

**Chittenden Central Supervisory Union  
Union #46 School Board Meeting  
Essex High School - Library  
September 15, 2008**

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

**Administrators Present:** Mike Deweese, Judy DeNova, Rob Reardon, Kathy Finck

**Others Present:** Chris Leopold, David Combs

Jeff Culkin called the meeting to order at: 5:45 p.m.

**Executive Session: Personnel Matter**

*Craig Smith moved and G Miller seconded the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing a personnel matter. The motion passed 5-0.*

The board entered into Executive Session at 5:48 and exited Executive Session at 6:30.

*G Miller moved and Craig Smith seconded a motion to authorize the board chair to sign the agreement discussed in executive session. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Visitors to be Heard:**

There were no visitors to be heard.

**Principal's and Director's Reports:**

Student council board representative David Combs introduced himself to the board. He has offered to be a resource to bring the student perspective to the board.

EHS principal report: The board reviewed the 'Did you know?' presentation created for the parent orientation. It was well received by parents with an incredible depth of facts and accomplishments from the EHS community. There was a huge reduction in course failures is one of the biggest accomplishments, due in part to the new attendance policy with interaction with parents/students.

Nationally know motivational speaker Ed Gerety will be coming this Thursday to give multiple talks. The PSAT will be given Oct 15. It will be during school and the ability to pay for the exam should not be an issue as EHS is hoping to help drive college bound percentage higher above 80%.

The board reviewed School report night data. Rob Reardon clarified some questions from G Miller. Al Bombardier brought up the issue of the disparity in achievement deltas with the Free lunch cohort. There is a possible request for more details on what we are doing to address this issue. There was discussion

around expectations of students and if we can do more to communicate those expectations to freshman. The plan is to continue working with Rutland with visiting teams to keep up with strategies to deal with struggling students.

CTE report: Students are now completing many courses for college credits. CTE has now also instituted a 'one cut' policy to give much extra attention to these students/parents/sending schools through a four step process.

Judy DeNova, Grant Geisler, et all were recognized by Jeff Culkin for putting on an excellent program with Daniel Pink and Alan November on August 23.

### **School Board News:**

- Board will have tables at report nights.
- Monthly newsletter setup to come from the board. Westford has similar initiative.
- Tim Kemerer gave an update on Communications Committee meeting from earlier today.
- G Miller gave an update on the Policy subcommittee. New policies are out for review.
- We received first installment of state funds for ONECAMPUS project.
- First meeting (Jeff) scheduled w/ chair of Essex Town school board.
- Reminder of Pillars of Planning meeting next week w/ CCSU meeting.

### **Action Planning Timeline:**

Update from Judy DeNova. Discipline data from whole district was reviewed. Overall, the schools are very healthy and safe. Attendance and dropout data was reviewed as part of school reports.

The board will review the Social Studies notes before the presentation on it at the meeting next month. Next month, the board will also look at school demographic and enrollment data. The service plan information serves as a predictor of special needs.

### **Board's Stewardship with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Planning:**

Jeff Culkin will emphasize the website and the wealth of information available in first board newsletter. He would like to get board input into how the board will support converting to 21<sup>st</sup> century learning across our organization and community.

### **Student Longitudinal Tracking Study:**

There was discussion of data from State Colleges and UVM on Essex graduates and all Vermont students. This was valuable data for the board to have and admin. It was noted that feedback should be provided back to the state.

**Mentoring Program Changes:**

Judy DeNova reviewed the Mentoring program on the website under the curriculum section. Board members should get back to her with any questions.

**Consent Agenda:**

The Consent Agenda consisted of approval of: minutes from the August 18, 2008 board meetings, warrants, and Cafeteria Plan Amendments.

*Al Bombardier moved and Jack Behlendorf seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 6-0.*

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Sustainability
- Security Audit presentation
- Training plan additional details
- Energy cost review

**Executive Session: Collective Bargaining**

*G Miller moved and Craig Smith seconded the motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of collective bargaining. The motion passed 6-0.*

Board entered Executive Session at 8:24 and exited at 8:57. No action was taken.

**Adjourn**

The board adjourned at 8:58

Respectfully submitted by Timothy Kemerer, Clerk