

# TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT



*Valley Falls Beach*

## 2010-2011 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

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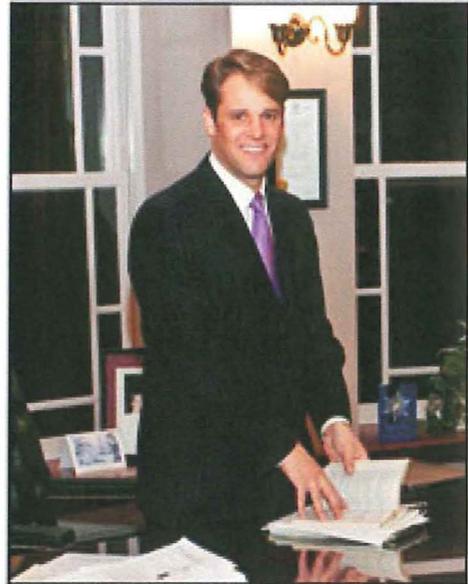
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## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

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Town of Vernon  
14 Park Place  
Vernon, Connecticut



Dear Fellow Citizens,

*Each year, through this document, the Office of the Mayor has the opportunity to share with the citizens of Vernon a report of the departmental activities and the many accomplishments of the past year. It is indeed my honor and privilege to serve as your Mayor for my second term. So much has happened this year. Our Town suffered a great loss in the death of Retired Fire Chief Robert E. Kelley. Chief Kelley lead the Vernon Volunteer Fire Department for many years and was highly respected by all who knew him. His presence at the fire scene had a calming influence and will be sadly missed by all.*

*Susan Norlie-Hesnan resigned her position on the Board of Education and Terri Goldich replaced her for the remainder of the term. A new position was created relative to our Worker's Compensation Claims. We found we needed to identify and minimize our work place risk and thus reduce our Worker's Compensation exposure. Fire Chief William Call was hired for this position and is already taking an active role in identifying problem areas.*

*In our departments: Harry Boyko was promoted to Building Official, Shaun Gately was hired as our Economic Development Coordinator. It is my hope that these two individuals will work together to encourage business to come and stay in Vernon for many years to come. Penny Rand our Senior Center Director as well as Paula Claydon our Social Services Director retired after many years of service to the Town of Vernon. Marina Rodriguez moved from our Planning Department to head our Social Services Department and Paul Claydon is taking a part time Director of the Senior Center position.*

*Our Water Pollution Control Authority employees were recognized by the Northeast Water Environmental Association with the Wastewater Utility Award. We have an outstanding staff at this facility. These employees are highly trained and capable individuals.*

*Major weather event, Storm Alfred and Storm Irene have had a major impact on our resources this winter. Severe winter storms have required more than just plowing and sanding. The storms this year were so intense and close together that FEMA and the State of Connecticut had to declare a state of emergency. The weight of the snow required emergency action to remove the snow to avoid any structural stress and avoid a potential roof collapse. As your Mayor, I immediately requested the assistance of the National Guard and we received immediate assistance.*

*In light of these declarations, our insurance company has stepped up to cover some of the costs and disaster area funds have been dedicated to help towns like Vernon cope with the huge price tag associated with this type of event. Snow fall rates over one hundred inches created the threat of major damage to our many town owned buildings. Hundreds of volunteers and town employees stepped up in these events to assist and keep our citizens safe. Thank you to all our first responders, Connecticut National Guardsmen and all the many volunteers for their work to keep our streets clear and our children safe. Partial reimbursement has been received from our insurer, with a promise from FEMA to reimbursement slated to arrive sometime in 2012.*

*In addition to severe weather conditions, the economy has put a huge strain on Vernon's families and government. During my time in office it has been my goal to manage our resources in such a way that programs and services were not impacted. Continuing to push for technological upgrades, we have installed a fiber optic structure and interactive software that will allow for businesses to access declaration forms online and parents to sign up and pay for camps and other programs.*

*Other examples of savings would include: our continued implementation of the side-loader recycling program. This has saved dollars while supporting a clean, green environment. We have reallocated \$800,000 in funds to our roadway improvement projects to continue to keep our road improvements on track. Through contract negotiations we have changed the standard retirement language to move to a defined contribution plan, and the Health Savings Account concept has been introduced to non-union as well as bargaining unit employees, saving taxpayer dollars for years to come.*

*Collaboration has become one of our mottos: We are working with the Department of Corrections to secure additional manpower during weather events that present in the future. Working hand in hand with the Board of Education, a plan has been drawn up to allow our Public Works Director to manage all our buildings and grounds. This has already begun to save significant tax payer dollars. Recently a parking lot repair, that would have normally been bid out to a private contractor, was done in house by Public Works creating a savings of approximately \$80,000.00. Through this same collaboration we were able to secure free solar panels for several of our buildings to reduce utility costs in some of our larger buildings. Staff from all departments are working together to find savings through sharing resources and personnel.*

*Outside of Town Hall we are collaborating with the Rockville Fish and Game Club to provide a training range for our Police Officers to qualify and a practice firing range. Our Public Works Department has entered into an agreement with CLP to lease a brush mower along with the towns of Coventry and Somers. Working together and sharing equipment and facilities helps to provide what is needed while reducing the cost.*

*While our grand list shows a slight increase, the increase in used car value will eat up any savings our citizens will see. We are desperately trying to get the attention of our legislators to get them to understand our situation both financially and how their actions at the state level with unfunded mandates impact us and our ability to serve our residents.*

*We are proud of what we have accomplished this past year. Our Bond Rating is a strong "A" enabling our financial transaction to garner the lowest interest rates .*

*Our bridges and roads remain a priority, Spring Street and River Street bridges were completed this year. Both bridges were funded 100% by state and federal funds. West Main Street Bridge is in the final phase of design with construction to come in 2012. The Phoenix Street Bridge and the Main Street Bridge are anticipated to begin the final phases of construction in 2012. These projects take a long time, but, are worth the effort to keep our citizens and visitors safe.*

*I want all the citizens to know that I value their trust and appreciate the encouraging phone calls during our many weather events. Please know that our emergency works are top notch and more than prepared for any type of event Mother Nature wants to throw their way. Next time you see a Police Officer, Fireman or EMT, tell them thank you! They don't hear it enough.*

*Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Mayor !*

*Sincerely,*

*Jason L. McCoy*

*Mayor*

*Town of Vernon*

# Vernon Town Council 2010-2011



Seated Left to Right: Council member Marie Herbst, Council member Judy Hany, Town Administrator John Ward, Council member James Krupieski, Council member William Campbell, Council member Harry Thomas.

Standing Left to Right: Council member Pauline Schaefer, Council member Mark Etre, Council Member Daniel Anderson, Deputy Mayor Brian Motola, Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Council member Sean O'Shea, Council member Daniel Champagne, Council member Michael Winkler.

# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



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# TOWN ASSESSOR

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**Department Head:**

David Wheeler, CCMA II, CRA, Town Assessor

**Location of Department:**

Town Hall Annex – 8 Park Place, 1st Floor

**Responsibilities and Duties:**

The town assessor has the sole responsibility of preparing an annual grand list consisting of Real Estate, Personal Property, Motor Vehicles, Tax Exempt Properties and applying various exemptions in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes and Local Ordinances. Assessor records are updated annually as changes occur to real estate as a result of building permit inspections, new construction and/or discovery. Tax maps are updated to reflect lot splits or combining of parcels.

All Connecticut towns are mandated to perform revaluations every five year to reflect market conditions and redistribute equitable value between property classes. The recently completed revaluation is effective for October 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 and reflects an 11.16% drop in real property value since the 2006 revaluation. This translates into an 187,799,090 decrease in property assessments town wide.

Personal property refers to any property used or associated with a business operating in Vernon. Motor vehicles are also a part of the annual grand list and are taxed based on value derived from NADA pricing manuals.

The assessor's responsibility also includes administering various exemptions and tax credits for such programs as Elderly, Veterans and Disabled property owners. All programs are designed to provide some form of tax relief through assessment reductions or tax credits to those most in need or on fixed incomes. The function of the assessor and staff are governed by Connecticut General Statutes and appraisal practices with the daily operations reported to administration. Monthly reports are mandated by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) for the State of Connecticut. Statistical data from those reports are the basis for various state grant and revenue reimbursements and pilot programs.

In many ways, the Assessor's office as a central database of information for real estate, motor vehicles and personal property. Property record cards are available online at [www.vernon-ct.gov](http://www.vernon-ct.gov) for all properties along with tax maps and property sales data.

Real Estate Parcels:	10,159
Personal Property Accounts:	1,408
Motor Vehicles:	26,055

**2011 Grand List Summary:  
M-13 Report filed with O.P.M.**

Real Estate Assessments:	1,494,436,330
Personal Property Assessments:	82,661,350
Motor Vehicle Assessments:	181,516,999
Gross Grand List:	1,758,614,679

Less Exemptions: 20,092,985  
**Net Taxable Grand List:** **1,738,521,694**

<u>2010 Net Grand List</u>	<u>2011 Net Grand List</u>	<u>Net Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
1,914,573,272	1,738,521,694	(176,051,578)	-9.2%

## **COLLECTOR OF REVENUE**

### **Department Head:**

Terry Hjarne, C.C.M.C. Collector of Revenue

### **Location of Department:**

Town Hall Annex - 8 Park Place, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

Property taxes are the major source of funds for the Town, accounting for roughly two thirds of the Town's revenue. The Collector organizes and coordinates the collection activities of the Town. State Statutes, Town Charter, and Town Ordinances dictate the procedures to be followed for the billing and collection of Town taxes. The Collector is responsible for collecting the highest percentage of taxes available to meet budgetary requirements.

Each year the Collector receives authorization from the Town Council to have tax bills prepared from the Town's Grand List of owner's of real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles. Legal notices are posted, as required by law, to advise taxpayers of the due dates and final dates of payment before penalty charges apply.

The Collector has the responsibility for maintaining accurate records of all transactions, accounting for all monies collected, and submitting all revenue to the Town Treasurer. Reports are submitted on a regular basis to both the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management as well as to the Town Clerk's Office as dictated by state statute.

Duties of the Revenue Collection Department are many and varied. In addition to accepting tax payments and issuing receipts, the department issues permits and punch cards for the Transfer Station, takes payments for parking tickets and infractions, and accepts sewer user payments.

### 2009 Grant List

Amount Collected: \$56,480,199.58 (overpayments not included)  
 Collection Rate: 98.78% of the corrected levy

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# DATA PROCESSING

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**Department Head:**

Richard Maselek, Interim Director Data Processing

**Location of Department:**

Town Hall Annex – 5 Park Street, 2nd Floor

**Responsibilities and Duties:**

The Director of Data Processing is responsible for the Town-wide telecommunications infrastructure, data centers and software applications for Public Safety, Town Operations and BOE. This includes all hardware, software and networking, day to day work orders, emergency support, planning, implementation and maintenance of long-term growth & protection for enterprise connectivity, applications, storage, memory, permanent backups, handheld devices PCs, laptops, iPads and wireless access points.

**INFRASTRUCTURE:**

The current infrastructure consists of an optical fiber switched campus comprised of the Town Hall, Senior Center, Building Dept. /Fire Marshal, Annex and BOE. Two additional high speed (10GB) switched optical fiber links have been engineered and implemented. One switched fiber link extends from the Annex – Data Center to the Police Department building which supports the Public Safety campus. The second switched fiber link extends from the Annex – Data Center to Rockville High School connecting the schools to the BOE. Additionally, a separate switched fiber link from the Ward Street Police Outstation to the Public Safety campus is in place.

Thirteen remote sites are connected back to the Annex – Data Center via Comcast VPN to VPN cable connections with SonicWall firewalls on each end to protect the integrity of the transmissions.

Secured wireless access points are available on all three floors of the Town Hall. Secured wireless access points are also available on all three floors of the BOE.

The Rockville Downtown Association (RDA), supported by Data Processing, sponsors unsecured wireless access on Main Street and is available for all merchants across from Central Park, as well as all Rockville visitors within one hundred-fifty feet of the downtown area.

**APPLICATIONS:**

The following software applications are running internally:

MUNIS – Financial, QDS – Tax Collection, PROVAL – Assessment, QDS – Web-based Search for Property Bills, MSEXCHANGE – Email, QDS – Web-based Personal Property Declaration, BLACKBERRY EXCHANGE SERVER – Email transmitted to Blackberry handhelds, GIS – Geographic Information System, FIREHOUSE – Fire & EMS support, PARK&REC – Activity Tracking, SMARTSEARCH – Document Management and WORKORDER – Tracking not in use, i365 – Backup System, SCADA – Sewer Treatment Plant Backup, UTILITY BILLING – Water Pollution Control, TOWN ETHERNET DOOR SECURITY – Keri System, BUILDING PERMIT AND VIOLATION SYSTEM - GeoTMS, FIREHOUSE ETHERNET DOOR SECURITY – FHQ, NEC - Telephone System, CAPTAIN – Renters Rebate, ACS – Land Records System, RTA GAS BOY – PW Fleet System.

The following software applications are hosted externally:

TOWN WEBSITE – Hosted by ImageWorks, ACTIVENET RECREATION ACTIVITY TRACKING – Hosted by Active Network, QSCEND COMPLAINT TRACKING – Hosted by QScend Technologies, TOWN CLERK RECORDS SYSTEM – Hosted by ACS.

#### **BUDGETS:**

There are two D.P. budgets that support Town-wide services and operations.

#### 2011 - 2012 Budgets:

1. Town-wide Enterprise Budget to support all shared operations with BOE: \$755,537
2. D.P. Budget to support all Town operations not shared with BOE: \$550,678

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## **FINANCE & ACCOUNTING**

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#### **Department Head:**

James M. Luddecke, Finance Officer and Treasurer

#### **Location of Department:**

Town Hall Memorial Building, Second Floor

#### **Responsibilities and Duties**

The mission of the Finance Department is to institute and promote comprehensive financial management designed for the coordination, control, analysis and planning dedicated to the provision of community services. Inherent in this resolve is the theory that “good” government can be defined by accountability, equity, and efficiency in the management of financial resources for the public benefit. To further this resolve is the adherence to legal, moral, and professional standards of conduct in the fulfillment of our responsibilities.

The financial statements are presented in two types of disclosure. The first, Government-Wide Financial Statements, capture the activities of the Town as a whole entity, utilizing an accrual accounting system, similar to those used in private sector companies. The second type, Fund Financial Statements, unlike the whole entity approach, utilizes a modified basis of accounting for governmental activities through separate fund and account group entities, each with its own balance sheet. Thus, from an accounting and financial management viewpoint, a governmental unit under this type of disclosure is a combination of several distinctly different fiscal and accounting entities, functioning independently of the other funds and account groups. The financial exhibits and schedules presenting both types of disclosure will be found on the final pages of this report.

The Finance Department of the Town is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the Town are protected from loss, theft, or misuse, and to ensure that adequate accounting data are compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that:

- the cost of control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived and;
- the valuation of costs and benefits requires estimates and judgments by management.

All internal control structure evaluations occur within the above framework. We believe that the Town's internal control structure adequately safeguards assets and provides reasonable assurance for the proper recording of financial transactions and for compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

In addition, the Finance Department is responsible for the following: To provide supporting documents and to assist in the preparation of the annual budget and; to establish budgetary controls to ensure compliance with the legal provisions embodied in the annual appropriated budget for the General Fund and other adopted budgets. Project-length financial plans are maintained for the Special Revenue Funds and Capital Project Funds.

Also, the Finance Department prepares the *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*; coordinates the cash flow and investment of all Town funds; prepares the official statement for bond and note issues; manages debt service activity and structure; and manages and allocates resources for the capital improvement program; administers the pension fund, insurance and benefit programs, and purchasing programs; directs financial improvements to departments as necessary and; oversees activities in Tax Collection and Assessments.

### ***Independent Audit***

The Town Charter requires an annual audit of the books of account, financial records, and transactions of all administrative departments of the Town by independent certified public accountants selected by the Town Council. This requirement has been complied with and the auditors' report has been included in the report.

### ***Awards***

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Vernon for its *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)* for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. The Certificate of Achievement is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government reports. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, the Town of Vernon published an easily readable and efficiently organized *CAFR*, whose contents conform to program standards. The *CAFR* must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements. The most recent *CAFR* report can be viewed on the town's website at [http://www.vernon-ct.gov/files/Finance/CAFR%20 June 30 2011.pdf](http://www.vernon-ct.gov/files/Finance/CAFR%20June_30_2011.pdf).

