

Jamie Kinnarney, Superintendent of Schools
Anda Adams, Chief Academic Officer of MTSS
Annette Rhoades, Director of Special Services
Tara Weatherell, Business Manager
Raymond Ballou, Director of Technology
and Communications



wrvsu.org

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To: Vermont State Board of Education

Re: Lincoln School District Assignment

November 9, 2022

I want to thank the State Board of Education for allowing me to submit the third letter on behalf of the White River Valley Supervisory Union (WRVSU) regarding the possible assignment of Lincoln School District to the WRVSU. I am also including preliminary budget information specific to Lincoln School District and the WRVSU with this correspondence. I am also going to be addressing our specific concerns regarding 16 V.S.A. §165(a). With special attention to the function of the financial offices, technology, transportation, food service, and curriculum/special education with focused attention on Act 173, efficiencies as described in act 46, and the expected negative impact on the collective bargaining process.

Financial Offices:

- The financial offices of WRVSU are operated with a Business Manager, Accountant, Payroll/Accountant, Accounts Payable, and Human Resource Specialist. We pride ourselves as having an efficient and effective financial services department at WRVSU. The WRVSU currently serves six Districts and seven Boards. The addition of a seventh district that is easily over 65 minutes from the WRVSU offices poses significant concerns to how we would meet the obligation of supervisory services without adding an additional staff accountant. This still doesn't solve our dilemma in navigating how we best provide all the other services as described in 16 V.S.A. §261(a). With specific attention to HR which includes onboarding and mentoring services. The net change to the added 1.0 FTE to the fiscal offices would result in a minimum increase to the WRVSU fiscal budget of \$94,600 for the 2023-24 school year.
- The impact to transportation would result in us needing to navigate how best to provide transportation services through a SU-wide contract that could potentially include a member district that is fifty minutes from our closest operating district in good driving conditions. Hence, there is significant concern that the addition of Lincoln could result in us having to create less efficiency by possibly contracting transportation services outside of our Su-wide transportation contract. Of which, contradicts the desired outcome of act 46 to result in further efficiencies and effectiveness of operations. Once again, resulting in less efficiency within the WRVSU offices to navigate transportation services in the event that two different vendors are needed.

- The WRVSU Board has worked diligently to increase efficiency throughout the WRVSU over recent years. Two areas of example are the inclusion of Technology Operations and Food Service as WRVSU services provided and supervised on behalf of the member districts. This was no small feat, but has resulted in efficiencies and increased effectiveness across the member districts of the WRVSU. We once again want to share significant concerns about our ability to provide services as aforementioned to a school district that is over an hour from the supervisory offices and almost 90 minutes from several of our schools. We do expect required additional FTEs in both departments totalling \$126,325 in new spending to the WRVSU 2023-24 budget.
- The WRVSU is currently in the process of revising and adopting a Strategic Plan/Roadmap for Success. This includes goals specific to revision in curriculum, su-wide reporting metrics, increased efficiency and implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports and SU aligned professional development. I speak to all of this because it aligns to the work of Act 173 and the expectations in 16 V.S.A. §261(a). This has resulted in clearly identified WRVSU-wide Non-negotiables of MTSS, SU-wide report cards, WRVSU-wide mentoring program, and SU-wide professional learning collaboratives. This work necessitates faculty/staff and administration meeting together in-person to complete this important work. I am deeply concerned that the geographic nature of a revised SU border would result in us having to move to virtual only options for collaboration due to necessity and not out of choice. WRVSU is already one of the largest supervisory unions both geographically and in the pure number of districts served. The addition of a seventh district that is at a minimum of fifty minutes away from our closest school creates a great barrier in fulfilling the expectations outlined in 16. V.S.A. §261(a) and in Act 173. Specifically, the concerns related to Act 173 are found in our inability to share resources like Special Education teachers, paraprofessionals, school based clinicians, and related service providers (occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech language pathologists) due to the geographic nature of Lincoln School District and the member districts of WRVSU.
- There is great concern in the current differences between the collective bargaining agreements of MAUUSD and WRVSU for both licensed faculty and educational support personnel. Specifically, there are significant differences in working conditions and the wages agreed upon in the collective bargaining agreements. For example, the differences in wages for the MAUUSD professional staff in 2023-24 to WRVSU are outlined below:

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23-24 WRVSU BA Step A (BASE)	23-24 MAUUSD BA Step 1 (BASE)	Difference	23-24 WRVSU M+30 Step R	23-24 MAUUSD MA +30 Step 18	Difference
\$43,707	\$48,950	\$5,243 or 11.9%	\$77,250	\$92,564	\$15,314 or 19.8%

As articulated, the mere consideration of future negotiations to bring the Lincoln School District educators and support personnel under the umbrella of the WRVSU CBA are significant in nature. I believe that this concept alone could result in significant impacts to morale, collaboration, efficiency, and the effectiveness of our operations as previously outlined. The fact is, the Lincoln School District has way more in common with the supervisory unions and districts of Chittenden county than they do with the supervisory union and districts of the upper valley and central vermont. I urge you to take the aforementioned information seriously when considering a possible placement of Lincoln School District within the WRVSU border. I do believe that the collective bargaining differences alone speak to why this possible decision would have immediate negative consequences for the students and constituents of WRVSU.

