

South Burlington School District

April 13, 2011

To: School Board Members

From: John Everitt

Re: Superintendent Report – April 14, 2011

Policy 2.9 – Communication and Support to the Board

1. Graduation Requirements – Prior to the last meeting, there was a question from a board member about how our graduation requirements compared to other area schools. At the last meeting I gave you materials that included details for other area high schools' requirements and course taking patterns for our students. By email I sent you a copy of the SBHS detail requirements.

In your policy book, you can review the Ends Policy. That may be helpful in thinking about our graduation requirements. It is also important to remember that these requirements are one means we use to achieve the Ends. They are not the only means and for "Disposition for Life-Long Learning", "Personal Development", and "Citizenship" they are not even the most powerful means.

There is no intention on the administration's part that graduation requirements embody all the Ends that lead students to be ready for their next step.

2. Required Policies – There is one remaining required policy that needs board adoption. Procedures have been in place, but no formal board policy has existed.

Vermont State Board of Education Rules

2120.8.13 Access to Current Technology

Each school shall:

(a) provide access to a variety of up-to-date information, assistive, and other technology to support students in meeting or exceeding the standards contained in the Framework or comparable standards,

(b) provide access to state and national learning resources through electronic information sources, and

(c) adopt and implement written policies on electronic resources, acceptable Internet usage, and procedures for handling complaints.

I request that you begin policy adoption readings at the next meeting. This policy is separate from the policy governance policies and will be located on our website with other required policies under the title "Transition Policies". A draft of the policy wording will be given to you at the meeting.

Information Update

At the last board meeting, I was at a loss to explain why the middle school was having half-days when there were no parent conferences. I was thinking that students would be in school all day. The view I missed was that the teachers were working at the exposition in the evening instead of the afternoon with the children.

Please bring your policy manual to the board meeting.