

**2009-10 REPORT FROM THE WASHINGTON WEST
CENTRAL OFFICE
1673 Main St., Suite A, Waitsfield, Vermont
802-496-2272
www.wwsuonline.org**

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF

Brigid Scheffert, *Superintendent of Schools*

Sheila Rivers, *Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment*

Donarae Cook, *Director of Student Support Services*

Michelle Baker, *Business Manager*

Laura Titus, *Administrative Assistant*

Angela Neill, *Accounting Manager*

Pearl Vargas, *Payroll/Benefits Coordinator*

Marilyn Spaulding, *Accounts Payable Clerk*

Susan Neill, *Accountant for Harwood Union High School*

Tisa Rennau, *Admin. Asst, Director, Curriculum/Assessment.*

Angela Young, *Admin. Asst, Director, Student Support Services*

Amy Caffry, *Medicaid Clerk*

A Year of Establishing a New Administrative Team

Brigid Scheffert was hired as the Superintendent of the Washington West Supervisory Union. She began her transition to our district in April 2009, attending administrative meetings and visiting each school site one day each week. Her official responsibilities began on July 1. Phase One has included information and data gathering, establishing a strong, new administrative team, working with each local school board to determine future work, and completing the work begun with the organization of the WWSU Executive Committee.

In addition to a new Superintendent, the WWSU central office also welcomes Sheila Rivers as our Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, and Amy Caffry as our Medicaid Clerk. Our administrative team welcomes several new site administrators: Kaiya Korb, Principal of Waitsfield Elementary, Debbie Lesure, Principal of Moretown Elementary, Tom Drake, Educational Leader of Waterbury/Duxbury and Principal of Crossett Brook Middle School, and Cathy Knight, Assistant Principal of Crossett Brook Middle School.

The WWSU Administrative Team has revisited prior initiatives as part of goal setting and action planning. A main focus of the team's work is in systems analysis and design in an effort to build sustainable programs

within our schools that have increased capacity and new opportunities for students, while realizing maximum efficiencies and effectiveness. Increased program and financial accountability, greater rigor and relevance in our classrooms, enhanced relationships between students and staff, improved student outcomes, and responsible budgets are the primary key areas of work.

The WWSU Administrative Team and School Board members will strive to capture all the positive elements of prior existing programs, while promoting continuous improvement and success for the years ahead. In support of this community-by-community work, school board members and administrators in Washington West have established a common vision and mission to guide the work we do across our schools and communities, and to support the 2112 students who attend WWSU schools:

Central office administrators, school administrators, and school board members work together to ensure that every school and community in WWSU provides the learning opportunities each student needs to develop his/her potential and to gain the knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to be productive citizens.

Three multi-year goals focus the improvement efforts. As a result of their PreK-12 education, our high school graduates will:

- Develop a foundation in mathematical content and understanding that they can use throughout life.
- Be prepared to meet the writing demands of citizenship, higher education, and the workplace.
- Have the skills they need to observe, think and make judgments about the many complex and demanding issues that come before the citizenry in a democracy.

Our WWSU website has been redesigned and updated. Trevor Luce, a student at Harwood Union High School, was hired to do this work. In December and June of each year, the central office team will publish a “State of the Union Report”. You can find it on the WWSU website—www.wwsuonline.org – click on WWSU Newsletter under the Quick Links heading on the left. You will find an extensive and detailed report from Superintendent Scheffert, as well as detailed reports by Michelle

Baker, Business Manager; Donarae Cook, Director of Student Services Director; and Sheila Rivers, Director of Curriculum and Assessment. These reports incorporate a significant amount of information regarding past and future initiatives. The WWSU website will also provide a wealth of information usually reported via this town report, such as student assessment data and comparisons, and financial information for each district, including per pupil costs and tax rates.

The schools throughout the Washington West Supervisory Union are alive, vibrant and full of hard working, caring, dedicated students and faculty. Together we will strive to make our great schools even greater and work towards increasing student opportunities, experiences and success. Our State of Vermont officials are engaged in serious conversations about major restructuring/redistricting of our public schools. We will be at the table advocating for our students and our communities. Please do not hesitate to contact us anytime to share your thoughts and concerns. Public education will be center stage this year in the legislature. We would very much like to hear from you.

Business Manager Report

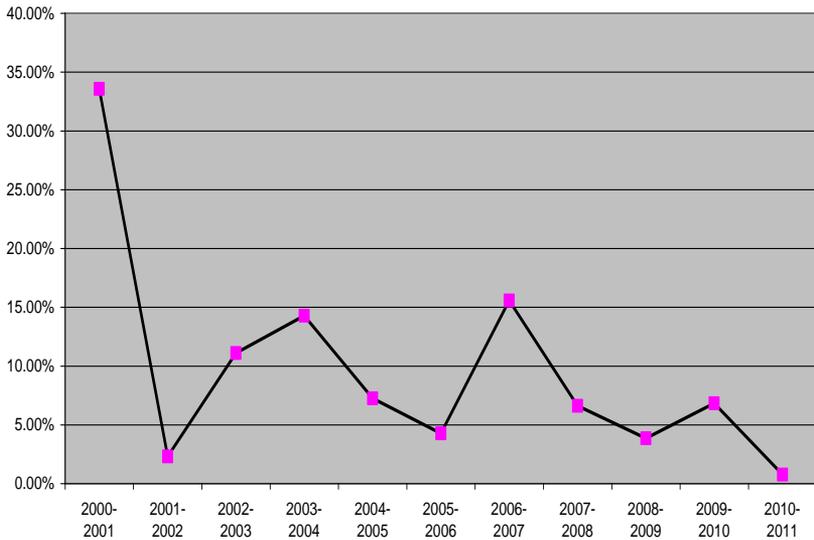
The Washington West Supervisory Union FY2011 budget represents a budget increase of 3.5% with a resulting assessment of .80% to member districts. The WWSU budget includes current programs at existing levels with additional funds to update the districts computer server which is ten years old. The budget supports our mission to employ financial and human resource systems that are accountable and result in adequate financial and human resources to implement our programs.

For the most part, proposed FY2011 school district budgets in the supervisory union represent requests for level funding or reduced funding from last year, see summary below with estimated increases in tax rates ranging from 1 to 10%.

School District	Proposed Budget Change	FY2010 Cost Per Pupil	FY2011 Cost Per Pupil	Estimated Homestead Tax Rate Increase
Fayston	0.0%	\$12,799	\$12,549	4.5%
Moretown	- 0.1%	\$13,990	\$14,643	10.7%
Waitsfield	- 2.2%	\$13,309	\$12,721	3.8%
Warren-	10.7%	\$12,347	\$11,515	1.1%

Waterbury-Duxbury U45	.1%	\$11,652	\$12,087	9.4% Waterbury 7.4% Duxbury
Harwood Union U19	-1.0%	\$12,162	\$12,466	
SU Average		\$12,710	\$12,664	
State Average		\$12,033		

Washington West Supervisory Union Summary of Change in Assessments to Member Districts



Additional information regarding all budgets in our Supervisory Union, including historical data on cost per pupil and tax rate information can be obtained at www.wwsu.org.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

The Washington West Supervisory Union and Waitsfield School District audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2009 are available at the WWSU offices in Waitsfield, Vermont or by calling 802-496-2272, ext. 117. They are also available on-line at www.waitsfielelementary.org.