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Sen. Tim Ashe, *Chair*
 Sen. Mark A. MacDonald, *Vice Chair*
 Sen. Christopher Bray
 Sen. Peter W. Galbraith
 Sen. Robert M. Hartwell
 Sen. Virginia "Ginny" Lyons
 Sen. Kevin Mullin

STATE OF VERMONT
 Senate Chamber

Senate Committee on Finance

AGENDA

Room 6

April 1, 2014 - April 4, 2014

Last Updated 3/28/2014 3:46 PM

ATTENTION WITNESSES- Please email handouts to the committee assistant before your scheduled meeting date and bring 15 hard copies. Please write your name, organization, date and title on each document. With few exceptions, any documents you hand out to a committee, or send to a committee assistant, are open to the public and may be posted to the committee's webpage.

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

9:30 AM

Senate Floor

1:00 PM

Education Property Tax Rate Discussion

Mark Perrault, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Joint Fiscal Office

Brad James, Education Finance Manager, Agency of Education

Lawrence Waters, Superintendent, Colchester School District

Robert Phillips, Superintendent, Grand Isle Supervisory Union

2:30 PM

Property Tax Relief Fund

Mark Perrault, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Joint Fiscal Office

3:30 PM

Education Governance Restructuring-- Financial Implications

William Talbott, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Financial Officer, Agency of Education

Daniel French, Superintendent, Bennington-Rutland SU - via Phone

Robert Mason, Chief Operating Officer, Chittenden South Supervisory Union

Wednesday, April 02, 2014

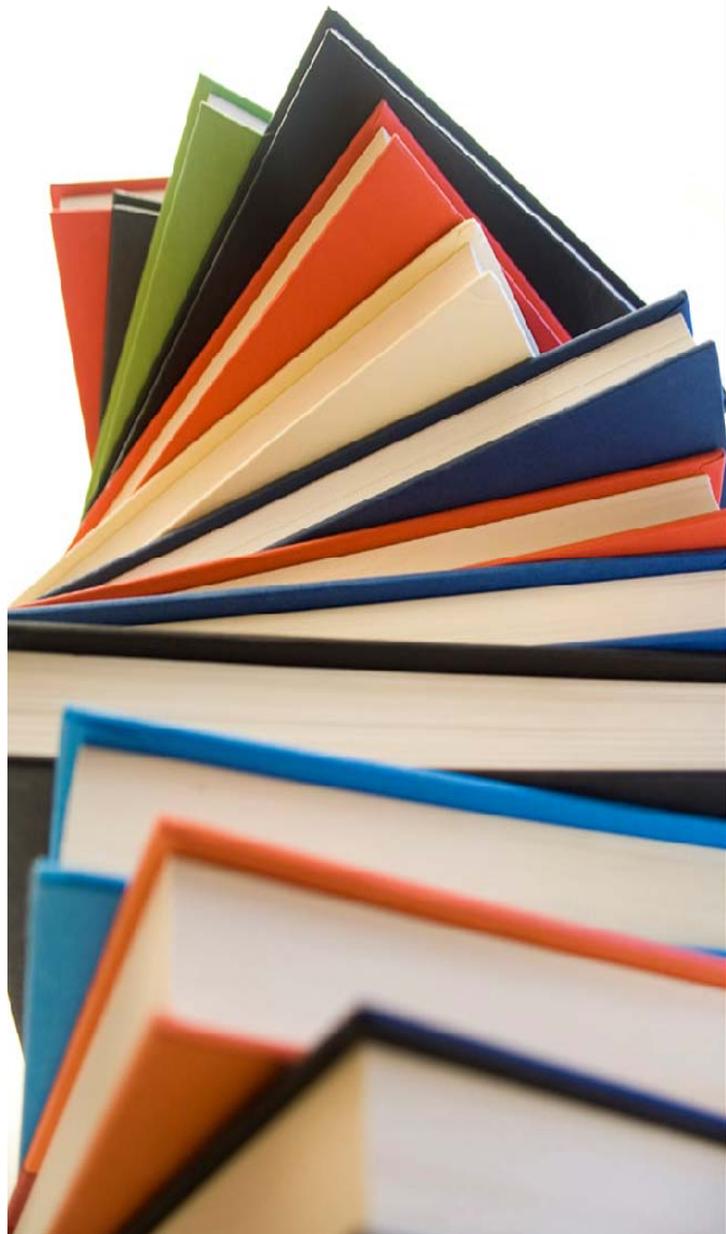
1:30 PM

Senate Floor

2:00 PM

Financing Best Education Practices

William Talbott, Deputy Commissioner, Chief Financial Officer, Agency of



CSD FY'15 Budget Reduction

March 18, 2014

Budget Reduction Process

1. Review the items that were added to the budget for next year to determine need and priority.
2. Central Office completes another review of expenditures to determine areas where possible reductions might be made and impact on programs and services.
3. Building principals collaborate with C.O. to determine other areas for reductions and impact.