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. Vernon has received a Certificate of Achievement for the last sixteen consecutive years. We believe that our current report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we have submitted it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

**General Fund Revenues and Other Financing Sources**

Revenue Sources	June 30, 2011		June 30, 2010		Increase (Decrease) from 2010	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	%
Property taxes	\$ 57,387,268	70.82%	\$ 54,241,727	70.14%	\$ 3,145,541	5.80%
Intergovernmental	20,710,835	25.56%	20,352,445	26.32%	358,390	1.76%
Charges for services	1,386,203	1.71%	1,561,369	2.02%	(175,166)	-11.22%
Interest on investments	27,708	0.03%	42,113	0.05%	(14,405)	-34.21%
Licenses and permits	491,675	0.61%	441,648	0.57%	50,027	11.33%
Gifts and contributions	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	
Other revenues	749,722	0.93%	452,974	0.59%	296,748	65.51%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>80,753,411</b>	<b>99.65%</b>	<b>77,092,276</b>	<b>99.69%</b>	<b>3,661,135</b>	<b>4.75%</b>
Other Financing Sources:						
Transfers in	279,614	0.35%	241,856	0.31%	37,758	15.61%
<b>Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 81,033,025</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 77,334,132</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 3,698,893</b>	<b>4.78%</b>

**General Fund Expenditures and Other Financing Uses**

Function	June 30, 2011		June 30, 2010		Increase (Decrease) from 2010	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	%
General government	\$ 3,047,360	3.79%	\$ 3,003,175	3.91%	\$ 44,185	1.47%
Community development	210,671	0.26%	222,003	0.29%	(11,332)	-5.10%
Public Safety	7,774,406	9.67%	7,698,462	10.02%	75,944	0.99%
Maintenance and Development	5,757,991	7.16%	5,451,295	7.10%	306,696	5.63%
Human Services	958,938	1.19%	923,368	1.20%	35,570	3.85%
Parks, recreation, and culture	1,343,872	1.67%	1,338,415	1.74%	5,457	0.41%
Town wide	7,321,967	9.11%	6,138,804	7.99%	1,183,163	19.27%
Education	48,224,386	59.99%	45,779,713	59.60%	2,444,673	5.34%
Capital Outlay	109,587	0.14%	264,740	0.34%	(155,153)	-58.61%
Debt Service	4,053,738	5.04%	3,091,374	4.02%	962,364	31.13%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>78,802,916</b>	<b>98.04%</b>	<b>73,911,349</b>	<b>96.22%</b>	<b>4,891,567</b>	<b>6.62%</b>
Other Financing Uses:						
Transfers out	1,578,773	1.96%	2,901,723	3.78%	(1,322,950)	-45.59%
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>\$ 80,381,689</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 76,813,072</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 3,568,617</b>	<b>4.65%</b>

## Local Economy and Major Initiatives

### ***Local Economy***

The Town of Vernon is a residential community of 18.6 square miles located 14 miles east of Hartford on Interstate 84 in north central Connecticut. Interstate 84, traverses the Town, having four interchanges within the Town's borders, and connects with I-90, I-384, I-91 and I-291, which provide convenient highway access to all areas of Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York. Additional accessibility is provided by U.S. Route 44 and State Routes 30, 31, 74, and 83. National and international air service is provided by Bradley International Airport, which is only thirty minutes from Vernon. The well-situated access provided by Interstate 84 within the Greater Hartford area has contributed to Vernon's development as a residential suburban community and a regional commercial center for neighboring towns.

The economic base for Connecticut, as well as for Vernon, has had an overall change from that of manufacturing to retail commerce and professional services. Of the top fifteen firms in Vernon, 92.0% are employed in services while only 8.0% are employed in manufacturing and printing. Approximately 44.0% of this employment is with non-profit and public organizations. The largest Vernon employer is the Town of Vernon, which has 842 employees. The second largest employer is Rockville General Hospital with 521 employees, followed by Visiting Nurse and Health Services with 458 employees, Stop and Shop with 320, Price Chopper with 221, the State of Connecticut with 204, New England Mechanical Services with 200 employees, Vernon Manor with 175, Fox Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation with 171 and Rein's Delicatessen with 160 employees.

In Vernon, the number of individuals employed by the top ten companies decreased by 59 or 1.8% during the past year. Some of the decreases in employment include (260) at Ticket Network, which relocated, (38) at Rockville General Hospital, (29) at Price Chopper, (23) at the State of Connecticut, (9) at Fox Hill and (3) for Vernon Manor. Increases in employment include 136 at Stop and Shop and 7 for the Town of Vernon. Employment at Visiting Nurse and Health Services, New England Mechanical and Rein's Delicatessen remained level from the prior year.

Vernon's population for the year ended June 30, 2011, was 29,205 compared with 30,182 on June 30, 2010, a decrease of 977 or 3.24%. This decrease follows an increase in population of 343 or 1.15% during the previous one-year period.

Approximately 82% of Vernon's labor force is employed outside the town. On a regional basis, our residents' income is derived from major insurance firms, defense industries, financial institutions and capital goods producers. The town's unemployment rate at June 30, 2011 was 8.4%, the same rate as last June 30<sup>th</sup>. In recent history, the unemployment rate was 7.3% in 2009, 5.5% in 2008, 4.3% in 2007, 4.2% in 2006, and 4.9% in 2005. The increase in the unemployment rate is continues to be influenced by the downturn in the overall economy, however, Vernon's unemployment rate compares favorably to that of the State of Connecticut, 9.1%, and for the nation, 9.3%. The Town of Vernon generally shares the same economic health as the State of Connecticut and the Hartford region, therefore experiencing the economic effect of a slowdown in the financial and insurance sector; and business investment in new construction. Looking forward, a continuation of policies directed to enhance only the financial area, generally are not labor driven. In addition, the removal of federal stimulus funding to the state

and municipalities raises concern about the future employment trend, a national trend that currently reports a decrease in public sector employment to a corresponding increase in the private sector. Locally, the composure of our community's resources indicates that any unemployment increase in the near future will be modest.

Vernon completed a town wide revaluation of property as of October 1, 2006, which was effective for the 2007-08 fiscal year. Our tax base for the October 1, 2010 grand list grew by 1.05%, inclusive of a .53% increase in the real estate portion. This follows an increase in the October 1, 2009 grand list of .21%, inclusive of a .13% increase in real estate.

Property taxes have been supported by strong collection rates, averaging 98.27 % over the past ten years. The number of building permits decreased from 1,850 to 1,794, and the value of those permits decreased from \$23,378,948 to \$20,416,187.

The 2011-2012 operating budget was approved by the Town Council and sent to the annual Town Meeting for adoption on April 26, 2011. The budget was adopted by voice vote of qualified voters at the annual Town Meeting. The mil rate decreased by .12 of a mil, or -.40%, from 30.02 mills to 29.90 mills. We will continue to provide the voters with information to make knowledgeable decisions, as we have a responsibility to educate our residents on the programs and services presently provided, as well as those proposed.

The local economic base serves the region as a commercial, governmental, legal, and medical center. Local employment in manufacturing has been replaced by employment in these service areas. This shift is revealed in the additions to the tax base as planned development and new construction are related to retail commerce and professional services.

The Town continues to address major **rolling stock** demands in an effort to replace equipment and vehicles that have met their useful life. Besides being better equipped to serve the residents of Vernon, a favorable result of this effort is the reduction to overall maintenance budgets for the subsequent year. In fiscal year 2010-2011, the Town purchased a new \$27,700 pickup truck and a used \$31,000 bucket truck for Public Works; three police cruisers were obtained through a \$67,500 capital lease; two new, low-emission lawn tractors totaling \$15,640 for the Vernon Cemetery department were purchased with partial funding from a \$6,255 state lawn equipment exchange fund grant which required the scrap metal recycling of the mowers replaced. In the current year, the town purchased a new hybrid vehicle from a \$32,985 Town Capital Non-Recurring Fund authorization. Grant funds from the State Clean Fuel Program are being sought to partially fund the hybrid purchase price of \$30,965. Also, in the current year, a master lease is being considered for the purchase of several town vehicles, including two fire pumper trucks, a heavy duty fire rescue truck, and an automated side loader truck for the refuse/recycling program. In the prior fiscal year, the town purchased an Animal Control vehicle (\$19,898), a used backhoe for Parks and Recreation (\$44,725), three police cruisers (\$67,500), a used fire department vehicle (\$2,495), a fire department trailer (\$3,633), a trailer for park and recreation (\$3,789) and eleven GPS chemical control units for use in snow / ice removal (\$90,036). Other recent acquisitions include three (3) new dump trucks, one (1) refuse packer, a sweeper, vac-all and a recycling truck. These items were incorporated into lease purchases agreements that were prepaid entirely last fiscal year.

The ambulance services account is in the Special Revenue Fund and a reserve to periodically replace each of the three ambulances is maintained. Reserves, accumulated over the past several years, were used to fund the replacement of all three ambulances. The current reserve balance in the Fund is \$80,000.

**Bolton Lakes Wastewater Disposal:**

The Town of Vernon and the neighboring Town of Bolton entered into a consent order with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) on October 14, 1999, requiring the towns to take the necessary steps to address wastewater disposal alternatives for the Bolton Lakes area. The design and construction costs of a sewer system are estimated to be \$21,959,000, with 29% or \$6,368,110 attributable to Vernon and the remainder to Bolton. Federal and state grants are estimated to offset approximately 57% of the costs, reducing Vernon's share to \$2,725,839, prior to the levy of assessments. Voters in both towns approved a special referendum held on September 27, 2005, regarding ordinances that guarantee funding for the project. Plans and funding applications are now complete. Construction, which is to be phased in over a five-year period to maximize grant-funding sources, commenced in the Bolton area in the spring of 2009, and continued during the current year. Project work is not anticipated to commence in Vernon until 2012.

**Parks and Recreation:**

Recreation programs remain very popular with our residents as demand and participation increases. The town has 579 acres dedicated to recreation, which consist of 26 parks, 35 miles of trails, two pools, two beaches on lakes providing swimming, a camp, boat launch, picnic areas, and fishing and ice skating. Additionally, the Town has a teen center, numerous playgrounds, baseball and softball diamonds, soccer fields, and tennis and basketball courts. The department is also responsible for maintaining the athletic fields throughout the public school system, which includes a lighted football field and track.

Prior years' park improvements include replacement of restrooms at Valley Falls Park, renovations to Valley Falls Barn, trail improvements, improvements at Talcott Park, renovations to Community and Horowitz Pools and \$715,112 of improvements at Rockville Central Park, funded by federal and state grants. In the prior year, a \$283,000 state grant funded restorations at the Vernon Historical Society Grange.

**Education:**

On March 29, 2005, voters approved three referenda questions for the renovations to school buildings and facilities and since then the Town has issued four school bonds: \$2,515,000 on February 15, 2007; \$16,040,000 on February 1, 2008; \$10,155,000 on February 12, 2009; and \$1,600,000 on April 12, 2011. Bond anticipation notes of \$4,220,000 were issued on April 12, 2011 and mature on April 11, 2012. It is intended that the outstanding notes will be permanently financed in April 2012 and/or retired by State of Connecticut school construction payments. The authorizations and expenditures are as follows:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount Authorized</b>	<b>Expended Current Year</b>	<b>Expended Cumulative</b>
<b>Rockville High School - Additions &amp; renovations</b>	<b>\$ 34,657,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,363,724</b>	<b>\$ 30,611,581</b>
<b>Vernon Center Middle School - Renovations</b>	<b>11,519,000</b>	<b>54,650</b>	<b>10,781,703</b>
Center Road School	4,420,600	34,665	4,280,467
Lake Street School	5,828,800	3,061	4,956,649
Maple Street School	3,743,200	16,030	2,642,266
Northeast School	3,556,000	10,746	2,932,058
Skinner Road School	4,597,400	2,972	4,010,659
<b>Total Elementary Schools - Additions and renovations</b>	<b>22,146,000</b>	<b>67,474</b>	<b>18,822,099</b>
Issuance costs		73,487	329,916
Accrued note interest		57,996	1,070,063
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 68,322,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,617,331</b>	<b>\$ 61,615,362</b>

A school building commission that was formed as of December 6, 2005, has oversight of the projects, and works closely with the architect, a construction management firm, and the administration. The recorded state progress payment reimbursements received as of June 30, 2011, is \$25,766,961.

In addition to the school bond improvement authorization, a \$337,186 appropriation in the Education Capital Non-recurring Expenditure Fund to repair and repaint the Board of Education administration building was completed during the year. Prior year-end and current year-end transfers of \$394,000 and \$53,306, respectively, from the fiscal year 2009/10 and 2010/11 education operating budgets to the Education Capital Non-recurring Fund provide current available resources for future education projects totaling \$447,434. Of the \$394,000, \$125,000 has been designated by the Town Council for three school projects as follows: \$25,000 for Center Road School gym wall repointing; \$50,000 for the Center Road School bridge roofs replacement; and \$50,000 for Rockville High School bathroom repairs. In addition, \$76,350 of available funds in the Education Capital Non-recurring Fund were authorized and expended to repave the Board of Education parking lot.

#### **Long-Term Financial Planning**

The Town issued a \$3,755,000 general obligation bond in April, 2011 to permanently finance \$2,155,000 of public improvements and \$1,600,000 of school facility improvements. In April, 2012, it is planned that the \$4,220,000 of outstanding short-term bond anticipation notes for school facilities will be permanently funded by a final general obligation bond and/or retired by State of Connecticut school construction payments. Also during the fiscal year, a capital lease was prepaid and capital leases totaling \$106,412 were issued to acquire two police vehicles and an asphalt reclaimer box.

We will continue to revise the six-year capital improvement plan to address community demands, understanding that the budgetary constraints imposed by varied economic factors requires the diligent pursuit of grants and alternative resources to fund capital needs.

#### **Relevant Financial Policies**

The Town's financial policies have been applied consistently with the prior year with the exception of the implementation of GASB 54 and the new fund balance policy and related financial statement

presentation. There were no developments at the State level that impacted the current year financial statements.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The statement of net assets and the statement of activities (Exhibits A and B, respectively) provide information about the activities of the Town as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Town's finances. Fund financial statements are presented in Exhibits C to J. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Town's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Town's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the Town acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

### ***Government-Wide Financial Statements***

The analysis of the Town as a whole begins with Exhibit A and B, found in the Basic Financial Statements section of this report. The statement of net assets and the statement of activities report information about the Town as a whole and about its activities for the current period. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Town's net assets and changes in them. The Town's net assets, the difference between assets and liabilities, are one way to measure the Town's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. The reader needs to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's capital assets, to assess the overall health of the Town.

In the statement of net assets and the statement of activities, we divide the Town into two types of activities:

- *Governmental activities* — Most of the Town's basic services are reported here, including education, public safety, maintenance and development of streets and buildings, sanitation, human services, recreation, public improvements, community planning and development, and general administration. Property taxes, charges for services, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.
- *Business - type activities* — The Town charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of certain services it provides. The Town's operation of the wastewater treatment facility and rentals at Center 375 are reported here.

### ***Fund Financial Statements***

The fund financial statements begin with Exhibit C and provide detailed information about the most significant funds — not the Town as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by Charter. However, the Town Council establishes many other funds to help control and manage financial activities for particular purposes (like the Ambulance Services Fund, Sewer Assessments Fund, and Cemetery

Operations) or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using funds for those purposes, and other money (like grants received for education from the State and Federal governments and accounted for in the Special Revenue Fund). The Town's funds are divided into three categories; governmental, proprietary and fiduciary.

- *Governmental funds (Exhibits C, D and E)* — Most of the Town's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Town's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Town's programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation at the bottom of the fund financial statements.
- *Proprietary funds (Exhibits F, G and H)* — When the Town charges customers for the services it provides, whether to outside customers or to other units of the Town, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the statement of net assets and the statement of activities. In fact, the Town's enterprise funds (a component of proprietary funds) are the same as the business-type activities reported in the government-wide statements, but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds. Internal service funds (the other component of proprietary funds) are used to report activities that provide supplies and services for the Town's other programs and activities — such as the Town's Data Processing Internal Service Fund.
- *Fiduciary funds (Exhibits I and J)* — The Town is the trustee, or fiduciary, for its employees' pension and Other Post Employment Benefit plans. It is also responsible for other assets that, because of a trust arrangement, can be used only for the trust beneficiaries. All of the Town's fiduciary activities are reported in separate statements of fiduciary net assets and changes in fiduciary net assets. These activities are excluded from the Town's other financial statements because the Town cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The Town is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

### ***Supplementary Schedules***

The schedules that follow the exhibits provide additional detail of revenue and expenditures for the General Fund.