In closing, I urge the State Board of Education to also take into account not only this letter and corresponding attachments but also the previous information provided through letters/testimony provided from concerned WRVSU Board members and constituents. I have great respect for all of your work, and ask that you immediately take the White River Valley Supervisory Union off the table as a possible solution for the dilemma facing the Lincoln School District. We are in the midst of continuous improvement and any decision other than the aforementioned would truly result in a negative consequence for our students, families, educators, and constituents.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Kinnarney

WRVSU, Superintendent of Schools

LINCOLN NUMBERS - UPDATED 11/8/2022

FY23 ADM 198.38
ENROLLMENT 183

ADDING THE FOLLOW TO THE SU CENTRAL OFFICE BUDGET:

\$78,325 TECH SUPPORT POSITION Salary/Benefits
\$94,600 ACCOUNTANT Salary/Benefits
\$90,000 1.0 FTE Special Educator Salary/Benefits
\$48,000 1.0 FTE Special Education Paraprofessional Salary/Benefits
\$48,000 1.0 FTE Food Service Personnel Salary/Benefits
\$ 32,000 Contracted Support Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment
\$ 75,400 Related Service Providers (SLP, SLPA, PT, OT, School Based Clinician Services)

TOTAL ADDED TO FY23 BUDGET \$466,325

LINCOLN'S WRVSU CENTRAL OFFICE ASSESSMENT % WOULD BE 11.8% OR \$247,722
LINCOLN'S WRVSU SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT % WOULD BE 11.6% OR
\$285,043

THE CHANGE IN ASSESSMENT % ACROSS WRVSU'S CURRENT DISTRICTS WOULD
IMPACT THE EQUALIZED TAX RATE AS FOLLOWS:

- FBUD - WOULD BE A REDUCTION OF \$76,300 TO THE FY23 BUDGET OR .0028 CENTS ON THE TAX RATE
- GHUD - WOULD BE A REDUCTION OF \$18,110 TO THE FY23 BUDGET -.0154 CENTS ON THE TAX RATE
- RSUD - WOULD BE A REDUCTION OF \$16,431 TO THE FY23 BUDGET OR .0109 CENTS ON THE TAX RATE
- SHARON - WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL \$50,387 TO THE FY23 BUDGET OR .0138 CENTS ON THE TAX RATE
- STRAFFORD - WOULD BE A REDUCTION OF \$20,561 TO THE FY23 BUDGET OR .0092 CENTS ON THE TAX RATE
- WRUD - WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL \$23,596 TO THE FY23 BUDGET OR .003 ON THE TAX RATE

**SHARON WOULD HAVE THE MOST NEGATIVE IMPACT WITH .0138 CENTS BEING
ADDED TO THE TAX RATE**

Lincoln COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT - FY2024 (2023 -2024) School District Budget
11.9.2022 Budget DRAFT #1 - FOR DISCUSSION / REVIEW ONLY
FIGURES SHOWN ARE FOR DISCUSSION & THEORY ONLY!

<https://tax.vermont.gov/property/education-property-tax-rates>

In This Scenario - Used 2022 CLA and Property Tax from site above.