School Board Recommendation

Following the defeat of the budget on March 4th the school board directed the superintendent to the following:

Target Amounts

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| ➤ Budget increase of 3% | \$35,532,781 |
| ➤ Total budget increase: | \$ 1,034,935 |
| ➤ Amount of reduction: | \$ 475,331 |

Reduction Areas & Amounts

1. Teacher Contract Salaries: \$ 84,441
 - Hiring salary limits for at least 7 openings
2. Special Education Support Staff: \$21,000
 - Elimination of sp. ed. position
3. Maintenance: \$50,000
 - Use of Capital Reserve funds
4. Technology-Devices at CHS/CMS \$150,000
 - Eliminate devices planned for Gr. 7-9

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 5. Math Lab Support Staff: | \$16,990 |
| -No math remediation at CHS | |
| 6. Eliminate Support Staff at CMS: | \$23,092 |
| -Reduce office personnel/Library | |
| 7. Technology Integration Specialist: | \$77,814 |
| -Eliminate K-5 Tech. Instr. Support | |
| 8. Currently Colchester News: | \$14,000 |
| -Eliminate Monthly Insert | |
| 9. Other: | \$ 5,407 |
| -Related amounts to above | |

Total Amount of Reductions

\$442,744

Supt. Recommended Budget

New Budget Amount:	\$35,565,368
Increase Amount:	\$1,067,522
Percent Amount:	3.09 %
Tax Increase Amount:	6.932 %

Technology Article Recommendation

Article for Voter Approval:

Amount/Year: \$150,000

Term: 4 Years

Areas: -2 Yrs. CHS/CMS

-2 Yrs. UMS/PPS/ MBS

Tax: 0.008 Cents on tax rate

Other Information

1. Budget vote scheduled for May 6
2. Article requires 30 days notice-Apr. 1
3. Budget votes requires 10 days warning if no changes other than \$\$\$.
4. Homestead Tax Rate used \$1.01 or 7cents more
5. Legislature will determine rate before next vote and may go lower.
6. Board needs to provide direction based on current reductions and amounts.

7. Next round of cuts will include Reductions in Staff at all levels. (RIF's by April 1 to CEA & May 1 to teachers)
8. Contracts will go out on April 4th and returned by Apr. 18th.
9. Negotiation is not moving along as hoped.
10. The article is more time sensitive than budget.

Questions & Answers

**Homestead and Non-Residential Education Tax Rates
FY2015**

LEA: **Colchester**
S.U.: **Colchester S.D.**

LEA ID: **050**
County: **Chittenden**

Base Amount	<input type="text" value="\$9,382"/>	
Base Homestead tax rate:	<input type="text" value="1.01000"/>	
Base Non-Residential tax rate:	<input type="text" value="1.51000"/>	
Common level of appraisal	<input type="text" value="98.74%"/>	
Total budgeted expenditures	<input type="text" value="\$35,565,368"/>	
Budgeted revenues	<input type="text" value="\$6,952,365"/>	
Local education spending	<input type="text" value="\$28,613,003"/>	
Net Equalized pupils	<input type="text" value="2,140.71"/>	
Local Ed spending per Eq.Pupil	<input type="text" value="\$13,366.13"/>	
Eligible Capital Debt	<input type="text" value="\$178,541.00"/>	
Capital Debt per Eq. Pupil	<input type="text" value="\$83.40"/>	<input type="text" value="6.932%"/>

1. Actual homestead education tax rate

	FY2015	FY2014
	1.4573	1.3628
Change	9.4465	Cents

Steps to actual homestead tax rate

2. Education spending per equalized pupil		13,366.13
3. Approved capital construction spending per equalized pupil		83.40
4. Education spending per pupil less approved construction spending	(line 2 - line 3)	13,282.73
5. Excess spending threshold	Provided by B. James/DOE	14,841
6. Excess spending per equalized pupil (amount per pupil over threshold)	(line 4 - line 5)	-
7. Adjusted education spending per equalized pupil	(line 2 + line 6)	13,366.13
8. District spending adjustment	"(line 7 / Base Amount)"	1.4247
9. Equalized homestead tax rate	(line 8 x Base Hstd TR)	1.4389
10. Common level of appraisal (CLA)		98.74%
11. Actual homestead tax rate	(line 9 / line 10)	1.4573
		4.816%

12. Actual non-residential education tax rate

	FY2015	FY2014
	1.5293	1.4590
Change	7.0269	Cents

Steps to actual non-residential tax rate

13. Equalized non-residential tax rate		1.5100
14. Common level of appraisal (CLA)		98.74%
15. Actual non-residential tax rate	(line 13 / line 14)	1.5293

COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
Communications Program Summary

■ **Electronic media avenues**

- The *Spotlight* blog, including videos and photographs
- YouTube channel for videos
- *Currently Colchester* newspaper (electronic version)
- Power Announcement notification system (e-mail, voice, and text capabilities)
- Facebook
- Twitter
- District website
- Schools' websites
- Electronic newsletters
- Teachers' websites/blogs (we prepare materials for teachers and administrators to disseminate)
- Front Porch Forum

■ **Media**

- Actively promote CSD to the media/network and local access television and solicit coverage
- Cross-post and promote information on a wide variety of social media sites
- Regularly disseminate press releases and media advisories

■ **Print media avenues**

- *Currently Colchester* newspaper delivered to every residence in Colchester
- Supply weekly *Colchester Sun* content for Schools' Page
- Annual reports
- Fliers/brochures

■ **Interpersonal avenues**

- Train and mentor staff in communications efforts
- Open house and other community events/dinners
- Student performances/events
- Parent/student learning nights
- PTOs

Colchester School District

The mission of Colchester School District is to partner with our community to educate each of our students to become engaged, productive citizens who lead successful, balanced, and healthy lives.