### **CONTACTING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

The financial section of the annual report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this section or need additional financial information, contact the Finance Department, Town of Vernon, 14 Park Place, Vernon, Connecticut, 06066.

**COMPARATIVE GENERAL FUND OPERATING STATEMENT  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGETARY BASIS)**

	Fiscal Year 2010-2011				Fiscal Year 2011-12 Adopted Budget
	Revised Budget	Actual	Outstanding Encumbrances	Variance Over (Under)	
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Property taxes	\$56,908,175	\$57,387,268	\$0	\$479,093	\$57,102,988
Intergovernmental	19,630,706	20,710,835	0	1,080,129	19,825,798
Charges for services	1,018,100	1,386,203	0	368,103	1,097,790
Licenses and permits	415,300	491,675	0	76,375	583,876
Gifts and contributions	0	0	0	0	0
Fines and penalties	11,200	10,193	0	-1,007	10,630
Investment income	52,160	27,227	0	-24,933	42,110
Other	448,208	739,529	0	291,321	407,922
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>78,483,849</b>	<b>80,752,930</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,269,081</b>	<b>79,071,114</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>					
Operating transfers in	237,610	280,095	0	42,485	222,635
<b>Total revenues and other financing sources</b>	<b>\$78,721,459</b>	<b>\$81,033,025</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,311,566</b>	<b>\$79,293,749</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Current:					
General government	\$3,455,825	\$3,047,360	\$329,091	\$79,374	\$2,859,641
Community development	225,359	210,671	14,371	317	295,907
Public safety	8,138,341	7,774,406	237,503	126,432	7,760,286
Maintenance and development	6,049,228	5,757,991	224,896	66,341	5,304,177
Human services	972,512	958,938	3,783	9,791	948,790
Parks, recreation and culture	1,375,016	1,343,872	14,560	16,584	1,338,619
Town wide	7,621,551	7,321,967	160,271	139,313	7,064,959
Education	48,878,711	48,224,386	600,957	53,368	47,462,358
Capital improvements	124,125	109,587	14,538	0	192,200
Debt service	4,257,774	4,053,738	201,000	3,036	6,066,812
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>81,098,442</b>	<b>78,802,916</b>	<b>1,800,970</b>	<b>494,556</b>	<b>79,293,749</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING USES</b>					
Operating transfers out	1,525,468	1,578,773	0	-53,305	0
<b>Total expenditures and other financing uses</b>	<b>\$82,623,910</b>	<b>\$80,381,689</b>	<b>1,800,970</b>	<b>\$441,251</b>	<b>\$79,293,749</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses		<b>\$651,336</b>			
June 30, 2010, encumbrances liquidated			1,833,779		
Increase (Decrease) in Unreserved Fund Balance		\$651,336	-\$32,809	<b>\$684,145</b>	
Designation for:				0	
Increase (Decrease) in Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance				<b>\$684,145</b>	

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance - with Final Budget</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b><u>Property Tax Levies</u></b>				
Current year property taxes	\$ 55,625,175.00	\$ 55,625,175.00	\$ 55,953,097.96	\$ 327,922.96
Prior year tax levies	507,000.00	507,000.00	550,568.45	43,568.45
Supplemental motor vehicle tax	435,000.00	435,000.00	531,823.40	96,823.40
Interest on delinquent taxes	320,000.00	320,000.00	339,892.56	19,892.56
Warrant revenue	16,000.00	16,000.00	8,030.53	(7,969.47)
Liens	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,854.81	(1,145.19)
<b>Total Property Tax Levies</b>	<b>56,908,175.00</b>	<b>56,908,175.00</b>	<b>57,387,267.71</b>	<b>479,092.71</b>
<b><u>Intergovernmental</u></b>				
Civil preparedness	7,100.00	7,100.00	6,723.97	(376.03)
FEMA Snow Disaster Program	-	-	80,080.40	80,080.40
Bullet proof vest grant	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,497.00	(3.00)
Community services block grant	22,177.00	22,177.00	21,209.00	(968.00)
ARRA Education SFSF	-	-	2,517,347.00	2,517,347.00
ARRA Governmental Service ECS	-	-	-	-
Education cost sharing	17,645,165.00	17,645,165.00	15,097,045.00	(2,548,120.00)
Public pupil transportation	330,273.00	330,273.00	224,899.00	(105,374.00)
Non-public pupil transportation	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,360.00	360.00
Vocational agriculture	113,000.00	113,000.00	112,423.00	(577.00)
Student based supplement grant	-	-	128,580.00	128,580.00
Special education - State agency placement	-	-	255,734.00	255,734.00
Special education - Excess student based grant	-	-	627,888.00	627,888.00
Regular education - State agency placement	-	-	91,684.00	91,684.00
School construction grants - Principal	228,121.00	228,121.00	228,121.70	0.70
School construction grants - Interest	12,598.00	12,598.00	12,598.34	0.34
Medicaid Reimbursement	48,000.00	48,000.00	38,820.28	(9,179.72)
Pilot - Colleges and hospitals	340,677.00	340,677.00	341,963.85	1,286.85
Pilot - State owned property	198,542.00	198,542.00	199,680.91	1,138.91
Pilot - Boat tax reimbursement	5,405.00	5,405.00	8,537.09	3,132.09
Pilot - Shelter rent	28,000.00	28,000.00	20,543.54	(7,456.46)
Tax Relief - Elderly circuit breaker	148,000.00	148,000.00	139,904.08	(8,095.92)
Tax Relief - Disability exemption	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,237.36	(62.64)
Tax Relief - Veterans exemption	24,000.00	24,000.00	23,655.95	(344.05)
Tax Relief - New mfg. mach. and equipment	80,000.00	80,000.00	121,916.52	41,916.52
Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan grant	240,169.00	240,169.00	245,130.81	4,961.81
Property tax relief grant	-	-	11,019.37	11,019.37
Telephone tax sharing	80,420.00	80,420.00	68,015.49	(12,404.51)
Judicial reimbursement - Parking	50.00	50.00	50.00	-
Judicial reimbursements	100.00	100.00	498.00	398.00
Special reimbursements - Permits	200.00	200.00	210.25	10.25
State DUI grant	24,909.00	24,909.00	30,808.76	5,899.76
Motor vehicle violation surcharge	14,000.00	14,000.00	14,970.00	970.00
Historic document preservation grant	8,000.00	8,000.00	6,000.00	(2,000.00)
Other - State grants	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,682.68	2,682.68
Open Space / Land Acquisition	-	-	-	-

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		Actual	Variance - with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
<b>Total Intergovernmental</b>	<b>19,630,706.00</b>	<b>19,630,706.00</b>	<b>20,710,835.35</b>	<b>1,080,129.35</b>
<b>Charges for Services</b>				
Town Clerk recording fees	400,000.00	400,000.00	363,753.91	(36,246.09)
Vital statistics	500.00	500.00	-	(500.00)
Vital fees	-	-	-	-
Historic document preservation	7,500.00	7,500.00	12,384.00	4,884.00
Farmland preservation surcharge	-	-	152,799.00	152,799.00
Printing and copying fees	800.00	800.00	496.50	(303.50)
Finance administration fee	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	-
Planning and zoning fees	6,000.00	6,000.00	8,005.40	2,005.40
Conservation fees	1,600.00	1,600.00	731.00	(869.00)
Assessor fees	3,500.00	3,500.00	2,177.00	(1,323.00)
Tax Collection fees	-	-	18,228.93	18,228.93
Police - Special services	10,000.00	10,000.00	197,338.35	187,338.35
Fingerprint fees	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	(2,500.00)
Fire Marshal services	750.00	750.00	401.00	(349.00)
Historic properties certification	-	-	100.00	100.00
Recycling	32,000.00	32,000.00	45,745.70	13,745.70
Recycling bin promotion	-	-	990.00	990.00
Bulky waste pickup	21,150.00	21,150.00	10,590.00	(10,560.00)
CRRA Reimbursement	-	-	9,628.70	9,628.70
Other - Maintenance and development	20,000.00	20,000.00	23,520.09	3,520.09
Client reimbursements	-	-	394.97	394.97
Yankee Gas - Administration allocation	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,154.00	(646.00)
Energy application administration	9,000.00	9,000.00	8,481.00	(519.00)
Housing rehabilitation administration	3,000.00	3,000.00	697.56	(2,302.44)
Other - Recreation	-	-	4,114.60	4,114.60
Tuition - Special education	-	-	61,996.00	61,996.00
Tuition - Vo-Ag	400,000.00	400,000.00	326,192.00	(73,808.00)
Tuition - Special education Vo-Ag	73,000.00	73,000.00	29,630.00	(43,370.00)
Tuition - Individual	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	(10,000.00)
School use activity	-	-	37,000.00	37,000.00
Other - Education	4,000.00	4,000.00	58,652.75	54,652.75
<b>Total Charges for Services</b>	<b>1,018,100.00</b>	<b>1,018,100.00</b>	<b>1,386,202.46</b>	<b>368,102.46</b>
<b>Licenses and Permits</b>				
Building permits	310,000.00	310,000.00	400,476.28	90,476.28
Zoning Review	300.00	300.00	425.00	125.00
ZBA Fees	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,220.00	220.00
Zoning Permits	6,000.00	6,000.00	5,525.00	(475.00)
Town Clerk license surcharge	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,014.00	(486.00)
Refuse licensing	6,500.00	6,500.00	500.00	(6,000.00)
Transfer station permits	77,800.00	77,800.00	70,215.00	(7,585.00)
Driveway & road cut Permits	9,200.00	9,200.00	9,300.00	100.00

**TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance - with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
<b>Total Licenses and Permits</b>	<b>415,300.00</b>	<b>415,300.00</b>	<b>491,675.28</b>	<b>76,375.28</b>
<b><u>Fines and Penalties</u></b>				
Parking tags	11,000.00	11,000.00	9,698.50	(1,301.50)
Returned check charge	200.00	200.00	-	(200.00)
Zoning citations	-	-	495.00	495.00
<b>Total Fines and Penalties</b>	<b>11,200.00</b>	<b>11,200.00</b>	<b>10,193.50</b>	<b>(1,006.50)</b>
<b><u>Gifts &amp; Contributions</u></b>				
Friends of Hockanum River Linear Park	-	-	-	-
Summer camp scholarships	-	-	-	-
CT Historical Commission	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Gifts and Contributions</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b><u>Use of Money and Property</u></b>				
General Fund income from investments	52,000.00	52,000.00	27,118.60	(24,881.40)
Interest on investments - Teachers' Retirement Board	160.00	160.00	107.78	(52.22)
Rental income - Annex	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00	-
Senior Center - Rental income	125.00	125.00	107.84	(17.16)
Rental management	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	-
Proceeds from sale of property	-	-	11,010.19	11,010.19
<b>Total Use of Money and Property</b>	<b>126,285.00</b>	<b>126,285.00</b>	<b>112,344.41</b>	<b>(13,940.59)</b>
<b><u>Other Revenue</u></b>				
Medical insurance reimbursements	244,052.00	244,052.00	273,682.99	29,630.99
Insurance reimbursements	-	-	262,541.48	262,541.48
Gasoline reimbursements	57,210.00	57,210.00	42,978.58	(14,231.42)
Refunds and reimbursements	-	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
Tolland - East / East Main Street sewers	39,000.00	39,000.00	39,379.84	379.84
Lease - Ellington pump station	5,821.00	5,821.00	6,370.50	549.50
Miscellaneous	28,000.00	28,000.00	14,458.16	(13,541.84)
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>374,083.00</b>	<b>374,083.00</b>	<b>654,411.55</b>	<b>280,328.55</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>78,483,849.00</b>	<b>78,483,849.00</b>	<b>80,752,930.26</b>	<b>2,269,081.26</b>
<b><u>Other Financing Sources</u></b>				
Transfers in:				
Recreation programs	71,400.00	71,400.00	71,400.00	-
Sewer assessments - Ordinance # 167	57,000.00	57,000.00	57,000.00	-
Sewer assessments - Ordinance # 201	23,000.00	23,000.00	23,000.00	-
Capital projects	-	-	42,396.08	42,396.08
Ambulance services	82,000.00	82,000.00	82,000.00	-

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT  
GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		Actual	Variance - with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
Investment income - Insurance exchange	300.00	300.00	178.42	(121.58)
Investment income - Town Aid for Roads	300.00	300.00	256.32	(43.68)
Investment income - School readiness	30.00	30.00	1,873.96	1,843.96
Investment income - Post employment fund	880.00	880.00	480.30	(399.70)
Investment income - Cultural arts program	-	-	2.80	2.80
Investment income - Sewer Assessments	600.00	600.00	278.20	(321.80)
Investment income - WTP debt service fund	2,100.00	2,100.00	1,228.88	(871.12)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>237,610.00</b>	<b>237,610.00</b>	<b>280,094.96</b>	<b>42,484.96</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 78,721,459.00</b>	<b>\$ 78,721,459.00</b>	<b>\$ 81,033,025.22</b>	<b>\$ 2,311,566.22</b>

Budgetary revenues are different than GAAP revenue because:

Intrafund transfer in is not a GAAP revenue

-

State of Connecticut "on-behalf" contributions to the Connecticut State Teachers'

Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted .....

3,865,043.00

Total revenues and other financing sources as reported on the statement of  
revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - governmental funds - Exhibit D:

\$84,898,068.22

## TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND  
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrances	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Variance with Final Budget
<b>General Government</b>						
Town Council	\$13,075.00	\$22,243.82	\$13,007.73	\$7,707.06	\$20,714.79	\$1,529.03
Probate Court	16,172.00	27,991.95	17,093.28	10,310.10	27,403.38	588.57
Executive and Administrative	694,078.00	755,552.43	667,692.89	47,460.69	715,153.58	40,398.85
Law	160,000.00	315,747.79	308,144.17	7,601.02	315,745.19	2.60
Registration	69,597.00	74,261.02	66,931.32	6,306.09	73,237.41	1,023.61
General Election	26,700.00	32,681.00	28,256.94	4,399.00	32,655.94	25.06
Primary	20,300.00	20,425.00	20,277.68	0.00	20,277.68	147.32
Referendum	6,600.00	9,100.00	2,573.20	2,826.80	5,400.00	3,700.00
Finance Administration	409,780.00	493,654.29	458,568.88	34,262.00	492,830.88	823.41
Independent audit	45,375.00	53,980.00	53,680.00	300.00	53,980.00	-
Treasury	2,180.00	3,655.00	2,683.00	930.00	3,613.00	42.00
Purchasing	10,580.00	17,487.52	8,648.39	8,730.00	17,378.39	109.13
Assessment	254,486.00	246,953.00	222,105.31	19,120.00	241,225.31	5,727.69
Refunds - Tax adjustments	25,000.00	45,200.00	43,388.55	0.00	43,388.55	1,811.45
Collector of Revenue	201,375.00	226,728.76	199,166.82	24,696.42	223,863.24	2,865.52
Revaluation	30,000.00	73,904.00	69,247.08	4,258.00	73,505.08	398.92
Town Clerk	250,004.00	434,885.09	381,529.60	43,898.99	425,428.59	9,456.50
Board of Assessment Appeals	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,680.80	0.00	2,680.80	19.20
Water Pollution Control Authority	13,641.00	13,641.00	13,641.00	0.00	13,641.00	-
Greater Hartford Transit District	3,647.00	3,647.00	3,647.00	0.00	3,647.00	-
Data Processing	476,817.00	581,385.99	464,396.17	106,284.57	570,680.74	10,705.25
<b>Total General Government</b>	<b>2,732,107.00</b>	<b>3,455,824.66</b>	<b>3,047,359.81</b>	<b>329,090.74</b>	<b>3,376,450.55</b>	<b>79,374.11</b>
<b>Community Development</b>						
Town Planner - Administration	\$229,820.00	\$225,359.24	\$210,671.13	\$14,371.23	\$225,042.36	\$316.88
Community and Economic Development	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
<b>Total Community Development</b>	<b>229,820.00</b>	<b>225,359.24</b>	<b>210,671.13</b>	<b>14,371.23</b>	<b>225,042.36</b>	<b>316.88</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>						
Police	\$5,766,910.00	\$5,936,612.86	\$5,806,771.23	\$89,764.29	\$5,896,535.52	\$40,077.34
School Crossing Guards	64,820.00	64,820.00	59,540.10	0.00	59,540.10	5,279.90
Traffic Authority	327,960.00	427,137.79	323,051.51	99,030.12	422,081.63	5,056.16
Fire Fighting and Administration	1,143,819.00	1,174,443.37	1,070,310.55	45,199.99	1,115,510.54	58,932.83
Fire Marshal	94,856.00	94,928.50	91,350.19	165.00	91,515.19	3,413.31
Building Inspection	267,553.00	260,714.47	253,537.93	2,707.18	256,245.11	4,469.36
Emergency Management	44,660.00	44,660.00	35,680.27	636.00	36,316.27	8,343.73
Animal Control	128,924.00	135,024.00	134,163.78	0.00	134,163.78	860.22
<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>7,839,502.00</b>	<b>8,138,340.99</b>	<b>7,774,405.56</b>	<b>237,502.58</b>	<b>8,011,908.14</b>	<b>126,432.85</b>

## TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrances	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Variance with Final Budget
<b><u>Maintenance and Development</u></b>						
Public Works Administration	\$582,462.00	\$602,121.79	\$589,594.92	\$8,443.59	\$598,038.51	\$4,083.28
General Maintenance	1,248,177.00	1,256,953.47	1,212,582.14	29,624.09	1,242,206.23	14,747.24
Equipment Maintenance	740,820.00	771,340.99	737,868.25	31,921.08	769,789.33	1,551.66
Maintenance of Governmental Buildings	784,294.00	791,832.92	729,444.75	46,902.41	776,347.16	15,485.76
Snow Removal	194,740.00	721,372.00	712,931.77	24.81	712,956.58	8,415.42
Refuse Collection and Disposal	1,180,739.00	1,185,291.86	1,094,702.42	89,335.69	1,184,038.11	1,253.75
Recycling	281,333.00	307,234.08	287,010.18	12,865.06	299,875.24	7,358.84
Condominium Refuse	5,046.00	5,046.00	5,045.64	0.00	5,045.64	0.36
Tree Warden	11,650.00	11,650.00	6,588.14	4,305.00	10,893.14	756.86
Leaf Collection	117,324.00	107,324.00	94,894.96	0.00	94,894.96	12,429.04
Engineering Administrative Services	277,048.00	289,061.37	287,328.10	1,474.37	288,802.47	258.90
<b>Total Maintenance and Development</b>	<b>5,423,633.00</b>	<b>6,049,228.48</b>	<b>5,757,991.27</b>	<b>224,896.10</b>	<b>5,982,887.37</b>	<b>66,341.11</b>
<b><u>Human Services</u></b>						
North Central District Health	\$118,461.00	\$120,848.00	\$120,847.95	\$0.00	\$120,847.95	\$0.05
Visiting Nurses & Health Services	12,249.00	15,221.44	14,338.26	883.18	15,221.44	-
Hockanum Valley Community Council	165,000.00	165,367.00	165,367.00	0.00	165,367.00	-
Child Guidance Clinic	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	0.00	11,000.00	-
Exchange Club - Prevent Child Abuse	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	-
Hockanum Industries	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	-
MARC, Inc. of Manchester	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	-
Tri-Town Shelter Services	9,000.00	9,000.00	7,516.00	1,484.00	9,000.00	-
Connecticut Legal Services	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	-
Hartford Interval House	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	-
YWCA Sexual Assault Clinic	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	-
Hockanum Valley School Readiness	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	-
Social Services Administration	237,988.00	259,988.00	259,330.48	204.00	259,534.48	453.52
Youth Services	219,167.00	234,841.32	230,866.26	277.00	231,143.26	3,698.06
Senior Center	126,543.00	124,747.09	118,172.11	935.03	119,107.14	5,639.95
<b>Total Human Services</b>	<b>930,908.00</b>	<b>972,512.85</b>	<b>958,938.06</b>	<b>3,783.21</b>	<b>962,721.27</b>	<b>9,791.58</b>
<b><u>Parks, Recreation, and Culture</u></b>						
Recreation Administration	\$410,606.00	\$418,700.45	\$416,176.32	\$1,524.00	\$417,700.32	\$1,000.13
Public Celebration	15,600.00	19,811.53	19,669.85	0.00	19,669.85	141.68
Parks Maintenance	576,697.00	614,060.61	589,018.09	9,960.32	598,978.41	15,082.20
Arts Commission	11,840.00	17,443.76	14,008.19	3,075.33	17,083.52	360.24
Historical Society	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	-
Rockville Public Library	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00	300,000.00	-
<b>Total Parks, Recreation, and Culture</b>	<b>1,319,743.00</b>	<b>1,375,016.35</b>	<b>1,343,872.45</b>	<b>14,559.65</b>	<b>1,358,432.10</b>	<b>16,584.25</b>
<b><u>Town Wide</u></b>						
Social Security and Medicare	\$912,600.00	\$915,100.00	\$895,475.81	\$0.00	\$895,475.81	\$19,624.19
Pension	1,876,000.00	2,306,612.50	2,275,702.20	\$30,908.75	2,306,610.95	1.55

## TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

## GENERAL FUND

## SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrances	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Variance with Final Budget
Group Insurance	3,269,888.00	3,368,278.00	3,165,986.78	110,299.14	3,276,285.92	91,992.08
Unemployment Compensation	22,000.00	33,020.98	28,509.00	4,511.98	33,020.98	-
Municipal Insurance	749,829.00	751,829.00	724,718.44	12,000.00	736,718.44	15,110.56
Contingency	122,000.00	38,388.00	25,803.84	0.00	25,803.84	12,584.16
Housing Authority Sewer Subsidy	46,440.00	50,423.57	47,872.09	2,551.48	50,423.57	-
Vernon Cemetery Commission	157,899.00	157,899.00	157,899.00	-	157,899.00	-
<b>Total Town Wide</b>	<b>7,156,656.00</b>	<b>7,621,551.05</b>	<b>7,321,967.16</b>	<b>160,271.35</b>	<b>7,482,238.51</b>	<b>139,312.54</b>
<b>Subtotal - General Government</b>	<b>25,632,369.00</b>	<b>27,837,833.62</b>	<b>26,415,205.44</b>	<b>984,474.86</b>	<b>27,399,680.30</b>	<b>438,153.32</b>
<b>Capital Improvements</b>						
Capital Improvements - Town	-	124,125.00	109,586.68	14,538.32	124,125.00	-
<b>Total Capital Improvements</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>124,125.00</b>	<b>109,586.68</b>	<b>14,538.32</b>	<b>124,125.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>						
Debt Service Principal Payments	2,109,736.00	2,301,369.75	2,301,286.40		2,301,286.40	83.35
Debt Service Interest Payments	1,951,802.00	1,956,403.94	1,752,451.83	201,000.00	1,953,451.83	2,952.11
<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>4,061,538.00</b>	<b>4,257,773.69</b>	<b>4,053,738.23</b>	<b>201,000.00</b>	<b>4,254,738.23</b>	<b>3,035.46</b>
<b>Subtotal - Cap. Improve. / Debt Service</b>	<b>4,061,538.00</b>	<b>4,381,898.69</b>	<b>4,163,324.91</b>	<b>215,538.32</b>	<b>4,378,863.23</b>	<b>3,035.46</b>

## TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

## GENERAL FUND

## SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrances	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Variance with Final Budget
<b>Education</b>						
Regular instruction	\$19,096,615.00	\$19,199,570.80	\$19,490,659.54	\$142,231.88	\$19,632,891.42	\$ (433,320.62)
Special Education instruction	4,034,407.00	4,051,834.40	4,105,312.85	3,456.98	4,108,769.83	(56,935.43)
Continuing Education	256,339.00	209,132.00	209,132.00	0.00	209,132.00	-
Special Education program support	2,137,210.00	2,895,990.27	3,098,822.69	2,641.70	3,101,464.39	(205,474.12)
Social Work services	539,273.00	542,270.79	536,041.73	0.00	536,041.73	6,229.06
Guidance services	678,952.00	683,709.04	678,521.70	0.00	678,521.70	5,187.34
Health services	371,847.00	391,847.00	414,717.16	1,749.32	416,466.48	(24,619.48)
Psychological services	617,412.00	623,199.84	613,923.11	0.00	613,923.11	9,276.73
Speech pathology & audio services	494,550.00	507,595.78	491,805.20	0.00	491,805.20	15,790.58
Instructional program support	26,821.00	27,644.66	21,864.76	1,400.00	23,264.76	4,379.90
Library / Media services	378,439.00	399,926.70	374,722.22	28,255.41	402,977.63	(3,050.93)
Curriculum development	1,236,698.00	1,256,541.40	1,065,930.44	149,540.94	1,215,471.38	41,070.02
Superintendent's office	448,483.00	448,483.00	430,906.86	2,618.25	433,525.11	14,957.89
Board of Education - Elected	105,517.00	101,017.00	100,652.56	0.00	100,652.56	364.44
Principal office services	1,966,129.00	1,990,923.02	1,937,613.48	31,714.18	1,969,327.66	21,595.36
Business office	393,520.00	404,188.76	394,669.71	5,434.93	400,104.64	4,084.12
Capital Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Building / Plant operations	3,888,211.00	3,991,499.82	3,685,223.60	221,624.59	3,906,848.19	84,651.63
Student transportation services	2,287,904.00	2,534,704.41	2,351,041.24	0.00	2,351,041.24	183,663.17
General control	182,413.00	187,480.35	175,116.00	7,188.06	182,304.06	5,176.29
Information systems	310,000.00	310,000.00	330,400.04	0.00	330,400.04	(20,400.04)
System-wide fringe benefits	7,546,035.00	7,556,961.62	7,237,261.87	2,800.00	7,240,061.87	316,899.75
Extra curricular student activities	505,337.00	507,343.25	480,046.70	300.76	480,347.46	26,995.79
Reserve for negotiations	56,847.00	56,847.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56,847.00
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>\$47,558,959.00</b>	<b>\$48,878,710.91</b>	<b>\$48,224,385.46</b>	<b>\$600,957.00</b>	<b>\$48,825,342.46</b>	<b>\$53,368.45</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>77,252,866.00</b>	<b>81,098,443.22</b>	<b>78,802,915.81</b>	<b>1,800,970.18</b>	<b>80,603,885.99</b>	<b>494,557.23</b>

## TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

## GENERAL FUND

## SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Expenditures	Outstanding Encumbrances	Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	Variance with Final Budget
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>						
Transfers Out:						
Education - Transfer out					\$0.00	\$ -
Education - Capital Reserve	-	-	53,306.22	-	53,306.22	(53,306.22)
Town Clerk - Preservation surcharge	-	4,128.00	4,128.00	-	4,128.00	-
Planning - Open Space	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	-
Community Economic Develop.	20,382.00	20,382.00	20,382.00	-	20,382.00	-
Animal Control	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
Social Services Administration	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	-	7,500.00	-
Capital Improvements - Town	-	52,747.00	52,747.00	-	52,747.00	-
Vernon Cemetery Commission	-	-	-	-	0.00	-
Debt Service - Principal lease	89,000.00	86,000.00	86,000.00	-	86,000.00	-
Debt Service - Interest lease	37,422.00	40,422.00	40,422.00	-	40,422.00	-
Debt Service - WTP Principal Payments	1,155,972.00	1,155,972.00	1,155,971.70	-	1,155,971.70	0.30
Debt Service - WTP Interest Payments	148,317.00	148,317.00	148,316.58	-	148,316.58	0.42
<b>Total Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>1,468,593.00</b>	<b>1,525,468.00</b>	<b>1,578,773.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,578,773.50</b>	<b>(53,305.50)</b>
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>78,721,459.00</b>	<b>\$ 82,623,911.22</b>	<b>\$ 80,381,689.31</b>	<b>\$ 1,800,970.18</b>	<b>\$ 82,182,659.49</b>	<b>\$ 441,251.73</b>

Budgetary expenditures are different than GAAP expenditures because:

Intrafund transfer out is not a GAAP expenditure

State of Connecticut "on-behalf" payments to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted

3,865,043.00

Encumbrances for purchases and commitments ordered but not received are reported in the year the order is placed for budgetary purposes, but in the year received for financial reporting purposes

(1,800,970.18)

Total expenditures and other financing sources as reported on the statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - governmental funds - Exhibit D

\$ 84,246,732.31

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

## STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

June 30, 2011

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Current Assets:			
Cash	\$ 12,325,128	\$ 65,570	\$ 12,390,698
Investments	7,915,066	4,936,444	12,851,510
Receivables (net):			
Property taxes	837,138		837,138
Intergovernmental	2,341,263		2,341,263
Other	1,962,282	1,242,823	3,205,105
Internal balances	(398,871)	398,871	-
Other assets	91,015		91,015
Total current assets	<u>25,073,021</u>	<u>6,643,708</u>	<u>31,716,729</u>
Noncurrent assets:			
Restricted assets (permanent):			
Cash	100,818		100,818
Investments	1,808,558		1,808,558
Total Restricted assets	<u>1,909,376</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,909,376</u>
Receivables (net):			
Property taxes	546,517		546,517
Intergovernmental	115,843		115,843
Total Receivables (net):	<u>662,360</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>662,360</u>
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation):			
Land	8,381,925	1,267,840	9,649,765
Construction in progress	83,863,666	-	83,863,666
Intangible assets (net of accumulated amortization)	170,827	40,672	211,499
Buildings and improvements	23,444,384	1,626,542	25,070,926
Improvements other than buildings	1,773,451	51,732	1,825,183
Machinery and equipment	7,978,886	2,321,958	10,300,844
Infrastructure	27,829,481	5,743,887	33,573,368
Total capital assets (net of accum. depreciation)	<u>153,442,620</u>	<u>11,052,631</u>	<u>164,495,251</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>156,014,356</u>	<u>11,052,631</u>	<u>167,066,987</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>181,087,377</u>	<u>17,696,339</u>	<u>198,783,716</u>

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
June 30, 2011

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	2,445,139	515,527	2,960,666
Accrued payroll and related liabilities	748,115		748,115
Accrued interest payable	711,323		711,323
Unearned revenue	7,613		7,613
Bond anticipation notes	4,220,000		4,220,000
Bond and notes payable	4,395,261		4,395,261
Capital lease payable	29,286		29,286
Compensated absences	1,035,779	110,231	1,146,010
Retirement obligations	784,611		784,611
Claims payable and other	577,178		577,178
Total current liabilities	14,954,305	625,758	15,580,063
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Bonds and notes payable and related liabilities	50,855,338		50,855,338
Capital lease payable	46,109		46,109
Compensated absences	3,164,264	370,252	3,534,516
Retirement obligations	2,464,152		2,464,152
Claims payable and other	736,922		736,922
Net OPEB obligation	1,389,331	34,707	1,424,038
Total Noncurrent liabilities	58,656,116	404,959	59,061,075
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>73,610,421</b>	<b>1,030,717</b>	<b>74,641,138</b>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	\$ 95,834,210	\$ 11,052,631	106,886,841
Restricted for:			-
Endowments:			-
Nonexpendable	1,909,376		1,909,376
Community development	361,873		361,873
Maintenance and development	2,103,563		2,103,563
Education	534,712		534,712
Unrestricted	6,733,222	5,612,991	12,346,213
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>107,476,956</b>	<b>16,665,622</b>	<b>124,142,578</b>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	EXPENSES	PROGRAM REVENUES			NET (EXPENSE) REVENUE AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		
		CHARGES FOR SERVICES	OPERATING GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>							
General government	\$ 5,633,603	\$ 821,502	\$ 4,683	\$ 392,435	\$ (4,414,983)		\$ (4,414,983)
Community development	2,057,937	9,434	633,009		(1,415,494)		(1,415,494)
Public safety	12,480,725	1,254,690	49,276		(11,176,759)		(11,176,759)
Maintenance and development	10,405,706	569,932	117,469	1,403,023	(8,315,282)		(8,315,282)
Human services	1,403,991				(1,403,991)		(1,403,991)
Parks, recreation and culture	2,610,713	712,592	643,841		(1,254,280)		(1,254,280)
Education	58,846,481	1,078,802	28,213,875	975,040	(28,578,764)		(28,578,764)
Interest on long-term debt	1,920,229		357,752		(1,562,477)		(1,562,477)
Total general government activities	95,359,385	4,446,952	30,019,905	2,770,498	(58,122,030)	-	(58,122,030)
<b>Business-type activities:</b>							
Sewer user	5,607,772	6,484,860				877,088	877,088
Center 375 (building rental)	220,378	169,113				(51,265)	(51,265)
Total business-type activities	5,828,150	6,653,973	-	-	-	825,823	825,823
Total	\$ 101,187,535	\$ 11,100,925	\$ 30,019,905	\$ 2,770,498	(58,122,030)	825,823	(57,296,207)
<b>General revenues:</b>							
Property taxes					57,508,605		57,508,605
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					1,223,183		1,223,183
Investment income					281,909	5,869	287,778
Miscellaneous					1,188,309	379,659	1,567,968
Transfer					-	-	-
Total general revenues					60,202,006	385,528	60,587,534
							Change in net assets
					2,079,976	1,211,351	3,291,327
Net assets at July 1, 2010					105,396,980	15,454,271	120,851,251
Net assets at June 30, 2011					\$ 107,476,956	\$ 16,665,622	\$ 124,142,578

