

**2010-11 REPORT FROM THE WASHINGTON WEST
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Strengthening Our PK-12 Educational Organization

The WWSU Administrative Team, in conjunction with building principals and local board members, have worked hard this year to develop and implement many initiatives to further enhance and improve our schools for students and employees. Our continued focus remains on the development and design of the sustainable programs and increased capacity, maximizing efficiency and effectiveness.

As a result of the systems analysis completed over the past two years, the WWSU Administrative Team is currently developing a multi-year strategic plan that sets goals, targets, timelines, and measurable outcomes in an effort to implement successful 21st Century educational programs in our PreK-12 system across all seven schools. This plan includes both academic and operations goals for systemic improvement.

Act 153, the legislation around consolidating school districts and changing the responsibilities of the WWSU Board, still remains center stage. Administrators and board members continue to spend time evaluating the law as it relates to the potential for increased student success or cost savings. The delivery and financial implications for Special Education appear to be one of the most complex aspects of the law. We continue to analyze and compare our present local delivery model against the concept of the centralized system specified in the law. At the present time, moving to a centralized model in the WWSU does not appear to yield improved services for students and/or cost savings. Therefore, we will most likely exercise our right to apply for a waiver to

the Vermont Department of Education to continue operations under our current local delivery model. Further analysis and considerations of centralized services are ongoing in the areas of transportation, purchasing, and operations and maintenance.

Significant work has been done in the areas of teacher and support staff negotiations, technology, transition to the Common Core Standards for literacy and mathematics, and policy revision and development. After many years of consideration, the WWSU School Board approved the addition of a position, a Systems Administrator of Technology. This centralized position allows us to minimize higher cost contracted technology services, maintain, manage and maximize performance of technology throughout the district, bring a skill set level to the WWSU that we have not had in the past that will allow for centralized purchasing and long-term planning. Our website has continually improved throughout the year, and provides a wealth of information that may have been published in this report in the past. Posts of interest include financial information, curriculum documents, student assessment results, policies, board information including meeting minutes, and labor agreements.

The students in the WWSU continue to work hard, give their very best, and make us all very proud. Our parents and community members continue to support our work and our schools. We will strive to make continuous growth and to stretch ourselves to make all of our schools the very best they possibly can be. We will remain at the table advocating for our students and our communities at the state level, so that future changes will only result if and when improved student outcomes can be demonstrated and cost efficiencies realized. Changing for the sake of change will not be a WWSU path. Please do not hesitate to contact the WWSU team anytime to share your thoughts. We appreciate hearing from you.

Business Manager Report

The Washington West Supervisory Union FY2013 budget is a budget increase of 9.8% over FY2012. Of this increase, 6.4% is associated with shifting the funding for the Systems Administrator position from local school district budgets (HUHS, Fayston and Moretown) to the Supervisory Union budget. The Total Washington West Assessment for 2012-2013 is \$1,042,337, an 8.2% increase, and is 3.6% of overall school district budgets as shown below.

	FY2012 General Fund Expense	FY2013 Estimated SU Assessment	% WWSU Assessment to FY2012 GF Budget
Fayston	\$1,654,503	\$56,048	3.9%
Moretown	2,033,715	59,072	2.9%
Waitsfield	2,149,589	75,914	3.5%
Warren	2,137,388	83,711	3.9%
Waterbury- Duxbury	9,237,345	366,033	4.0%
Harwood Union	12,005,768	401,559	3.3%
Total	\$29,218,308	\$1,042,337	3.6%

The following is a summary of costs per equalized pupil based on proposed budgets for each school district.

	2011-2012 Cost/Pupil	2012-2013 Cost/Pupil
Fayston	\$13,199	\$14,199
Moretown	\$14,484	\$14,992
Waitsfield	\$12,669	\$13,172
Warren	\$11,034	\$11,461
Waterbury-Duxbury	\$12,503	\$12,870
Harwood Union	\$12,634	\$12,793
Statewide Average	\$12,288	

