

Caledonia Central Supervisory Union

Cabot School, Twinfield School,
Danville School District, Peacham School District
Caledonia Cooperative School District (Barnet, Walden & Waterford Schools)

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Mark Tucker, Superintendent of Schools
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We understand that the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs is making decisions this week regarding two bills proposing changes to the process for statewide collective bargaining for public school employees' health benefits.

We are requesting that this letter be entered into the written testimony of the Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs on H.81 and posted on the Committee's website.

Rather than H.81, we support H.63 because it balances appropriate access to health care benefits and reasonable cost containment to ensure the financial sustainability of the benefits. Cost containment is needed in order to avoid further jeopardizing educational opportunities for students and maintenance of facilities.

Caledonia Central Supervisory Union (CCSU) is comprised of five school districts and a central office, each of which is considered a separate employer within the Supervisory Union. During the period FY20 to FY22 the overall three-year trend shows an increase of \$831,552 or 22.1% for health insurance for all employees, broken out by year below:

Fiscal Year	Total Budgeted HC Costs	Total Budgeted Expenditures	% of Total Budget for HC	% Healthcare vs. Salary
FY20	3,756,841	41,355,035	9.1%	23.1%
FY21	4,212,132	41,998,355	10.0%	25.3%
FY22	4,588,393	41,371,499	11.1%	28.2%

While increasing healthcare costs put a strain on our budgets, the impact is most greatly felt by those districts that operate at or near the Excess Spending Threshold. In the current budgeting cycle, we have had to make some difficult decisions about staffing levels (i.e., reductions) in three of my Districts just to get to a budgeted expenditure level that will (hopefully) result in an approved budget at Town Meeting.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Patrick Healy, CCSU Board Chair
Mark Tucker, CCSU Superintendent

“It is the mission of the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union and its seven member schools to create a learning community in which each individual can achieve the highest standards of excellence in intellectual growth and citizenship.”