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# Souhegan Cooperative School District

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## Annual Report and Guide to Official Ballot Voting on March 12, 2013

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 12, 2013.*

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.sprise.com](http://www.sprise.com)

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

**Amherst Representatives**

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

**Mont Vernon Representatives**

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

**School District Moderator**

Cynthia Dokmo

**School District Clerk**

Nancy Baker

**School District Treasurer**

Ann Logan

**Souhegan Finance Committee**

Dan Foley, Chair  
 David Chen  
 Lorri Hayes  
 Julie Livingston  
 Kathie Nunley  
 Tom Silvia  
 Peter Stearns

**Office of the Superintendent**

Peter Warburton, Superintendent of Schools  
 Elizabeth Shankel, Business Administrator  
 Renea Sparks, Director of Special Instructional Services  
 Nicole Heimarck, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development

**School Administration**

Jon Ingram, Principal  
 Robert Scully, Dean of Students  
 Gigi Klipa, Dean of Faculty  
 Kathy White, Dean of Faculty

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>Message from School Board Chair.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Two-Part Voting Procedure for Annual Town and District Meetings.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Warrant Articles and School Board Commentary.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Recommendations on FY14 Warrant Articles.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Financial Tax Impact &amp; Tax Rate History.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Student Population History &amp; Budget % Changes.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>FY14 Proposed Budget Summary sorted by Function.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Revenue Summary.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Default Budget .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Sample Ballot (Amherst Voters).....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Sample Ballot (Mont Vernon Voters).....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Annual Report of the Souhegan Cooperative School District.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Actual Expenditures for Special Education and Services.....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Report of the Treasurer.....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Auditor’s Report.....</b>	<b>29</b>

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

The past year has been one of change and introspection for Souhegan High School. We welcomed three veteran teachers to our administrative team, headed by Principal Jon Ingram. Long time English teacher, Rob Scully, became our new Dean of Students, and two original Souhegan staff members took on interim roles; Kathy White as interim Dean of Faculty and Dick Miller as interim Athletic Director. We also welcomed Deb Richard as our Coordinator of Special Educational Services. The administrative team has worked hard to look at the practices of Souhegan through various task forces, exploring how to best meet the needs of all our students in the 21st century. This work will help guide the district over the next few years.

Congratulations to Souhegan High School for being named to the Advanced Placement District Honor Roll, a distinction given to only eight high schools in New Hampshire. From 2010-2012, Souhegan increased the number of students participating in AP from 134 to 167 while still enabling over 70% of the students to achieve a grade of 3 or higher, for which many students earn college credit. We are proud of the students who take advantage of these classes, particularly since many schools limit access to AP courses, while Souhegan is true to its philosophy that all students can learn and does not restrict enrollment.

Souhegan High School continues its efforts to make sure that all students graduate ready for college, the military, or work. With acceptances at prestigious colleges and universities including MIT, Columbia, Tufts, Cornell, University of Virginia, and Boston College, 81% of the class of 2012 is attending a four year college. No members of this class dropped out, a testament to Souhegan's mission of empowering the mind, body, and heart. We applaud the accomplishments of all our graduates and wish them well.

Please be aware of the many ways you can be involved in Souhegan activities. Superintendent of Schools Peter Warburton continues a series of meetings with parents and taxpayers and regularly publishes a column in the *Amherst Citizen*. We thank the local media for their coverage that highlights the work and accomplishments of both students and staff, and alerts residents of opportunities to participate in high school programs – from committees and Community Council to the Community Reads program and Senior Project Panels to plays and concerts. We encourage all residents of Mont Vernon and Amherst to take part in the Souhegan community.

The main work of the school board is to develop a responsible budget that provides for the education of our students. At 3.7% lower than this year's budget, the \$17.6 million budget we are presenting was developed with a goal to create a lean budget while maintaining the quality of education for our students. Line by line, each section of the proposed budget was scrutinized by small teams, each consisting of a Board member, a member of the Advisory Finance Committee, and one or more administrators. This budget contains many adjustments to staffing levels that reflect our decreased enrollment. As is the case in many New Hampshire school districts, including Amherst and Mont Vernon, Souhegan has seen a decline in the number of students from a high of 1046 in 2005-2006 to 811 this year. The proposed budget reduces the staff by 10.2, including 5.7 teachers, 3 administrative assistants, 1 para professional, and 0.5 custodian.

The Board felt this was a responsible level of reductions, especially given the initiatives currently taking place at Souhegan. These include ongoing work to study changes to Souhegan's program of studies as well as the adoption of the Common Core curricula. SAU39's Supervision and Evaluation Program Review, which will examine and modernize our current evaluation system, and its initiative to develop a new strategic plan were other considerations. While the district projects relatively flat enrollment through FY16,

the school board and administrators are committed to continuing the work started this year, and develop future budgets that ensure appropriate staffing for enrollment as well as responsible spending in all areas.

Souhegan's aging facilities was another focus of the Board this year. The bond proposal which failed last year has been revised and simplified, and we are asking you to approve a \$1.95 million bond to replace the leaking roof and failing HVAC system on the original building. The district is expending considerable human and financial resources keeping these two systems operational so that their failures do not compromise other parts of the building. It is imperative that we protect one of our most used and important public buildings.

The Board appreciates the collegial nature of contract negotiations with Souhegan's Personnel and Policy Committee, the body that represents the staff. The two-year contract we put forth to voters this year includes only a small cost of living increase each year: 0.75% for professional staff and 1.25% increase for support staff, as well as changes to the dental insurance plan that will save the district over \$40,000 in FY14. We are also proposing a small increase of \$7,500 for professional development reimbursement. This is a fair agreement which we ask voters to approve.

Budgets and buildings absorb much of the Board's time, but in the end, the measure of what we do is our students. Souhegan is full of highly motivated teenagers who challenge themselves both in and outside of the classroom. We see students who work throughout their time at Souhegan on their minds, bodies, and hearts. Academically, students take on deeper studies through Souhegan's Honors Challenge as well as our college credit and Advanced Placement classes. In 2012, 167 students took a total of 306 AP exams in 17 subject areas. We are proud of our students who apply what they learn in the classroom through co-curricular activities such as Math Team, FIRST Robotics, and Mock Trial.

