CTE Skills USA competition. Nineteen students headed to National Competition! There have been 110 applications received for pre-tech program and 68 were accepted.

EHS: Louise Strong went through the EHS principal's report. The board quickly reviewed the Math department's preliminary analysis of NECAP results.

Al Bombardier commented on the professional development components of the NEASC accreditation package. Louise Strong pointed out that Nancy Smith has regularly been brought in to EHS for required professional development. Also, the EHS department meeting structure has already been set to meet these updated standards so we should be well positioned for 2012.

Are there updates from board representatives to various committees?

Communications Team: covered in below agenda item. The Policy sub-committee didn't meet.

What is the status of collective bargaining?

Factfinder is scheduled for early May. Tentative agreements are being worked on with both teachers and support staff.

How will the board continue its FY'11 budget communication?

The Budget trifolds were passed out. These will be mailed to all Essex Junction and Essex Town residents. What other communications do we want to do? Press release to the *Essex Reporter* would be great. G Miller will craft one and send out to board members for comments.

Critical friends: Tim Kemerer will send out the list divided up. Key Points: Ask to spread the word to get folks out to vote and ask if they have any questions. Make sure to have website information handy. Target the week before the annual meeting for calls.

There is an opportunity to announce voting at EHS/CTE for students/faculty. Tim Kemerer mentioned the possibility of a brief letter to the *Essex Reporter* encouraging citizens to vote.

Tim Kemerer offered to help G Miller with the annual meeting presentation.

What is the status of the 2010-2011 school year calendar?

Mike Dewese quickly reviewed the proposed 2010-2011 school calendar.

What is the board's role in the district's Action Planning Timeline?

Judith DeNova reviewed the possible board meeting schedule for next year. The open times could be used for public input sessions. Tim Kemerer and Brian Donahue supported the time for the board to roll up its sleeves to review the previous year and plan for the next year. The second half of June could be used to dedicate to planning, giving the opportunity to decide if we need to use time in the summer for some specific additional planning.

Will the board adopt meeting ground rules?

G Miller reviewed ground rules for meetings. *The Board reached consensus to use the ground rules, including reviewing the agenda at the beginning of each meeting and checking in when we reach time slots to decide if we should spend more time.* We'll also rotate the role of time keeper.

Is there board agreement for the role of student representatives at meetings?

Mike Deweese gave some background about past student representation on the board, including the inconsistency of attendance and difficulty in translating student reports into the board's work. He also noted difficulty in getting the student body voice from individual student representatives to the board. Louise Strong gave her and Rob Reardon's opinion: that he would like to see a student representative at the board, but with clear guidelines on time and participation.

Tim Kemerer was concerned about repeating some of the issues we've had previously with student representatives and that we should use this in a targeted way to get input on developing governance issues. Jack Behlendorf and Lezlee Sprenger volunteered to research possibilities and report back to the board with a proposal(s) for board action on this issue.

What is the EHS Ninth Grade Core?

Louise Strong gave an overview of 9th Grade Core. The goal is to make connections with students as they transition into EHS.

Are there updates on the Legislature's work on school district consolidation?

Judith DeNova and Mike Deweese reviewed the current house bill and situation.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consisted of: approving warrants; approving Feb. 15 and Feb. 17 meeting minutes; approving requests for leave; authorizing contracts to be issued; recommending reductions-in-force; acknowledging pending retirements; and acknowledging a resignation.

Al Bombardier moved and Brian Donahue seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda without item three (requests for leave). The motion passed 5-0-1 (Lezlee abstained).

Jack Behlendorf wished to pull item three (requests for leave).

Jack Behlendorf moved and Al Bombardier seconded the approval of requests for leave as suggested by administration. Motion passed 6-0.

Future Agenda Items

- Metrics
- Board meeting calendar
- Comeback on student representatives (May)
- Update on composting from Rob Reardon

Meeting Re-Cap

The board recapped the meeting.

Executive Session: Collective Bargaining and Labor Relations

Lezlee Sprenger moved and Al Bombardier seconded the motion for the board to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing collective bargaining and labor relations. Motion passed 6-0.

The board entered into Executive Session at 9:34 p.m. and exited Executive Session at 10:05 p.m.
No action taken.

Adjourn

The board adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tim Kemerer, Clerk of the Board