

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CCS/HCS RESTRUCTURE STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING
January 8, 2026
3:00PM-4:30PM**

Hybrid Mtg: In-person location: CVSD Shelburne, and via Zoom

Zoom meeting info: Link: <https://cvsdvt-org.zoom.us/j/89500975883> Meeting ID: 895 0097 5883 Passcode: cvsd11 One tap mobile: 1-309-205-3325 Passcode: 56784

Participants: Jeff Francis, Gary Marckres, Tim O’Leary, Tim Trevithick, Beth Slater, Tyler Cohen, Sarah Crum, Sandy Raymond, Alicia Kurth, Christina Daudelin, Julie Phelps, Dana Hanf, Tyler Sparks, Adam Bunting

Slides

The group reviewed detailed feasibility analyses for consolidating grades 6-8 students (165 from HCS) into CCS, focusing on capacity, space use, transportation, staffing, and curriculum impacts.

Space and Facilities Analysis

CCS Principal Tim O’Leary presented current and hypothetical CCS floor plans, noting the second floor could accommodate 306 combined students (Hinesburg and Charlotte grades 6-8) with 12 core teachers and 3 special educators per illustrative layout, without assigning specific rooms. The first floor for K-5 Charlotte students faces pinch points beyond core classrooms: limited spaces for one-on-one/small group interventions (Tier 2 general ed, special ed, SLP), Triple E services (mostly one-on-one), behavior break rooms (current duplicates near kindergarten and elsewhere), and additional counselors (one for K-5, one for middle school). Options like library loft walls, office suite reconfiguration (e.g., conference room), or renovating a makeshift Grade 4 room were discussed, but seen as suboptimal; pre-K might shift to HCS for robust programming. Kitchen/cafeteria feasible with needed investments; library requires a full-time assistant at CCS to support media specialist Heidi Eustace with middle school influx (HCS retains one for K-5).

Transportation and Logistics

Transportation adds 12 minutes to HCS routes, pushing some rides to 45-55 minutes in good weather - upper end of CVSD's <1-hour standard, using average speeds. Community member Tyler Sparks suggested a shuttle for families split between HCS (K-5) and CCS, aiding logistics.

Staffing, Costs, and Curriculum

Models support team structures (4 teachers + special ed per team) with class sizes of 23-26; overall neutral cost impact, possible minor savings (1 teacher, 1 support staff over 10 years), no major reductions. Reallocations needed: counselors, nutrition staff; add library assistant. K-5 at HCS prompts EA/curriculum review - core subjects align, but HCS's 10 DA blocks vs. CCS's 7 shifts exploratory arts (e.g., HCS kindergarten language tradition absent elsewhere), affecting master schedules/contractual planning times; co-curriculars TBD.

Community Feedback Strategy

Shifted to planning engagement: educate on "why" (student benefits like broader peer connections in larger middle school, unified EA, enhanced engagement via district lenses - identity, connection, direction, proficiency), tied to CVSD vision/performance data (recently received, for next meeting). Avoid bias; start with potential benefits of the proposed changes in one meeting and the operational challenges in another. Mechanisms for feedback gathering: quick surveys (Hinesburg Record-style polls on opportunities/problems), student focus groups (CVSD alumni via advisory), faculty/staff/parent forums, PTO integration, low-tech carousels at events; multi-modal for street data (surveys) and satellite (groups). Jeff urged cost-benefit framing, starting with student gains over logistical costs.

Next Steps

Tease out admin structure, special ed supports, pre-K, K-5 trade-offs (positive/negative), analyze performance and engagement data, discuss co-curriculars and EA impacts.

CCS/HCS Study Committee Charge (approved 6/24/2025): The Champlain Valley School District Board of Directors charged the Superintendent to convene a Study Committee to evaluate the current and potential future configuration of Hinesburg Community School (HCS) and Charlotte Central School (CCS).

The committee shall consider enrollment and staffing trends, curricular and co-curricular offerings, student data, educator and community input, budgetary and transportation implications, facilities considerations, and other relevant information. The committee will present a formal recommendation to the Board by May 2026, outlining whether a restructuring of the schools is advised. Any recommendation shall include clear rationale, anticipated student and budgetary impacts, and a proposed implementation timeline (if applicable).