	<u>Column A</u>		<u>Column C</u>	<u>Column C = Column C - Column B (FY24 - FY23)</u>	
Description:	<i>Lincoln FY23 (2022 -2023) Budget ** Including Special Article**</i>		<i>Lincoln FY24 (2023 - 2024) Budget Draft 11.9.22 ** Including Special Article**</i>	Budget to Budget \$\$\$ Increase (Decrease)	Description:
Budgeted Expenditures Line #1	\$0		\$4,666,585	\$4,666,585	Budgeted Expenditures Line #1
Budgeted Revenues (Non-Tax Revenue) Line #10	\$0		\$99,700	\$99,700	Budgeted Revenues (Non-Tax Revenue) Line #10
Local Education Spending Line #14	\$0		\$4,566,885	\$4,566,885	Local Education Spending Line #14
Equalized Pupils Line #15	187.98		187.98	0.00	Equalized Pupils Line #15
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil Line #16	\$0		\$24,295	\$24,295	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil Line #16
Excess Spending Penalty	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	Excess Spending Penalty
Adjusted Ed Spending Per Equalized Pupil:	\$0		\$24,295	\$24,295	Adjusted Ed Spending Per Equalized Pupil:
Property Yield (16 VSA 4011)	\$12,937		\$13,314	\$377	Property Yield (16 VSA 4011)
District Spending Adjustment Line # 28	0.000%		182.474%	182.474%	District Spending Adjustment Line # 28
Base Statewide Equalized Homestead Tax Rate	\$1.00		\$1.00	\$0.00	Base Statewide Equalized Homestead Tax Rate
Local Equalized Homestead Tax Rate Line # 31	\$1.4870		\$1.8247	\$0.3377	Local Equalized Homestead Tax Rate Line # 31
Tax Rate Reduction Incentive Year 5 of 5 (FY22) (\$0.02)(Final Year)	\$0.0000		\$0.0000	\$0.000	Tax Rate Reduction Incentive is done (FY23) (\$0.00)(Last year FY22)
Projected Local Equalized Homestead Tax Rate Line # 31 With Incentive Calculated In:	\$1.4870		\$1.8247	\$0.3377	Projected Local Equalized Homestead Tax Rate Line # 31 With Incentive Calculated In:

Lincoln School District

Draft - 10.24.2022 (CL / FD / TW)

Draft #2 - 11.4.22 - Updated health to reflect 13% Increase

Revenues:				
Function	Function Description	Amount:	TEAM (TW / FD / CL) Amount:	NOTES TO Budget
4300	Rev - State	Small Schools Grant \$ 18,000	\$ -	
4400	Rev - Federal	Forestry Revenue \$ 6,000	\$ -	
4100	Rev - Local	Interest Income \$ 200	\$ -	
4100	Rev - Local	Rental Income \$ 3,000	\$ -	
4100	Rev - Local	Misc. Income \$ 2,500	\$ -	
4100	Rev - Local	Prior Year Surplus \$ 20,000	\$ -	
	Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 20,000	
	Interest Income	\$ -	\$ 200	
	Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 11,500	Combined Their LSD Forestry / Miscellaneous / Rental
	SPED: Mainstream Block Grant	\$ -	\$ -	
	SPED: Sped Intensive	\$ -	\$ -	
	SPED: Extraordinary Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ -	
	SPED: State Placed Student Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ -	
	SPED: EEE Grant	\$ -	\$ -	
	SPED: Prior Year	\$ -	\$ -	
	Loan Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	
	Small Schools Grant	\$ -	\$ 18,000	
	Transportation Aid	\$ -	\$ 50,000	Portion of SU Transportation Revenue back to LSD
	Other Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	
	Tier 1 Revenue Total:	\$ -		
	ACT 68 Funding:			
	Education Spending Grant	\$ -	\$ 4,955,654	
	Due from State Tech Ed Funding	\$ 97,850	\$ 97,850	
	Sub Total ACT 68 Funding:	\$ -		
	Federal and State Funding:	\$ -		
	Title I	\$ -		
	Other Sub-Grants	\$ -		
	Total LSD (Prek - Grade 12) Revenue Budget:	\$ 147,550	\$ 5,153,204	
		\$ 3,916,438	\$ 4,666,585	
		\$ (3,768,888)	\$ 486,619	

