



# U46 Public Forum

11/17/2010

Challenges for Change



# Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions
- Challenges for Change overview
- Topics for discussion
  - Survey results
  - Consolidation
  - Potential reductions

# Overview

- Act 146 “Challenges for Change”: encouraging efficiency across all government agencies.
  - \$23 million gap in statewide education funding.
  - VT Department of Education (D.O.E) delivered targets for spending reductions for every school district and every supervisory union (SU) in the state.
    - *EHS target= \$365,729*
  - Response to VT D.O.E by Dec 15<sup>th</sup> “*whether their combined budgets will be able to meet recommended reductions.*”
  - After receiving the information from SUs and districts on December 15, D.O.E will develop a “detailed proposal” to “ensure” the spending targets for FY2012 overall will be met, presumably with Legislative action. There are no parameters given for the plan, other than that its dollar target will be \$23.2 million less the expected savings that SUs and districts report.

# Overview



- Act 153: School district consolidation.
  - All SUs must discuss whether or not to engage in a conversation regarding consolidation by Dec 1<sup>st</sup>
  - SU Board must report to the VT D.O.E. by Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012
  - Incentives may be available for SUs to form a merged district, known as a Regional Education District (RED).
    - *For homestead tax purposes, the RED's tax rate and income sensitivity percentage would be reduced for four years*
    - *The merger planning committee can be reimbursed up to \$20,000 from the Education Fund to pay for the cost of planning a merger.*

# U46 Survey Timeline



- Conducted from September 15 through October 22
- On-line submission or hard copy
- Public Engagements:
  - 9/15/10            EHS Open House
  - 10/5/10            EHS/CTE Staff Forum
  - 10/14/10           Parent/Teacher Conferences
  - 10/18/10           Carousel Board Meeting
  - 10/19/10           Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Open Forum scheduled for Nov 17 – tonight's meeting!

# U46 Survey Results

1. Overall, are you satisfied with the work the Union #46 School Board does governing EHS and CTE?


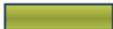
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		75.7%	115
No		24.3%	37
		answered question	152
		skipped question	11

2. Should CCSU consider consolidating from the separate school boards to one school board for all schools in Essex Junction and Westford?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		74.2%	115
No		25.8%	40
		answered question	155
		skipped question	8

# U46 Survey Results

## 3. Should CCSU reconsider unifying with the Essex Town School District?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		82.2%	125
No		17.8%	27
		answered question	152
		skipped question	11

## 4. Should CCSU consider unifying with districts other than Essex Town?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		29.7%	44
No		70.3%	104
		<a href="#">Show replies</a> If yes, who?	30
		answered question	148
		skipped question	15

# U46 Survey Results

5. Overall, are you satisfied with the recent budgets developed by the Union #46 School Board for EHS and CTE?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		62.4%	88
No		37.6%	53
answered question			141
skipped question			22

6. Please indicate whether or not you would approve of the following methods to reduce the budget at EHS or CTE:



	Yes	No	Response Count
Increase average class size	38.3% (57)	61.7% (92)	149
Reduce the variety of sports offerings	55.0% (83)	45.0% (68)	151
Reduce the variety of academic courses	20.3% (30)	79.7% (118)	148
Reduce the variety of arts courses	32.0% (48)	68.0% (102)	150
Increase administration efficiency	91.5% (140)	8.5% (13)	153
<a href="#">Show replies</a> Other (please specify)			60
answered question			157
skipped question			6

# U46 Survey Results



7. Would you be open to one of the following modifications to the school calendar?			
	Yes	No	Response Count
Four extended student days per week (instead of the current five days a week)	52.9% (81)	47.1% (72)	153
Changes to the school year (such as a rotating school schedule of 9 weeks on, 3 weeks off - i.e. a year-round academic schedule instead of a long summer recess)	45.9% (67)	54.1% (79)	146
		<a href="#">Show replies</a> Other (please specify)	30
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>155</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>8</b>

# U46 Survey Results

8. Overall, are you satisfied with the quality of the educational programs at EHS?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		88.1%	133
No		11.9%	18
		answered question	151
		skipped question	12

9. Overall, are you satisfied with the quality of the educational programs at CTE?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		85.9%	110
No		14.1%	18
		answered question	128
		skipped question	35

# U46 Survey Results

10. Is it important for students to take at least one course online?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		24.2%	36
No		75.8%	113
		answered question	149
		skipped question	14

11. Is it important for students to take a course at a local college for dual enrollment?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		45.9%	68
No		54.1%	80
		answered question	148
		skipped question	15

# U46 Survey Results

12. Should EHS increase minimum graduation requirements to drive a more challenging high school curriculum?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		49.0%	71
No		51.0%	74
		answered question	145
		skipped question	18

13. EHS is currently developing a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Academy within the larger high school (similar to the new Arts Academy). Do you support this "school-within-a-school" approach?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		79.6%	117
No		20.4%	30
		answered question	147
		skipped question	16