Our rich athletic and intramural programs allow students a way to learn dedication and teamwork, while honing the life-long practice of healthy living through physical fitness. Many of our students are able to follow their passion for sport into their college years. While we are proud of our teams who have excelled with play-off berths and championships, we recognize and are grateful for the hard work and dedication of all our athletes, and are proud to offer them those opportunities for growth and development outside the classroom.

Equally impressive are our students who continuously show us what it means to be socially conscious, responsible citizens. From the scores of students who go above and beyond the required 40 hours of community service, helping veterans, elderly, and children, serving meals at soup kitchens and sorting food at pantries and food banks and raising money and awareness for several causes; to our Community Council members who work to make Souhegan a better place, and those who took that knowledge beyond our school by working on political campaigns this past fall; to senior, Kaitlyn Maloney, who created a documentary on domestic violence and the services provided by local nonprofit, Bridges. When asked how her high school education helped make her documentary successful, Kaitlyn replied, "The philosophy of our school system also helped me succeed. Souhegan pedagogy doesn't teach just how to take tests or use strict memorization. The complex thinking and collaborative worker aspects and all the Academic Learner Expectations that we focus on at Souhegan gave me a way to monitor my growth as a person and tackle this. Supportive community members also helped me better understand the hidden issues that are present in our community and how we each can help by doing 'something.'"

I hope that you will consider each warrant article thoughtfully and reach out to the school board if you have questions or comments. The Board asks for you to support the bond for building repairs, operating budget, staff contract, as well as the addition of money to the building maintenance expendable trust fund. These

represent our experience as the responsible way to educate our children and maintain the 20-year investment our towns have made in our campus.

Respectfully,

Christine Janson  
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 2<sup>nd</sup> Deliberative Session. Final ballot voting on the articles that emerge from the Deliberative Session takes place at the polls on Election Day, March 12<sup>th</sup>, as shown below.

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

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<b>Deliberative Session</b>	February 2 <sup>nd</sup>
-----------------------------	--------------------------

11:00 a.m.  
SHS Auditorium

<b>Ballot Vote</b>	March 12 <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 12<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, 2013 and March 12, 2013  
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 Saturday, February 2, 2013, at 11:00 a.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 7. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for final vote on the main motion, as amended.

You are hereby further notified to meet on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, for official ballot voting on warrant articles numbered 1 through 6, 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 12, 2013.

- Election of two (2) members of the School Board from Amherst for the ensuing three (3) years.
- Election of one (1) member of the School Board from Mont Vernon for the ensuing three (3) years.
- Election of school district moderator for the ensuing three (3) years.

**Article 2** Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate **\$1,950,000** (Gross Budget) for repair and replacement of the roof and HVAC system at Souhegan High School, and authorize the issuance of not more than **\$1,950,000** of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and authorize the school board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms and conditions thereof; and take any other action necessary to carry out the purpose of this article, and further, raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$28,031** for the payment of the first interest payment on the aforesaid bonds?

**Three-fifths vote required to pass.**

**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 proposes a seven-year, \$1.95 million bond which will address the highest priority facility issues at Souhegan High School: a replacement roof and HVAC system at the 21-year-old main building. The leaking roof, seven years past its design life cycle, is in dire need of replacement. The leaks threaten much of the interior of the building including the gym floor and the library. The cost to*

replace the roof is \$1,000,000. The original HVAC rooftop units are also failing and in need of replacement. The repair costs to these units are approaching \$40,000 annually. The cost to replace the HVAC units is \$950,000. This new bond maintains the facility, phasing in as the Annex bond expires this year.

**Article 3**

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 **\$17,762,262**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$17,620,192** 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 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 1, with 1 abstention.**

*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: The proposed budget represents a decrease of 3.7% over the budget we are operating with this year, resulting in a lower tax impact to property owners. This budget includes a reduction of 10.2 staff members to address declining enrollment. Controllable costs have been minimized and small facilities items addressed. Cost considerations include mandated increases in employee retirement costs and an annual rate increase in medical insurance.*

**Article 4**

To see if the Souhegan Cooperative School District will 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>2013 – 2014</b>	<b>\$62,400</b>
<b>2014 – 2015</b>	<b>\$118,568</b>

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$62,400** for the 2013 – 2014 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 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 6 to 0, with 1 abstention.**



*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: This article proposes a two-year staff contract. With nominal cost of living increases of 0.75% for professional staff and 1.25% for support staff in the next two years, a reduction due to changes in the employee dental plan, and a small increase in the professional development reimbursement account, the agreement will cost \$62,400 in FY14 and \$118,568 in FY15.*

**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, 2013 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 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 adds to the approximately \$213,500 balance in the maintenance expendable trust. The trust is intended to meet maintenance needs, including unplanned emergencies. This fund supports maintenance items identified in the 2010 facility study that cannot be addressed through the annual budget, as well as providing a reserve for unanticipated repairs to our buildings and grounds. These funds are added to the trust from surplus, only if they are available, which may impact the tax rate in FY14.*

**Article 6** Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5, V-b to have the Souhegan Cooperative School Board include an estimated tax impact on the budget and special warrant articles?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

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

*Souhegan Cooperative School Board Commentary: If this article is adopted, future warrants of the district will include the tax impact of the budget and other special warrant articles, including bonds, providing additional information to voters.*

**Article 7** 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  
FY14 Budget Deliberative Session**

**Advisory Finance Committee Members**

**Amherst:** Julie Livingston, Kathie Nunley, David Chen, Pete Stearns, Tom Silvia

**Mont Vernon:** Lorri Hayes, Dan Foley

**Article #2**

**Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported unanimously 7-0**

**Commentary:** The Advisory Finance Committee unanimously supports this article by a vote of 7-0 because the roof has outlived its life expectancy, is beyond repair, and is leaking regularly in several areas, including the gymnasium and library. It is essential that the roof be replaced in order to protect the interior of the building. The HVAC systems have reached their end of service life as evidenced by increasing repair costs in recent years and low efficiency ratings by today's standards. Finally, it makes sense to replace both the roof and HVAC systems at the same time since the HVAC systems are located on the roof.