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

BALANCE SHEET  
June 30, 2011

	GENERAL	DEBT SERVICE	PUBLIC BOND IMPROVEMENTS	SCHOOL BOND IMPROVEMENTS	NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>						
Cash	\$ 8,870,779	\$ -	\$ 1,306,796	\$ 37,583	\$ 1,742,944	\$ 11,958,102
Investments	2,436,623	1,229		6,191	5,862,382	8,306,425
Receivables (net):						-
Taxes	1,370,094					1,370,094
Grants and other receivables	632,077			285,509	1,539,520	2,457,106
Other		1,861,809			9,479	1,871,288
Due from other funds	2,255,427		661,000		144,767	3,061,194
Inventory					32,145	32,145
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 15,565,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,863,038</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,967,796</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 329,283</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,331,237</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 29,056,354</u></b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</u></b>						
Liabilities:						
Accounts and other payables	\$ 1,327,943		\$ 28,664	\$ 58,102	\$ 993,815	\$ 2,408,524
Accrued wages and benefits	748,115					748,115
Accrued interest payable				17,583		17,583
Due to other funds	804,219	1,229	1,548	76,266	1,090,010	1,973,272
Bond anticipation note payable				4,220,000		4,220,000
Deferred revenue	1,600,781	1,861,809			648,215	4,110,805
Unearned revenue	5,877				1,736	7,613
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b><u>4,486,935</u></b>	<b><u>1,863,038</u></b>	<b><u>30,212</u></b>	<b><u>4,371,951</u></b>	<b><u>2,733,776</u></b>	<b><u>13,485,912</u></b>
Fund balances:						
Nonspendable					1,941,521	1,941,521
Restricted					3,000,148	3,000,148
Committed			1,937,584		2,099,885	4,037,469
Assigned	2,122,970				443,291	2,566,261
Unassigned	8,955,095			(4,042,668)	(887,384)	4,025,043
<b>Total fund balances (deficit)</b>	<b><u>11,078,065</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>1,937,584</u></b>	<b><u>(4,042,668)</u></b>	<b><u>6,597,461</u></b>	<b><u>15,570,442</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b><u>\$ 15,565,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,863,038</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,967,796</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 329,283</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,331,237</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 29,056,354</u></b>

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT  
RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCE  
TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

JUNE 30, 2011

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AMOUNTS REPORTED FOR GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS (EXHIBIT A) ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET, THE DETAILS OF THIS DIFFERENCE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TOTAL FUND BALANCE (EXHIBIT C, PAGE 1)	\$	15,570,442
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CAPITAL ASSETS USED IN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES ARE NOT FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND, THEREFORE, ARE NOT REPORTED IN THE FUNDS:

Beginning capital assets		151,828,191
Current capital asset additions		5,077,078
Depreciation expense		(3,943,380)
Disposal and sale of capital assets		(2,887)

OTHER LONG-TERM ASSETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO PAY FOR CURRENT PERIOD EXPENDITURES AND, THEREFORE, ARE DEFERRED IN THE FUNDS:

Property tax and sewer assessment interest and lien accrual		588,561
Property tax, sewer assessment, and community development block grant receivable - accrual basis change		4,110,805
Allowance for doubtful accounts		(575,000)

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS ARE USED BY MANAGEMENT TO CHARGE THE COST OF MEDICAL INSURANCE PREMIUMS TO INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS:

The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are included in governmental activities in the statement of net assets		(344,613)
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SOME LIABILITIES, INCLUDING BONDS PAYABLE, ARE NOT DUE AND PAYABLE IN THE CURRENT PERIOD AND, THEREFORE, ARE NOT REPORTED IN THE FUNDS:

Bonds and notes payable		(46,555,000)
Accrued interest payable		(693,740)
State of Connecticut Clean Water Fund notes		(8,695,599)
Compensated absences		(4,174,413)
Capital leases		(75,395)
Net OPEB liability		(1,389,331)
Retirement obligations		(3,248,763)

NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES		107,476,956
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TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUTGOVERNMENTAL FUNDSSTATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	GENERAL	DEBT SERVICE	PUBLIC BOND IMPROVEMENTS	SCHOOL BOND IMPROVEMENTS	NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
<b>Revenues:</b>						
Property taxes	\$ 57,387,268	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,387,268
Intergovernmental	24,575,878			975,040	8,187,018	33,737,936
Assessments					51,769	51,769
Charges for services	1,888,071				2,561,414	4,449,485
Gifts and contributions		357,752			76,728	434,480
Income on investments	27,708	1,229	63	626	251,331	280,957
Other	739,529		1,000	60	395,951	1,136,540
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>84,618,454</b>	<b>358,981</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>975,726</b>	<b>11,524,211</b>	<b>97,478,435</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>						
<b>Current:</b>						
General government	3,047,360				6,131	3,053,491
Community development	210,671				1,743,089	1,953,760
Public safety	7,774,406				993,497	8,767,903
Maintenance and development	5,757,991				344,709	6,102,700
Human services	958,938				85,111	1,044,049
Parks, recreation and culture	1,343,872				714,203	2,058,075
Town wide	7,321,967					7,321,967
Education	52,089,429				6,001,245	58,090,674
Debt service	4,053,738	1,662,040	4,853	17,583		5,738,214
Capital outlay	109,587		223,059	2,559,335	2,873,063	5,765,044
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>82,667,959</b>	<b>1,662,040</b>	<b>227,912</b>	<b>2,576,918</b>	<b>12,761,048</b>	<b>99,895,877</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	1,950,495	(1,303,059)	(226,849)	(1,601,192)	(1,236,837)	(2,417,442)
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>						
Issuance of debt			2,155,000	1,600,000		3,755,000
Premium				39,712		39,712
Lease purchase of equipment					106,412	106,412
Transfers in	279,614	1,304,288		42,000	274,485	1,900,387
Transfers out	(1,578,773)	(1,229)	(50,050)	(34,346)	(664,518)	(2,328,916)
<b>Total other financing sources (uses)</b>	<b>(1,299,159)</b>	<b>1,303,059</b>	<b>2,104,950</b>	<b>1,647,366</b>	<b>(283,621)</b>	<b>3,472,595</b>
Net change in Fund Balances	651,336	-	1,878,101	46,174	(1,520,458)	1,055,153
Fund Balances at July 1, 2010	10,426,729	-	59,483	(4,088,842)	8,117,919	14,515,289
Fund Balances at June 30, 2011	<b>\$ 11,078,065</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,937,584</b>	<b>\$ (4,042,668)</b>	<b>\$ 6,597,461</b>	<b>\$ 15,570,442</b>

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

AMOUNTS REPORTED FOR GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
(EXHIBIT B) ARE DUE TO:

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES - TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (EXHIBIT D) \$ 1,055,153

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period:

Capital outlay	5,077,078
Depreciation expense	<u>(3,943,380)</u>

Total 1,133,698

The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins and donations) is to increase net assets. In the Statement of Activities, only the *loss* on the sale of capital assets is reported. However, in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. Thus, the change in net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the cost of the capital assets sold

(2,887)

Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds, and revenues recognized in the Fund Financial Statements are not recognized in the Statement of Activities:

School building grant receipts	231,686
Change in property tax, sewer assessment, and community development block grants receivable - accrual basis change	(499,113)
Change in property tax and sewer assessment interest and lien revenue	40,425
Change in property tax and sewer assessment allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>(227,002)</u>

Total (227,002)

The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transactions, however, have any effect on net assets. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities. The details of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items are as follows:

Debt issued or incurred:	
General obligation bond	(3,755,000)
Capital lease	(106,412)
Net OPEB obligation	(407,677)
Principal repayments:	
General obligation bonds and notes payable	3,554,678
Capital lease payable	<u>219,111</u>

Total (495,300)

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds:

Compensated absences	\$ (79,839)
Retirement obligations	112,172
Accrued interest payable	<u>4,484</u>
Total	<u>36,817</u>
Internal service funds are used by management to charge costs of various self-insured risk premiums and Data Processing operations to individual departments	<u>578,545</u>
The net revenue of the activities of the Internal Service Fund is reported with governmental activities	<u>952</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES (EXHIBIT B)	<u><u>\$ 2,079,976</u></u>

**TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT**  
**STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS - PROPRIETARY FUNDS**

JUNE 30, 2011

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES			GOVERNMENTAL
	SEWER USER	NON-MAJOR CENTER 375	TOTAL	INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS
<b>ASSETS:</b>				
Current assets:				
Cash	\$ 51,706	\$ 13,864	\$ 65,570	\$ 467,844
Investments	3,813,084	1,123,360	4,936,444	1,417,199
Receivables (net)	1,242,823		1,242,823	15,512
Due from other funds			-	
Prepaid expense			-	58,870
Total current assets	<u>5,107,613</u>	<u>1,137,224</u>	<u>6,244,837</u>	<u>1,959,425</u>
Capital assets (net):				
Land and land improvements	838,180	645,711	1,483,891	
Buildings and plant	4,172,081	1,870,657	6,042,738	
Machinery and equipment	8,631,143	24,644	8,655,787	213,838
Infrastructure	10,519,700		10,519,700	186,576
Intangible - computer software	49,000		49,000	387,278
Construction-in-progress			-	
Accumulated depreciation	(14,391,031)	(1,307,454)	(15,698,485)	(304,074)
Capital assets (net)	<u>9,819,073</u>	<u>1,233,558</u>	<u>11,052,631</u>	<u>483,618</u>
Total assets	<u>14,926,686</u>	<u>2,370,782</u>	<u>17,297,468</u>	<u>2,443,043</u>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts and other payables	450,893	64,634	515,527	36,615
Claims payable			-	577,178
Due to other funds	39,734		39,734	1,042,902
Accrued compensated absences	110,231		110,231	13,116
Total current liabilities	<u>600,858</u>	<u>64,634</u>	<u>665,492</u>	<u>1,669,811</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:				
Claims payable	-	-	-	736,922
Accrued compensated absences	370,252		370,252	12,514
Net OPEB obligation	34,707		34,707	
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>404,959</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>404,959</u>	<u>749,436</u>
Total liabilities	<u>1,005,817</u>	<u>64,634</u>	<u>1,070,451</u>	<u>2,419,247</u>
<b>NET ASSETS:</b>				
Invested in capital assets	9,819,073	1,233,558	11,052,631	483,618
Unrestricted	4,101,796	1,072,590	5,174,386	(459,822)
Total net assets	<u>\$ 13,920,869</u>	<u>\$ 2,306,148</u>	<u>\$ 16,227,017</u>	<u>\$ 23,796</u>

Adjustment to reflect the consolidation of internal service fund activities related to proprietary funds

438,605

Net assets of Business-type activities (Exhibit A)

16,665,622

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUTPROPRIETARY FUNDSSTATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES			GOVERNMENTAL
	NON-MAJOR			INTERNAL
	SEWER USER	CENTER 375	TOTAL	SERVICE FUNDS
Operating Revenues:				
Charges for services	\$ 5,853,462	\$ 169,113	\$ 6,022,575	\$ 1,370,101
Gifts and contributions			-	2,310,949
Other:				
Septic fees	631,398		631,398	
Insurance reimbursements and other fees			-	69,330
Total operating revenues	6,484,860	169,113	6,653,973	3,750,380
Operating Expenses:				
Wages and benefits	2,229,121		2,229,121	362,423
Repairs, maintenance and rentals	297,633	22,191	319,824	148,969
Utilities	1,847,254	36,667	1,883,921	12,148
Supplies and materials	470,653	45,429	516,082	980
General and administrative	319,365	64,104	383,469	152,785
Claims incurred			-	3,045,126
Depreciation	478,844	43,303	522,147	100,007
Total operating expenses	5,642,870	211,694	5,854,564	3,822,438
Operating income (loss)	841,990	(42,581)	799,409	(72,058)
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses):				
Transfers In			-	428,529
Investment income	4,330	1,539	5,869	952
Insurance and other reimbursements	379,659		379,659	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		(8,684)	(8,684)	
Net Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	383,989	(7,145)	376,844	429,481
Income (loss) before capital contribution	1,225,979	(49,726)	1,176,253	357,423
Capital contributed from government			-	186,976
Change in Net Assets	1,225,979	(49,726)	1,176,253	544,399
Net Assets at July 1, 2010	12,694,890	2,355,874		(520,603)
Net Assets at June 30, 2011	\$ 13,920,869	\$ 2,306,148		\$ 23,796

Adjustment to reflect the consolidation of internal service fund activities related to

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUTFIDUCIARY FUNDSSTATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
JUNE 30, 2011

	PENSION TRUST FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2010	OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TRUST FUND JUNE 30, 2011	PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUST FUND JUNE 30, 2011	AGENCY FUND JUNE 30, 2011
<b>ASSETS:</b>				
Cash	\$ -	18,663	\$ 231,664	\$ 527,988
Investments, at fair value (pooled):				
Certificates of deposit			\$ 120,422	
Pooled fixed income		\$ 216,225	8,345	205,758
Mutual funds:				
Domestic equity	19,308,164			
International equity	4,420,931			
Corporate bond	6,234,951		115,351	
International bond	106,861			
Money market	16,871			
Guaranteed investment account	14,485,228			
Total investments	44,573,006	216,225	244,118	205,758
Accounts receivable		3,689	33,548	
Total assets	44,573,006	238,577	509,330	733,746
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>				
Accounts and other payables	31,903		12	733,746
Due to other funds		5,286		
Unearned revenue	704,066	173,291		
Total Liabilities	735,969	178,577	12	733,746
<b>NET ASSETS:</b>				
Held in trust for pension and OPEB benefits and other purposes	\$ 43,837,037	\$ 60,000	\$ 509,318	\$ -

TOWN OF VERNON, CONNECTICUT  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS  
 FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 AND JUNE 30, 2011

	Pension Trust Funds December 31, 2010	Other Post Employment Benefits Trust Fund June 30, 2011	Private Purpose Trust Fund June 30, 2011
Additions:			
Contributions:			
Employer	\$ 2,604,841	60,000	\$ -
Employee	1,232,063		
Retirees		1,353,705	
State		165,700	
Private			23,293
Other		263	
Total contributions	3,836,904	1,579,668	23,293
Net investment income	4,054,823	1	11,452
Total additions	7,891,727	1,579,669	34,745
Deductions:			
Benefit payments / annuity purchases	3,678,415	1,519,669	
Refund of contributions	71,754		
Administrative expense	156,607		
Awards			32,347
Total deductions	3,906,776	1,519,669	32,347
Change in plan net assets	3,984,951	60,000	2,398
Net assets at January 1 and July 1, 2010	39,852,086		506,920
Net Assets at December 31, 2010 and June 30, 2011	\$ 43,837,037	\$ 60,000	\$ 509,318

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# TOWN CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

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**Department Head:**

Bernice K. Dixon, CCTC, CMC, Town Clerk

**Location of Department:**

Town Hall Memorial Building, First Floor, Room 2

**Responsibilities, Duties and Annual Summary of Activities:**

Connecticut State Statutes and the Town Charter govern the duties and responsibilities of the Office of the Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics. The Town Clerk's Office recorded and processed 5,334 land record documents pertaining to real estate, including 517 property transfers, from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. These records encompass 55 volumes and approximately 18,400 pages. In addition, 77 maps, 49 veterans' discharges, 405 notary related transactions, 89 trade names, and 42 liquor permits were filed, recorded and processed. There were 349 sporting licenses, 1962 dog licenses, and 2 kennel licenses issued. The office is actively involved in the preparation and the conducting of all elections, primaries, and referenda of which there were 0. Campaign finance reports are also filed with and maintained by the Town Clerk's Office.

