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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Region 15 Board of Education appreciates the continued support of the residents of Middlebury and Southbury for our schools and educational programs. Your approval of our 2006-2007 budget enables us to now turn our full attention to planning for next year.

As part of that planning, over the next few weeks, teachers and administrators will continue to identify and interview candidates to fill 24 vacant teaching positions, due to retirements. Administrators have already begun attending college placement fairs, including one at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, where they met with more than 25 prospective candidates, several of whom they invited to begin the interview process with our school district. We are very pleased that so many impressive new teachers are considering Region 15 as the place to embark upon their public education career.

We are planning some building repairs throughout the district. The Mary I. Johnson School and Middlebury Elementary School will both have significant work done on their water supply systems. Gainfield Elementary School will undergo some ventilation repairs as well as window and roof repairs. A new curtain drain around Memorial Middle School will help protect the building's foundation from water incursion. The addition of air conditioning to the cafeteria area of Rochambeau Middle School will give teachers an air-conditioned core area that they can use for large group activities. We also have scheduled additional carpet replacement for Pomperaug Elementary School.

We wish you and your family a happy, healthy and safe summer and look forward to another successful school year, beginning on Thursday, August 31, 2006.

DISTRICT PLANS NEXT STEPS FOR FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

As we complete the third year of our five-year strategic plan to improve our schools, we are on target and ready to take the next steps in implementing the plan. We developed our Strategic Plan in 2002 with the involvement of educators, students, parents and other town residents and leaders. The resulting Strategic Plan became the community's plan to improve Region 15 Schools.

The strategies in the Plan were designed to tackle the critical issues the district needs to address in order to achieve our objectives and mission. The team identified and prioritized strategies for continued growth. Priority areas include 1) maintaining current, well-articulated, K-12 curricula, 2) improving internal and external communications, and 3) strengthening better cooperation among Board of Education members. Our focus on these areas over the past three years has resulted in significant improvements. For example, we now have a curriculum revision cycle across all schools to ensure every subject area stays aligned with state standards. Multiple community and school-based communication initiatives were

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Congratulations to the following award recipients:

★ **Pomperaug High School (PHS)** has been honored by the Michaels Jewelers Achievement Cup as having one of the Top 10 Athletic Programs in Class L. It was recognized for its “Excellence in Overall High School Athletic Programs.” In addition, PHS was recognized as “Outstanding” in the categories of “Win/Loss,” “Participation,” “Sportsmanship” and “Medical.”

★ A **PHS student** has qualified as All American in swimming for the 200-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle events.



Hal Rettstadt, Gymnastics Coach of the Year.

★ **Hal Rettstadt**, PHS gymnastics coach, has been named the Connecticut High School Coaches Association “Gymnastics Coach of the Year.”

★ **Five Region 15 students** achieved first or second place at the State National History Day competition in Hartford on May 6 and will be attending the National History Day competition at the University of Maryland in June.

★ **Five PHS, five Memorial Middle School and two Rochambeau Middle School** students have won Scholastic Art awards.

★ **More than 300 PHS students** participated in winter sports, including gymnastics, boys’ and girls’ basketball, wrestling, boys’ and girls’ skiing and ice hockey.

★ The **PHS cheerleaders** placed second in the Southwestern Conference Championship and third in the State Class M championship.

★ The **PHS girls’ basketball team** won the Southwestern Conference championship and qualified for the State Class L tournament.



Students who will be attending the National History Day Competition in June.



Students who participated in the State National History Day Competition.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2006!

As the school year draws to a close, members of the Class of 2006 are busy preparing for graduation and the next phase of their lives. Whether they are planning a career in business, education, medicine, law, culinary arts or another field, we congratulate each of our graduates and wish them success. The following is a sampling of colleges the Class of 2006 will be attending:

Ball State University	Johnson & Wales University	Stratford School for Aviation
Barnard College	Katharine Gibbs School	Maintenance Technicians
Bentley College	Keene State College	Suffolk University
Berklee School of Music	La Salle University	SUNY, University at Binghamton
Boston College	Lambuth University	Syracuse University
Boston University	Lasell College	Texas A and M University
Brandeis University	Long Island University – C.W. Post	Thomas College
Bryant University	Loyola College	Trinity College
Cazenovia College	Lynchburg College	Tufts University
Central Connecticut State University	Manhattan College	United States Air Force Academy
Champlain College	Marist College	United States Coast Guard Academy
Chester College of New England	Merrimack College	University of Rhode Island
Cornell University	Motorcycle Mechanics Institute	University of Bridgeport
CT Center for Massage Therapy	Mount Ida College	University of Colorado
Curry College	Mount Saint Mary College	University of Connecticut
Dean College	Naugatuck Valley Community College	University of Connecticut - Waterbury
Duke University	New Mexico State University	University of Delaware
East Carolina University	North Haven Academy: Paul Mitchell	University of Hartford
Eastern Connecticut State University	Northeastern University	University of Maryland
Emerson College	Northwestern University	University of New Hampshire
Emmanuel College	Pennsylvania State University	University of New Haven
Endicott College	Post University	University of Rhode Island
Evergreen State College	Providence College	University of The Arts - Pennsylvania
Florida International University	Roger Williams University	University of Vermont
Franciscan University of Steubenville	Rutgers University	Villanova University
Franklin Pierce College	Sacred Heart University	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Green Mountain College	Salve Regina University	Wake Forest University
Hampden-Sydney College	Southern Connecticut State University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Hartwick College	Springfield College	West Chester University
Harvard University	St. Bonaventure University	Western Connecticut State University
Hofstra University	St. Joseph College	Western New England College
Iona College	St. Michael's College	
Ithaca College	Stonehill College	

DISTRICT PLANS NEXT STEPS FOR FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

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created (this newsletter being one example), and the Board of Education stayed true to their commitment to focus on and budget the Strategic Plan.

On September 18 and 19, 2006 we will reconvene the strategic planning team for a formal update. This formal update provides the opportunity for serious discussion of any implementation difficulties, and of the progress we have made toward achieving our Strategic Plan objectives and what lies ahead. Strategic planning helps key stakeholders renew their commitment to the strategic planning process. Participants who were on the original planning team will be invited to return and new people will also be invited to assume the role of those team members who are no longer available.

If you would like to view our Strategic Plan, please visit our website at www.region15.org under *About Region 15*.

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**INFORMATION FOR REGION 15 RESIDENTS
FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION • SPRING 2006**



For regular updates and the latest news about Region 15 we encourage all residents to sign up for our monthly e-mail newsletter, *Community Connections*. Please go to <http://www.region15.org/ccsignup.htm> to sign up today.

**POMPERAUG REGIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT 15**

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Frank H. Sippy
Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lois Lanning
Director of Finance and Operations, Keith McLiverty
For further information please call (203) 758-8258.

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