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# Souhegan Cooperative School District

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## Annual Report and Guide to Official Ballot Voting on March 10, 2015

TIME	PLACE
6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Souhegan High School 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst, NH <i>FOR AMHERST VOTERS</i>
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Mont Vernon Village School 1 Kittredge Road, Mont Vernon, NH <i>FOR MONT VERNON VOTERS</i>

*Please bring this Guide with you to Ballot Voting on March 10, 2015.*

The Voters' Guide has been paid for by the Souhegan Cooperative School District,  
c/o SAU 39, P.O. Box 849, Amherst, NH 03031  
[www.sau39.org](http://www.sau39.org)

**Officers and Agents of the School District**  
**Souhegan Cooperative School Board**

**Amherst Representatives**

**Mary Lou Mullens, Chair**  
**Frances J. Harrow, Vice Chair**  
**Stephen Coughlan**  
**Christine Janson**  
**Peter Maresco**

**Mont Vernon Representatives**

**Howard Brown**  
**Pim Grondstra**

**School District Moderator**

Addie Hutchison

**School District Clerk**

Catherine Jo Butler

**School District Treasurer**

Ann Logan

**Souhegan Finance Committee**

David Chen, Co-Chair  
Tom Silvia, Co-Chair  
Ken D'Ambrosio  
Jeanne Ludt  
Kathie Nunley  
Dwayne Purvis  
Pete Stearns

**Office of the Superintendent**

Peter Warburton, Superintendent of Schools  
Elizabeth Shankel, Business Administrator  
Meg Beauchamp, Director of Student Services  
Nicole Heimarck, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development

**School Administration**

Rob Scully, Principal  
Peter Gagnon, Dean of Students  
Gigi Klipa, Dean of Faculty  
Kathy White, Dean of Faculty

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## ***A Message from the School Board Chair***

Schools across NH are facing declining enrollment as they reflect the aging population of our state. The school boards and administrations of SAU 39 are well aware of and are responding accordingly to this decline. However, Souhegan High School has not yet seen the dramatic drop that the lower grades have seen. After an initial drop between FY06 - FY 10 (from our peak enrollment of 1045), our student population has remained relatively steady (current enrollment is 842). Souhegan High School's enrollment actually went up by 4% over the past two years, while our budget went down by 2.85% the first year, and up the second year by 1.22%. The high school's enrollment is projected to remain relatively steady until 2018.

The Souhegan Board has been working with the administration to plan for declining enrollments over the last few years and has been taking measured steps to reduce costs as changing enrollments have allowed. As community members of Amherst and Mont Vernon ourselves, we too would like to avoid tax increases. However, we are charged with the delicate balance of ensuring our students get the quality education they deserve and that our community expects at a cost that is affordable and acceptable to our stakeholders. As a result, before we made any changes to our costs, we had to first determine the core values and objectives that we needed to maintain in order to avoid affecting the high quality of education we provide. We established five main objectives, some more closely tied to the budget than others. They are:

1. Support Personalized Learning by keeping class sizes and student teacher ratios at levels that allow personalization.
2. Keep supports in place to maintain our ongoing goal of a zero dropout rate. These supports include appropriate levels of guidance and student services staff, our School Resource Officer, 9th and 10th grade team teaching models, and our Advisory program.
3. Maintaining a salary structure and step program that attracts the best teaching staff, encourages our staff to earn their increases by continuing their education, and encourages longevity.
4. Maintain the quality of academic and co-curricular programs by continuing to offer a wide array of choices in order to engage as many students as possible, in the most creative and cost efficient manners.
5. Lastly, it is our goal to continue to be an innovator and leader in educational practices. While this objective does not always have budgetary implications, it certainly goes to the value of our tax dollars. We would like to, therefore, share some examples of how Souhegan is a transformational leader in education.

- Our collaborations with universities such as Stanford University and their Innovative Lab Network, as well as our Teacher Training partnerships with Brown University.
- Souhegan’s Professional Business Advisory Board, which was started a few years ago to establish extended learning opportunities for our students. The connections we have made are invaluable. One example, of many, is the high school’s connection with BAE, which offers our students an opportunity to get involved with a “Women in Technology Program”. This is a 12 week program offering hands on experience to female students interested in the field.

Another impressive example is the connection with the DYN Corporation. They offer our students an opportunity to be involved with a Computer Science Career Exploration Program. This is a 2 year program that offers college credit and a guaranteed internship at the end.

- Souhegan was one of four high schools in the state chosen to be part of a PACE program that will establish assessments to measure core competencies.
- Our new Teacher/Leader Effectiveness Program transcends traditional teacher observation models.
- Our high school is consistently ranked in the top 5 for College Readiness by US News and World Report.

These are just some of the ways we have achieved this objective of being an innovative leader. With all of these objectives in mind, how did we accomplish the paradoxical task of reducing costs? It wasn’t easy, but below are the key steps we have taken so far:

- FY12: We closed one of our two cafeterias
- FY13: negotiated a 2 year contract that included:
  - ◊ .75% increase for professional staff over a 2 year period
  - ◊ 1.25% increase for support staff over a 2 year period
  - ◊ health plans that reflected reduced prescription benefits, introduced higher health deductibles, provided incentives to choose lower cost providers, and for healthy living choices
- FY14: eliminated 10.2 positions
- FY14: A Budget Study Committee was formed that meets throughout the year to examine our finances on a continual basis.
- FY15: eliminated 3.5 positions
- FY15: negotiated a contract with a 0% increase for staff over the next two years, with incentives for a lower cost health plan
- Ongoing basis: Our administration has been reviewing program of studies and staff placements to meet student needs with the minimum required staffing, reviewing the reallocation of staff, and the repurposing of facilities space

We realize that our work is not complete. Future budget considerations include a facilities usage plan, a thorough analysis of our budget review process, a closer look at programming and cost per pupil, and the further development and implementation of our SAU wide strategic plan. However, we have already seen results from our efforts thus far. Looking at a five year history, our current operating budget (FY15) is less than the FY11 budget by almost 1% equating to \$163,325. And our FY16 proposed budget is less than the FY 11 budget by 0.7%, or \$125,480. The most recently published cost per pupil for Souhegan also went down from the previous year by \$305 per student. Since salaries and benefits make up almost 75% of our cost per pupil, we anticipate a further drop as our recently negotiated contract goes into effect, and we continue our other efforts.

A reminder that the NH Department of Education calculates cost per pupil for every district in the state and uses a formula that includes total expenditures less transportation costs, food service revenue, and tuition. It also does not include capital and debt service. The NH Department of Education cautions against using cost per pupil as a comparison with other districts. There are many elements that affect cost per pupil such as different pay scales, longevity of staff, program of studies offered, economies of scale, grade levels included in a district, co-curricular programs offered, revenue, age of facilities - to name a few.