The Town Clerk in Vernon is, by virtue of the State Statutes, also the Registrar of Vital Statistics. In this capacity during this fiscal year, this office issued and/or received from other towns 521 births, 106 marriages, 0 Civil Unions, 396 deaths, 331 burial permits, 108 cremation permits, and 1 disinterment permits. This office also issued 3518 certified copies of birth, marriage and death records.

**SERVICES OFFERED:**

- Absentee Ballot Issuance
- Dog License Issuance
- Election Preparation
- Land and Map Recordation
- Marriage/Civil Union License Issuance
- Notary Public Services/Registration/Certification
- Schedule of Regular Meeting Date Filings
- Sporting License Issuance
- State Conveyance Tax Return Processing
- Trade Name Registration
- Liquor Permit Registration
- Veteran Registration
- Certified Copies of Vital (*Birth, Marriage, Civil Union, Death*) Records
- Voter Registration/Identification Cards

**RECORDS MAINTAINED AND INDEXED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION:**

- Burial Book/Sexton's Returns
- Election/Referendum Statistics
- Elected and Appointed Officials Data
- Land and Map Records
- Liquor Permits
- Minutes and Agendas of Town Meetings
- Town Code of Ordinances
- Trade Name/DBA Records
- Veteran Discharge Records
- Vital Statistics Indexes
- Writs and Claim Notification

**REPOSITORY OF:** Miscellaneous Agreements and Contracts, Annual Reports, Budgets, Campaign Finance Filings, and Other Miscellaneous Correspondence, Minutes and Information.

# EDUCATION



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# Vernon Board of Education

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**Superintendent:** Mary P. Conway

**Assistant Superintendent:** Deborah Murasso

**Members of Board of Education:**

Anne Fischer, Chairperson; Dean Houle, Vice Chairperson;

George Apel; Laura Bush; David Kemp; Susan Norlie-Hesnan; Kyle Percy, Vicky Rispoli; Paul Stansel

**Responsibilities and Duties:** The authority, the duties and the responsibilities of the Board have been established by the Connecticut statutes, federal laws, and the town charter. The Board of Education scheduled regular meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of each month with the exception of July, when it did not meet, and August and December when it met only once. In addition, Board committees met throughout the year to deal with budget, policy, facilities, and negotiations.

**School Data:**

The following is a list of the five elementary schools and in parenthesis is the October 1, 2010 enrollment for each school:

- Center Road School (504)
- Lake Street School (287)
- Maple Street School (309)
- Northeast School (299)
- Skinner Road School (350)

All elementary schools contain grades Preschool -5. In addition, Center Road School also has a system-wide preschool program for students with special needs.

There are two schools that enroll students in grades 6-12.

- Vernon Center Middle School (768) accommodates students in grades 6-8.
- Rockville High School (1,079) accommodates students in grades 9-12.

The total enrollment for the district was 3,596. The total budget for the 2010-2011 school year was \$47,558,959.

**District Mission Statement**

The Vernon Public Schools, in partnership with family and community, is committed to provide a quality education, with high expectations, in a safe environment where all students become independent learners and productive contributors to society.

**Goals**

1. Build and improve relationships and partnerships with family and community.
2. Increase the achievement of every student through high quality curriculum, instruction and assessment.
3. Promote safe environments that are socially, emotionally, and physically conducive to learning.

**Student Achievement**

As a result of local testing policies and state and federal mandates, Vernon students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 10 participated in a demanding scope of testing experiences. The careful, accurate analysis of test results provided the basis for the improvement of teaching and learning. *School Improvement Plans (SIP)* and the *District Improvement Plan (DIP)* documented the actions designed to support the mission and goals of the Vernon schools to improve achievement for all students. During the 2010-11 school year, the following trends were reflected in district testing:

**...On the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT):** With baseline data established in 2006 with the first administration of the CMT Fourth Generation, evidence of incremental growth was demonstrated in a comparison of student achievement from 2006 to 2011.

	Mathematics		Reading		Writing	
	% at/above proficient		% at/above proficient		% at/above proficient	
	2006	2011	2006	2011	2006	2011
<b>Grade 3</b>	85.6	83.3	79.0	71.7	82.3	77.9
<b>Grade 4</b>	81.4	84.0	74.8	73.2	85.6	84.6
<b>Grade 5</b>	79.1	83.5	75.9	71.4	86.2	85.7
<b>Grade 6</b>	78.3	85.8	70.0	83.5	83.3	81.3
<b>Grade 7</b>	78.7	81.5	79.9	83.4	78.9	75.8
<b>Grade 8</b>	79.7	83.2	71.0	77.2	80.3	71.5

**...On the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT):** With baseline data established in 2007 with the administration of the CAOT Third Generation, student achievement remained relatively flat.

***Percent of Students At / Above Proficient***

	Mathematics	Science	Reading	Writing
<b>2007</b>	77.6	85.8	77.6	87.5
<b>2011</b>	73.2	81.3	75.2	81.2

**...On the Federal No Child Left Behind – Adequate Yearly Progress Report:** According to federal legislation, approximately 9 in 10 (90%) of all students and subgroups of 40 or more students (economically disadvantaged, minority, students with disabilities, and English language learners) are required to achieve the proficiency targets of *No Child Left Behind*. Based on these higher academic content standards, one Vernon school achieved AYP. Lake Street School met the ambitious targets where approximately 9 in 10 students scored at/above proficient in reading and math. And Skinner Road School achieved AYP through the “Safe Harbor” provision by reducing by 10% the percent of students who achieved at/below basic from 2010 to 2011. Five Vernon schools (MSS, CRS, NES, VCMS, RHS) and the District did not achieve AYP.

**AYP Status for 2010-11 (based on the spring 2011 administration of the CMT/CAPT)**

<b>School</b>	<b>AYP Status</b>
Center Road School	Not Achieved
Lake Street School	Achieved
Maple Street School	Not Achieved, In Need of Improvement Year 3
Northeast School	Not Achieved, In Need of Improvement Year 3
Skinner Road School	Achieved "Safe Harbor"
Rockville High School	Not Achieved, In Need of Improvement Year 2
Vernon Center Middle School	Not Achieved, In Need of Improvement Year 3
District	Not Achieved, In Need of Improvement Year 3

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**Professional Development**

To ensure that Vernon educators are provided with high quality, rigorous professional development experiences linked to advancing student learning, the Vernon Public Schools planned and implemented a variety of meaningful and relevant inservice activities to address individual and department needs; to support curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices; and to achieve the of *School and District Improvement Plans*. What follows is a summary of the professional development activities provided during the 2010-11 school year:

*\* Staff/Professional Development Days*

A combination of activities that supported the goals of *District and School Improvement* were planned and facilitated by members of Vernon’s administrative team on the four scheduled staff/professional development days as outlined on the 2010-11 school calendar: August 31-September 1, 2010, November 2, 2010, and January 18, 2011, as well as on specially arranged times during and after the school day. Topics included training in *Interactive White Board, Moodle, Read 180, Lexia, Scholastic System 44, Developing Standard-Based Curriculum and Assessments, Implementing the NAEYC Standards, SRBI Behavior and the Truancy Protocol, CALI-Supported Differentiated Instruction, Data Teams, Inquiry-Based Science Instruction, School Wide Information Systems (SWIS), Practices that Support the Successful Implementation of the School Improvement Plans, Science Lab Safety, Algebra Assessment and Instruction (AAIMS), Instructional Rounds, Progress Monitoring in Reading, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills, Daily Five, Comprehension Connections, Tools for Schools, Suicide Risk and Assessment, Improving School Climate, Co-teaching, and Project Adventure for Youth at Risk.*

***\* Teacher Induction Series***

Supporting new teachers in the critical induction years through the state-mandated *TEAM (Teacher Educator And Mentoring)* Program was the focus of a series of after school support sessions provided for first and second year teachers. The purpose of these sessions was

- to keep new teachers informed of the requirements and professional responsibilities they have toward certification;
- to share updates from the Connecticut State Department of Education TEAM Program;
- to discuss elements of effective teaching, classroom management, cooperative learning, lesson mastery, positive expectations, and differentiated instruction; and
- to provide new teachers a forum to network with their colleagues.

**\* Administrator Evaluation and Professional Development**

In addition to training in the *Identification and Prevention of Sexual Harassment*, the entire administrative team participated in a one-day retreat in *Leadership Teams: Creating the Conditions for Success*.

**\* Embedded Professional Development – Data Teams**

During collaborated grade level/department time, all staff participated in monthly meetings to practice and implement the data team protocol: identifying a skill or competency giving the greatest number of students difficulty; discussing ways to more effectively teach to that area of weakness; selecting a strategy or solution that they believe has the greatest potential for impact; and committing as a team to experimenting with the new strategy, assessing its impact, and being ready to report back on student results at the next meeting.

**Curriculum Development**

To support the continuous review of the K-12 educational program, a curriculum review and development cycle was established for the purpose of renewing curriculum every five years. The intent of the cycle’s process (Evaluate, Develop, Implement 1-2-3) is designed to provide a systematic method for the purposes of:

- Examining curriculum for its alignment to national, state, and district standards.
- Identifying curriculum needs.
- Engaging teachers in the curriculum review and development process.
- Ensuring a vertical and horizontal coordination of curriculum K-12.
- Providing a structure that supports a comprehensive approach to curriculum evaluation, development, and implementation.

As defined in *Greater Expectations: A Curriculum Development Handbook for the Twenty-first Century*, the following programs transitioned to the new cycle in 2010-11:

English/language arts:	Evaluation
Mathematics:	Development
Applied Sciences:	Development

**Visual Arts:**

Vernon Art students improved their achievement in visual arts vocabulary knowledge from 41% to 83%. Art staff was organized into teams according to their grade level and/or content teaching assignments. Each teacher worked both collaboratively and independently to achieve their goals. Art staff developed standard-based curriculum units and assessments through Professional Development devoted to the improvement of teaching and learning in the visual arts.

The Rockville Public Library continued to confirm its commitment to the arts and community by hosting an extensive student art exhibit and reception during March, which is Youth Art Month. The Vernon Board of Education continues to expand its permanent Art collection of student works, which can be viewed in its meeting chambers.

Eight middle and high school students received awards from the Connecticut Scholastic Art Awards program. Over 1500 pieces of student artwork were submitted to this juried, statewide visual arts competition, while only 350 were selected.

Rockville High School enrolled 40% of its students in Visual Arts classes. The sustained enrollment demonstrates students' continued interest in gaining knowledge and skills in the visual arts and promoting their ability to critically and creatively think and problem solve.

The Connecticut Association of Schools presented arts awards to Grade 5 students from each Vernon elementary school and a senior from Rockville High School. These students were selected as recipients based on their leadership, outstanding performance and abilities in the visual arts.

Rockville High School students were enrolled in Art classes over the course of this school year and achieved successes in a variety of ways. Student visual arts displays were visible throughout the building and school year. Senior, Joshua Henry, was selected as the designer and artist for the RHS 2011 Graduation cover. Junior, Nicole Ciampa was selected as the designer and artist for RHS 2011 – 12 student handbook cover.

Rockville High School Art students participated in 4 workshops at the invitation of the University of Hartford Art School during the course of the school year. The full day studio and gallery visit & talk opportunities were provided by the Savings Bank of Manchester Foundation grant to the Art School. Over 100 students were afforded an opportunity to attend at least one of the sessions.

Art and Music staffs have worked together this year to highlight Vernon's Fine Arts Program and communicate the value of students' arts education, learning, their acquisition of knowledge and skills and their experiences to the community.

### **Music:**

Vernon Music students improved their achievement in music vocabulary knowledge from 43% to 85%. Music staff was organized into teams according to their grade level and/or content teaching assignments. Each teacher worked both collaboratively and independently to achieve their goals. Music staff developed standard-based curriculum units and assessments through Professional Development devoted to the improvement of teaching and learning in Music and the performing arts.

The Rockville High School Music Department performed three concerts involving the symphony band, jazz band, choir, pops ensemble and various soloists. The marching band hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Bands. They also participated in 6 home football games, 8 competitions and other civic events. A concert was held in March that included the musical instrumental and vocal performing groups. Additionally, Grade 8 band members joined the RHS band in the performance of one number. The newer Rockville High School auditorium has provided the program with an outstanding performance and audience space. Throughout the year many band and chorus members were heard performing at school and community events.

Nine Rockville High School band and chorus members were selected from auditions to participate in the Eastern Region High School Music Festival. A chorus student was further accepted from auditions to perform in the All-State Chorus. Four VCMS students were selected from auditions to participate in the Eastern Region Middle School Music Festival.

VCMS marching band and color guard students collaborated with the RHS marching band to learn marching band techniques, and both participated in the Memorial Day parade. Many VCMS students performed in the Ensembles Concert that included the Select Chorus, the Flute Choir, and the Jazz Band. Instrumentalists also performed at the annual Art Exhibit "Opening night" for students and families at the Rockville Library. Spring concerts were held in May & June with performances by VCMS Grade 6, 7 & 8 bands and choruses. Vernon's elementary instrumental program and foundation was highlighted at the Vernon Inter-Elementary Band concert in June. One hundred twenty Grade 5 students performed together as a district band, displaying their significant individual and group achievements and representing all five elementary schools.

The Connecticut Association of Schools presented arts awards to Grade 5 students from each Vernon elementary school and a senior from Rockville High School. These students were selected as recipients based on their leadership, outstanding performance and abilities in the performing arts.

Each of the five elementary schools held Winter Concerts in December and January and Fine Arts Nights in May. The concerts highlighted various features and performances from the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade band. The Fine Arts Nights are planned in collaboration with Art staff who present extensive student Art exhibits throughout each of the buildings.

Music and Art staffs have worked together this year to highlight Vernon's Fine Arts Program and communicate the value of students' arts education, learning, their acquisition of knowledge and skills and their experiences to the community.

**CENTER ROAD SCHOOL:** Jocelyn Poglitsch, Principal

Center Road School enjoyed a productive and successful 2010-2011 school year with a continued emphasis on student achievement. The Center Road School staff continued the Data Driven Decision-Making/Data Team model. The collaboration of regular education, special education, and reading teachers is an integral part of this model at Center Road School. We are building a repertoire of successful teaching strategies in both reading and math while monitoring student progress closely. Each grade level team is working together on school wide goals, as well as grade level goals. As part of these plans, we expose special education students to grade level curriculum. The continued use of guided reading and co-teaching have allowed us to meet many of the needs of our special education population within the regular education setting. Increased instructional time for reading through the integration of social studies and science curriculum-related nonfiction trade books has been successful. To improve students' independent reading skills, the staff read and implemented the strategies outlined in The Daily Five by Boushey and Moser. We continued to learn about and plan the implementation of Connecticut's model of Response to Intervention, Scientific Research Based Intervention, which will help us become even better at supporting our students' needs.

Center Road School completed year 1 of the School-Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support training series (PBIS). The PBIS team attended six days of professional learning throughout the school year. Through this training, we created a behavior purpose statement – "Members of the Center Road community are united and strong. We are respectful and reliable. We take responsibility for our learning and actions. We maintain a safe environment for all." The core values of being Respectful, Responsible and Reliable were established. Roadrunner "Riches" were created to reward students for exemplifying the core values. The PBIS team also created a behavior matrix and an implementation plan for staff, students, and families for the 2011-2012 school year.

At Center Road School, we value the role parents and guardians play in their children's education and believe that children have the best chance of success when the school and the parents work together on their behalf. Every parent is automatically a member of the PTO. They are invited to attend monthly PTO meetings, the first of which is dedicated to new parents and kindergarten parents. The PTO coordinates a parent volunteer program and hundreds of hours each year are devoted to helping in a variety of ways including classroom and library helpers, field trip chaperones, and assistance with events. The PTO maintains a website that allows the sharing of information. In addition, they write a monthly report for insertion into our newsletter. The PTO supports and enhances our curriculum through arranging assembly programs, sponsoring field trips, and coordinating a reading program that encourages and rewards daily reading. They also hold evening events that promote family involvement and a sense of community such as Family Reading Night, the Ice Cream Social, and Family Game Night as well as the annual Saturday School Fair. Parents and teachers work together to complete an annual review of a Parent Involvement Policy and Parent / School Compact. These include what will be done to build and maintain the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement and encourage the consideration of practices to overcome barriers which may limit parent participation in the educational process. Our teachers work to support parent participation. Welcome Back Night, which occurs at the beginning of the year, allows teachers to introduce parents to the curriculum and make them aware of teacher expectations. Regular communication with parents is the norm at Center Road School. Teachers make phone calls, write notes, use e-mail, produce weekly newsletters, make themselves available for meetings, share progress reports, and encourage parents to be classroom volunteers. Center Road also has a website, to help keep parents informed. Twice a year, we conduct Report Card Conferences giving parents an opportunity to discuss their children's progress with all of their teachers. The school library hosts a parent resource section that parents can access anytime. It contains books and videos on a variety of topics. We appreciate the continued support of the parents and guardians to promote increased student achievement and to foster a climate of respect and a feeling of community within Center Road School.

