

NORTH COUNTRY SUPERVISORY UNION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, May 28, 2015
AT 6:30 P.M. @ NCSU CENTRAL OFFICE

PRESENT

Board Members:

Richard Cartee, Newport City
Katie Mientka, Brighton
Frank Carbonneau, Coventry
Jason Brueck, Charleston
Peter Moskovites, Charleston
Rose Mary Mayhew, Troy
Mary Ellen Prairie, Newport City
Cliff Forster, Troy
Steven L. Mason, Lowell
Scott Boskind, Derby
Tim Bronson, Derby

Administration/Staff:

John A. Castle, Superintendent
Glenn Hankinson, Director of Finance
Leanne Desjardins, Director of Special Education
Kathy Nolan, Director of Curriculum, Assess. and Instruct.
Diane Nichols Fleming, Coordinator of Early Childhood
Katy Miller, Coordinator of 21st Century Grant
Liz Butterfield, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chair Steve Mason, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and called for Agenda Changes. An item concerning Hiring was added to New Business.

II. **Motion** to approve the April 2015 Minutes – *Attachment A*

Frank Carbonneau asked to be added to the list of attendees for the April meeting.

CARTEE/BRUECK APPROVED

III. **Superintendent's & Central Office Reports** – *Attachment B*

A. Katy Miller, director of the 21ST Century Grant and the ENCORE After School and Summer Programs shared a PowerPoint of the ENCORE Program. ENCORE currently has nine sites, plus Newport City. Katy announced that the Newport city program and ENCORE are unifying for FY16, with the cooperation of the United Church, Newport City Elementary and the Superintendent. Katy said that all entities are working together, and the change will be positive for all involved. Katy explained the funding and funding needs of the programs, and thanked the numerous community partners who work with ENCORE. John Castle stated that this is a strong, successful, valuable program, and brings people in with unique skills. Frank asked about outreach to community members as resources, and wondered how we can connect with or solicit volunteers? Katy said that she will distribute her email address so that it will be easy to contact her with suggestions.

B. Community Eligibility: John shared that this is a statewide program in which schools may qualify for free meals for all students, if the school meets a certain level of direct certification (40%). If qualified, the school may have to contribute some funds. Glenn explained that schools can collaborate in order to qualify, and that Brighton is already qualified. John and Glenn said that the principals are aware and are looking at the program.

IV. Business Operations & Finance Report

Action:

A. Motion to approve the April Financial Statement – *Handout*

Glenn reported that revenues are running at \$87,000.00 below budgeted, while expenditures are running \$132,000.00 below budgeted. The projected net balance is \$45,000.00.

BRONSON/CARTEE APPROVED

V. VSBA Update: Frank announced that there is a big change at the VSBA. The current VSBA Assistant Director and Legal Counsel, Nicole Mace, will become the Executive Director upon the retirement of Steve Dale. Frank feels that this is a positive move, and that Nicole is “highly respected under the dome.”

VI. New Business

Discussion/Action:

H.361 Implications for NCSU & Member Districts: John summarized the latest developments, including passage of the bill and a memo from the Secretary of Education. John stressed that we don’t have to do anything right now – it appears that it will take 3 to 5 years to implement, and there is currently a lot of ambiguity.

John reported that there will be monetary incentives to encourage the formation of Education Districts. Currently 20-25 Supervisory Unions qualify, though we may not. We need to look at it in light of money and will need to run the numbers in the future. We will also need to look at governance – what will it mean for my town? We are allowed to remain a SU, but if that is what we choose to do we must go through a study and apply to the Secretary of Education and the State Board Of Education. We must decide by July 2016 whether to apply, but it is not clear if we are even eligible. We have asked AOE for an opinion and when we come back in the fall, we will need to make some decisions on how to progress. As John gets more information, he will share it with the boards.

Glenn distributed information and explained that the Base Education Dollars will now be referred to as “Equivalent Yield”.

A. Motion to award W.B. Mason the copy paper bid for the Central Office. (*Attachment C*)

CARTEE/CARBONNEAU APPROVED

VII. Unfinished Business

Information/Action:

A. Next Steps with Act 153 Implementation (centralization of special education): John explained that there are penalties in Act 361 that would affect us if we do not comply with Acts 153 and 156, which compel SU’s to centralize SpEd and transportation. We must comply by July of 2016, or FY 17 will count toward the tax penalty. John said that we may be able to get a SpEd waiver if we go back to the AOE and request a waiver until spring, which will allow us to then go forward and centralize the SpEd professional staff. We need to demonstrate that what we are doing is more effective and efficient than...what? It is not clear what the parameters are. John shared that in his opinion the AOE will expect us to comply and we can’t do it at the 11th hour: we can’t jeopardize funding. If we start now, that gives us time to ask questions relative to equity in delivery of services and equity of cost.

Motion to authorize the Superintendent to request a waiver from AOE of 1 year to allow us the time to move forward and to decide how we will centralize Special Education. **FORSTER/BRUECK APPROVED**

VIII. Other Business

Action:

A. Motion to approve Policy NCSU B.1 Board Meetings, Agenda Preparation and Distribution (*Attachment P-Approve*)* **CARTEE/BRONSON APPROVED**

Motion to approve Policy NCSU B.2 Public Participation at Board Meetings (*Attachment P-Approve*)* **CARTEE/BRONSON APPROVED**

B. Motion to adopt Rescission of NCSU B.1 Board Member Orientation and Education*
(Attachment P-B.1) CARTEE/BRONSON **APPROVED**

C. Motion to adopt Rescission of NCSU B.2 Board Goal-Setting & Evaluation*
(Attachment P-B.2) CARBONNEAU/CARTEE **APPROVED**

D. (Item added to agenda at start of meeting) **Motion** to approve hiring Jane Castle as a EEE teacher.
BRUECK/CARTEE **APPROVED**

John distributed the latest version of the **Commitments** and a **Continuous Improvement Plan Template**, which he will be working on with the Leadership Team. He also distributed **Reporting Guidelines**, which he is planning on sharing with all boards to be used for cyclical planning. The Guidelines can be altered by the boards according to their needs.

IX. Date of Next Meeting/Future Agenda Items

A. Special June Meeting to Review NCSU Commitments: John is requesting a June meeting, as he wants to adopt the **Commitments** and the **Continuous Improvement Plan** in September and would like time to dialog with the Board. It was agreed, by unanimous consensus, to plan a meeting for June 18th.

X. Motion to enter Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent’s Evaluation. The Superintendent was invited to stay. CARTEE/BRUECK **APPROVED**

Motion to exit Executive Session at 8:32. CARTEE/CARBONNEAU **APPROVED**

Motion to accept the results of the Superintendent's Evaluation and have it entered into his personnel file. CARTEE/CARBONNEAU **APPROVED**

XI. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Butterfield
Recording Secretary

** To view marked-up copies of the policies and/or new policies being considered, please use this link: [Policies Being Reviewed](http://www2.ncsuvt.org/ncsu-full-board/policies-being-reviewed) or go to: <http://www2.ncsuvt.org/ncsu-full-board/policies-being-reviewed>. You may need to hover your mouse over the link and use Control + click*

<u>Meetings:</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
NCSU Policy Committee	Thursday	June 18	5:30 p.m.	NCSU A213
NCSU Executive Committee	Thursday	June 18	6:30 p.m.	NCSU A209