**Article #3**

**Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported 5-1-1**

**Commentary:** Five members of the Advisory Finance Committee support this article because they believe that the School Board and Administration have taken responsible steps to begin addressing the actual and forecasted decreases in student enrollment. While the student to teacher ratio will still be high next year from a historical perspective, the supporting members are confident that the School Board and Administration will study the issue and give careful consideration to solutions that address it without impacting the quality of education that the students of Souhegan currently receive. We have been told by the Administration that the 10.2 staffing positions being cut in the FY14 budget will have no or minimal impact on the Programs of Study next year. The projected increases in the School District's portion of the NH Retirement System, along with Medical and Dental benefit cost increases, negatively impact this budget as they have previous budgets over the last several years. Budget decreases are mainly due to staffing adjustments, elimination of the bond payments and selective cost reductions by the Administration. The General Fund is down by 4.11%, while the overall budget is down by 3.7%.

One member of the Advisory Finance Committee is not in support of this budget because they feel it does not go far enough in addressing the historically high student to teacher ratio. There are also concerns about the high levels of staffing in the area of special education.

One member has abstained from voting.

**Article #4**

**Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported 6-0-1**

**Commentary:** Six members of the Advisory Finance Committee support this article because the salary increase in the contract, .75% for professional staff and 1.25% for support staff, is very reasonable, especially given that the Cost Of Living Adjustment for Social Security recipients is 1.7% for 2013. We

also support the increase in course reimbursement for professional and support staff development. That increase is \$5,000 and \$2,500, respectively.

One member has abstained from voting.

#### **Article #5**

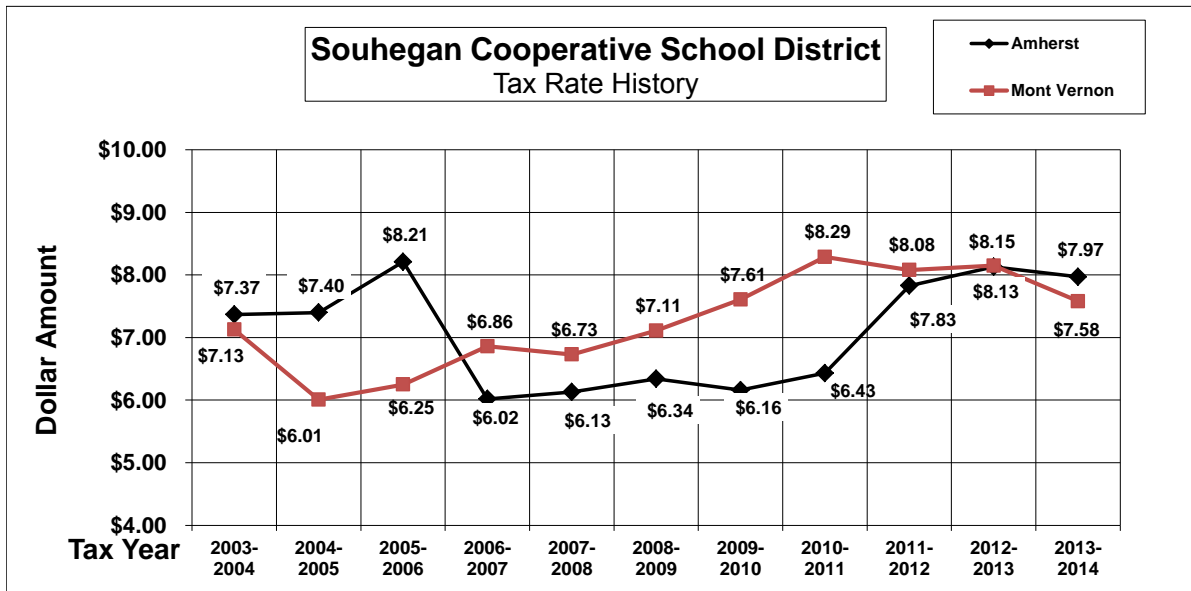
#### **Advisory Finance Committee Vote: Supported Unanimously 7-0**

**Commentary:** The Advisory Finance Committee unanimously supports this article because it is prudent and good business practice to direct surplus funds, should they exist, to an Expendable Trust Fund dedicated to unforeseen maintenance or repair of a 20 year old facility. The School Maintenance Fund is designed to protect or at least offset the budget from any such financial impact.

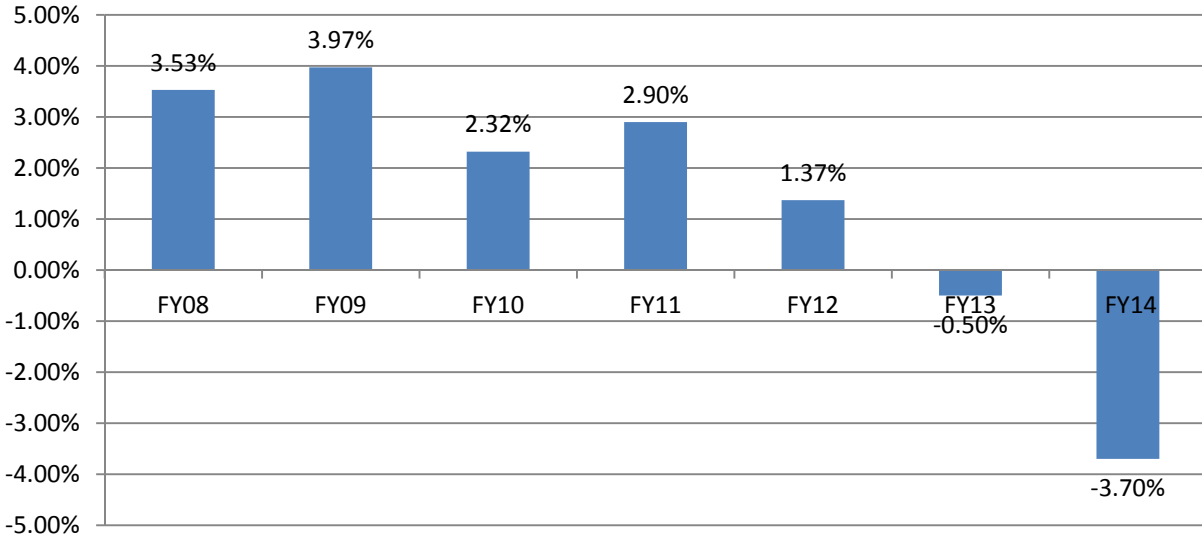
Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Foley, Chairman  
Souhegan Advisory Finance Committee

**Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY14 Summary of Warrant Articles and Tax Impact**

Article #	Typical Home Value	Cost	Estimated Tax Impact	
			Amherst \$325,000	Mont Vernon \$400,000
2	Bond Interest	\$ 28,031	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article 2		\$3.25	\$8.00
3	FY 2012-2013 Budget	\$18,443,827	\$8.13	\$8.15
	Budget - Net Decrease	(\$681,565)	(\$0.16)	(\$0.57)
	Total FY 2013-2014 Budget	\$17,762,262	\$7.97	\$7.58
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article 3		(\$52)	(\$228)
4	Teacher & Support Staff Agreement	\$62,400	\$0.03	\$0.04
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article 4		\$9.75	\$16.00
5	Maintenance Trust	\$65,000	\$0.03	\$0.04
	Tax Impact to Typical Home - Article 4		\$9.75	\$16.00
6	Tax Impact on Ballot	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Tax Impact to Typical Home- Article 5		\$0	\$0
Total FY13 Budget and Articles 2, 3, 4 and 5		\$17,917,693	(\$0.09)	(\$0.47)
Total Tax Impact to Typical Home			(\$29.25)	(\$188.00)



### Annual Percentage Change From Budget to Budget



Souhegan Cooperative School District Enrollment History							
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Projected	988	945	907	889	848	860	813
Actual	960	943	891	876	859	811	

**Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY14 Proposed Budget**

	FY12 Actual Expenditures	FY13 Adopted Budget	FY14 Proposed Budget	Budget to Budget \$ Increase (Decrease)	Budget to Budget % Increase (Decrease)
<b>Fund 10</b>					
<b>Regular Education Programs-</b>					
<b>1100</b> Teacher salaries, textbooks, substitutes, supplies	\$7,436,559	\$7,926,406	\$7,479,995	(\$446,411)	-5.63%
<b>Special Education Programs-</b>					
<b>1200</b> Teacher salaries, aides, substitutes, evaluators, textbooks, supplies, and items specific to SPED	\$3,362,868	\$3,594,299	\$3,631,837	\$37,538	1.04%
<b>Co-Curricular Programs -</b>					
<b>1400</b> Interscholastics, intramurals, student body activities	\$458,314	\$473,773	\$476,982	\$3,209	0.68%
<b>1600 Adult Education Programs-</b>	\$11,588	\$5,543	\$9,172	\$3,629	65.47%
<b>Student Support Services-</b>					
<b>2100</b> Guidance, health, nurses, and SRO salaries	\$995,533	\$993,940	\$1,058,124	\$64,184	6.46%
<b>Instructional Support Services-</b>					
<b>2200</b> Library salaries, supplies, curriculum coordinators, professional development, consultants	\$498,323	\$526,748	\$582,965	\$56,217	10.67%
<b>School Board-</b>					
<b>2300</b> Treasurer, moderator, SB stipends, SB minute taker, legal, audit	\$61,146	\$49,921	\$59,091	\$9,170	18.37%
<b>District Assessment - SAU 39</b>					
<b>2300</b> SCSD portion of the SAU budget	\$685,464	\$697,853	\$740,835	\$42,982	6.16%
<b>School Administrative Services-</b>					
Principal salaries, office staff, office equipment	\$810,560	\$802,300	\$806,738	\$4,438	0.55%
<b>Business-</b>					
<b>2500</b> Printing costs	\$2,909	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	0.00%
<b>Operation and Plant Maintenance-</b>					
Custodial salaries, electricity, heating oil, water, trash, loss and liability insurance premiums, building maintenance	\$1,430,312	\$1,174,038	\$1,239,495	\$65,457	5.58%
<b>Student Transportation-</b>					
<b>2700</b> Bus contract, fuel	\$573,865	\$550,257	\$615,578	\$65,321	11.87%
<b>Support Service - Technology</b>					
<b>2800</b> Technology staff salaries, local and wide area network costs	\$282,219	\$307,875	\$331,240	\$23,365	7.59%
<b>5100 Debt Service</b>	\$1,053,564	\$594,355	\$0	(\$594,355)	-100.00%
<b>5200 Fund Transfers</b>	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$15,000	(\$65,000)	-81.25%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	\$17,743,224	\$17,780,808	\$17,050,552	(\$730,256)	-4.11%
<b>Fund 21 Food Service Fund</b>	\$428,956	\$468,229	\$485,200	\$16,971	3.62%
				\$0	
<b>Fund 22 Grant Fund</b>	\$268,974	\$194,790	\$226,510	\$31,720	16.28%
<b>Grand Totals</b>	\$18,441,154	\$18,443,827	\$17,762,262	(\$681,565)	-3.70%

**Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY14 Proposed Revenue Summary**

<b>Acct #</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>FY13 DRA</b>	<b>FY14 Proposed</b>	<b>Change</b>
	General Fund Expenditures	\$17,780,808	\$17,050,552	(\$730,256)
	Special Revenue and Food Service	\$663,019	\$711,710	\$48,691
	<b>Budgeted Expenditures (All Funds)</b>	<b>\$18,443,827</b>	<b>\$17,762,262</b>	<b>(\$681,565)</b>
<b>770</b>	<b>Unreserved Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$144,218</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>\$130,782</b>
	<b>State Aid</b>			
3210	School Building Aid	\$238,187	\$0	(\$238,187)
3230	Catastrophic Aid	\$238,612	\$275,000	\$36,388
3270	Driver Education	\$0	\$0	\$0
3290	Other	\$1,041	\$0	(\$1,041)
	<b>Subtotal: State Aid</b>	<b>\$477,840</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>(\$202,840)</b>
	<b>Federal Aid</b>			
4500	Grants In Aid	\$194,790	\$224,510	\$29,720
4580	Medicaid	\$100,000	\$80,000	(\$20,000)
4590	Other Federal Sources	\$25,000	\$0	(\$25,000)
	<b>Subtotal: Federal Aid</b>	<b>\$319,790</b>	<b>\$304,510</b>	<b>(\$15,280)</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	\$34,000	\$43,000	\$9,000
1400	State AV 1 Transportation Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0
1510	Interest Income	\$6,000	\$4,000	(\$2,000)
1600	Food Service	\$442,188	\$485,200	\$43,012
1700	Pupil Activities	\$165,000	\$145,000	(\$20,000)
1910	Rentals	\$10,000	\$8,000	(\$2,000)
1990	Other - Local Grants & Trusts	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
	<b>Subtotal: Local Revenue</b>	<b>\$659,188</b>	<b>\$687,200</b>	<b>\$28,012</b>
	<b>Assessment:</b>			
	Budgeted Expenditures (All Funds)	\$18,443,827	\$17,762,262	(\$681,565)
	Less Unreserved Fund Balance	\$144,218	\$275,000	\$130,782
	Less Subtotal: State Aid	\$477,840	\$275,000	(\$202,840)
	Less Subtotal: Federal Aid	\$319,790	\$304,510	(\$15,280)
	Less Subtotal: Other Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Less Subtotal: Local Revenue	\$659,188	\$687,200	\$28,012
<b>1111</b>	<b>Current Appropriation</b>	<b>\$16,842,791</b>	<b>\$16,220,552</b>	<b>(\$622,239)</b>
	<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$16,842,791</b>	<b>\$16,220,552</b>	<b>(\$622,239)</b>
	<b>AMHERST SHARE</b>	<b>\$14,201,707</b>	<b>\$13,863,706</b>	<b>(\$338,001)</b>
	Adequacy Aid Grant	\$1,484,495	\$1,402,824	(\$81,671)
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$1,402,760	\$1,409,743	\$6,983
	Total Credits- Amherst	\$2,887,255	\$2,812,567	(\$74,688)
	Assessment - Town of Amherst	\$11,314,452	\$11,051,139	(\$263,313)
	Net Assessed Value/\$1000 - Amherst	\$1,568,504	\$1,568,504	\$0
	Tax Rate - Amherst	\$7.21	\$7.05	(\$0.16)
	Local Assessed Value/\$1000 Less Utilities	\$1,532,010	\$1,532,010	\$0
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$0.92	\$0.92	\$0.00
	<b>Total School Tax - Town of Amherst</b>	<b>\$8.13</b>	<b>\$7.97</b>	<b>(\$0.16)</b>
	<b>MONT VERNON SHARE</b>	<b>\$2,641,084</b>	<b>\$2,356,846</b>	<b>(\$284,238)</b>
	Adequacy Aid Grant	\$546,621	\$408,050	(\$138,571)
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$213,785	\$191,070	(\$22,715)
	Total Credits- Mont Vernon	\$760,406	\$599,120	(\$161,286)
	Assessment - Town of Mont Vernon	\$1,880,678	\$1,757,726	(\$122,952)
	Net Assessed Value/\$1000 - Mont Vernon	\$257,192	\$257,192	\$0
	Tax Rate - Mont Vernon	\$7.31	\$6.83	(\$0.48)
	Local Assessed Value/\$1000 Less Utilities	\$254,931	\$254,931	\$0
	Statewide School Property Tax	\$0.84	\$0.75	(\$0.09)
	<b>Total School Tax - Town of Mont Vernon</b>	<b>\$8.15</b>	<b>\$7.58</b>	<b>(\$0.57)</b>

**Souhegan Cooperative School District  
FY14 Default Budget Calculation**

Acct #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Adopted Operating Budget	Increases/ Decreases	One Time Initiatives	DEFAULT BUDGET
1100-1199	Regular Education Programs	\$ 7,926,406	\$ (468,543)	\$ -	\$ 7,457,863
1200-1299	Special Education Programs	\$ 3,594,299	\$ 37,538	\$ -	\$ 3,631,837
1400-1499	Co-Curricular Programs	\$ 473,773	\$ (10,184)	\$ -	\$ 463,589
1600-1899	Adult & Community Programs	\$ 5,543	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,543
	<b>INSTRUCTION (1000-1999)</b>	<b>\$ 12,000,021</b>	<b>\$ (441,189)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,558,832</b>
2000-2199	Student Support Services	\$ 993,940	\$ 63,909	\$ -	\$ 1,057,849
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	\$ 526,748	\$ 46,461	\$ -	\$ 573,209
	<b>SUPPORT SERVICES (2000-2999)</b>	<b>\$ 1,520,688</b>	<b>\$ 110,370</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,631,058</b>
2300-840	School Board Contingency	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1
2310-2319	Other School Board	\$ 49,920	\$ (2,273)	\$ -	\$ 47,647
	<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 49,921</b>	<b>\$ (2,273)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 47,648</b>
2320-311	SAU Management Services	\$ 697,853	\$ 42,982	\$ -	\$ 740,835
2400-2499	School Administration Service	\$ 802,300	\$ 4,063	\$ -	\$ 806,363
2500-2599	Business	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500
2600-2699	Operation & Maintenance of Plant	\$ 1,174,038	\$ 18,032	\$ -	\$ 1,192,070
2700-2799	Student Transportation	\$ 550,257	\$ 52,661	\$ -	\$ 602,918
2800-2899	Technology	\$ 307,875	\$ 12,687	\$ -	\$ 320,562
	<b>EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$ 3,535,823</b>	<b>\$ 130,425</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,666,248</b>
5100-5119	Debt Service - Principal	\$ 580,000	\$ -	\$ (580,000)	\$ -
5120-5122	Debt Service - Interest	\$ 14,355	\$ -	\$ (14,355)	\$ -
	<b>OTHER OUTLAYS (5000-5999)</b>	<b>\$ 594,355</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (594,355)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
5220-5221	To Food Service	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000
5252	To Expendable Trusts	\$ 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>\$ 468,229</b>	<b>\$ 6,667</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 474,896</b>
	<b>GRANT FUND</b>	<b>\$ 194,790</b>	<b>\$ 31,720</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 226,510</b>
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 18,443,827</b>	<b>\$ (164,280)</b>	<b>\$ (659,355)</b>	<b>\$ 17,620,192</b>



**ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
SOUHEGAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AMHERST, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MARCH 12, 2013**

*Nancy T. Baker*  
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.

<b>FOR SCHOOL BOARD</b>	<b>FOR MODERATOR</b>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Vote for not For 3 years more than Two</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Vote for not For Three Years more than One</p>
<p>CHRISTINE A. JANSON <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>"ADDIE" HUTCHISON <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>STEPHEN COUGHLAN <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><input type="radio"/></p>
<p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>(Write-in)</p>
<p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>(Write-in)</p>

**ARTICLES**

**Article 2**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District raise and appropriate **\$1,950,000** (Gross Budget) for repair and replacement of the roof and HVAC system at Souhegan High School, and authorize the issuance of not more than **\$1,950,000** of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and authorize the school board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms and conditions thereof; and take any other action necessary to carry out the purpose of this article, and further, raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$28,031** for the payment of the first interest payment on the aforesaid bonds?

