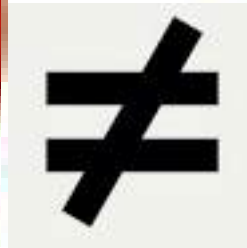


Initial Implementation of Act 46

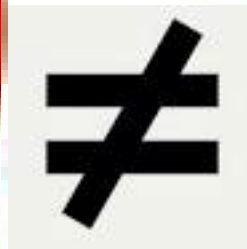


Clarification

CLARIFICATION



CLARIFICATION



Activity to Date:

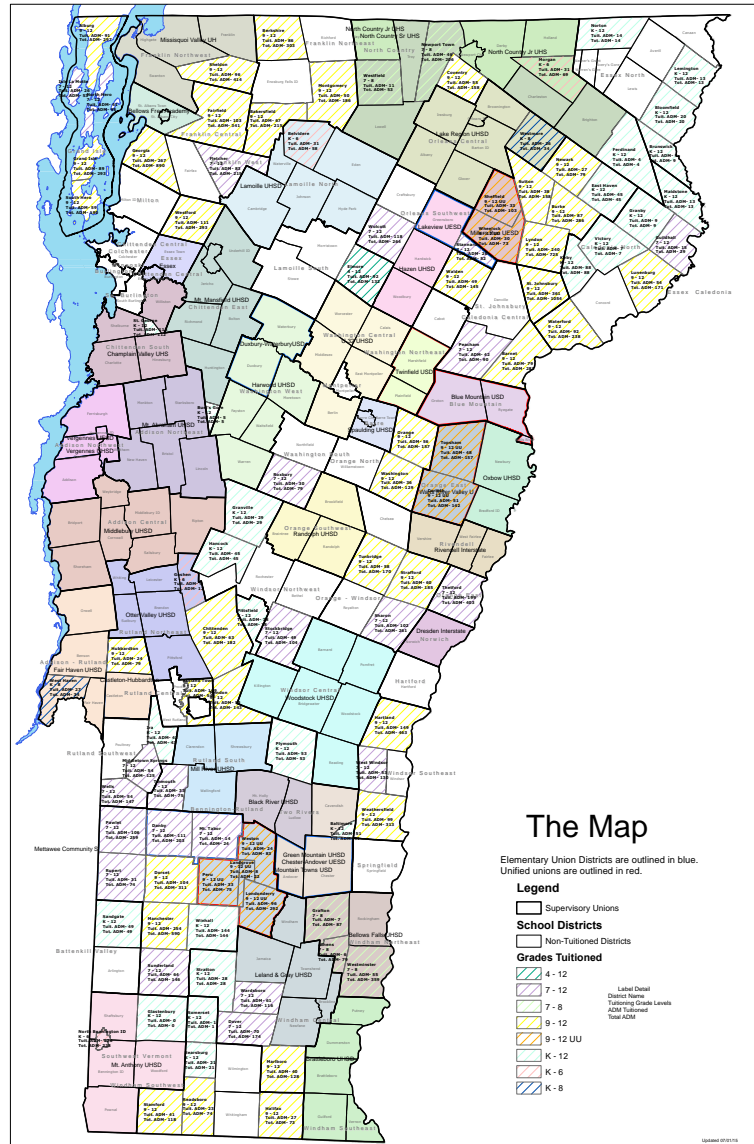
Total of 15 Votes expected in 2016:

- 11 supervisory unions pursuing accelerated mergers
- (1 done, five that plan to vote on town meeting day, two that plan to vote in April and the rest to vote in June)
- Expect four RED or RED variation votes on town meeting day.

Also:

- About 28 active study committees to our knowledge
- Additional conversations about mergers across SU lines (including regional conversations)

Tuitioning and Operating



Purposes of Education

- Democratic equity (Education as a public good, shared purpose, common opportunities)
- Social and economic efficiency (Education as a public good, workers for the workforce)
- Individual advancement: “getting ahead” (Education as an individual good, use market competition to incentivize quality)

Note that these are contradictory goals:
schools will never “succeed”

No structure is perfect.

All present challenges.

Which challenges do you want to manage?

District Structure:	Challenges:
Operating	Meeting individual needs within one system
Tuitioning	Ensuring equity of opportunity, controlling costs
Mixed	Both of above, can mitigate with scale.

These are typical challenges, although local circumstances may vary.

CLARIFICATION:

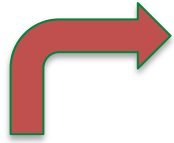
Only districts get to decide by a vote of the electorate

To
operate
?



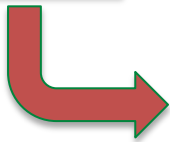
To
tuition?

Your First Choice:



NO?

To operate or
not to operate?
That is the
question.



YES?



If you tuition:

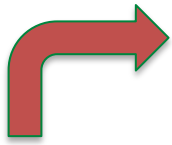
To operate or
not to operate?
That is the
question.

NO: Required to tuition
at some or all levels.
Parents get to select
where kids go, unless
board designates.
Primary challenges:
Cost containment
and equity.

YES

Act 46, Section 45:
Parents of secondary
students choose a school
in or out of the state
unless the district votes to
designate up to three VT
schools (generally for
purposes of cost
containment).

If you operate:



NO

To operate or not to operate?
That is the question.



YES: Operate.
Primary challenge:
Maintaining quality
and breadth of
opportunities.



VSA 16, §822 (c):
School board may choose to pay tuition for individual students if it is in the best interests of the children.
Act 129 of 2012 allows students to apply to attend any other public high school in the state; money does not follow the child.

VT Operating and Tuitioning Options

To operate or not to operate?
That is the question.

NO: Required to tuition at some or all levels. Parents get to select where kids go, unless board designates.
Primary challenges: Cost containment and equity.

