

Rutland-Windsor Supervisory Union

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December 20, 2011

Dear RWSU Community members, including parents, students, educators and citizens,

On Wednesday, December 14, the Rutland Windsor Supervisory Union Board and the Windsor Southwest Supervisory Board met and agreed to another step towards the creation of a new Supervisory Union that would include RWSU (Ludlow, Mount Holly & Plymouth) and WSWU (Chester, Andover, Cavendish, Baltimore, Londonderry, Landgrove, Peru, and Weston). This consolidation of the unions would be contingent on The Mountain Towns, (Londonderry, Landgrove, Peru & Weston) leaving the WSWSU and joining the Bennington Rutland Supervisory Union

The RWSU Board passed the motion by a 6-4 vote. The vote represents a recommendation to move beyond planning and towards implementation. The joint SU Boards are recommending an action by the Vermont State Board of Education with several conditions including more equal representation at the supervisory board level as well as transitional costs of \$150,000 paid for by the State of Vermont. (You can read the exact motion on the RWSU web site.) This process began in the early summer of 2010 with meetings between the supervisory unions. One of the most common questions posed throughout the planning process has been about the future of specific schools and school boards. Adjusting the parameters of any SU has no effect on existing local Boards and their decisions about schools within their jurisdiction. This potential consolidation is the combining of the two central offices and the hiring of one superintendent, business manager and other central office employees. More information will be forthcoming as this process moves forward. It is important to note that all members of the school boards which comprise RWSU continue to look at all aspects of this potential ground breaking work which include the financial impact to the taxpayers of Ludlow, Mount Holly & Plymouth as well as the impact on the students and potential improved student opportunities.

We are appreciative of the interest and involvement of every person from Plymouth, Mt. Holly, and Ludlow. We will do our best to keep everyone informed and involved in the long term interests of every student in the Rutland Windsor schools.

Sincerely,

Bruce Williams
RWSU Superintendent of Schools