# U46 Survey Results

14. I am a resident of:



		Response Percent	Response Count
Town of Essex		38.0%	41
Village of Essex Junction		62.0%	67
		<a href="#">Show replies</a> Other (please specify)	38
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>108</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>55</b>

15. Have a family member attending EHS or CTE



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		42.7%	64
No		57.3%	86
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>150</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>13</b>

# U46 Survey Results

## 16. Formerly had a student at EHS or CTE



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		43.4%	63
No		56.6%	82
		answered question	145
		skipped question	18

## 17. A graduate of EHS or CTE



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		16.9%	24
No		83.1%	118
		answered question	142
		skipped question	21

# U46 Survey Results

## 18. Never had a student at EHS or CTE



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		22.7%	30
No		77.3%	102
		answered question	132
		skipped question	31

## 19. Staff or teacher at EHS or CTE

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		33.1%	47
No		66.9%	95
		answered question	142
		skipped question	21

# U46 Survey Results

## 20. Staff or teacher at another CCSU location

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		13.6%	19
No		86.4%	121
		answered question	140
		skipped question	23

# U46 Survey Summary

Village	41%
Town	25%
Westford	10%
Other/NA	24%
Total #	<b>163</b>

## Overall

- |                                       | <u>Yes</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| • Satisfied with Work of Board?       | 76%        |
| • Satisfied with Budgets?             | 62%        |
| • Satisfied with EHS Program Quality? | 88%        |
| • Satisfied with CTE Program Quality? | 86%        |

Staff or teacher	33%
Other	67%

## Looking Forward

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| • Important to take online course?                    | 24% |
| • Important to take college course? (dual enrollment) | 46% |
| • Increase graduation requirements?                   | 49% |
| • Support STEM Academy?                               | 80% |

# Budget related Survey Question Summary

## ■ Should we use these to reduce budget...

<u>Item</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase class size?	38%
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce variety of sports?	55%
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce variety of academic courses?	20%
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce variety of arts courses?	32%

# Consolidation

## New Board Structures

### Survey

1. Consolidate CCSU to 1 Board?
2. Consolidate with Essex Town?
3. Consolidate with Other town?

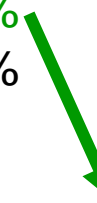
Yes

74%

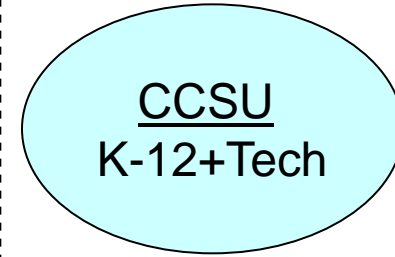
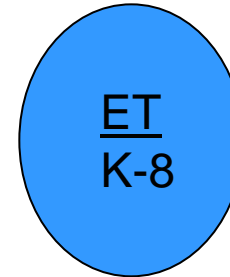


82%

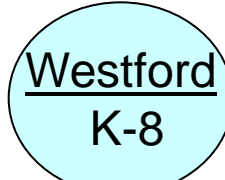
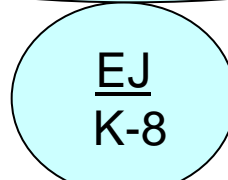
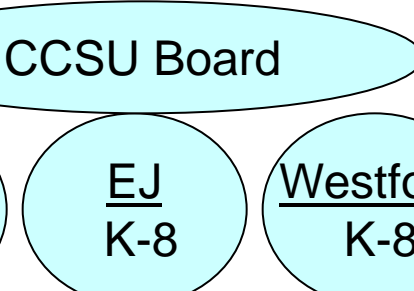
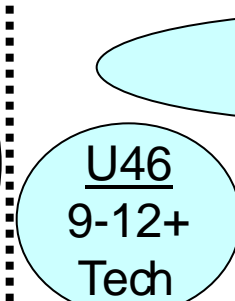
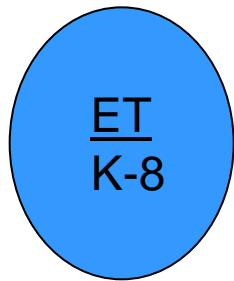
30%