Upgrade School Safety: \$250,000

- Classroom Door Locks
- Front Entry Systems
- Secondary Doors
- Video Cameras

Tuition Revenue

Approximately 82 tuition students from other districts provide about \$800,000 in revenue

Major Cost Drivers

- Contracted Salaries
- Health Insurance Rates
- Dental Insurance Rates
- Professional Education Services (Sp. Ed.)
- Tuition to Private Schools (Sp. Ed.)

Budget Facts

Voter Budget	\$34,913,712
Expense Increase	6.7%
New Money	\$2,190,800

Tax Impact

Tax Increase	10.67%
Tax Increase	\$0.1338
Actual Tax Rate	\$1.3879

Past Budget Percent Increases

2011–12	2.47%
2010–11	0.36%
2009–10	0.60%
2008–09	3.10%

FY 2013 Per-Pupil Spending Comparison

Colchester	\$12,043
Burlington	\$12,333
S. Burlington	\$13,411
Essex Junction	\$12,939
Milton	\$11,933
Essex Town	\$13,528
State Average	\$12,789

Colchester has below-average per-pupil spending

Five-Year Enrollment

2008–09	2,212
2009–10	2,167
2010–11	2,194
2011–12	2,156
2012–13	2,136

Kindergarten enrollments are at a ten-year high

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8 WAYS

COLCHESTER SCHOOLS STAND OUT

Colchester High School ranks among the **top 5 percent of the nation's high schools** according to *US News and World Report* and has made *Newsweek's* America's Best High Schools list numerous times.

Colchester's per-pupil costs and teacher salaries are both **below the state average**.

The district offers **quality essential early education** to an unprecedented number of young learners.

Technology integration has significantly increased at the K–5 level.

Colchester schools **surpass Vermont's average** in academic performance in every grade level.

Our students give back to their community; there is a tremendous sense of pride and belonging in Colchester schools.

Special education spending is **below the state average** despite increased enrollment and intensity of need.

The Vermont Agency of Education has commended Colchester High School for **dramatically improving student performance**, conducting a case study for the Vermont State Legislature to be used as a model for other high schools in the state.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Colchester School District

14 Year Budget & Enrollment Overview

2000-2014

School Year	Enrollment	F/R Lunch	Sp. Ed.	Profess.	Sp.Ed. Amt	% Increase	Tuit. Enrl	Tech Enrl	Budget Amt.	Actual Amt.	% Increase	Budget Vote Record			
	Year End			FTE's *								1st	2nd	3rd	4th
00-01	2,476			181	\$3,348,965		15	47	\$18,018,674	\$18,915,729	10.1%	134			
01-02	2,500			188	\$3,667,507	9.5%	22	68	\$19,558,269	\$19,946,611	8.5%	195			
02-03	2,526		273	182	\$4,279,056	16.7%	17	53	\$20,179,169	\$20,837,129	3.2%	-294	-240	-142	415
03-04	2,420	13%	267	179	\$4,371,114	2.2%	11	49	\$21,482,843	\$22,200,043	6.5%	415			
04-05	2,407	17%	261	181	\$4,555,157	7.2%	13	71	\$22,812,704	\$22,562,286	6.2%	377			
05-06	2,334	15%	249	196	\$4,882,715	6.7%	15	64	\$23,993,913	\$24,102,099	5.2%	-216	353		
06-07	2,291	16%	274	200	\$5,346,819	9.5%	23	97	\$25,432,259	\$25,661,870	6.0%	4			
07-08	2,254	19%	267	203	\$5,947,244	11.2%	23	93	\$26,775,529	\$26,922,887	5.3%	112			
08-09	2,212	22%	276	206	\$6,309,435	6.1%	40	84	\$29,097,821	\$28,575,458	8.7%	125			
09-10	2,167	24%	275	203	\$6,728,575	6.6%	54	81	\$31,784,655	\$31,241,061	3.1%	-238	126		
10-11	2,194	25%	272	194	\$6,894,709	2.5%	62	83	\$31,817,671	\$31,815,189	0.60%	-552	124		
11-12	2,156	28%	283	193.5	\$6,514,789	-5.50%	74	73	\$31,933,581	\$32,489,812	0.36%	449			
12-13	2,111	28%	297	196.7	\$6,717,372	3.11%	84	59	\$32,722,712	\$33,300,700	2.47%	-564	193		
13-14	2,139	32%	305	198.4	\$7,378,828	8.90%	80	56	\$34,497,846		5.42%	-263	123	CHS-Bond-pass	
14-15	2,152								\$36,008,117		4.38%	-571			