YES   
NO

**Three-fifths vote required to pass.**

**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.**

**Article 3**

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 **\$17,762,262**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$17,620,192** 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 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 1, with 1 abstention.**

**TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING**

## ARTICLES CONTINUED

### Article 4

To see if the Souhegan Cooperative School District will 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:

YES   
NO

Year	Estimated Costs
2013 – 2014	\$62,400
2014 – 2015	\$118,568

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$62,400** for the 2013 – 2014 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 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 6 to 0, with 1 abstention.**

### 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, 2013 to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund known as the School Maintenance Fund previously established in March, 2005?

YES   
NO

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**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.**

### Article 6

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5, V-b to have the Souhegan Cooperative School Board include an estimated tax impact on the budget and special warrant articles?

YES   
NO

**Majority vote required to pass.**

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

**YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING**

Instructions to Voters

To vote by Write-in: If you wish to vote for a candidate whose name does not appear on the ballot for a particular office, write in the name on the blank write-in line provided for that office.

\*\*\*\*\*  
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER  
(Vote for One)  
(Three Year Term)

Howard Brown

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

\*\*\*\*\*  
MODERATOR  
(Vote for One)  
(Three Year Term)

"Addie" Hutchison

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write-in)

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 **\$1,950,000** (Gross Budget) for repair and replacement of the roof and HVAC system at Souhegan High School, and authorize the issuance of not more than **\$1,950,000** of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and authorize the school board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms and conditions thereof; and take any other action necessary to carry out the purpose of this article, and further, raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$28,031** for the payment of the first interest payment on the aforesaid bonds?

**Three-fifths vote required to pass.**

**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 3**

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with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

**Majority vote required to pass.**

**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 1, with 1 abstention.**

YES  NO

**ARTICLE 4**

To see if the Souhegan Cooperative School District will 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
2013 – 2014	\$62,400
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**Majority vote required to pass.**

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YES  NO

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YES  NO

**ARTICLE 6**

Shall the Souhegan Cooperative School District vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5, V-b to have the Souhegan Cooperative School Board include an estimated tax impact on the budget and special warrant articles?

**Majority vote required to pass.**

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

YES  NO

# 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

## Souhegan High School

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

**Jon Ingram, Principal**

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. 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. 85% 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.

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.

Success 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 2012. As the SAT format was changed four years ago, the comparison is limited to the past four years. In recent years, Souhegan High School has seen an increasing number of students taking the ACT as an increasing number of schools accept either SAT or ACT scores.

#### **SAT Scores:**

Mean Scores	SHS 2009	SHS 2010	SHS 2011	SHS 2012	STATE 2012
Critical Read.	555	542	537	550	521
Writing	531	541	531	535	510
Math	562	527	545	554	525
Overall	1648	1610	1613	1639	1556
Participation	86%	76%	82%	78%	

**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.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Participation Rate	44%	37%	48%	50%	50%
English	24	24	24	24	25
Math	23	24	24	24	24
Reading	25	25	25	24	25
Science	23	23	23	23	24
Composite	24	24	24	24	25

**Advanced Placement (AP)** and college level courses are two indicators of how Souhegan High School students challenge themselves academically. In 1992, when the school opened, four AP courses were offered and no classes were offered for college credit. Today, 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. In 1992, there were a total of 35 AP exams administered to Souhegan High School students. 305 (up from 273 in 2011) exams were administered in 2012. The College Board recognized 35 (up from 29 in 2011) of our students who earned AP Scholar Awards on the basis of their outstanding performance on the 2012 AP exams given last May.

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

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number AP courses	11	11	11	11	18	15	13
Number of AP exams administered	185	217	244	290	252	273	305

Souhegan High School is proud of its students and staff. 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.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Robert Scully, Dean of Students

**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 five years.

Post Secondary Plans	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
College or University (4 year)	78%	79%	81%	77%	80%	81%
Community College or Technical School	10%	8%	7%	13%	11%	11%
Work	4%	9%	8%	5%	6%	3%
Armed Forces	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%	.5%
Other (prep school, service organization, undecided)	6%	3%	2%	4%	3%	5.5%

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 six years are summarized:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Most competitive	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	8%	4%	11%
Highly competitive	14%	15%	6%	12%	15%	12%	10%	15%
Very competitive	14%	27%	36%	25%	25%	22%	24%	19%
Total of three	35%	49%	48%	42%	45%	42%	38%	45%

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.

## CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

### Kathy White, Dean of Faculty

Our district and school are currently working on implementing the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The Common Core State Standards endorsed by the Council of Chief State School Officers and the National Governors Association, adopted by 45 states, four territories and the United States Defense Department Schools articulate standards in Mathematics (CCSSM) and English Language Arts (CCSSE/L) Literacy in Social Studies, Science and technical subjects. The standards express the skills and knowledge necessary to advance in study and to prepare for a career.

Following a review of the literature regarding the CCSS, the next step in the process of implementing the standards is to "unpack" them to determine at which grade level specific standards will be taught. Our math department engaged in this process over the past three years as part of a K-12 Program Review to implement the standards and select math resources for K-8. The high school math classes will implement the standards beginning in the fall of 2013. This year, unpacking of the E/LA standards begins another K-12 initiative which will provide the SAU 39 schools of Amherst, Mont Vernon and Souhegan a seamless curriculum.

The instructional shifts incorporated in the implementation of the standards are aligned with our principles and our mission statement. There are fewer standards to allow for more in-depth study, meeting our principle of "less is more." The instructional shift to allow students to discover information aligns with our principle "student as worker, teacher as coach." Further instructional shifts include students working on assignments for real audiences which correlates to our work on authentic performance assessments and exhibitions and finally, allowing students to engage in high level discussions.

Examples of these instructional strategies abound at SHS such as the ninth grade students who recently engaged in a Socratic seminar discussing their readings and the twelfth grade Ethics seminar students who use Socratic dialog to discuss in-depth topics. Examples of authentic work include the AP Geography students who researched and made recommendations for a town planning document, and the ninth grade students who conducted research into possible changes in the SHS community to propose to Community Council. Another example of the Common Core standards in action is a Senior Project exhibition, "The Timeless Beat" presentation by Rachel White and Jenn Brisebois at the Amato Center. Because of the work that we have done over the past twenty years, Souhegan is well poised to implement the new standards into our curriculum and instruction.