Expenditures:					
Function	Function Description	Account Description	Amount:	TEAM (TW / FD / CL) Amount:	
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Wages and Benefits	\$ 748,860	\$ -	<i>I broke the staff out below and I DID NOT Include the SpEd Para - That'll be in SU Assessment</i>
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions 4.0 FTE Teachers ONLY!	Wages and Benefits	\$ -	\$ 509,932	Only the 4.0 FTE Classroom Teachers
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions 2.0 FTE Paras ONLY!	Wages and Benefits	\$ -	\$ 108,912	Only the 2.0 FTE Support Staff - Para's
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions 1.0 FTE Intervention /Coach ONLY!	Wages and Benefits	\$ -	\$ 104,347	Only the 1.0 FTE Interervention / Coach Teacher Only
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Purchased Services	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Supplies	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Substitutes	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Dues and Fees	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	
2200	Guidance - .20 FTE	Wages and Benefits	\$ 14,084	\$ 14,084	
2200	Guidance	Purchased Services	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	
2200	Guidance	Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
2200	Guidance	Dues and Fees	\$ 500	\$ 500	
2300	Nurse - .40FTE	Wages and Benefits	\$ 28,128	\$ 28,128	
2300	Nurse	Supplies	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	
2300	Nurse	Dues and Fees	\$ 500	\$ 500	
2000	Student Support, Regular Education	Other Purchased Services	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,000	
2220	Library - .40FTE	Wages and Benefits	\$ 28,128	\$ 28,128	
2220	Library	Supplies	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
2220	Library	Dues and Fees	\$ 500	\$ 500	
2800	Administration	SU Assessment		\$ 713,381	SU Costs including: SpEd, Transportation, Technology, Business Office, Supt
2400	Administration - Principal & Admin Asst (2.0 FTE)	Wages and Benefits	\$ 253,283	\$ 240,714	Just Salary and Benefits for the 2.0 FTE
2400	Administration - PD Coach Only	Wages and Benefits	\$ -	\$ 30,117	PD Coach
2400	Administration	Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
2400	Administration	Dues and Fees	\$ 750	\$ 750	
2500	Fiscal Services	Debt Service	\$ 144,851	\$ 144,851	*Includes TAN interest
3100	Food Service Subsidy	Food Service Subsidy	\$ -	\$ 18,000	See next Tab
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Universal PK	\$ 57,750	\$ -	*\$3500 per student, assume 16.5 students
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Universal PK	\$ -	\$ 60,324	*FY23 cost is \$3,656 per student, assume 16.5 students per LSD
1300	Tech Center	Tech Center Tuition	\$ 250,000	\$ -	*assumes 10 FTE for 6 semester rolling average \$25K per student. PAHCC for FY23 is \$24,348.
1300	Tech Center	Tech Center Tuition	\$ -	\$ 145,630	10.0 FTE * \$14,563 (\$24,348 - \$9,785) - FY23 figures **
1300	Tech Center	AOE BLOCK Tech Center Tuition	\$ -	\$ 97,850	10.0 FTE * \$9,785 - FY23 Dollar Figure

1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Professional Development	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	*includes tuition reimbursement
2230	Technology	Technology	\$	40,000	\$	40,000	* tech purchased services, software annual fees, chromebooks, repairs
2400	Administration	Treasurer/Secretary	\$	4,500	\$	4,500	
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Tuition - Secondary	\$	1,691,000	\$	-	*Assuming 89 students @ \$19k tuition. MAUSD Tuition for FY23 is \$19,357
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Tuition - Secondary	\$	-	\$	1,808,912	*Assumed 89 students @ MAUSD FY23 Tuition is \$19,358 * 5% for FY24
1100	Regular Education - Classroom Instructions	Tuition - Contingency	\$	40,000	\$	40,652	* 2 additional students @ \$19,358 *5% for FY24
1400	Athletics and Extracurricular	Athletics and Extracurricular	\$	12,000	\$	12,000	
1400	Athletics and Extracurricular	Mentor Coordinator Stipend	\$	7,000	\$	7,000	
1400	Athletics and Extracurricular	21 C Subsidy	\$	7,000	\$	7,000	
2600	Facilities - Lead Custodian (1.0 FTE)	Wages and Benefits	\$	76,818	\$	76,818	
2601	Facilities - Part Time Custodian (.50 FTE)	Wages and Benefits	\$	-	\$	41,056	
2600	Facilities	Utilities	\$	65,000	\$	65,000	
2600	Facilities	Supplies, Equipment, Purchas	\$	110,000	\$	110,000	
2400	Administration	Miscellaneous	\$	1,500	\$	1,500	
2800	SU Assessment	Transportation Assessment			\$	-	Included in SU Assessment above
2400	Administration	Board Expenditures	\$	7,500	\$	7,500	
2400	Administration	Insurance (W/C, Liability)	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	
2400	Administration	Advertising	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	
2400	Administration	Supplies	\$	3,000	\$	3,000	
2400	Administration	Misc. (Dues and Fees, etc)	\$	1,500	\$	1,500	
2400	Administration	General Legal Fees	\$	12,500	\$	12,500	
2400	Administration	Contingency - Other	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	
2999	Transfers	Transfer to Reserves	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	
Total Expenses			\$	3,916,438	\$	4,666,585	

LINCOLN COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 FY24 CHILD NUTRITION BUDGET

Function	Function Description	Amount:	TEAM Amount:
4400	Rev- Federal Food Svc Fed Revenue	\$110,786	\$ 110,786
3100	Food Service Food Service Support	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000
3100	Food Service Wages and Benefits	\$ 90,786	\$ 90,786
3100	Food Service Food and Related Supplies	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
			\$ 128,786
			\$ (18,000)