Enrollment Status 2013

Grade	2013-14	L. Waters		B. Smith		K-8		Enrollment 2014	
		Sept. 2014	2014	Current	Avg. Class	Anticipated	Anticipated	Avg. Class	
				Core FTE	Size	2014-15	Core FTE	Size	
K-PPS	99	95		5	19.8		4		
K-UMS	88	85	163	4.5	19.5	180	4	20	
1-PPS	88	97		4	22.0		5		
1-UMS	86	88	187	4	21.5	187	4	20.8	
2-PPS	80	87		4	19.8		4		
2-UMS	73	85	171	4	18.5	172	4	21.5	
3	160	153	157	7	22.9	153	7	21.9	
4	146	160	160	7	21.0	160	7	22.9	
5	155	147	149	7	22.3	147	7	21	
6	122	156	160	6	20.5	155	7	22.1	
7	166	123	125	6.5	25.5	123	6.5	18.9	
8	157	166	165	6.5	24.5	166	6.5	25.5	
9	200	159	178			159			
10	174	199	193			200			
11	179	174	173			174			
12	163	175	171	Total K-8		176	Total K-8		
13	3	3	3	65.5		3	66		
Total	2,139	2,152	2,155			2,155			

Enrollment & Adm. FTE's

2013-14	Enrollment	FTE	FTE
		Adm	Asst.
UMS	247	1.0	
PPS	264	1.0	
MBS + EEE	528	1.0	1.0
CMS	448	1.0	1.8
CHS	712	1.0	3.0
Sp. Ed.	*	1.0	
C. Office		3.0	
	2,199	9.0	5.8
			14.8

* Included in school enrollments

EEE Districtwide

Program	2011	2012	2013
	63	72	76

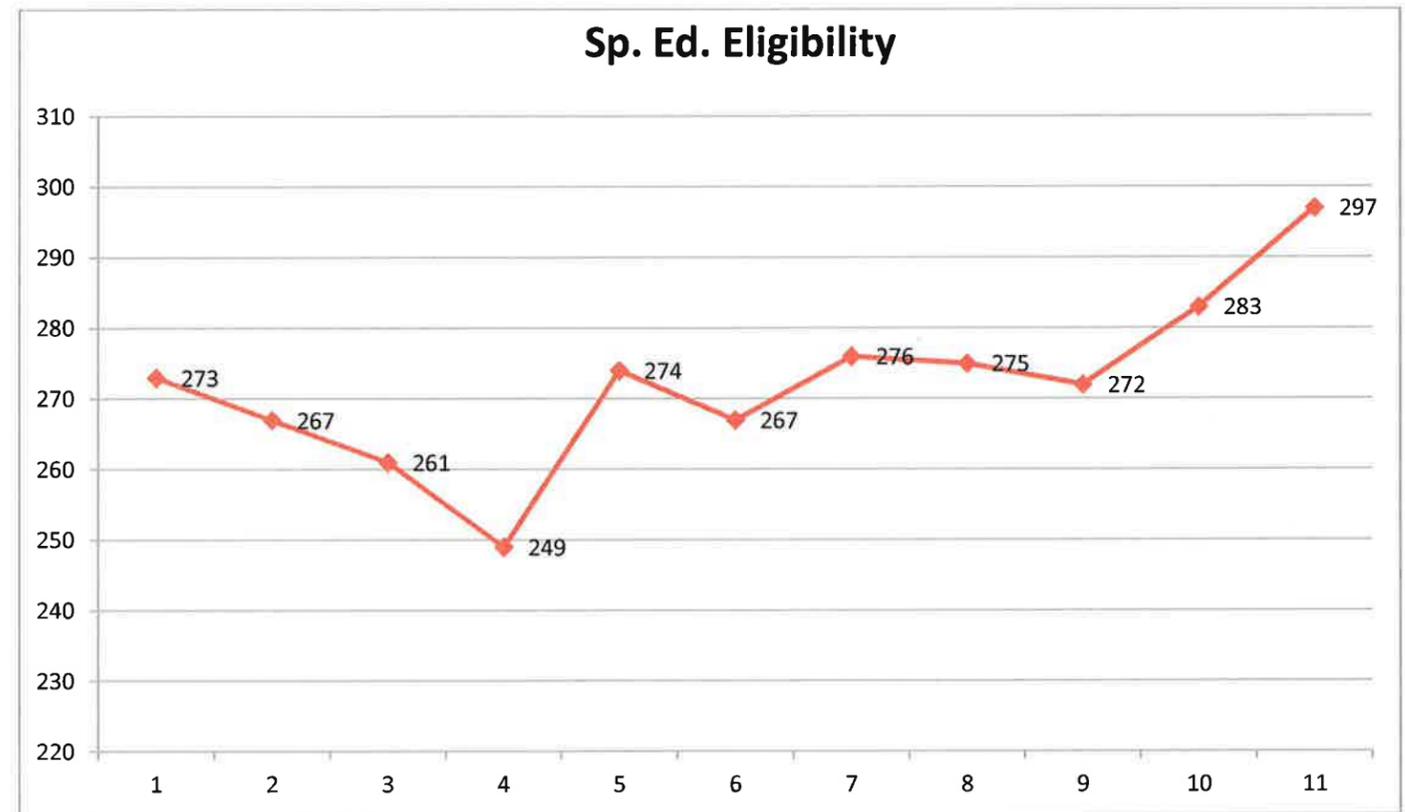
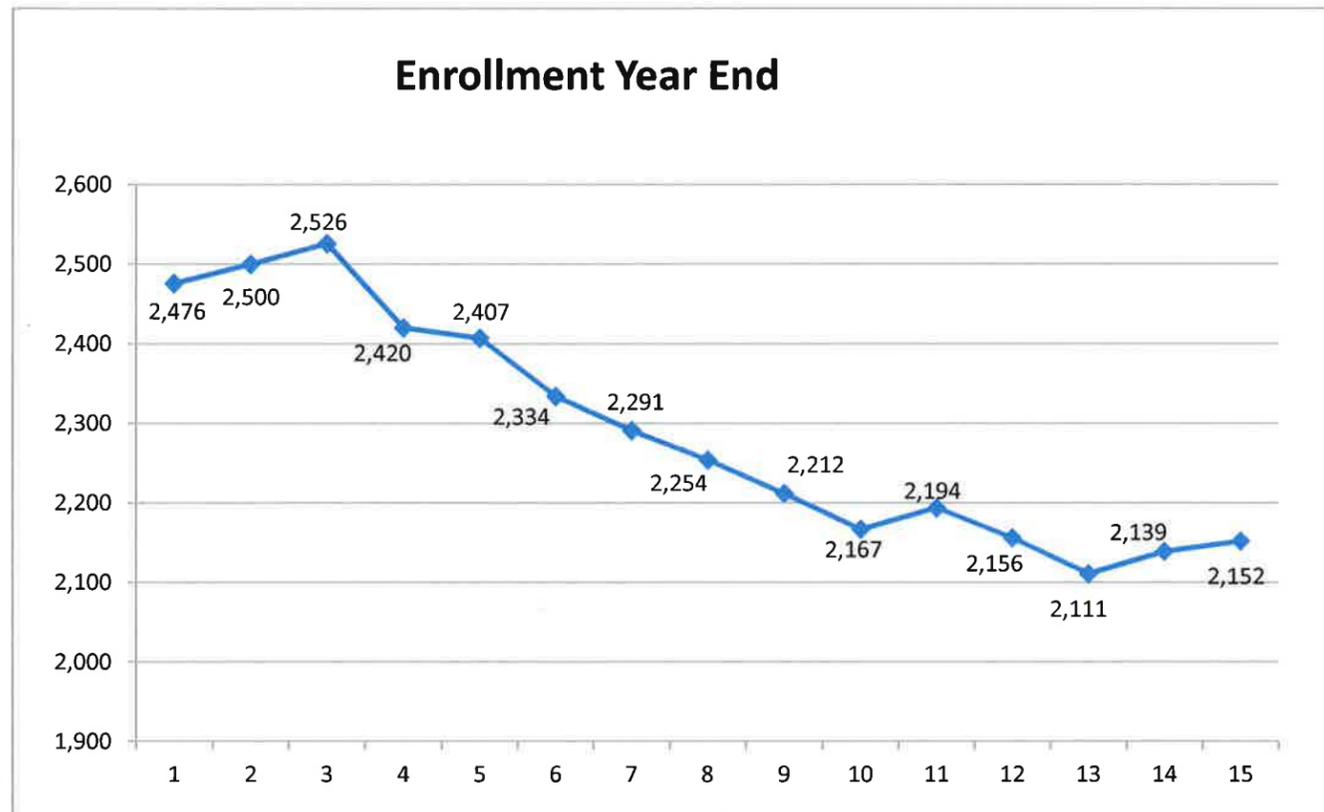
CAP Enrollment:

