

South Burlington School District  
September 29, 2010

To: School Board Members  
From: John Everitt

Re: Superintendent Report – October 6, 2010  
Policy 2.9 – Communication and Support to the Board

1. Policy Governance – Included with this report is a 2007 article by Janice Moore titled, “Policy Governance as an enabler of wisdom.” The middle section speaks to long-term thinking and foresight with focus on the board’s ability to add value to the organization. I include this article as it is especially relevant to board discussions on the Ends Policy, further connecting to the community, and thinking about the budget in light of the current economic condition.
2. Science Assessment – The district has received results from the Spring 2010 Vermont State Science Assessment (NECAP). Charts of the results for all students, students by gender, and students receiving food service assistance are included in this report. In all areas, SB students performed as well or better than the Vermont student population as a whole. We will be analyzing this information to learn more details about the performance of our children.
3. Budget Information – Attached to this report is a list of the guiding principles I have in mind for budget development. Part of the discussion I would like the board to have is developing board guidance for me with regard to the Challenges for Change legislation and the Federal Jobs in Education Grant to Vermont.
4. Suggestion Box – Our website now has a “Suggestion Box” for individuals to provide the district with input. As of today we have received 2 suggestions, 1 question, 1 complaint, and 4 compliments. We have established a routing and follow-up process to ensure all entries receive an appropriate response.
5. Youth Risk Behavior Survey – A report on the results of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey is scheduled for the November 17 board meeting. I believe the report will be much more informative if district staff know what interests you. Here are two links to information on the YRBS – [long report](#) and [introduction](#). Please let me know what questions you have or areas you would like to explore by October 15.
6. Out-of-District Placements – One of the community submitted emails providing input on the Ends Policy, raised concerns that the district has placed too many special education students, especially those with emotional disturbance, in out-of-district placements. Currently there are 12 students in out-of-district placements. Two of these children were placed by a state agency. Of the ten remaining students, six are secondary students with emotional disturbance placed in area special education day schools. One secondary student and one elementary student with different disabilities are placed in day schools and two additional secondary students are placed in residential schools.
7. VSBA – The state conference is October 28 & 29 at Lake Morey. There will be a networking session for board members using policy governance at 2:30 PM on Friday, October 29. Let my office know if you would like us to register you.

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