In addition to asking for your support of our operating budget, we would also like to ask for your support on Articles 3, 4, and 5. Article 3 is the Employee Agreement that was negotiated with our Policy Personnel Committee this past fall. Article 4 asks for \$110,000 in taxation to fund the replacement of an aging and unsafe track. Article 5 is asking for \$65,000 of surplus (should there be any) to go into our maintenance expendable trust to be used for building maintenance, including unplanned emergencies. (More on the Articles in the commentary that follows)

I would like to wrap up by saying how privileged our Board feels to work with such a forward thinking administration who ensure our students are prepared for whatever future they choose. We would like to especially thank our staff whose professionalism is second to none, and who are more than willing to work with our Board to control costs, while maintaining the high level of education our residents expect. We also realize that we cannot do our jobs without your support. We are very appreciative of your support in the past, and thank you for your consideration of this FY 16 proposed budget and warrant articles. Please take the time to vote March 10, at Souhegan High School, 6:00 am - 8:00 pm for Amherst residents. Mont Vernon residents vote at Mont Vernon Village School, 7 am - 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Mullens  
Chair, Souhegan Cooperative School Board

## **Two-Part Voting Procedure for Souhegan Cooperative School District Annual Meeting**

The Senate Bill 2 official ballot voting procedure is in effect for the Souhegan Cooperative School District.

Voting to adopt or amend Souhegan Cooperative School District warrant articles took place at the February 5<sup>th</sup> Deliberative Session. Final ballot voting on the articles that emerge from the Deliberative Session takes place at the polls on Election Day, March 10<sup>th</sup>, as shown below.

### **Voting is a Two-Step Process**

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<b>Deliberative Session</b>	February 5 <sup>th</sup>
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9:00 a.m.  
SHS Auditorium

<b>Ballot Vote</b>	March 10 <sup>th</sup>
--------------------	------------------------

6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
SHS Gymnasium  
*for Amherst Voters*

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Mont Vernon Village  
School  
*for Mont Vernon Voters*

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In many ways the Deliberative Session resembles District Meetings of years past, but with one fundamental difference. Discussion and voting at this meeting will focus on the *wording* of the questions to be placed on the March 10<sup>th</sup> ballot, *not* on voting whether the budget, bond, or other warrant articles pass or fail. The wording of a warrant can be amended to change the dollar amount and/or the wording; this is important to know. In recent years towns and school districts have seen warrant articles amended at the Deliberative Session to \$0.00, thereby defeating the original intent of the article. In other instances, the wording of an article has been amended to completely reverse the petitioner's intent. Simply stated, it is important to attend the Deliberative Session and vote on Election Day for the full effect of your vote to be felt.

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The following pages contain the wording of the warrant articles, including any and all amendments made at the Deliberative Session, plus school board commentary (noted in italics). A detailed report of recommendations by the Advisory Finance Committee follows these articles and commentaries.

**SOUHEGAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT  
February 2, 2015 and March 10, 2015  
AMHERST AND MONT VERNON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

To the inhabitants of the Souhegan Cooperative School District, consisting of the towns of Amherst and Mont Vernon, in the County of Hillsborough, and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at Souhegan High School in said district on Monday, February 2, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., for Session I (Deliberation), for the transaction of all business other than voting by official ballot. This session shall consist of the explanation, discussion and debate of warrant articles numbered 2 through 6. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended, (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for final vote on the main motion, as amended, and (c) no warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article.

You are hereby further notified to meet on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, for official ballot voting on warrant articles numbered 1 through 5, and any other action required to be inserted on the official ballot. The polls for official ballot voting will be open as follows:

- Voting for Amherst residents: Souhegan High School, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Voting for Mont Vernon residents: Village School, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Article 1** To elect all necessary Souhegan Cooperative School District officers for the ensuing terms by official ballot on March 10, 2015.

- Election of one (1) member of the School Board from Amherst for the ensuing three (3) years.

**Article 2** Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$18,161,347?** Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$17,992,364** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Souhegan Cooperative School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of passing this article is an increase of \$0.07 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst and a decrease of \$0.01 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The estimated tax impact of not passing this article is a decrease of \$0.02 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst and a decrease of \$0.11 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 5 to 2.**

*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: The proposed budget represents a .21% increase over the current year's voted budget. This increase is driven mainly by increased contractual obligations in the areas of transportation, NH retirement, and personnel costs.*

**Article 3** Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to approve the costs included in the agreement reached between the Souhegan Cooperative School Board and the professional and support staff of Souhegan Cooperative High School which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Estimated Costs</b>
<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>\$29,894</b>
<b>2016-2017</b>	<b>\$80,377</b>

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,894** for the 2015 – 2016 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.01 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.02 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: This article asks to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29, 894. This amount represents a reclassification and step increase to support staff salaries and benefits, based on the recently negotiated PPC agreement. The agreement also includes 0% cost of living increases for all staff, and incentives for a lower cost health plan.*



**Article 4** Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate **\$220,000** to replace the running track at Souhegan High School due to the safety concerns over the existing condition of the track, with **\$110,000** to be withdrawn from an expendable trust fund for this purpose known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March 2005 and **\$110,000** to be raised by taxation?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.06 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.07 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: Article 4 asks for \$110,000 to be raised through taxation, toward the replacement of our track. The total cost of the track will be \$220,000, with the remainder withdrawn from our maintenance expendable trust fund. The track, enjoyed by many groups in town, was built in 1991 and recommended to be replaced in 2007. To save costs in the short term, it was resurfaced in 2007 instead. The resurfacing was only meant to last 3 years. The replacement is now far overdue, and the track has become a safety issue for all who use it.*

**Article 5** Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$65,000** from the year-end undesignated fund balance (surplus) if available on July 1, 2015 to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March, 2005?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.03 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.04 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: This article asks for \$65,000 of surplus (should there be any) to be added to the maintenance expendable trust fund. The trust is intended to meet maintenance needs, including unplanned emergencies. It is prudent for any district to have these reserves. Part of our desire to add to the fund this year is that, if our track warrant article passes, we will have depleted this fund well below comfortable levels.*

**Article 6** To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

**Souhegan Cooperative High School Advisory Finance Committee  
Report to the Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY16 Budget Deliberative Session**

**Advisory Finance Committee Members**

**Amherst:** Jeanne Ludt, Kathie Nunley, David Chen, Pete Stearns, Tom Silvia, Ken D’Ambrosio, Dwayne Purvis

**Mont Vernon:** No citizens from Mont Vernon responded to serve on the committee.

**Article #2**

**Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported 5-2**

**Commentary:** Five members of the Advisory Finance Committee support this article because they believe that the School Board and Administration have proposed a budget that is fiscally responsible while meeting their educational objectives. The following points underscore this opinion:

- 1) The budget is only a \$37,845 increase over FY2015 and lower than the FY2011 budget.
- 2) The budget increase of .21% is nearly a quarter of last year’s inflation of 0.8%.
- 3) The budget allows for a teacher facing student number of 80 which is the school target.
- 4) The budget keeps student support to maintain a zero dropout rate.
- 5) The budget maintains an Incentivized Salary Structure.
- 6) The budget includes enough maintenance expenditure to keep the facilities in good order.