Total IEP, 504, Other	12-13	13-14
	17	30

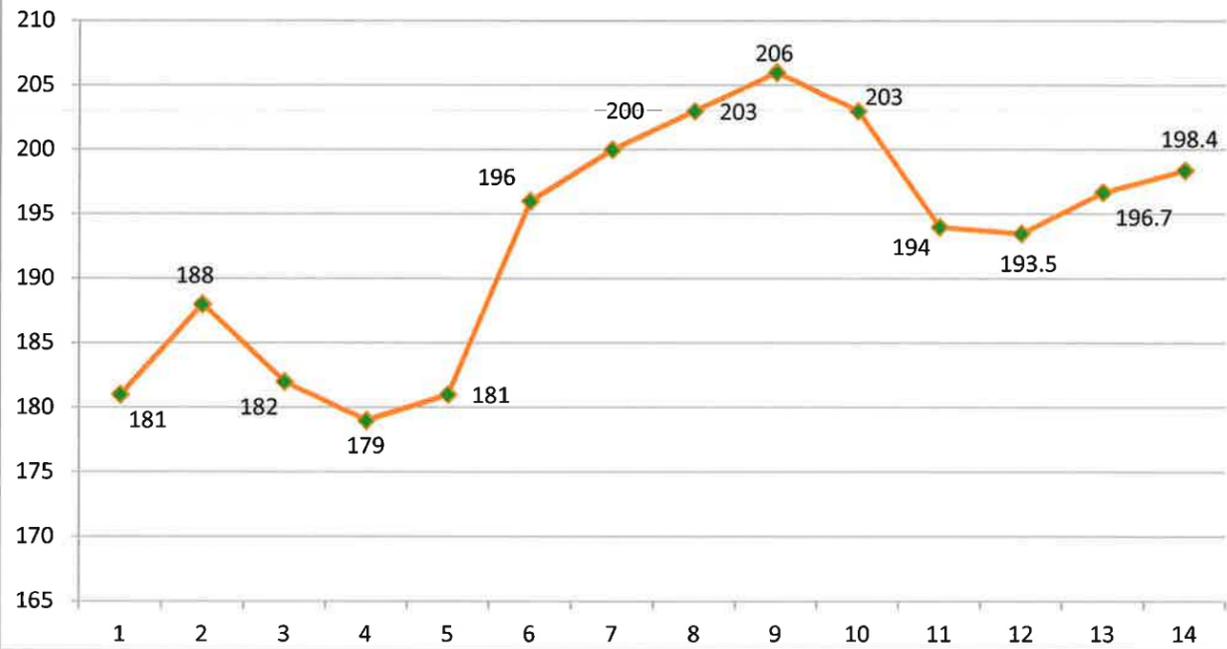
Free and Reduced Meals Program			
PPS		263	39%
UMS		247	36%
MBS		463	39%
CMS		448	32%
CHS		712	22%
		2,133	32%