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

### **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 both locally and nationally for their many strengths, and have instructed at the college level in addition to having received many honors and awards. The list below highlights some of this past year's work.

#### **Mike Beliveau**

- Recently voted Nashua Telegraph Football "Coach of the Year" for the 4th time in his career.

#### **Kim Vitchkoski**

- Senior Adjunct Faculty lecturer of Spanish - University of Massachusetts, Lowell (for the past 23 years - 5 years with UMASS Online)
- Nine years coordinating German Exchange Program at SHS

### **Richard Wallace**

- Invited to facilitate workshops at the Coalition of Essential Schools' Fall Forum (a national forum) for the Right Question Institute a non-profit education organization. Their teaching pedagogy supports the idea that all students can be taught to ask great questions through the use of protocols.

### **Bernard D' Amours**

- Awarded Fulbright Teachers exchange grant 2012 and asked to serve on the 2013-2014 peer review panel to select the new class of Fulbright Teacher Exchange awards.

### **Bob Rotier**

- Received the New Hampshire Air Force Association Teacher of the Year award for 2012. This award recognizes teachers that make a significant contribution to aeronautics education in their classrooms.

### **Chris Brooks** - Coordinator and creator of Ethics Forum

- Awarded \$5000.00 grant from the NH Humanities Council to run annual statewide philosophy convention (HYPE). Ethics Forum created this conference and continues to run it each year. Students will organize 340 participants on March 8th at St. Anselm College.
- Created relationships and secured financial support totaling well over \$4000.00 for the Ethics Forum from UNH, St. Anselm College, Hesser College and Granite State College to support this day and other work the Forum will carry out in the months to come.

### **Jeanne Sturges**

- Invited to present with the Center for Collaborative Education on Performance Assessment at two national conferences: the Fall Forum and Learning Forward.
- Invited to facilitate CCE's Summer Performance Assessment Institute, as well as the NH DOE's Performance Assessment Network for the 2012-2013 school year.

### **Pat McMullen**

- Earned Masters of Music Education from Boston University.

## **ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES**

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

There has been outstanding work and accomplishments in the area of activities at Souhegan High School. Last fall the theater department did an outstanding job performing *Twelve Angry Jurors* based on the classic play "Twelve Angry Men." They are now preparing to present *Grease* as their spring musical on April 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. The Handbell Choir hosted their third Ring Out that brought together ten handbell choirs from around New England. The National Honor Society sponsored their annual blood drive in January, collecting a generous 75 pints of blood and maintaining the school's reputation as high volume donors. The Mock Trial team finished first in a competition at Yale University in October and is currently preparing for the New Hampshire State Championships. The Music Department hosted 500 students for the 2012-13 NH Jazz All-



State auditions with Souhegan's Stefan Falkenstein, Jason Emmond and Kole Nunley being selected as All-State Jazz musicians. In addition, Tia Huang and Stefan Falkenstein were selected to the NH All-State Concert Band. The Robotics team, the Ocean Bowl team, the choir and other activities groups also experienced successes over the year.

Highlights on the playing field include the Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball teams, the Boys Track, Cross Country and Indoor teams, as well as the Boys Swim team. The Girls Varsity Basketball team won the 2012 Division II State Championship for their second consecutive year, and the Boys Varsity Basketball team made it to the Division II semifinals before losing a tough contest to Portsmouth. Tournament success continued into the spring as the Boys Outdoor Track team won the Division II title, the Girls Varsity Lacrosse team received the Division I runner-up plaque, and the Varsity Softball team made it to the Division II semifinals where they had a heart-breaking loss to Portsmouth. This past fall, every team qualified for the playoffs. The Boys Varsity Cross Country team won the Division II title and earned first place at the Meet of Champions, qualifying them to run at the New England Championships where they claimed the third place trophy – the best finish in Souhegan school history. In their quest for back-to-back titles, the Varsity Girls Soccer team garnered the runner-up plaque in Division II. This winter has seen all sports performing well. The Varsity Boys Indoor Track team claimed their second consecutive Division II title and the Boys Varsity Swim team just recently won the school's first ever Division II Championship while the Girls Varsity Swim team finished a solid third in Division II.

There have also been numerous individual accolades for both players and coaches. In August, football coach Mike Beliveau led the New Hampshire team to a victory over their counterparts from Vermont. This past fall, the Boys Varsity Cross Country team was selected as Team of the Year for the State of New Hampshire, and Cross Country Coach Jeff Wilson was selected as Coach of the Year. In football, Tyler Ford and Jake Kennedy were selected to the *Union Leader* All State Football team in which just 24 players were selected from the entire state. Tyler Ford was also selected as Football Player of the Year and Mike Beliveau as Coach of the Year for this area by the *Nashua Telegraph*. The New Hampshire Soccer Officials Association selected Sam Leedy for one of only eight State Sportsmanship awards. The State Soccer Coaches Association selected Dwayne Andreason as Division II Varsity Coach of the Year and Amy Sparks was selected as JV Coach of the Year.

Souhegan High School has numerous student athletes who will continue their education and athletic pursuits at the college level. Some highlights of this success include Jake Kennedy, who just recently signed a national letter of intent to play football at the University of New Hampshire. The girls' lacrosse program has two seniors who will be playing at Tufts and Skidmore as well as four juniors who have committed early to Division I programs at Boston University, the University of Albany and George Washington University; their acceptance was based on their commitment to academics, athletics and community service.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

**Peter Warburton, Superintendent of Schools**

“The most pressing task is to teach people how to learn.”

-Peter Drucker

With pride, as your Superintendent for the Amherst, Mont Vernon, and Souhegan Cooperative School Districts, I thought it would be appropriate for this annual (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) report for Souhegan High School to highlight its mission along with words from the first Souhegan Cooperative School District Chair:

*“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 aspire and honor the active stewardship of  
family, nation and globe.”*

*“A parcel of land, selectively cleared of trees and brush, stakes flagged to proclaim future fields, roads and walks. Mounds of earth. Such was the Boston Post Road site only one short year ago. Little physically existed that would predict the progress accomplished these past twelve months. More concrete than the building, yet still at the developmental stage, were the curriculum and staffing requirements. Souhegan High School is the result of professional and volunteer contributions. The program is based on sound, fundamental practices ensuring academic achievement and preparation of our graduates. It will be seen as a milestone in the reform of education. Learning will be by design, not by chance at Souhegan High School.”*

After twenty years, **Respect, Trust and Courage**, continue to be the watch words at SHS, and the milestone has been set by the contributions of many, then and now.