The supporting members of the committee believe that this continues the steps of maintaining an affordable high school for the towns of Amherst and Mont Vernon. The Committee applauds the steps taken by the school board and administration to limit cost increases without impacting the quality of education received by the students of Souhegan.

Two members of the Committee voted against the budget for the following reasons. First, the budget does not reflect the projected decline in enrollment. The FY16 projected enrollment shows a decline of 2.9%, 24 students. The projected budget has a 0.21% increase which does not scale with the decline in enrollment. Second, the minority opinion had open issues concerning the curriculum portion of the budget which comprises 43% of the total budget. The unanswered questions lead to a highly uncertain conclusion about voting in favor of the budget. Third, one committee member feels that Souhegan’s goals of differentiated instruction and full inclusion does not align with the proposed budget. She states that progressive views on inclusion include an increase in professional development for regular education teachers to provide more accommodations in the classroom and a decrease in special education staffing. In her opinion, the current high staffing is not only in opposition to Souhegan’s mission of full inclusion but detrimental to our students and costly to taxpayers.

### **Article #3**

#### **Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported Unanimously 7-0**

**Commentary:** The Advisory Finance Committee unanimously supports this article because it represents a negligible percentage increase in wages and benefits. In addition, this article maintains the incentivized salary structure which attracts talented and committed teachers.

### **Article #4**

#### **Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported Unanimously 7-0**

**Commentary:** The Advisory Finance Committee unanimously supports this article because the current condition of the track represents a safety issue. In addition, we recognized that the usage of track extends well beyond high school students and is used widely by the citizens of Amherst and Mont Vernon.

### **Article #5**

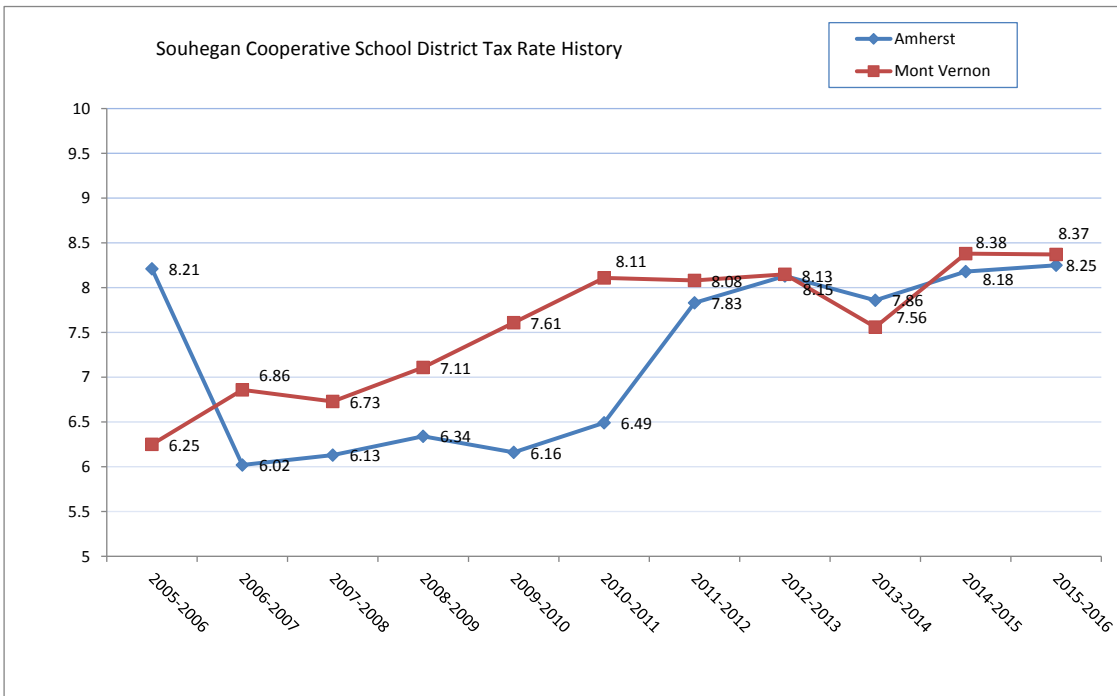
#### **Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported Unanimously 7-0**

**Commentary:** The Advisory Finance Committee unanimously supports this article because it is prudent and good practice to direct surplus funds to an Expendable Trust Fund dedicated to unforeseen maintenance or repair of the facility.

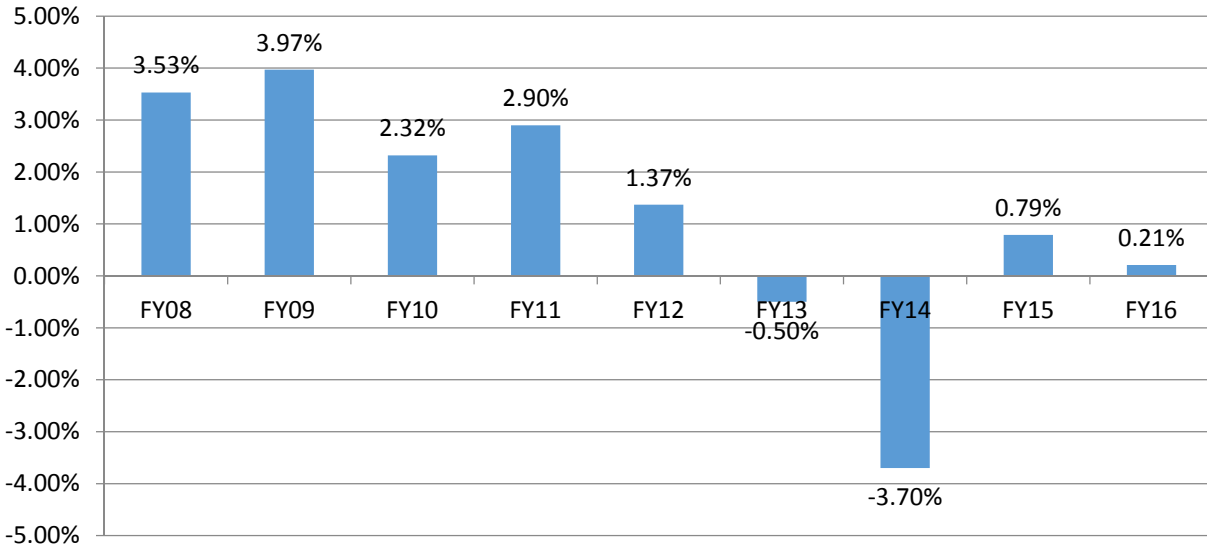
Respectfully submitted,  
Souhegan Advisory Finance Committee

**Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY16 Summary of Warrant Articles and Tax Impact**

Article #	Typical Home Value	Cost	Estimated Tax Impact	
			Amherst \$330,000	Mont Vernon \$300,000
2	FY 2014-2015 Budget	\$18,123,502	\$8.18	\$8.38
	Budget - Net Increase	\$37,845	\$0.07	(\$0.01)
	Total FY 2015-2016 Budget	\$18,161,347	\$8.25	\$8.37
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article 2		\$23.10	(\$3.00)
3	Teacher & Support Staff Agreement	\$29,894	\$0.01	\$0.02
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article3		\$3.30	\$6.00
4	Track Replacement	\$110,000	\$0.06	\$0.07
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article 4		\$19.80	\$21.00
5	Maintenance Fund	\$65,000	\$0.03	\$0.04
	Tax Impact to Typical Home- Article 5		\$9.90	\$12.00
Total FY16 Budget and Articles 2, 3, 4 and 5		\$18,366,241	\$8.35	\$8.50
Total Tax Impact to Typical Home			\$56.10	\$36.00



## Annual Percentage Change From Budget to Budget



Souhegan Cooperative School District Enrollment History								
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Projected	945	907	889	848	860	813	839	815
Actual	943	891	876	859	811	828	842	

**Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY16 Proposed Budget Summary**

	FY14 Actual Expenditures	FY15 Voted Budget	FY16 Proposed Budget	Budget to Budget \$ Increase (Decrease)	Budget to Budget % Increase (Decrease)
<b>Fund 10</b>					
1100 Regular Education Programs- Teacher salaries, textbooks, substitutes, supplies	\$7,614,435	\$7,569,907	\$7,551,970	(\$17,937)	-0.24%
1200 Special Education Programs- Teacher salaries, aides, substitutes, evaluators, textbooks, supplies, and items specific to Special Services	\$3,528,403	\$3,634,001	\$2,864,997	(\$769,004)	-21.16%
1400 Co-Curricular Programs - Interscholastics, intramurals, student body activities	\$446,124	\$490,632	\$504,106	\$13,474	2.75%
1600 Adult Education Programs-	\$9,397	\$11,685	\$10,281	(\$1,404)	-12.02%
2100 Student Support Services- Guidance, health, nurses, and SRO salaries	\$1,058,766	\$1,064,287	\$1,824,964	\$760,677	71.47%
2200 Instructional Support Services- Library salaries, supplies, curriculum coordinators, professional development, consultants	\$489,818	\$548,696	\$561,292	\$12,596	2.30%
2300 School Board- Treasurer, moderator, SB stipends, SB minute taker, legal, audit, actuarial, medicaid billing	\$36,815	\$59,473	\$73,958	\$14,485	24.36%
2300 District Assessment - SAU 39 SCSD portion of the SAU budget	\$740,835	\$740,731	\$779,158	\$38,427	5.19%
2400 School Administrative Services- Principal salaries, office staff, office equipment	\$754,277	\$757,815	\$763,681	\$5,866	0.77%
2500 Business- Printing costs	\$3,190	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
2600 Operation and Plant Maintenance- Custodial salaries, electricity, heating oil, water, trash, loss and liability insurance premiums, building maintenance	\$1,421,507	\$1,226,164	\$1,247,865	\$21,701	1.77%
2700 Student Transportation- Bus contract, fuel	\$605,921	\$683,491	\$727,450	\$43,959	6.43%
2800 Support Service - Technology Technology staff salaries, local and wide area network costs	\$327,930	\$346,194	\$354,402	\$8,208	2.37%
5100 Debt Service	\$33,524	\$214,223	\$201,190	(\$13,033)	-6.08%
5200 Fund Transfers	\$68,391	\$80,000	\$15,000	(\$65,000)	#DIV/0! -81.25%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$17,139,333</b>	<b>\$17,430,799</b>	<b>\$17,483,813</b>	<b>\$53,014</b>	<b>0.30%</b>
Fund 21 Food Service Fund	\$401,177	\$466,703	\$451,534	(\$15,169)	-3.25%
Fund 22 Grant Fund	\$231,089	\$226,000	\$226,000	\$0	0.00%
<b>Total of All Funds</b>	<b>\$17,771,599</b>	<b>\$18,123,502</b>	<b>\$18,161,347</b>	<b>\$37,845</b>	<b>0.21%</b>