Tuition Students Grades			
Gr. 6-8		7	
Gr. 9-12		73	
Total:		80	

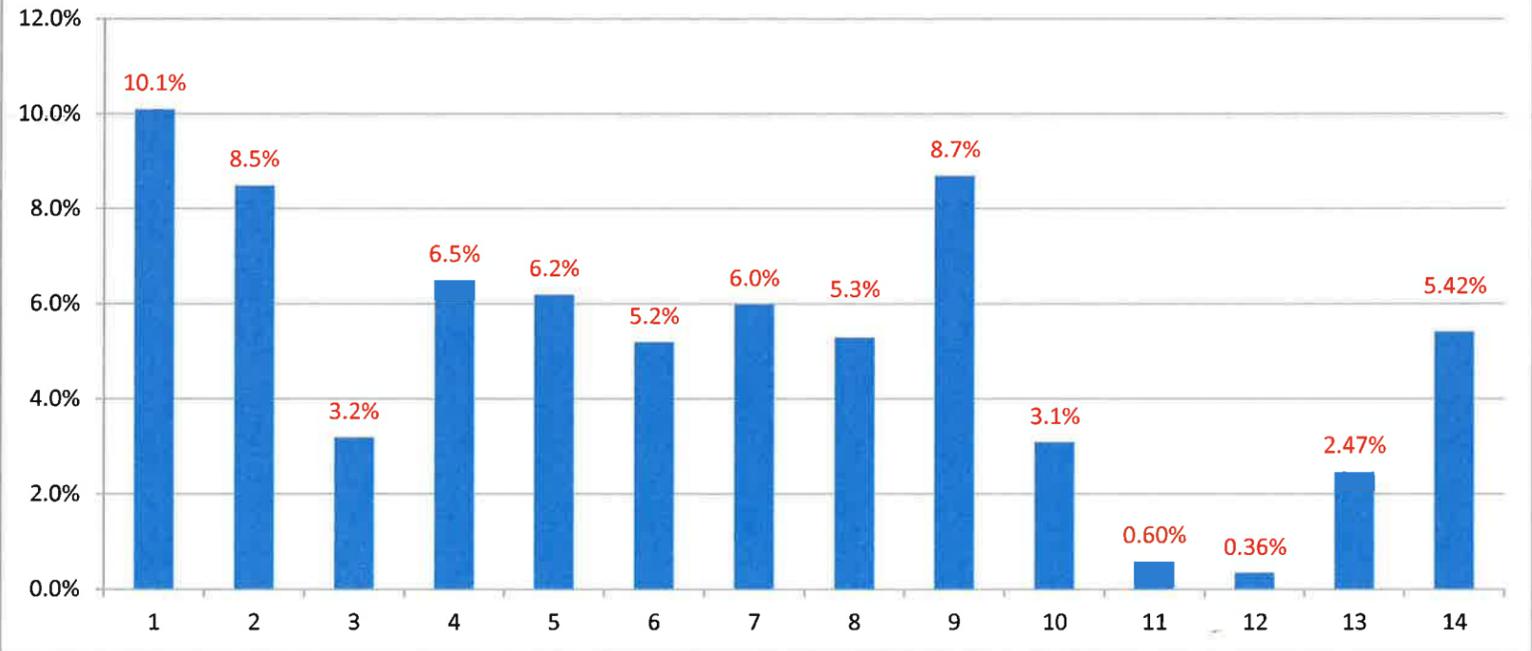
Out of District Placements		
	12-13	13-14
PPS	0	0
UMS	2	1
MBS	2	3
CMS	2	2
CHS	15	9
Total	21	15