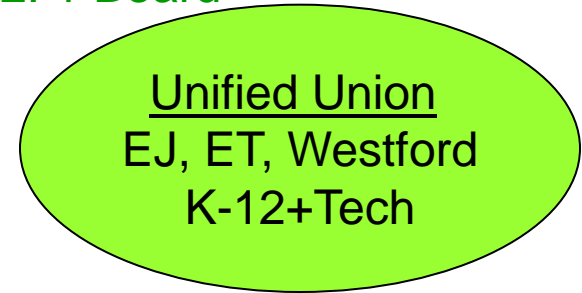
### #1: 2 Boards



### Current Board Structure: 5 boards

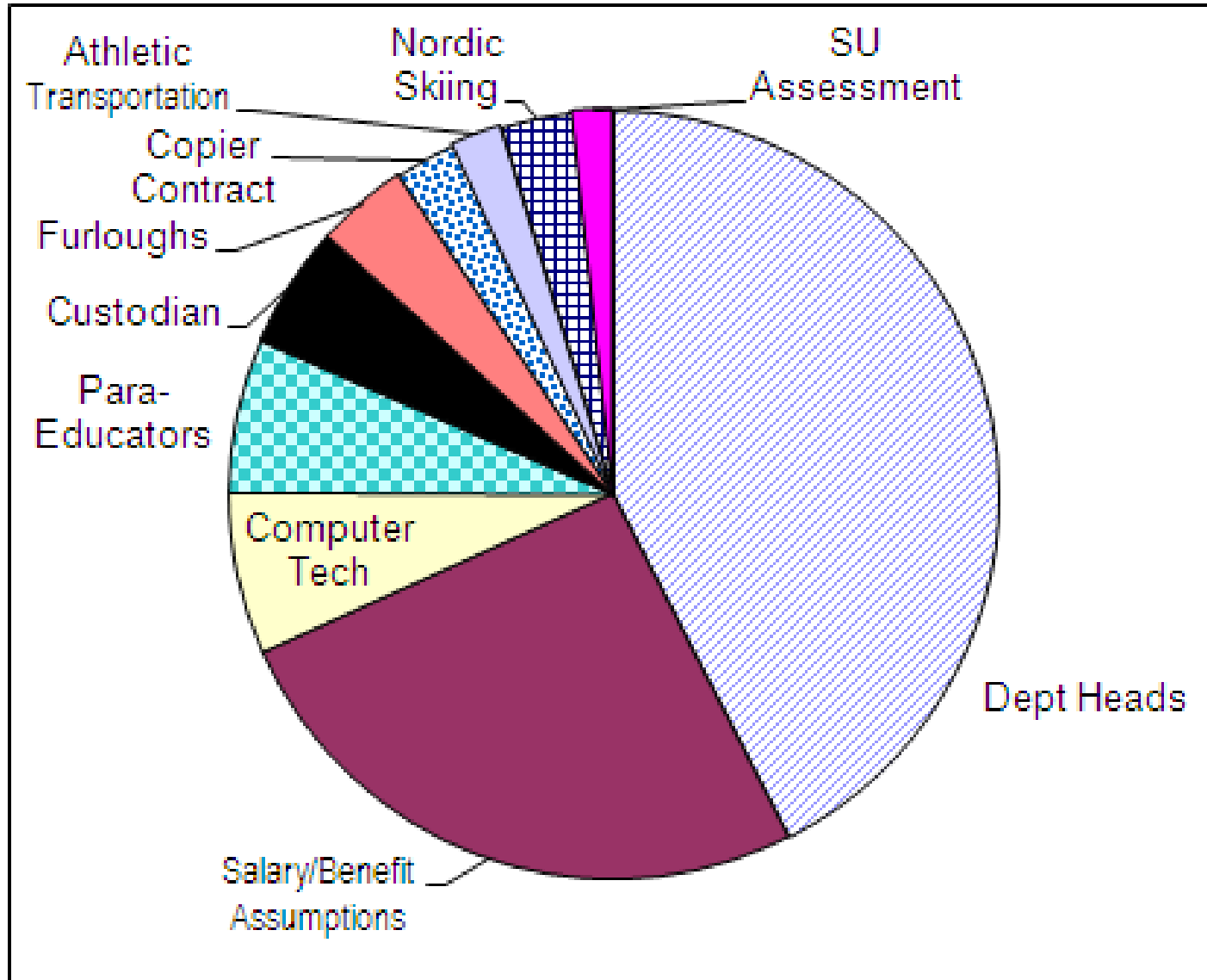


### #2: 1 Board



# Potential EHS Adjustments (Target: \$365,729)

(District contributions toward state's "Challenges for Change")



# Round Table Discussions / Breakouts:

- 1) Should Chittenden Central Supervisory Union (CCSU) consider consolidating from current separate School Boards into one Board for Essex Junction and Westford? Could Essex Town be included in the consolidation conversation? Should other communities, such as Chittenden East (Jericho, Underhill), Chittenden South (Williston, Hinesburg), Colchester, Winooski, etc, be included in a consolidation discussion? (*Facilitators: Brian Donahue and Rep. Linda Waite-Simpson*)
- 2) Should the School Board consider reducing funding for extracurricular activities, such as sports offerings, clubs, and/or other activities beyond the normal academic day? If it were to consider a reduction in offerings, what criteria would you suggest be used (number of participants, season, cost, past success, etc)? (*Facilitators: Ryan McLaren and Rep. Tim Jerman*)
- 3) If online courses, such as Virtual High School (VHS), offer savings and/or broader curricular offerings than are currently offered, should the School Board consider mandating that students take at least one? (*Facilitators: Jack Behlendorf and Rep. Linda Myers*)
- 4) Do you think your School Board should try to honor the Vermont Legislature's Challenges for Change budget reduction targets? Why or why not? (*Facilitators: Lezlee Sprenger and Rep. Martha Heath*)