**SCSD Projected Revenue Estimate  
FY16 Proposed Budget  
January 14, 2015**

<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>FY15 DRA</b>	<b>FY16 Estimate</b>	<b>Change</b>
	General Fund Expenditures	\$17,430,799	\$17,483,813	\$53,014
	Special Revenue and Food Service	\$692,703	\$677,534	(\$15,169)
	Roof & HVAC Bond	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Budgeted Expenditures (All Funds)</b>	<b>\$18,123,502</b>	<b>\$18,161,347</b>	<b>\$37,845</b>
<b>770</b>	<b>Unreserved Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$250,528</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>(\$220,528)</b>
	<b>State Aid</b>			
3210	School Building Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0
3230	Catastrophic Aid	\$273,980	\$280,000	\$6,020
3290	Other (Child Nutrition)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
	<b>Subtotal: State Aid</b>	<b>\$274,980</b>	<b>\$281,000</b>	<b>\$6,020</b>
	<b>Federal Aid</b>			
4500	Grants In Aid	\$224,000	\$224,000	\$0
4580	Medicaid	\$90,000	\$110,000	\$20,000
4590	Other Federal Sources (Child Nutrition)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
	<b>Subtotal: Federal Aid</b>	<b>\$334,000</b>	<b>\$354,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
	<b>Other Revenue</b>			
5100	Sale Of Bonds / Notes	\$0	\$0	\$0
5230	Transfer From Cap. Pr. Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
	<b>Subtotal: Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Local Revenue</b>			
1300	Tuition - Parents, Summer School, Adult Ed	\$61,500	\$75,000	\$13,500
1400	State AV 1 Transportation Reimbursement	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
1510	Interest Income	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
1600	Food Service	\$445,703	\$430,534	(\$15,169)
1700	Pupil Activities	\$152,000	\$148,000	(\$4,000)
1910	Rentals	\$8,000	\$7,000	(\$1,000)
1990	Other - Local Grants & Trusts	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
	<b>Subtotal: Local Revenue</b>	<b>\$673,203</b>	<b>\$667,534</b>	<b>(\$5,669)</b>
	<b>Assessment:</b>			
	Budgeted Expenditures (All Funds)	\$18,123,502	\$18,161,347	\$37,845
	Less Unreserved Fund Balance	\$250,528	\$30,000	(\$220,528)
	Less Subtotal: State Aid	\$274,980	\$281,000	\$6,020
	Less Subtotal: Federal Aid	\$334,000	\$354,000	\$20,000
	Less Subtotal: Other Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Less Subtotal: Local Revenue	\$673,203	\$667,534	(\$5,669)
<b>1111</b>	<b>Current Appropriation</b>	<b>\$16,590,791</b>	<b>\$16,828,813</b>	<b>\$238,022</b>
1111	Current Appropriation	\$16,590,791	\$16,828,813	\$238,022
1112	Deficit Appropriation			
	Advance Appropriation			
	<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$16,590,791</b>	<b>\$16,828,813</b>	<b>\$238,022</b>
	<b>AMHERST SHARE</b>	<b>\$14,078,033</b>	<b>\$14,280,005</b>	<b>\$201,972</b>
	Adequacy Aid Grant	\$1,245,362	\$1,346,243	\$100,881
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$1,426,453	\$1,423,680	(\$2,773)
	Total Credits- Amherst	\$2,671,815	\$2,769,923	\$98,108
	Assessment - Town of Amherst	\$11,406,218	\$11,510,082	\$103,864
	Net Assessed Value/\$1000 - Amherst	\$1,572,808	\$1,572,808	\$0
	Tax Rate - Amherst	\$7.25	\$7.32	\$0.07
	Local Assessed Value/\$1000 Less Utilities	\$1,533,345	\$1,533,345	\$0
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.00
	<b>Total School Tax - Town of Amherst</b>	<b>\$8.18</b>	<b>\$8.25</b>	<b>\$0.07</b>
	<b>MONT VERNON SHARE</b>	<b>\$2,512,758</b>	<b>\$2,548,808</b>	<b>\$36,050</b>
	Adequacy Aid Grant	\$442,346	\$480,290	\$37,944
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$205,178	\$227,117	\$21,939
	Total Credits- Mont Vernon	\$647,524	\$707,407	\$59,883
	Assessment - Town of Mont Vernon	\$1,865,234	\$1,841,401	(\$23,833)
	Net Assessed Value/\$1000 - Mont Vernon	\$247,400	\$247,400	\$0
	Tax Rate - Mont Vernon	\$7.54	\$7.44	(\$0.10)
	Local Assessed Value/\$1000 Less Utilities	\$245,035	\$245,035	\$0
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$0.84	\$0.93	\$0.09
	<b>Total School Tax - Town of Mont Vernon</b>	<b>\$8.38</b>	<b>\$8.37</b>	<b>(\$0.01)</b>

Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY16 Default Budget

Acct #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	FY15 Adopted Budget	Reductions & Increases	Minus 1-Time Appropriations	FY16 Default Budget
1100-1199	Regular Programs	\$ 7,569,907	\$ 2,515	\$ (65,074)	\$ 7,507,348
1200-1299	Special Programs	\$ 3,634,001	\$ (772,604)	\$ -	\$ 2,861,397
1400-1499	Co-curricular Programs	\$ 490,632	\$ (1,347)	\$ -	\$ 489,285
1600-1899	Adult & Community Programs	\$ 11,685	\$ (1,404)	\$ -	\$ 10,281
	<b>INSTRUCTION (1000-1999)</b>	<b>\$ 11,706,225</b>	<b>\$ (772,841)</b>	<b>\$ (65,074)</b>	<b>\$ 10,868,310</b>
2000-2199	Student Support Services	\$ 1,064,287	\$ 760,677	\$ -	\$ 1,824,964
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	\$ 548,696	\$ 2,206	\$ -	\$ 550,902
	<b>SUPPORT SERVICES (2000-2999)</b>	<b>\$ 1,612,983</b>	<b>\$ 762,882</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,375,865</b>
2300-840	School Board Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2310-2319	Other School Board	\$ 59,473	\$ 14,405	\$ -	\$ 73,878
	<b>General Administration</b>	<b>\$ 59,473</b>	<b>\$ 14,405</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 73,878</b>
2320-311	SAU Management Services	\$ 740,731	\$ 38,427	\$ -	\$ 779,158
2400-2499	School Administration Service	\$ 757,815	\$ (12,884)	\$ -	\$ 744,931
2500-2599	Business	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant	\$ 1,226,164	\$ (37,399)	\$ (3,500)	\$ 1,185,265
2700-2799	Student Transportation	\$ 683,491	\$ 35,959	\$ -	\$ 719,450
2800-2999	Support Service Central & Other	\$ 346,194	\$ 2,088	\$ -	\$ 348,282
4000-4999	Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<b>Executive Administration</b>	<b>\$ 3,757,895</b>	<b>\$ 26,192</b>	<b>\$ (3,500)</b>	<b>\$ 3,780,587</b>
5111	Debt Service - Principal	\$ 160,000	\$ -	\$ (5,000)	\$ 155,000
5120-5122	Debt Service - Interest	\$ 54,223	\$ -	\$ (8,033)	\$ 46,190
	<b>OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)</b>	<b>\$ 214,223</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (13,033)</b>	<b>\$ 201,190</b>
5220-5221	To Food Service	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000
5252	To Expendable Trust	\$ 65,000	\$ -	\$ (65,000)	\$ -
	<b>FUND TRANSFERS</b>	<b>\$ 80,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (65,000)</b>	<b>\$ 15,000</b>
	<b>FOOD SERVICE FUND</b>	<b>\$ 466,703</b>	<b>\$ (15,169)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 451,534</b>
	<b>GRANT FUND</b>	<b>\$ 226,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 226,000</b>
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 18,123,502</b>	<b>\$ 15,469</b>	<b>\$ (146,607)</b>	<b>\$ 17,992,364</b>



**ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
SOUHEGAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MARCH 10, 2015**