#### **LAKE STREET SCHOOL - Mr. Robert Testa, Principal**

Lake Street School learning community completed a successful year with a continued emphasis on academic and social growth. The following are highlights from the 2010-2011 school year:

Lake Street School continues to implement measures to improve student achievement.

Lake Street School program improvement has focused on increasing the amount of time students are engaged in reading. Students have benefited from selecting "just right books" and keeping reading logs to track their reading. The establishment of an SRBI team has insured that the progress of all students is closely monitored. We have been able to provide targeted instruction aimed at addressing the needs of individual students. The sharing of school improvement data and progress toward goals at PTO meetings has given parents the opportunity to offer input regarding the school improvement measures at Lake Street School.

Lake Street School values the importance of working as partners with families in the education of our students. Our mission statement encompasses the following beliefs about our learning community. *At Lake Street School, we are a community of learners that treat each other with respect, take responsibility for our own learning, cooperate with others and strive for a safe and positive school for all.* We have worked together to develop a school compact that promotes a partnership between all members of our school community. Our school compact articulates the important roles that teachers, parents and students play in the educational process. We have established on-going communication with parents

about our school's programs, activities and student needs. This has been accomplished through various means; the establishment of our LSS interactive website, nightly homework agendas, weekly communication via the "Thursday Folder", parent-teacher conferences, monthly PTO meetings and "Pawprints"-our monthly newsletter highlight our most successful means of communication. Developing a strong learning community has been enhanced by our active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). "Family Fun Nights", school/family social events, our Read at Home program, PTO Education Committee sponsored enrichment programs and the PTO Beautification Committee are examples of some of the programs and working groups that have been established at Lake Street School.

Parent volunteers play an important role in the education process at Lake Street School. This process starts with teachers and parents working together. Parents assist teachers in many ways. They serve as classroom volunteers, reading buddies, room parents, chaperones and this past year as advisor for the Stock Market Simulation Game with our fifth grade students. We value parental support and the many positive contributions made to our school community.

The Lake Street School community proved to be active throughout the entire year. Monthly school wide morning meetings led by our grade 5 "Student Leaders" enhanced our school community. School wide community service projects benefited local agencies and Vernon families in need.

The school/family partnership remained an integral part of our learning community. The PTO actively supported students and teachers in a number of different ways. The PTO's education committee continued to enrich classroom learning by providing curricular based assembly programs throughout the year. The PTO also supported literacy at LSS by providing monthly "Read at Home" calendars and incentives for completing independent reading. "Family Fun Nights" were enjoyed by all community members. Parent volunteers assisted within our classrooms helping all children experience success. We are grateful of the many significant contributions that have been made as a result of the strong school/family partnership.

#### **MAPLE STREET SCHOOL - Dr. Lois Possell, Principal**

Maple Street School enjoyed a productive and successful 2010-2011 school year with a continued focus on student achievement and social-emotional growth.

Academically, teachers implemented research-based effective teaching strategies and interventions to improve student learning. Additional time was devoted to reading/language arts instruction by creating a two-hour instructional block in grades 1-5. Students needing additional assistance received instruction from both their classroom teachers and additional targeted instruction from support staff. The staff participated in a book study which focused on reading comprehension instruction. All students were assessed with universal screens three times over the course of the year in key reading and mathematics skills. Students scoring in the medium- or high-risk categories on these screens were progress monitored weekly or bi-weekly to assess their progress. Using this data and data from other key measures, the reading team continued to meet weekly to track the progress of all students and adjust interventions as needed. Classroom teachers met with the principal monthly to review all academic data.

Maple Street School continued to implement Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (PBIS) initiatives. In addition, Maple Street School volunteered to be the first school to participate in forming a School-Family-Community Partnership (SFCP). The SFCP committee (including the SFCP coordinator, principal,

parents, teachers, and community members) met monthly to discuss ways to improve partnerships. Several initiatives and events grew out of these efforts including a summer Bookmobile that brought reading materials to students throughout the summer, first grade home/school reading bags, and a spring fair. At the fall report card conference, all parents/guardians were also asked about their Hopes and Dreams for their children. Many other initiatives are being planned for the next school year.

Maple Street School continued to provide other opportunities for student growth including a school musical for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, the Learning Fair, the Student Showcase, a fit club, and extended day kindergarten programming for all kindergarten students. Volunteers from the Vernon Reads Program, which paired senior citizens with students, continued to work with students to support their reading achievement.

The Maple Street School Parent-Teacher Organization also continued to support student development in many ways, including school events and supporting field trips. To help build students' experiences and background knowledge, the entire school attended a Rock Cats game in June. For many students this was their first exposure to attending a professional sporting event.

Maple Street School will continue to search for innovative ways to meet the academic and social-emotional needs of a very diverse population and many families that are struggling with effects of poverty.

#### **NORTHEAST SCHOOL - Mr. Michael DeBellis, Principal**

During the 2010-2011 school year, the staff at Northeast School continued in their commitment to provide a quality education for all students. All teachers worked collaboratively to ensure that students received proper instruction in reading, math, and writing.

This year Northeast School successfully completed its first year of Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS). Under this program the school developed common language to use across all grade levels in regards to student expectations. The core values of the school were; Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, and Be Positive. These core values were taught to all students, and reviewed with families throughout the year.

Reading is always a focus at Northeast School, and this year we continued our traditional SOAR (See Our Amazing Readers) program. This year we had a "going green" theme with the motto, "Reuse, Recycle, RE-READ!" We also had three successful Family Reading Nights, where families enjoyed the evening by reading, being read to, learning reading strategies and then capping it off with a pizza dinner. All families left the night with books to add to their home libraries. Early reading success was emphasized through Early Intervention for problem readers, sustained silent reading, matching individual reading abilities to appropriate books, and involvement with Vernon Reads, a program in which Vernon seniors volunteered to assist struggling readers.

Our Pride and Spirit component remained active as we had monthly "Spirit Days" so students had a chance to show off their school pride. This year some of our "Spirit Day" themes included; Crazy Hair Day, Dress-up Day, Blue and White Day, and Book Character Day. To add enrichment into the students' year Northeast School continued to have a school-wide science fair that included over 70 entries! We also offered a three week enrichment program for third, fourth, and fifth graders classed TLC, where students had to sign-up for various enrichment activities.

In keeping with our tradition of strong family involvement, many “whole school community” activities were conducted jointly with our PTO this year. Open House welcomed parents to the school and provided an overview of curriculum. The Ice Cream Social gave families the opportunity to gather with each other and staff in an informal setting. Our Family Dance gave everyone a chance to show off their “moves” on the dance floor. Another fun activity was Family Game Night, where students had the opportunity to play basketball against the principal and table tennis against the school psychologist. The Holiday Program included songs from various cultures and nations. Northeast School’s annual Fun Fair allowed students and parents the opportunity to play games, win prizes and even dunk their teachers and principal. Northeast School is proud of our strong collaboration between families and school, and will continue with this next year.

**SKINNER ROAD SCHOOL – Mr. Matthew Wlodarczyk, Principal**

Over the years, Skinner Road School had demonstrated slow, yet steady improvement in reading, writing and math in all grades assessed on the CMT. This has been done by the hard work of the teachers and support staff members who have focused on growing their instructional strategies and understanding of appropriate measures. During the 2011 administration of the CMTs, Skinner Road School is proud to have achieved adequate yearly progress across all subgroups in mathematics (making the 90% target), white subgroup in reading, and safe harbor in reading for the whole school and economically disadvantaged subgroups. Safe harbor is achieved by reducing the number of children at or below basic by 10% and good progress at an additional indicator (writing).

Universal screenings of all students occur 3 times per year in reading and mathematics was implemented and the results were interpreted. Standards-based curriculum, including the development of units and common assessments, in reading/language arts started to be created during the 2010-2011 school year.

During the 2010-2011 school year, time was spent in grade level to support teaching learning on alternate Wednesdays (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) of each month. Teachers in K-2 teachers work with their students in anticipation of and preparation for the CMT. Data is disaggregated and analyzed based on subgroups and instruction is adjusted accordingly. Special education services are provided in the regular education classroom unless a specific need cannot be addressed there. Students are benefiting by the team teaching model and effective use of resources. Our ongoing work continues to support all students, with a targeted emphasis at our free and reduced population.

During the 2010-2011 school year, we began the process of “Instructional Rounds” to focus our work, providing coherence and continuous improvement in instruction through ongoing analyses and learning. We continue working together to make instructional improvements and are ready to meet the challenges ahead of us. There was a strong focus on metacognition, based on the needs of the students.

Skinner Road School has continued to participate in two inter district grant opportunities exposing our students to students from other towns. Additionally, the school houses the English as a Second Language program for half of the town. This program serves to increase the cultural diversity of the student population. The school also has an economically diverse population. Financial assistance for educational opportunities such as field trips and after school programs is given as needed. Staff and PTO have supported numerous students with scholarships to attend summer camps. During the November, December, and February holiday breaks, food, clothing and gifts are donated and distributed to many families in need.

Students have equal access to wonderful learning experiences regardless of their racial, ethnic or economic status. During the 2010-2011 school year there was a continued emphasis on physical activity. All students in the school have been invited to participate in the “Walk-to-School” days which have had tremendous participation. This “Walk-to-School” provides high visibility of our diverse school community, and an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of our surroundings. Students and staff feel a real sense of camaraderie when beginning their day with a walk to school!

Through the Safe Routes to School Committee of the PTO, the grant to the DOT has been received successfully, ultimately ending up in \$490,390, in town improvements. The community is filled with many very dedicated parents who support the academic success and social and emotional growth of the students. This grant will support community safety and ensure safer routes for all to school and around the town.

**VERNON CENTER MIDDLE SCHOOL** – Dr. Beth Katz, Principal

Mr. James Harrison, Assistant Principal

Mr. Jason Magao, Assistant Principal

We had many great things happen at Vernon Center Middle School this year. We continued to reinforce our SOAR values, and added more opportunities for recognition including staff and students which led to a decrease the overall number of referrals, students suspended and days of suspension. We were also fortunate to be chosen by the National Dairy Council and NFL as an exemplar school in Connecticut for Fuel up to Play 60 and we hosted a wonderful event which included Congressman Joe Courtney and the New England Patriots place kicker Steven Gostkowski.

We welcomed four new teachers to our staff; Miss Cavanaugh (7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies), Mrs. Fabuien (6<sup>th</sup> grade language arts), Mrs. Schubert (ESL), and Mrs. Kearney (reading and LA consultant). Sadly, we said goodbye to Mr. Luddecke, Mrs. Belli-Witek, Mrs. Garrow, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Freemer, Ms. Orłowski, Ms. Packard, Mrs. Bowman, and Dr. Katz after many years of service in Vernon, we wish them the best of luck in retirement.

### **Grades 6, 7, 8 Highlights**

Teams from all grade levels participated in a variety of activities throughout the year. Students were participants in the *National Geographic* geography bee, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk-a-thon, baking desserts for the Cornerstone soup kitchen, and taking part in relay for life.

Students also participated in a variety of writing contests such as the Teachers Against Prejudice, Black History month, Barnes and Noble my favorite teacher, and the Word Masters analogy contest.

Students also had an opportunity to use web based resources such as Moodle, Wikispaces, Wordle, Prezi, Gloster and EnGrade and they also competed in creating Google logos for a worldwide competition.

### **Language Arts**

In the summer of 2010, the VCMS language arts department was awarded a grant to purchase 13 Enoboard which were installed in language arts classes. Training was provided on using the technology and with our new language arts consultant our department used Fountas and Pinnell system to determine reading levels. Technology was heavily integrated into many English and Reading classes.

Staff members from the LA department were involved in many different ways in our school community. Individuals led the school drama club in the production of two wonderful plays, one has taken the school newspaper, The Voice, online, others helped to complete a reading challenge of 200,000 plus pages, and ran a successful book fair.

### **Math**

Math Olympiads is offered to our sixth grade students. This is a fun after school activity that challenges the students with a variety of math problems. This year all sixth grade teachers took the role of “coach”.

A math club was implemented this year for Team BEST students. It was a hands-on teacher/student lead club. Some of the strands explored included: volume of cylinders, area, surface area and geometrical figures. These were implemented by creating rainsticks out of mailing tubes, photo albums that expand and contract into small squares and quilt pillows, to name a few. Mrs. Goodman was the teacher/advisor.

The Math Counts after-school program had a total of 20 students who participated in the program, 13 eighth graders and 7 seventh graders. The program includes mathematics above the eighth grade level, practicing math counts problems in both team and individual settings, practicing competition problems in timed sessions, and doing hands on activities for fun.

The team sent 11 students to the Hartford Chapter Math Counts Competition at the University of Hartford on Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011. For the second year in a row, VCMS had two teams for the team rounds and all eleven students competed in the individual rounds. We had two students who placed in the top 25% of the 226 students in the Hartford competition. Both students were invited to compete in the CT State Math Counts competition.

### **Science**

The science department was involved in the CATALYST Aerospace grant. Last summer, 5 teachers attended several training sessions on various state science standards and STEM activities. Each of the grade level standards/activities incorporated aerospace technology and engineering. Some of these activities were incorporated into this year's science curriculum.

As part of the grant, 3 VCMS teachers conducted an after-school program for 24 students that held an interest in the engineering or aerospace fields. This program took place each Tuesday from October through May. These teachers were responsible for attending 5 training sessions throughout the school year in which they learned how to implement the after-school activities. The culminating activity to this program was a 5 day trip to Goddard Space Station in Maryland. Six VCMS students were picked to attend this trip. These students traveled with others from Manchester and East Hartford. Gina Weber served as a chaperone.

More training sessions will be attended this summer. The goal is to critique and improve the activities so that they can be implemented again for the 2011-2012 school year.

### **Social Studies**

The social studies department led the way in data teams this year. Having been afforded the opportunity to develop a model for common formative and summative assessments in the years prior, the department was able to create and implement four powered standards for each grade. By using

these assessments the department was able to develop a better understanding of what and how we teach as a department in the middle school.

With the departure of former facilitator and geography bee coordinator the department has done a great job adjusting. Mrs. Palmiter has graciously taken over the responsibility of managing the ever successful geography bee. After an epic battle only one VCMS student remained and was afforded the opportunity to go on to the state level of the bee.

The social studies department also made a concerted effort to look at common practices and skills taught at each grade level to develop a road map of skills for students throughout the middle school experience. This process will allow for future scaffolding of critical skills and can be integrated with the upcoming state standards, when they are fully adopted.

### **Physical Education**

Team VCMS participated in The Relay for Life at South Windsor High School. Sixty-five students and fifteen parents participated and raised over \$8000.00 while honoring over 55 loved ones during the Ceremony of Hope. The runner's club kicked off during sixth grade study hall to encourage students to stay fit and active and 100 students participated in intramural activities after school.

### **Art**

The annual Vernon Public Schools art show, held in March at the Edith Peck Room of the Rockville Public Library, was a great success this year. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional work created by more than 75 students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades were represented in this annual event. Four VCMS students had their artwork chosen to be judged at the Connecticut Scholastic Arts Awards Competition and one of our students was recognized for her creativity and artistic ability by the Scholastic judges.

In May, ten students were selected to participate in a field trip to the University of Hartford's "Arts in the Middle" arts conference. They were exposed to college level art studios and instructors. The workshops included everything from figure drawing, Aboriginal paintings, mixed media painting, pen and ink drawing, as well as landscape painting and tin can sculpture. This year, Mrs. Nevins continued her program "The Art Extension". The Art Extension is a program in which talented 8th grade art students were invited to participate in the development of a community based art experience for the group. During this time the group worked as fine artists on projects that increase visual arts awareness in our school community to include a 4 foot by 8 foot mural for the school psychologist's room, a 20 foot long mural on canvas to be displayed in the cafeteria, and a giant shoe sculpture that projected a community fundraiser for people in need of shoes. There were other smaller pieces created throughout the year in this group of 25 dedicated artists.

