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**Chittenden Central Supervisory Union
CCSU Board
Park Street School
August 23, 2011**

Minutes

Board Members Present: Michael Smith, John Gazo, Jack Behlendorf, Allison Weinhagen, Al Bombardier, Brian Donahue, Martha Heath, Andre Roy

Administrators Present: Mike Deweese, Judy De Nova

Jack Behlendorf called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Jack indicated that as Vice Chair, he was filling in for Charlee Day who was out of town on business.

Pre-Budget Planning

Jack reminded Board members that the FY13 budget calendar was included in individual board packets that were part of the August 22, 2011 carousel meeting.

October and November CCSU Board meetings will have a budget focus. A review of last year's meeting minutes shows that administrators reviewed budget highlights.

Jack also reviewed the November 2010 press release that indicated the CCSU school administrators budgeted an administrative pay freeze for FY11. Jack asked Board members to reflect on the November 2010 quote from then CCSU Board Chair, Martha Heath, indicating that pay freezes are not a sustainable way to balance the budget. He asked that we consider directing administrators to create the budget taking into consideration current economic conditions, but not to include further pay freezes. Martha thanked Jack for the reminder and expressed appreciation to the administration.

Brian asked about the possibility of expensing a professional school climate survey out of the CCSU budget. Perhaps this is something that could be done at regular intervals, e.g. every two years, with an understanding of what type of school climate we're trying to achieve.

Al is looking for information regarding ROI on improvement and automation of HR processes. He wonders if we may be able to use the savings from these efficiencies to offset future costs.

Martha requested an update re: talks about possible synergies with the Essex Town School District and the current IT contracts with Franklin Central and Franklin West.

Andre asked about the TPA contract for dental vs. the cost of bringing this work in-house.

Mike reminded the Board that the administration will also be considering the legislative recommendation that Special Education staff be shifted into the CCSU. Mike indicated that budget guidance is on the CCSU Board's September 26, 2011 meeting agenda and will be further discussed at that time.

48

49 **Overview of U46 Board's Approach to Board Evaluation**

50 Jack led a discussion of the U46 Board's evaluation process. Much of this process was outlined in Jack's
51 presentation during the August 22, 2011 carousel meeting with the local boards.

52

53 Jack reviewed the CCSU's policy B7 re: School Board Self-Evaluation. He also shared the U46 Board's self-
54 evaluation questionnaire. Jack asked Board members about prior CCSU Board self-evaluation processes
55 in their tenure on the Board.

56

57 Mike reviewed the history of the CCSU Board and did not recall any prior formal self-assessment or
58 evaluation of the Board by its members. A discussion ensued among members that have served on the
59 Board for several years. Mike also reminded the Board that B7 speaks of "school boards" but does not
60 specify the CCSU Board and wondered how Board members interpreted this policy.

61

62 The Board member discussed the self-evaluation process and setting CCSU Board-specific goals.
63 Discussion ensued as to whether these were mutually exclusive and whether or not self-evaluation was
64 a valuable and appropriate process for the Board. Martha indicated that she would like the Board to
65 evaluate itself based on what state statute requires of supervisory union boards. Al thinks that the U46
66 questionnaire is generic enough to suit the CCSU Board's purposes.

67

68 After much discussion, the general consensus was that it makes sense for the CCSU Board to assess
69 itself. Jack asserted that the goals/ends were more important than the actual self-assessment or process
70 used.

71

72 **Meeting Calendar Mapping**

73 Jack indicated that this agenda item was a time for the U46 Board to share how they're working on
74 calendar mapping and how it might benefit the CCSU Board.

75

76 Brian outlined the process the U46 Board uses now, summed up as "if that, then what before it...if that,
77 then what after it." The U46 Board's calendar for the current year looks at last year's calendar, the
78 legislatively required deliverables and information, carousel meetings, etc. and builds agendas around
79 these items. This allows the Board to self-regulate and not create unrealistic expectations for
80 administrators.

81

82 Judy also indicated it would make sense for the Boards to review the CCSU policies and catalogue those
83 that indicate annual requirements to ensure they're on the calendars and nothing is missed.

84

85 Brian agreed to draft a CCSU Board calendar using the same U46 principles for further Board discussion
86 at the September 26, 2011 meeting.

87

88 **Labor Relations**

89 A discussion ensued regarding the recent EJWEA survey presented to local boards. Board members had
90 many questions about a potential presentation to boards from the EJWEA. Discussion also included
91 some thoughts on climate survey tools with which all parties could collaborate.

92

93 *Martha made a motion, seconded by Al to remand to the CCSU Board Executive Committee the task of*
94 *working out mutually agreeable parameters for the EJWEA to present information to the three local*
95 *boards. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.*

96
97 The CCSU Board Executive Committee will report back at the Board's September 26, 2011 meeting.
98
99 There was general consensus by Board members to invite the EJWEA to the October 17, 2011 carousel
100 meeting.

101
102 **Consent Agenda**

103 *Martha made a motion, seconded by John to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed*
104 *unanimously, 8-0.*

105
106 **Future Agenda Items**

- 107 • Draft CCSU Board Calendar Mapping Tool - Brian
108 • Executive Committee insights on EJWEA presentation - Charlee, Jack, Allison
109 • FY13 Budget Guidance - CCSU Administrators
110 • CCSU Board goal-setting suggestions - CCSU Administrators

111
112 Jack adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

113
114 Minutes respectfully submitted,
115 Allison Weinhagen
116 CCSU Board Clerk