*J. Butler*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

**FOR SCHOOL BOARD**

For 3 years                      Vote for not more than One

<b>DWAYNE PURVIS</b>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>DAVID CHEN</b>	<input type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/>
(Write-in)	

**ARTICLES**

**ARTICLE 2**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$18,161,347**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$17,992,364** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Souhegan Cooperative School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

**YES**   
**NO**

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of passing this article is an increase of \$0.07 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst and a decrease of \$0.01 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The estimated tax impact of not passing this article is a decrease of \$0.02 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst and a decrease of \$0.11 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 5 to 2.**

**TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING**

## ARTICLES CONTINUED

### ARTICLE 3

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to approve the costs included in the agreement reached between the Souhegan Cooperative School Board and the professional and support staff of Souhegan Cooperative High School which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Costs
2015-2016	\$29,894
2016-2017	\$80,377

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,894** for the 2015 – 2016 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.01 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.02 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

YES

NO

### ARTICLE 4

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate **\$220,000** to replace the running track at Souhegan High School due to the safety concerns over the existing condition of the track, with **\$110,000** to be withdrawn from an expendable trust fund for this purpose known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March 2005 and **\$110,000** to be raised by taxation?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.06 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.07 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

YES

NO

### ARTICLE 5

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$65,000** from the year-end undesignated fund balance (surplus) if available on July 1, 2015 to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March, 2005?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.03 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.04 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

YES

NO

**YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING**

\*\*\*\*\*

Instructions to Voters

Vote Yes or No on questions by making a cross (X) in the box next to your choice.

\*\*\*\*\*

SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT ARTICLES

**ARTICLE 2**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$18,161,347**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$17,992,364** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Souhegan Cooperative School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

**Majority vote required to pass.**

The estimated tax impact of passing this article is an increase of **\$0.07 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst** and a decrease of **\$0.01 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

The estimated tax impact of not passing this article is a decrease of **\$0.02 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst** and a decrease of **\$0.11 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 5 to 2.**

YES

NO

**ARTICLE 3**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to approve the costs included in the agreement reached between the Souhegan Cooperative School Board and the professional and support staff of Souhegan Cooperative High School which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Costs
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And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,894** for the 2015 – 2016 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.01 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.02 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

YES

NO

**ARTICLE 4**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate **\$220,000** to replace the running track at Souhegan High School due to the safety concerns over the existing condition of the track, with **\$110,000** to be withdrawn from an expendable trust fund for this purpose known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March 2005 and **\$110,000** to be raised by taxation?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.06 per \$1000 of assessment for Amherst.**

**The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.07 per \$1000 of assessment for Mont Vernon.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

**The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.**

YES

NO

**ARTICLE 5**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$65,000** from the year-end undesignated fund balance (surplus) if available on July 1, 2015 to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March, 2005?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of **\$0.03 per \$1000** of assessment for Amherst.

The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of **\$0.04 per \$1000** of assessment for Mont Vernon.

The Souhegan Cooperative School Board unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.  
The Souhegan Cooperative School District Advisory Finance Committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article by a vote of 7 to 0.

YES  NO

**End of Ballot**

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**

**SOUHEGAN COOPERATIVE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ELECTION**

**MARCH 10, 2015**



**Catherine Jo Butler  
School District Clerk**

For use by Mont Vernon Voters

## **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **Souhegan High School**

#### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**Rob Scully, Principal**

#### *Souhegan High School Mission Statement*

*Souhegan High School aspires to be a community of learners born of respect, trust and courage.*

*We consciously commit ourselves:*

*To support and engage an individual's unique gifts, passions, and intentions.*

*To develop and empower the mind, body, and heart.*

*To challenge and expand the comfortable limits of thought, tolerance, and performance.*

*To inspire and honor the active stewardship of family, nation, and globe.*

The school's Mission Statement guides our daily practices. The Common Principles of the Coalition of Essential Schools, the Academic Learner Expectations, and the Souhegan Six establish standards of community support, instruction, and student behavior that ensure that Souhegan High School is held to the highest standards. The learning environment is engaging and personalized encouraging students to be active learners immersed in interdisciplinary curriculum, heterogeneous classes, and a global perspective that shapes a sense of stewardship and community service. These founding ideals are a unifying force for the entire school community.

Souhegan High School continues to offer students a rigorous course of studies in the core subjects of mathematics, science, English, social studies, world languages as well as in the arts, health, and wellness. Additionally, in order to respond to the emerging needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century student, Souhegan continues to broaden the scope of the student experience by continuously reviewing and redesigning its program of studies. Student learning is demonstrated through a variety of exhibition requirements including Division I Exhibition, Junior Research Paper, Post Graduate Plan, and Senior Project. All students are challenged to achieve and perform at the highest level. Most students exceed the minimum requirements. 80% of students participate in at least one co-curricular or athletic activity in addition to their academic course of studies. Student achievement continues to be a great source of pride for Souhegan High School.

Curriculum at Souhegan is designed to be interdisciplinary, involve authentic work, and provide assessments for students to demonstrate their new knowledge, skills and learning. Each full year course administers a common performance assessment in the fall and spring. These tasks are aligned to standards, cognitively rigorous, engaging for students, and integral to the discipline. For instance, social studies' task is researched writing, science is inquiry, English is critical analysis, math is extended problem solving. The performance data from these tasks is analyzed to inform instruction and benchmark progress.

This year our teaching and learning has been enhanced by our involvement in a groundbreaking initiative. The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE) has partnered with the Center for Collaborative Education (CCE) and the National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment (NCIEA) to develop a state-wide performance assessment system that will balance local control with state-wide accountability and comparability. Souhegan High School is one of four districts in New Hampshire implementing the Performance Assessment for Competency Education (PACE) option, which will build on New Hampshire's competency work, including the development of statewide college and career ready competencies, and will be one component of the New Hampshire student assessment system. The recently redesigned Minimum Standards for has resulted in our developing new practices of instruction and assessment that promote and assess deeper levels of understanding and applicable, relevant skills. Through our work with the PACE initiative, Souhegan is uniquely positioned ahead of the curve to provide our students with a rigorous, personalized, authentic learning experience.

As part of the student learning experience, we are enhancing our partnerships with the Amherst and Mont Vernon communities. Experts in fields of study are an important part of our curriculum design and program of study redesign. We continue to enjoy some of our traditional connections. Adults from the community meet with students in the Community Read Program discussing books and sharing the joy of reading. Our band and choir groups perform with members of the community creating a wonderful synergy in the musical performances. The groups prepare for multiple public events throughout the year including the holiday concerts, visits to elementary schools, Parkhurst Place, and the Memorial Day Parade. At the third annual Career Panel Day, 50 community members, including several SHS alumni, spent time with the sophomore class sharing their career experiences. Community members are part of the senior project panels which help guide students in their projects.