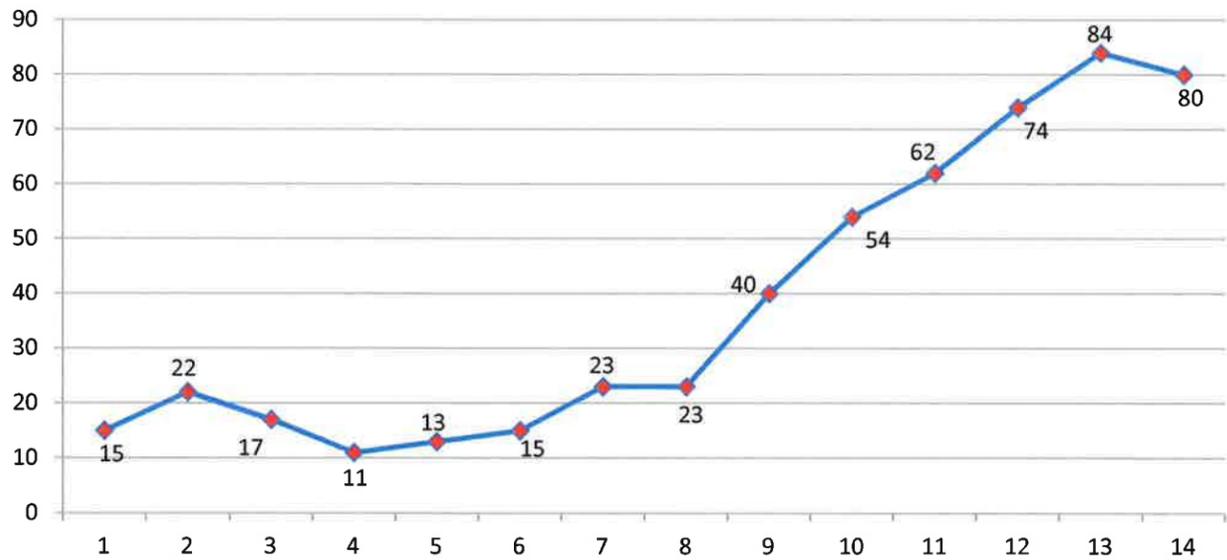
Profess. FTE's *



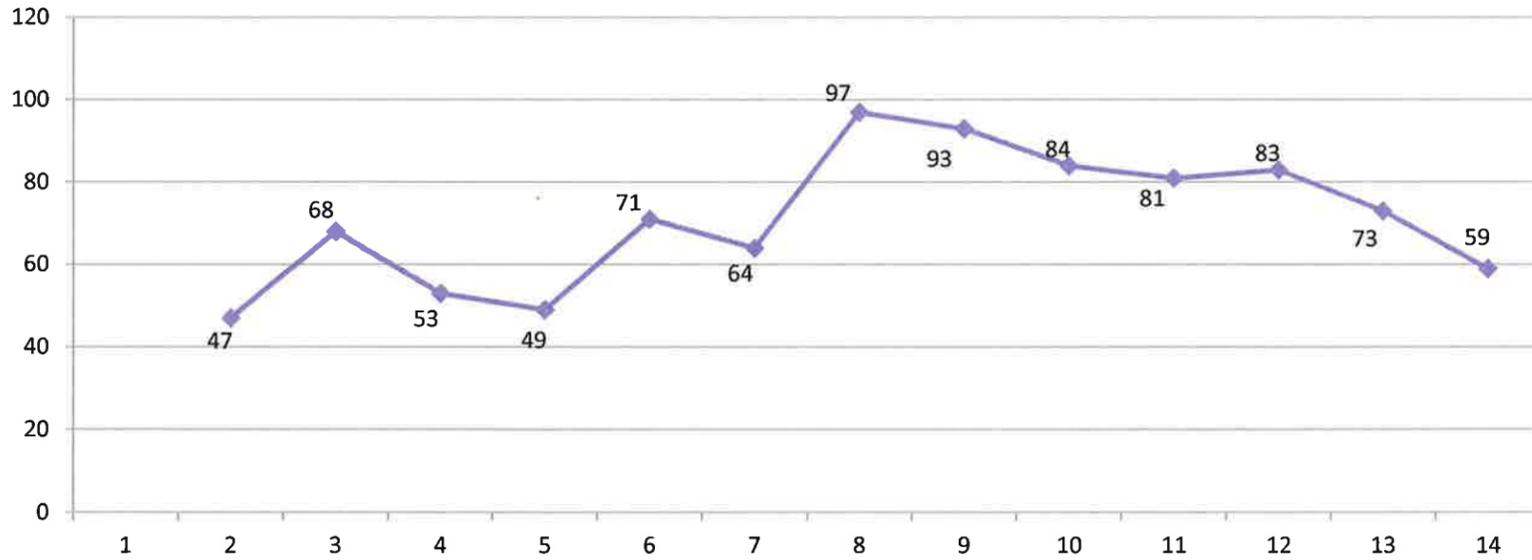
% Budget Increase



Student Tuition Enrollments



Technical School Enrollment



Colchester School District

Final FY'14 Budget Reductions: April 16, 2013

* Amounts are approximations only

(v - Confirmed)