YES: Operate.
Primary challenge: Maintaining quality and breadth of opportunities.

Act 46, Section 45: Parents of secondary students choose a school in or out of the state unless the district votes to designate up to three VT schools (generally for purposes of cost containment).

VSA 16, §822 (c): School board may choose to pay tuition for individual students if it is in the best interests of the children.
Act 129 of 2012 allows students to apply to attend any other public high school in the state; money does not follow the child.

Decide: What do you want as a community?

Statewide, many of our systems began with community conversations designed to build clarity and consensus about goals and aspirations for the education of our children.

Identify and Focus on YOUR Goals and Culture

Start by clarifying your goals and core commitments.

The RIGHT strategy is a function of local commitments and regional conditions.

None of us can have everything.

What is it you want most?



Hard Choices



Guildhall

- Only 20 students in grades K-5
- Project only 10 students in 2018.
- Expected per pupil costs to rise from \$12k to about \$20k.
- Decided to close school and tuition.

Hard choices

Bridgewater



	FY14	FY15	FY16
Bridgewater	1.633	1.693	1.511
% Change		3.69%	-10.74%
Pomfret	1.731	1.748	1.452
		0.98%	-16.94%

Hard Choices



Elmore

- Tax rate increased .15 between FY15 and FY16
- Projected to increase the same in FY17, which will put them over the threshold.

Hard choices



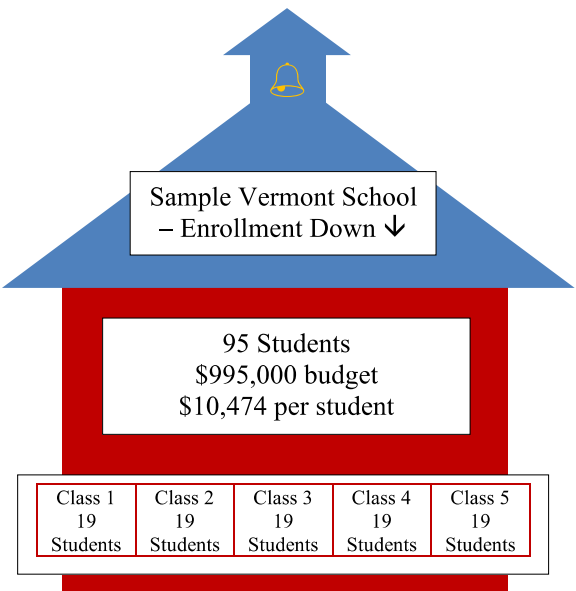
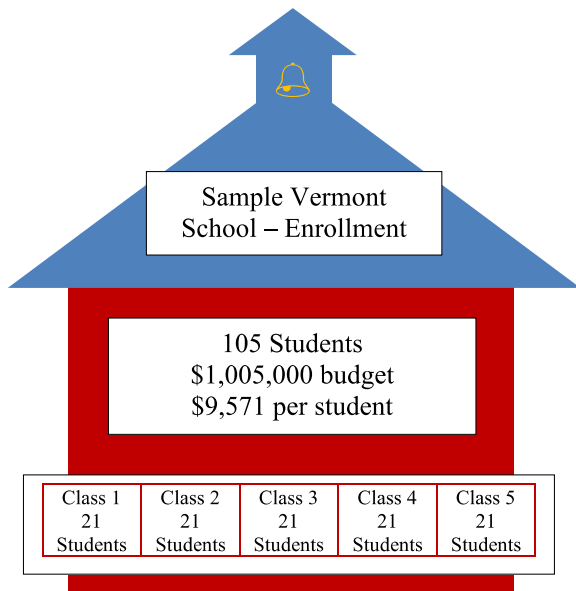
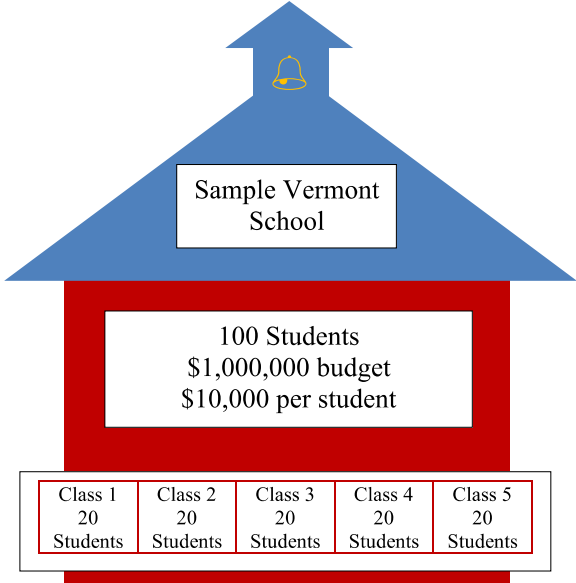
North Bennington

NB ID School District tax rates rising faster than the state as a whole

In FY15:

- 111 students tuitioning to VSNB
- 11 Students tuitioning to other schools, both public and private

Risk of Tuitioning and Operating



(From Elmore
Morristown
Report)

Different Choices Have Different Implications

Town Equalized Homestead Rates

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Bridgewater	1.633	1.693 3.69%	1.511 -10.74%
Pomfret	1.731	1.748 0.98%	1.452 -16.94%
Elmore	1.324	1.595 20.51%	1.743 9.23%
North Bennington ID	1.438	1.528 6.31%	1.602 4.80%
Weybridge	1.635	1.881 15.01%	2.015 7.14%

Caution: tax incentives are a means to an end, not an end in themselves.

- Tax benefits cover transition costs, then go away.
- Don't make changes for the sake of short term tax reductions that were designed to offset transition costs.



Think Long Term

How do you want to be educating your children in 20 years? How do you make this happen?



Questions