

## **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION #61**

The Barre Supervisory Union provides leadership, personnel services, financial services, technology services, and grant management for the Barre Town School as well as Spaulding High School and the Barre City School. In addition, the central office also works with teachers and administrators from Barre Town and the other schools to develop and coordinate curriculum, provide professional development, and implement school improvement plans. Our purpose is to provide for efficient and effective schools, and our goal is improving student learning.

We have a number of initiatives across the supervisory union to help us reach our goal. Teachers are being trained to use the most effective teaching practices in general, and research-based reading, writing and math programs are being implemented. Student progress is being monitored so that teachers can identify and help the students who need something extra before they fall behind. We are using grant and stimulus money to put interactive white boards in every classroom and train teachers to use them in order to improve student learning. Our curriculum is being aligned and coordinated to focus on what is most important for kids to learn and to make sure that the early grades provide the foundations needed for the higher grades. We are also emphasizing higher order thinking skills to make sure that students understand what they are learning.

I'm pleased by the progress that we have made this past year. Teachers and administrators are working hard and engaged in improving student learning. Teachers from across the supervisory union are working together to solve problems, share ideas, and move forward. There is an excitement about the changes we are making. Student test scores are improving in some areas, and I'm confident that our schools will become even better in the next few years.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Bacon, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## **BARRE TOWN MIDDLE & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Barre Town School has seen many positive changes to improve instruction and provide quality education so that all of our children will meet with success. Our school is fortunate to have competent and enthusiastic administrators, teachers, and staff who work to support learning with sensitivity to these economic times.

This past June we said goodbye to Ted Rikken, who retired from 27 years as a principal. Many will fondly remember his presence in the lobby as children were dismissed each day and his passion for helping our students learn about environmental issues.

We welcomed Alice Thomason Worth, as experienced educator who has joined Tim Crowley as co-principal of our school. Most recently Ms. Worth had worked collaboratively with administrators, teachers, and staff in the position of School Improvement Coordinator at Barre City School. Prior to that, she was a principal and Assistant Superintendent in the Orange East Supervisory Union in Bradford, Vermont. She has extensive experience working with standards-based instruction and assessment. Ms. Worth has spent a considerable part of her career working on professional development with educators, including four summers at Harvard University. We are very fortunate to have her share her expertise and enthusiasm for student success with us.

Barre Town also has seen the retirements of veteran teachers who endlessly supported generations of our children for which we are grateful. We are pleased that we have drawn from a strong pool of candidates to staff our school with exceptionally knowledgeable and passionate educators – two of whom are former Barre Town students.

In an initiative to promote early learning, we began a new collaboration with Head Start to assure that even more of Barre Town's children will have the benefit of attending preschool beginning September 2010. Research consistently demonstrates that a quality early education helps children be ready to learn upon entering school. This collaboration also allows us to continue to receive an Early Education Initiative Grant which has helped support our preschool programs.

An effort to promote greater collaboration and efficiency in instruction by allowing our teachers, staff, and students to be in on the same schedule has led us to examine our transportation system. With the population of students decreasing, a committee meets weekly to review and possibly implement a one-wave bus system beginning in Fall 2010. This group (Bill Kirkland, school director; Steve Murray and Terrie Salvador, BTMES transportation department; and Carl Davison, past BTMES transportation director) estimate that we will be able to reduce our mileage from 111,776 miles per year to 70,520 miles.

We continue to use our resources in a fiscally responsible way that helps us to meet the needs of our children and comply with the many Federal and State requirements for public education. We want to provide educational experiences

that build a strong foundation to prepare our children for high school and give them a good start in life. Your support of our efforts and our school is appreciated! Please share your comments and concerns with us. Our contact information is available on the school web site at [www.btmes.org](http://www.btmes.org), and we welcome your participation on any of our board's committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda S. Buzzell, Chairperson  
BTMES Board of School Directors

**Per Pupil Spending for Barre Town School District  
(Regular Education Allowable Tuition)**

	<b>Total Audited Expenditures</b>	<b>*Barre Town Elementary School</b>	<b>*Statewide Average for Elementary</b>	<b>*Barre Town Middle School</b>	<b>*Statewide Average for Middle School</b>
2008-09	<b>These figures will not be available until sometime mid to late November from DOE</b>				
2007-08	9,295,409	7,628.00	9,979.00	8,317.00	11,030.00
2006-07	8,782,358	6,627.00	9,795.00	7,493.00	10,408.00
2005-06	8,756,456	6,797.00	9,042.00	7,091.00	9,496.00
2004-05	8,286,293	6,792.00	8,525.00	6,431.00	8,997.00
2003-04	8,061,088	6,068.00	8,041.00	5,947.00	8,454.00
<b>*Per pupil spending for regular education excludes Special Education and Transportation</b>					
			(As calculated by the DOE) <a href="http://www.vermont.gov">www.vermont.gov</a>		
	<b>Union High School (SHS) Assessment</b>	<b>*SHS Per Pupil Spending</b>	<b>*Statewide Average 9-12 Per Pupil</b>	<b>Barre Vocational Per Pupil Spending</b>	<b>Statewide Average Vocational</b>
2008-09	<b>These figures will not be available until sometime mid to late November from DOE</b>				
2007-08	4,364,223	10,128.00	11,705.00	8,549.00	11,019.00
2006-07	4,183,519	9,654.00	11,028.00	9,593.00	10,517.00
2005-06	4,202,227	7,855.00	9,703.00	9,016.00	10,032.00
2004-05	4,011,937	7,626.00	9,014.00	7,594.00	9,466.00
2003-04	3,599,821	8,077.00	8,886.00	-	-