First Round Cuts			
Health Care Premiums/Buyout	Reduction in Do Not Exceed	\$59,868	v
Support Staff	Reduction in Days	\$61,022	v
Maintain/Repair	Reduction in repairs	\$50,000	v
Substitutes	Reduction in days	\$25,000	v
Prof. Services/Tuition to Private Schools	Reduction in Services/ Out of district	\$50,000	v
Other adjustment (FICA, Bond, etc.)	Addition of bond minus other benefits	\$9,089	v
Title 1 Teacher – Reading	Reduction in Federal funding	\$34,495	v
Communications	Reduction in Contract Days	\$47,981	v
	TOTAL:	\$337,455	
Second Round Cuts			
Criminal Record Check Reimbursement	No longer providing reimbursements	\$3,000	v
Out of district placements	Recapture students out of district placements	\$50,000	v
MBS Building Nurse	Reduction EEE medical coverage (unfunded)	\$0	v
CHS Math Lab	Reduction of service-only 3 days/wk.	\$15,000	
Stipends - CHS / CMS *	Programs/Athletics/ Co-curricular	\$25,211	v
CMS Library Aide	Reduction in library services at CMS	\$20,000	
Computer Lab Monitor	Reduction of CHS lab monitor	\$25,555	
Support Staff	UMS	\$4,500	
Support Staff	PPS	\$4,500	
	TOTAL:	\$147,766	
Grand Total:		\$485,221.00	
(*INCLUDED IN AMOUNTS ABOVE)			
Stipend Reductions: (Specific)			
CHS Rugby (Girls)	Very low participation	\$2,790	v
CHS Asst. Basketball Coach	Girls-to hire a female asst. coach	\$2,780	v
CHS Asst. Wrestling Coach	Low participation	\$2,894	v
CHS Reflections	Split with Journalism	\$1,660	v
CHS Snowboard Club Coach		\$1,545	v
CMS Website Manager	Move to Adm.	\$1,666	v
CMS Writing/Journalism Club facilitator		\$1,345	v
CMS Caring Cougars		\$1,345	v
CMS Math Counts		\$1,666	v
CMS Writing Club		\$1,345	v
CMS Yearbook facilitator		\$1,666	v
CMS Softball "B" Team Coach		\$1,250	v
Speech Lang. Path-team leader*	District	\$3,259	v
	TOTAL:	\$25,211	

\$337,455	Round 1
<u>\$78,211</u>	Round 2
\$415,666	Total

\$2,190,800	Mar. Amt.
<u>\$415,666</u>	Current Reduction
\$1,775,134	Final Amt. Increase
\$34,497,846	New Budget Amt.
5.42%	% Inc.
8.53%	Tax Inc.

Colchester School District

2012-13 High School Comparison

(Performance rated-High to Low)

NECAP Scores 2012-13					Eq. Per		Free/Reduce	
	Reading	Math	Writing	Total	Pupil Sp.	Eq. Tax	Lunch	
Colchester	88%	59%	69%	216%	\$12,043	1.2300	18%	
Champlain Valley	87%	55%	69%	211%	\$12,804	1.3014	12%	Williston
South Burlington	89%	52%	68%	209%	\$13,411	1.3683	20%	
Essex	87%	61%	58%	206%	\$12,939	1.3408	18%	
Mt. Mansfield	85%	55%	62%	202%	\$12,173	1.2992	14%	Jericho
Milton	82%	38%	49%	169%	\$11,933	1.2175	31%	
Burlington	71%	44%	45%	160%	\$12,333	1.2584	41%	
Winooski	46%	9%	34%	89%	\$11,573	1.1807	71%	
State Average	74%	38%	47%	159%	\$12,789		39%	
New Hampshire State Avg.	77%	37%	46%	160%				
Rhode Island State Avg.	79%	34%	50%	163%				

2012-13 Student Comparison to Teachers, Administrators, Salaries

(Rank by salary high to low)	Student/Teacher	Teachers/Adm.	Student/Adm.	Avg. Tchr. Salary
South Burlington	11.75	24.68	290	\$72,272
Champlain Valley	13.55	15.79	214	\$69,258
Essex	12.64	9.75	123.3	\$66,601
Burlington	11.85	25.86	306.29	\$63,673
Colchester	12.11	12.57	152.17	\$59,914
Mt. Mansfield	16.22	18.27	296.33	\$57,094
Milton	11.3	22.83	258	\$56,389
State Average	10.62	9.66	102.58	\$54,421
Winooski	9.13	19.67	179.55	\$49,878

2012-13 Equalized Per Pupil Spending (Ranked High to Low)

South Burlington	\$13,411	Very Large	1000 Students
Essex Town (K-8)	\$13,081	Very Large	
Essex	\$12,939	Very Large	
Champlain Valley	\$12,804	Very Large	
State Average	\$12,789		
Burlington	\$12,333	Very Large	
Mt. Mansfield	\$12,173	Very Large	
Colchester	\$12,043	Very Large	
Milton	\$11,933	Very Large	
Winooski	\$11,573	Large	500 Students
Rutland City	\$11,988	Very Large	
Hartford	\$12,428	Very Large	
Barre City	\$10,960	Large	
St. Albans Town	\$11,058	Large	
St. Albans City	\$12,025	Large	
Missisquoi Valley	\$10,706	Very Large	
Fairfax	\$11,233	Large	
North Hero	\$13,525	Small	100 Students
Grand Isle	\$12,607	Medium	100-500 Students
Westford	\$12,239	Medium	
Georgia	\$11,859	Large	
Hinesburg	\$14,018	Medium	
Jericho	\$13,993	Medium	
Williston	\$12,731	Very Large	
Shelburne	\$13,052	Large	
Richmond	\$12,746	Medium	

