

# South Burlington School District

April 16, 2010

To: School Board Members

From: John Everitt

Re: Superintendent Report – April 21, 2010

Policy 2.9 – Communication and Support to the Board

1. Middle School Principal – I am pleased to present Karsten Schlenter as my recommendation to serve as the next principal at FHTMS. Karsten comes to us with a strong and successful background in middle level education. Although we will miss Joe O'Brien, Karsten will be a fine addition to our learning community.

The selection process for the middle school principal position included thirty-five candidates; a search committee of fifteen individuals representing teachers, support staff, parents and administrators; feedback reports from interviews with groups of parents, teachers and staff, administrators, and students; site visits for the two finalists; and reference checks. The feedback from the search process has been positive, especially with regard to transparency and inclusiveness.

2. Grants – While the board continues its work on defining the authority of the superintendent with regard to application and acceptance of grants, there are two grant possibilities currently under consideration that I would ask you to approve – the e-Vermont Grant and the Rural Utilities Service Grant (RUS). In both of these grants, we would be working with partners. In the first case it would be South Burlington City and area businesses and organizations and in the second grant, a wide range of school districts around the state. Development of the e-Vermont Grant would fall on our shoulders to lead, while the leader of the RUS Grant would be a business partner, [CBE Technologies](#). More information is included with this report.

As for the next step in policy about grants, I suggest the addition of the policy below.

2.4 Financial Condition and Activities - ... the superintendent shall not:

11. Enter into grant agreements that are not focused on the district ends policy or operations effectiveness and efficiency, larger than \$250,000, or that require redirection of district resources greater than 10% of the grant over the life of the grant.
3. Teacher contracts – Teacher contracts have been printed and will be distributed the week of April 19. Since negotiations are still in process, the salary amount and step level are not included. Once the salary schedule is set for next year, the contracts will be reissued with the salary and step information. If we start school next year still in negotiations, salary will be calculated on the existing base and step movement as defined in the current contract.
  4. F-35's – There is a lot of discussion about the future introduction of F-35 jet airplanes to the Vermont Air National Guard. City Counselor Meaghan Emery will attend the meeting to provide information about her understanding of the situation. I will continue researching information about the potential impact of the F-35 jet on our schools, especially Chamberlin. In the meantime here is a link for you to learn about the decibel scale for measuring sound.  
  
There will also be a meeting, prior to the next board meeting, for interested individuals on Monday, April 19, at our middle school cafeteria. The meeting is part of the community engagement process required in introducing this type of substantial change in a community.
  5. Use of turf field – We are in discussion with the city about the existing limitations on the use of the turf field for activities other than those of the school. We have frequent requests, especially during times school is not in session, and want to have reasonable flexibility in responding to these requests.

**Please bring your policy manual to the board meeting.**