Additional experiences this year include our partnership with the DYN Corporation. Several of our students are involved in a Computer Science Career Exploration Program designed for students interested in software engineering. This two year program provides college credit for coursework in programming. The second year of the program, the students begin Internships at the See Science Center Technology and Innovation Academy working on real world projects provided by companies in Manchester. Also, two reconditioned areas of the school, Community Service and Career Readiness Center and The Scratching Post, our school store, provide students with extended learning opportunities.

Aside from our fall and spring performance assessments, student progress at Souhegan High School is measured by examining student work, standardized assessments, and annual surveys of students, parents, alumni and staff. Common assessments and statistical information also help to identify to what degree the needs of students are being met. Highlighted below are the accomplishments of Souhegan High School students in two areas: SAT/ACT scores and Advanced Placement (AP) participation.

**SAT and ACT Tests:** The following is a comparison of Souhegan scores over the last four years with state averages for 2013. SAT score ranges are between 200-800 for each subject.

**SAT Scores:**

Mean Score	SHS 2011	SHS 2012	SHS 2013	SHS 2014	State
Critical Read	537	550	530	543	524
Writing	531	535	536	537	512
Math	545	552	532	543	530
Overall	1610	1639	1598	1623	1566
Participation	82%	78%	81%	84%	

**ACT Tests:** An alternative test to the SAT's, Souhegan High School has gradually seen an increase in the number of students taking the ACT's. A test which was once primarily used in the mid west is now accepted at more and more schools nationwide. The following shows how the participation rate has grown amongst Souhegan students. ACT score ranges are between 1-36 for each subject.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Participation	48%	50%	50%	50%	52%
English	24	24	25	23	24
Math	24	24	24	23	23
Reading	25	24	25	23	24
Science	23	23	24	23	23
Composite	24	24	25	23	24

**Advanced Placement (AP)** and college level courses are two indicators of how Souhegan High School students challenge themselves academically. We offer thirteen AP courses. In addition, we offer two college credit classes and one advanced course that allow students the opportunity to take the AP exam.

The following outlines information regarding student participation in AP courses over the past seven years.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of AP courses	11	11	18	15	13	13	13
Number of AP exams administered	244	290	252	273	305	232	

Students achieve a high degree of success as they complete a challenging program of studies. Staff continually seeks avenues to improve their practice and strengthen student learning. The pursuit of continued excellence drives the school community to explore new and proven practices that will improve student learning while remaining focused on the Mission Statement. The support of the communities and the school community's commitment assure that Souhegan High School will continue to be a high achieving school that places student needs first.

The faculty and staff of Souhegan High School are proud to represent the communities of Amherst and Mont Vernon. We take seriously our responsibility to provide an unparalleled learning experience for our students. Teaching and learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century demands new methods of instruction, increasing levels of rigor and diverse program offerings to serve student need. Souhegan is committed to continuing passionate efforts to provide the best education possible for the students of Amherst and Mont Vernon.

## STUDENT SERVICES

**College Plans:** While there are some students who choose to go to work or join the military after high school, most of our students do go on to post-secondary education. The following information shows what our graduates have done once leaving Souhegan for the past six years.

Post Secondary Plans	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
College/University (4 yr)	81%	77%	80%	81%	80%	86%
Community College/Technical School	7%	13%	11%	11%	12%	6%
Work	8%	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%
Other (prep school, service, undecided)	2%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%

In addition to tracking students' plans for after high school, we keep track of the colleges our students attend. The *Barron's Guide* rates all colleges by how competitive they are in their acceptance rates. In the chart below, the last five years are summarized:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Most competitive	5%	8%	4%	11%	8%
Highly competitive	15%	12%	10%	15%	11%
Very competitive	25%	22%	24%	19%	27%
Total of three	45%	42%	38%	45%	46%

Our guidance staff works continuously with students and their families in order to help them apply to the colleges that are the best match for what they need.



## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

*Compiled by Gigi Klipa, Dean of Faculty*

The educators of Souhegan High School are life-long learners committed to gaining new knowledge and skills in order to benefit students. Every year our staff clocks hundreds of hours in improving their craft. In addition, our teachers create many experiences that take our students outside the classroom and out into the world to enhance their learning experience. Our staff is recognized locally, nationally and professionally for their many strengths, and have instructed at the college level in addition to having received many honors and awards. We are proud of the countless hours which our teachers put in outside of the classroom to support their excellence in the classroom. The list below highlights some of this past year's work.

### **Awards:**

#### **Dave Saxe**

- National Soccer Coaches Association of America
  - NH Large School Coach of the Year
  - Region I (New England) Coach of the Year

#### **Kelli Warecki**

- Division II Coach of the Year
- Selected to coach the Twin State Games between VT and NH

#### **Jenny Deenik**

- PAEMST – Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science.

### **Professional Development:**

Instructionally, we have been focused on developing curriculum aligned to new English Language Arts Standards, Math Standards as well as Social Studies Standards. To that end, with the use of grant money were able to send teachers from four disciplines to national conferences in Boston. Those conferences included:

NCTE – National Counsel for Teachers of English

NSTA – National Science Teachers Association

NCTM – Nation Council for Teachers of Math

NCSS – National Council for Teachers of Social Studies

## **ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Dick Miller, Athletics & Activities Director**

Our students continue to be very involved in extra-curricular activities with many students participating in multiple activities. In the current school year, 672 students, out of our total student population of 849, have been involved in extra-curricular activities; 443 have participated in one or more sports and another 229 have participated in one or more non-sport activities.

This overwhelming participation has resulted in outstanding work and accomplishments in the area of activities at Souhegan High School. Last fall, the Theater Department did an outstanding job performing three, one act comedies based on Greek Mythology. They are now preparing to present *Guys and Dolls* as their spring musical on March 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. In January, the National Honor Society sponsored their annual blood drive, collecting a generous 78 pints of blood and maintaining the school's reputation as high volume donors. The Music Department has had a busy year. Last fall, Hannah Whitney and Kole Nunley were Jazz All-State selections and Megan Dillon, Emily Loose, Hannah Gillis and Kole Nunley were selected for the All-State Music Festival. The band is currently preparing to perform at Disney during winter break. The F.I.R.S.T Robotics Team is coming off a great season as they finished at the top of the state competition and look to remain at the top as they prepare for this season. The Math Team won their second consecutive SMASH League medium school state title last winter.