On behalf of our School Board, staff and students, Thank You!

I look forward to continuing as your superintendent.

And...

Happy 20<sup>th</sup>, Souhegan!

Peter Warburton

Superintendent of Schools

Amherst, Mont Vernon, and Souhegan Cooperative School Districts

## **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES' REPORT**

**Renea Sparks, Director of Special Instructional Services**

It is my pleasure, once again, to provide a brief report on some of the highlights of the Souhegan Special Instructional Services Department. In conjunction with all of the faculty and staff at Souhegan, the district's learning specialists, paraprofessional staff, and related services providers continue to work tirelessly for the students who require additional supports and services.

In its third year, the READ 180 program continues to exceed all of our expectations. The number of students who have experienced high levels of growth in their reading level is remarkable. The students who had started in the program during the first year of implementation are now juniors and seniors. Some are currently enrolled in advanced placement classes and all of the seniors have applied and been accepted to four year colleges. The number of students accessing the program continues to increase as the school has been using portions of the program to address the needs of all students reading below proficiency as identified through a full school reading screening and Response to Instruction (RTI).

A significant focus this past year was the improvement of our transitioning students from Souhegan into college, career or adult services. One such program is called the "Transitions" Program. The purpose of the Transitions Program is to provide individualized academic, social emotional and transitional programming for students with significant learning challenges. The program is designed to provide services and education that mirror State and Federal requirements for secondary transition. The program provides approximately 16-20 students with opportunities for community based learning skills for functional and independent living as well as vocational training, recreation leisure activities and academic supports for students. The placement of the students within local businesses allows them to acquire transferrable job skills. During the 2011-2012 school year, the transition facilitator, case managers and support staff have spent numerous hours developing job placements, learning state and federal guidelines for safe vocational placement with the NH Department of Labor, job coaching, designing curriculum for interviewing, resume building, social skills, life skills, recreation leisure, community living and modified academic requirements.

The collaborative efforts of a dedicated staff of teachers and paraprofessionals provide students with access to varsity teams, adult services programs and vocational exploration. Over 32 local businesses have partnered with our program to help support these transition goals. This allows for students to apply the academic knowledge acquired within the classroom to real world experiences in preparation for graduation or for when they reach age 21. The partnership

between Souhegan High School and the local business is fortified with ongoing monitoring and support for both the student and the business. The success of the revised program is clearly demonstrated by the fact that a number of businesses have requested to hire the student after the job shadowing/internship has been completed.

The program also offers on site community and local college visits which includes meeting with the coordinator for disabilities located at each campus. These excursions coupled with tours of Job Corps and Project Search provides a wide range of opportunities for students to sample life beyond high school. All components of the program are made possible as result of our specialized staff working to coordinate transition opportunities in and around academic course requirements, transportation needs and individual care for each student.

The use of technology as an accelerator to learning has also been a highlight of the 2011-2012 school year. As you may recall, the district allocated a portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to purchase IPADS (during the 2009-2011 school years). The use of the IPADs and applicable educationally based applications (Apps) has grown by leaps and bounds, assisting with and for the inclusion of all students.

The Inclusion Revitalization Task Force, which began in May, 2010 is comprised of approximately twenty individuals, including administrators, classroom teachers, learning specialists, students, parents and school board members. They have worked throughout the year and into the summer of 2012 on the mission regarding inclusion values and practices at Souhegan High School. They have adopted a vision statement for inclusive education at Souhegan High School which is: *that Souhegan High School aspires to be an inclusion community of learners*. It is the expectation that the Task Force will present their recommendations at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year.

The efforts of all of the staff and faculty of Souhegan High School on behalf of our students who require extra support continues to be impressive. They envisage and encourage high expectations from all, go beyond to help students learn, foster working, collaborative educational teams, and facilitate strong family-school partnerships. The expertise of the special education teachers, service providers, support staff, nurses, and guidance counselors assists all students –one at a time. They have taken on leadership roles on their building teams and committees as well as with SAU wide initiatives. They are all vital contributors to the successes each student's experiences every day!

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to congratulate and commend the efforts of the students themselves. As students who, for one reason or another, learn differently than their peers, they must also work harder. Their grit and determination is evidenced by some very impressive statistics. For example, of the graduating class of 2012, 100% of the students with educational disabilities graduated, and 84% were accepted and enrolled in postsecondary education. Congratulations!

Respectfully submitted,

Renea A. Sparks  
Director of Special Instructional Services

Souhegan Cooperative School District  
 Actual Expenditures for Special Education Programs and Services  
 FY 2010-2011 and FY 2011-2012 per RSA 32:11a

ITEM	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-2012
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Catastrophic Aid	\$645,045	\$368,964
IDEA Grant	\$240,585	\$221,283
Medicaid	<u>\$159,912</u>	<u>\$63,471</u>
Total Revenues	\$1,045,542	\$653,718
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Salaries	\$1,815,946	\$1,839,486
Employee Benefits	\$646,370	\$679,509
Purchased Services	\$1,354,019	\$1,207,089
Supplies	\$25,788	\$23,437
Equipment	\$16,553	\$40,466
Other	<u>\$780</u>	<u>\$250</u>
Total Expenditures	\$3,859,456	\$3,790,237
Net Cost of Special Education	\$2,813,914	\$3,136,519
Source DOE 25		

Souhegan Cooperative School District  
 Report of the Treasurer to the School Board  
 Fiscal Year 07/01/2011-06/30/2012

Cash on hand- as of 07/01/2011	\$541,360
Total Receipts- 07/01/2011-06/30/2012	\$21,532,119
Total Payments-07/01/2011-06/30/2012	<u>(\$21,264,904)</u>
Cash Balance- as of 06/30/2012	\$808,575 *

\* This 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 as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012 in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Souhegan Cooperative School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures 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 Souhegan Cooperative School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Souhegan Cooperative School 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 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 deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

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

*Vachon Clukay & Company PC*

November 30, 2012