

## **Corrections – Education: Community High School of Vermont**

The Vermont Department of Corrections is statutorily mandated to provide education services for offenders in custody who are under the age of 23 and have not achieved a high school diploma. The Community High School of Vermont serves as the vehicle for offenders to obtain their high school diplomas, through academic, social and vocational training. The incarcerated population has been aging in recent years, which has resulted in a smaller number of students attending CHSVT classes. This decline has been seen most in the community field locations, but is also noticeable within the correctional facilities.

We are proposing the reduction of all community field sites as well as select facility locations. This reduction will also result in the elimination of up to 25 positions. The Community High School will be able to provide the mandated services at the reduced locations and these services will continue to be provided in at least one male and one female facility.

The sites listed below are still under discussion and will be decided based upon an analysis of data by the CHSVT. Any inmates coming into incarceration who have a CHSVT need will be transferred to a site that offers CHSVT, similar to how all other program need within the DOC are addressed for specific inmates.

One of the attached charts offers some information on the uptake in apprenticeship and trade programs for the DOC population. Within the proposed restructuring of CHSVT, DOC will continue to offer trade and apprenticeship programs. Statewide opportunities do exist but our data indicates that uptake within those programs seems to be on the decline.

The estimated FY16 Education Fund savings is approximately \$1,957,000.

CHSVT will continue to provide services at the following facilities:

CRCF (South Burlington)

NSCF (Newport)

NWSCF (St. Albans)

SSCF (Springfield)

CHSVT services will be discontinued at MVRCF (Rutland), NERCF (St. Johnsbury), and SESCF (Windsor), and all community field sites.