Our student-athletes continue to be impressive in their efforts to give to the community as well as their performance on the playing field. The girls soccer team contributed time to preparing gift bags for the participants in the Make-A-Wish Triathlon Fundraiser. The basketball teams used the Milford doubleheader to raise money for the Tony Barksdale Scholarship Fund. The football team used their last home game to recognize military veterans as well as those currently serving in the military. This year's ceremony was very emotional as the parents of ConVal graduate Brandon Garabrant, who lost his life in Afghanistan, and Souhegan alumnus and Medal of Honor recipient Ryan Pitts were recognized. There were several teams that ran skills programs such as Little Tots soccer for young athletes. On the field, every team represented SHS to the highest level through their efforts and respect for their opponents. Several teams highlighted the on field exploits of the athletic program. The boys hockey team skated their way to the 2014 Division III state title. Last spring, girls lacrosse played in their third straight Division I championship game and brought home the runner-up plaque. In the fall the boys soccer team brought home the Division II state title and the field hockey team made it to the Division II semi-finals. This winter, the girls Alpine Ski Team brought home the Division II runner-up plaque.

There have also been numerous individual accolades for both players and coaches, so many that it is impossible to list all of them. In March of this year, thirty senior student-athletes will be recognized as scholar athletes by the NHIAA; this recognition is for maintaining a high academic standing while participating in multiple sports. Last fall, Eli Moskowitz had a fantastic cross country season in which he was the individual winner at both the Division II Championships and the Meet of Champions; he then went on to finish 5<sup>th</sup> at the New England Championships. For his efforts, Eli was selected as the Gatorade NH Cross Country Male Runner of the Year. In soccer, Reed Larsen and Matt Hopfenspirger were selected to play in the Twin State Games against Vermont this summer. Matt has also been nominated for the very prestigious NSCAA Scholar All-America recognition. Division II Field Hockey Coach of the Year, Kelli Warecki, will coach the Twin State field hockey team that will include Saber players Madison Angulas and Kate Heaney. Last but not least, boys soccer coach David Saxe finished off his state championship season with being named the NSCAA New England Region Coach of the Year.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Peter Warburton, Superintendent of Schools**

*“Let our advance worrying become advance thinking and planning.”*

-Winston Churchill

Dear Parents, Community Members and Students of SAU #39,

It is my great pleasure to write the Superintendent's Annual Report for the Souhegan Cooperative School District.

This year, I want to call your attention to one of the most important initiatives that our SAU #39 Board has been involved in over the past year: **the development and design of a Strategic Planning Process.**

As you may know, the SAU #39 Board includes all of the Board members from the three districts of Amherst, Mont Vernon and Souhegan. It is a 'combined' Board that meets monthly and oversees the operations and personnel of the SAU.

During this Strategic Planning Process, the Board conducted numerous one-on-one interviews and received over 2,000 survey responses. The Board held a retreat and invited speakers, staff, former students, and community members. From all of this input, Board members discussed and imagined the future of education in the schools of Amherst and Mont Vernon.

The Board identified five key themes with one or two goals for each theme and created what is now called the Strategic Plan 'working draft.' The five themes are: **Advance, Connect, Invest, Streamline, and Unite.**

The full 'working draft' can be found on the home page of our SAU #39 website. I ask that you please take some time to review the draft plan and forward any feedback to [pwarburton@sprise.com](mailto:pwarburton@sprise.com).

And lastly, an invitation to stay tuned to the next steps and phases with the plan where your input and committee work will be sought.

I am honored to be your Superintendent, and I look forward to the upcoming year with enthusiasm and inspiration. I can assure you that our school boards, administration and staff will continue to seek the best education for the children we serve.

My very best wishes,

Peter Warburton  
Superintendent of Schools

**STUDENT SERVICES' REPORT**  
**Meg Beauchamp, Director of Student Services**

It is both an honor and a pleasure to serve the families and students of Amherst and Mont Vernon as the new Director of Student Services and to provide a brief report from the Student Services Department. Our dedicated professionals continue to work collaboratively with all of the faculty and staff at Souhegan High School to support new building level initiatives as well as state level educational initiatives. One such initiative is our new Teacher Leader Effectiveness Program now being implemented by administration and staff. This innovative tool promises to effect positive and collaborative change with regard to how we improve our student outcomes, and has become an important part of our practice. We are committed to this tool and the work to be done that will continue to provide us with critical feedback.

To address an increased need for supporting our students who struggle with social and emotional difficulties, we have selected a group of our highly trained professionals who are currently engaged in examining the way in which we provide support to those students. We have created forums designed to closely research and examine varying levels of need and to create interventions accordingly that will increase our in-district capacity to meet those needs.

The adopted vision statement for inclusive education at Souhegan High School states; “*Souhegan High School aspires to be an inclusion community of learners*”. While the Souhegan Cooperative School District Student Services Department continues its mandate to meet the individual needs of our district’s children, our goals emphasize best practices, continuous improvement, collaboration and fiscal responsibility while we continue our proud support of that important, inclusive philosophy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meg Beauchamp, Director of Student Services

Souhegan Cooperative School District  
 Actual Expenditures for Special Education Programs and Services  
 FY 2012-2013 and FY 2013-2014 per RSA 32:11a

ITEM	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Catastrophic Aid	\$304,067	\$217,850
IDEA Grant	\$223,672	\$172,364
Medicaid	\$73,557	\$113,718
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Revenues	\$601,297	\$503,931
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Salaries	\$1,905,150	\$1,816,573
Employee Benefits	\$727,493	\$769,518
Purchased Services	\$1,172,388	\$1,288,597
Supplies	\$14,571	\$9,393
Equipment	\$13,259	\$18,827
Other	\$0	\$0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$3,832,861	\$3,902,907
Net Cost of Special Education	\$3,231,564	\$3,398,976
Source DOE 25		

Souhegan Cooperative School District  
 Report of the Treasurer to the School Board  
 Fiscal Year 07/01/2013-06/30/2014

Cash on hand- as of 07/01/2013	\$1,437,926
Total Receipts- 07/01/2013-06/30/2014	\$20,142,798
Total Payments-07/01/2013-06/30/2014	<u>(\$20,866,752)</u>
Cash Balance- as of 06/30/2014	\$713,972.07 *

\* Represents the combined activity of three bank accounts.

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Ann Logan, Treasurer

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL BASED ON  
AN AUDIT OF BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

To the School Board  
Souhegan Cooperative School District

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Souhegan Cooperative School District (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the School Board, and others within the organization, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Manchester, New Hampshire  
November 25, 2014

For full FY14 Audited Financial Statements go to <http://sau39.org/Page/560>