### **Bermuda Workshop**

While in Bermuda, students completed a special environmental impact study of Whalebone Bay, went spelunking in caves, snorkeled on a pristine reef (North Rock) which is located about 11 miles off shore, ripped out evasive species of plants and replanted with native species of trees like Palmetto, Cedar and Olivewood for a special Nature preserve. As a special treat, students got to visit Nonsuch Island (not open to anyone except scientists) where the Cahow restoration project is headed by Dr. David Wingate. They also visited The Bermuda Aquarium, Museum & Zoo where our two RHS students will be interning for a week as Zookeepers. This year they also had an opportunity to work with Dr. Andrea Bodinar, a

scientist at BIOS who is currently working on cancer research comparing the cell structure of sea urchins which do not get cancer and that of humans which is nearly 95% the same.

### **Above and Beyond After School Program**

The Above and Beyond Program had another successful year providing an extended day program with both learning and enrichment opportunities for 47 students in grades 6-8. The program is designed to support the students' academic and social needs, while also supporting the needs of working parents.

### **School to Career**

The School to Career activities in the class included lectures, small group discussions, games, videos, computer research, and volunteer guest speakers. A Career Day was held in June for the grade seven classes. From a list of thirty-two careers, each student selected four presentations to attend. They learned about a "day in the life" of each career. The theme of this day was goal setting for the future.

### **Music**

Two instrumentalists and two vocalists auditioned and performed in the Eastern Region Middle School Music Festival in February at Fitch High School in Groton. The Flute Choir, Jazz Band, Select Chorus, and various vocal soloists performed at the March Ensembles Concert.

### **Library**

Over six thousand eight hundred books were circulated along with over seventeen thousand visitors throughout the school year. Four hundred and eighty-nine non-reading classes and over two thousand individual students utilized the library for academic and computer research.

**ROCKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL – Mr. Eric Baim, Principal**

Dr. Susan Andrews, Assistant Principal

Mr. Michael Maltese, Assistant Principal

The following are highlights from the 2010-2011 school year at Rockville High School:

The roofing project to a majority of the high school was completed. Painting of the interior commenced and a majority of hallways and stairwells were repainted. Several student and staff bathrooms which have not been in use for years have been repaired, painted, and tiled. Every bathroom in Rockville High School is now fully operational for all students and staff.

A major renovation, provided through Sykes funding, was completed over the summer in the Culinary Arts room. The old kitchen set up had six working stations with one handicap accessible station. Now, there is a commercial kitchen and one handicap accessible kitchen. There is a new twelve burner gas stove with vents, a prep station, and a washing/cleaning station. A new commercial mixer and proofer will also be purchased. All equipment and designs are in line with the new curriculums at the school (Baking 1 & 2).

NovaNet, our credit recovery/reinstatement program, has expanded as well. We are "thinking outside the box" when it comes to students who struggle to attain the credits for graduation. This program has allowed students to learn more skills to apply to their classes and help them gain the necessary credits for graduation.

We continue to be a support to many local charities/food banks as well. We have had several blood drives (run by our student council), a band competition (Band-Aid), a student/faculty basketball game, and our annual Volleyball Lock-In.

### **Agricultural Education**

Three students attended the Washington Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. for one week in July. In February the third annual "SAEP" Fair was a big success with over fifty upperclassmen designing and presenting a tri-fold display board with information about their SAEP for the freshmen. Over 275, Vernon 1<sup>st</sup> graders attended the annual Open House.

### **Art**

Rockville High School enrolled 40% of its students in Visual Arts classes. Eight middle and high school students received awards from the Connecticut Scholastic Art Awards program. Rockville High School Art students participated in four workshops at the invitation of the University of Hartford Art School during the course of the school year. The full day studio and gallery visit and talk opportunities were provided by the Savings Bank of Manchester Foundation grant to the Art School. The Connecticut Association of Schools presented arts awards to two senior students. One RHS student was selected to receive the visual arts award and was honored with her family at the CAS Arts Awards banquet

### **Athletics, Physical Education and Health**

Grade 10 student physical fitness scores improved from 45% to 55.1%. The RHS Athletic Department received their CIAC Athletic Program Evaluation report in July 2009. An important part of the Athletic Program Evaluation is the two year follow-up by the school on the recommendations that were made by the visiting committee. The Athletic Department is currently in the process of using the recommendations in the CIAC Athletic Program Evaluation report to serve as a guide in the school's improvement of programs. On April 7, 2011, Sarah Panzau visited RHS to give a presentation to approximately 900 students and faculty. Her topic centered on making good decision, no drinking and driving, no underage drinking and respecting parents. IMPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) has been introduced in athletics and the Unified Sports program was introduced.

### **Business and Computer Science**

The department re-wrote its 6-9<sup>th</sup> grade computer curriculum utilizing the new standards based model. This curriculum was written in conjunction with VCMS staff. The department also introduced a new entrepreneurial course written by David Jedidian. This course will be reviewed by MCC for Tech. Prep consideration. This course was also written utilizing the new curriculum model. The department is also currently working on new computer programming curriculum. This new introduction to Programming courses is set to run in Fall of 2012. Maria Giarratana was named Co-Chair of NEASC and Chuck Martucci and Dee Grim were named strategic co-chairs and Paul Smith was named a standards co-chair. A new 21<sup>st</sup> century lab is being researched for the old senior lounge. This project would be funded through the Sykes foundation. The department continued to work with CREC and offer workshops in the latest technology. This year's focus included bringing tablets and apple products into the classroom. Chuck Martucci was a featured presenter at the annual Connecticut Business Education Association conference. He presented a topic on emerging technology in the classroom. Students in our elective courses successfully completed job shadow opportunities at various local business and companies. Lastly, a new scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior who plans to attend Central Connecticut State University. The Thomas F. Martucci Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior looking to major in business or education at CCSU. This adds to an impressive list of scholarships offered through the Business and Computer Science Department.

## **English**

Creative Writing students earned 12 Gold Keys in the 2011 National Scholastic Arts and Writing Competition. Lisa Mueller earned a 2011 National Silver medal for her Short Story. She was honored at Carnegie Hall along with her teacher Vicky Nordlund. This year, the creative writing program had two students win the Hartford Stage Write On! competition. Both plays were performed on stage. The Literary Arts Magazine from last year received a rank of Excellent in the 2010 Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines. A total of 413 schools entered the competition. The magazine was advised by Ricki Berg and Bryan Wright. Ricki Berg and Vicky Nordlund attended the National Council of Teachers of English's annual conference and the Assembly of Literature for Adolescents' annual workshop in November. They received numerous classroom materials to share with the department. Additionally, they brought home about 400 Young Adult Literature novels to distribute in the department to promote literacy. Ricki Berg was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Assembly of Literature for Adolescents. Tony Bianca served as a member of the EASTCONN Tech Council during the year. He also attended a professional development seminar about how to incorporate Podcasts, Blogs, Wikis, and other cutting-edge technology tools in the classroom. Caitlin Hoffman participated in the Manchester Community College Bridge Program. Her 12 General students visited MCC to take a preliminary Accuplacer assessment. The grant also allowed a local professor from MCC to visit Caitlin's two classes and teach college-like courses that focused heavily on writing. Caitlin also coordinated with a tutor so that some of her students could receive one-on-one prep for the Accuplacer exam. Ricki Berg and Katie Pitts conducted extra-help sessions after school for the reading sections of the CAPT test. These sessions were for students who were at-risk of not meeting proficiency on the test, according to their CMT scores.

## **Family and Consumer Sciences**

The Early Childhood Career Cluster completed its 6th year as a program. RHS recognized 7 students for completion of the career cluster program. The Baking I and Baking II courses were approved for the fall and texts were acquired by the Instructional Council and the Board of Education. The RHS Kitchen Renovation project was approved and is underway this summer. The annual Faculty / Student Iron Chef Competition was a success again this year. We had 16 student / teacher teams compete. The FCS department catered the School to Business Breakfasts, Ag Ed Luncheon, Taste of Languages, and Underclass / Senior Awards Night.

## **Mathematics**

The Math department continued to use DDDM to focus on algebra 1 and geometry, two key strands on both the CAPT, SAT and Accuplacer test. We also developed and piloted an SRBI class in conjunction with the Special Education department. The focus of this class was to provide Tier II interventions for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who were recommended by their classroom teachers. A variety of individualized support strategies were used to help students master basic skills and apply them in their classes. The department also mentored two student teachers who went on to provide support for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in preparation for CAPT and research relevant to CAPT readiness. After school classes were offered by various members of the department in preparation for both the CAPT and SAT tests. In extracurricular activities, members of the department served as advisors to the Service Club, National Honor Society and the Math Team. The Math Team had a very successful year, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in their league and was invited to compete at the state level competition. One member of the team also qualified to compete on the regional team at a national competition held at Penn State.

## **Music**

The Rockville High School Music Department performed three concerts that included the Symphony Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Pops Ensemble and various soloists. The Marching Band hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Bands. They also participated in 6 home football games, 8 competitions and represented the Vernon Community at the Vernon Memorial Day Parade. Nine Rockville High School Band and Chorus members were selected from auditions to participate in the Eastern Region High School Music Festival. One student was further accepted from auditions to perform in the All-State Chorus. The Connecticut Association of Schools presented arts awards to two senior students. One RHS student was selected to receive the Music Performing Arts Award and was honored with her family at the CAS Arts Awards banquet.

## **School Counseling**

The School Counseling Department successfully held an Open House, Financial Planning, College Planning, and 8th Grade Orientation Evening events, Top Ten Scholar Luncheon, Undergraduate Awards Evening, and Senior Scholarship and Awards Evening in which we were able to disseminate over \$280,000 to graduating seniors. Additionally Mike Mas and Rhonda Morgan took over 40 students to UCONN to attend an information session and tour on first generation students potentially attending UCONN in the future. The department collaboratively worked with the English department on The Bridge program with Manchester Community College. Finally, we facilitated the first run ACT test at Rockville High School in June. The department continued to work on its Developmental Guidance curriculum and its implementation of various lessons. Counselors attended various college information sessions in the area to stay abreast of new initiatives and programs available to our students.

## **Science**

The Science Department data teams continued to improve in implementing mini SMART goals focused on both essential learning skills and basic scientific concepts. Ryan Previti joined the department teaching five sections of earth science and one additional section of statistics to cover for a member of the math department on leave. Ted Brewer took over for the recently retired Ed Argenta as Department Chair. Ryan Previti and Jill Williams successfully completed TEAM modules with the assistance of mentors Barbara Martin and Sue O'Brien. The RHS Envirothon team made a strong showing in state competition this year and plans to have even more students participate in 2011-2012. The department began work to make two new electives in Astronomy and Meteorology available to RHS students beginning in 2011-2012. RHS students traveled to Lake Compounce to study real world application of physics concepts. They also traveled to Mystic Aquarium to learn how marine science concepts can be used to help study and protect New England's aquatic ecosystems.

## **Social Studies**

Mr. Breen's Law and Order class participated in two field trips, one to the CT Police Academy and Vernon PD, and another in which the class participated as role-players during a CREST (SWAT) team training event. Students also participated in ride-along with officers of the Vernon Police Dept. during spring break. Ms. Dagon's classes created brochures/posters/presentations to educate hypothetical new American citizens about their rights, duties, and responsibilities. Mr. Hinkley's World III classes incorporated educational technology and historical research skills into an interdisciplinary project about World War II events. Student products included timelines, posters, PowerPoint's, essays, and scrapbooks. Mr. Graham's US History classes undertook a Living History Project where Mr. Stevenson created a curriculum for Sociology that fully integrates Humane Education and the principles of Sociology. The curriculum was placed in the library of Cambridge College and the Institute for Humane Education. Mr. Magoun, Mr. McCann and Ms Stachowiak participated in a CREC U.S. History Grant in

which they attended some dine and discuss workshops and field trips. Mr. Breen, Mr. Borofsky, and Ms. Stachowiak studied the Civil War and Mr. McCann, Mr. Magoun, and Mr. Forte studied the Manhattan Project and the Holocaust. They also attended a week long workshop on the US Constitution including a 3 day trip to Washington D.C. They also attended a professional development program on the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War at CCSU.

### **Special Education**

The special education department has been actively involved in supporting SRBI initiatives at Rockville High School through participation in a pilot math intervention program, Systems 44 training, and PBIS training. The new Activity Based Learning Program (ABL) has provided enriching opportunities for students with significant needs within an inclusionary setting. A Unified sports program has been re-established to allow special and regular athletes to compete together. The team participated in two basketball tournaments. The department has continued to expand the transition program through valuable work experiences in the community. Students have worked at Rockville General Hospital, Public Works, Marshall's, Scranton Motors, Olender's, Elm Hill Manor, and Walgreen's as well as other locations. Students also were able to take a field trip to Manchester Community College to view the support programs and facilities. Special education students have completed the process of designing a skate board park and presenting the proposed design to the Board of Education. Finally, the department is pleased that all twenty of our seniors (100%) are graduating! Three of these students will be continuing in the NEXT STEP program.

### **Technology Education**

All four ongoing smart goals were met by June this year. The department was able to upgrade the mechanical engineering lab with purchases of tools, equipment and supplies made possible with Perkins funding. The pre-engineering students built their first annual hovercraft this year and entered skills competition with other schools. The sanctioned engineering event took place in June on the Connecticut River near Hartford. The RHS Green Team entered the Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) "Live Green-Win Green" contest and won \$5,000 as runners-up. They also won the coveted "Peoples Choice" honors for the most popular video entry. The RHS Green Team had to submit a two minute video showcasing what we currently are doing at RHS to become environmentally friendly including what going "green" is all about, and submit a thousand-word, well crafted essay about what we would do with the prize money if they won. Our award winning video and essay can be viewed on the CL&P's website at the following link: <http://www.clpenvironments.com/LiveGreenWinGreen.php>

### **World Languages**

The Discover Languages Committee presented the community event, "Taste of Languages 2010" on February 16th at RHS. The department held an International Tea to welcome the exchange students and introduce the ESL and German exchange students at RHS. Thirty-six students took the National French Exam; one student placed first in CT and fourth in the nation and another placed sixth in CT and eighth in the nation. Ten students and two teachers traveled to Germany for a three week exchange through the German American Partnership Program.

# HUMAN SERVICES



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# VERNON HOUSING AUTHORITY

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**Board of Commissioners:** Chairman - Mr. Peter Olson

Vice Chairman - Mr. J. Michael O'Neil

Commissioner - Mrs. Karen Roy-Guglielmi

Commissioner - Mr. Walter Edwards

Commissioner - Ms. Nancy Osborn

**Executive Director:** Jeffrey S. Arn, PHM

**Main Office Location:** 21 Court Street    **Leasing & Housing Choice Voucher Offices:** 114 Franklin Street

**Responsibilities and Duties:** The Housing Authority owns and operates 322 units of housing for seniors, frail elderly, disabled individuals and families in the Town of Vernon. The Housing Authority also administers 295 Housing Choice Vouchers within the Town. Additionally the agency administers 784 Federal Housing Choice Vouchers, State Rental Assistance Payments and Temporary Rental Assistance Payments through our State of Connecticut Department of Social Services Programs. Therefore, at year end the Vernon Housing Authority was providing rental assistance and housing to nearly 1,401 families in and around the Town of Vernon.

**Town of Vernon Housing Authority Owned Rental Properties:**

Federally Funded & Subsidized Developments

**Franklin Park West**, 114 Franklin Park West, Built 1964 - 64 Elderly Units

**Court Towers**, 21 Court Street, Built 1970 - 72 Elderly Units

**Scattered Sites**, Seven Properties - 9 Family Units

**Franklin Park East**, Franklin Street, Built 1963 - 40 Elderly Units

**Windermere Court**, 29 Windermere Avenue, Built 1970 - 20 Elderly Units

State Funded Developments

**Grove Court**, 55 Grove Street, Built 1968 - 25 Elderly Units

**Grove Street Extension**, 55 Grove Street, Built 1977 - 29 Elderly Units

**State Funded Congregate Facility**

**Francis J. Pitkat Congregate Center**, 80 Franklin St. - 43 Frail Elderly Units

**Summary of Activities:** The Authority saw the retirement of a long time board member this year. Mrs. Mary Lou Menard retired from the Board after 30 years of dedicated service. The Authority was fortunate to be able to replace this loss with a former board member with nearly as much experience. Ms. Nancy Osborn was appointed by the Town Council and joined the Board in March.

The Authority has completed a major transformation of two of its developments. As part of the federal stimulus package the Vernon Housing Authority converted Franklin Park East and Windermere Court from unfunded State properties to subsidized federal properties. This was a rare opportunity provided in the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act which the Authority was able to utilize to bring more funds into the agency.

As part of the federalization of Franklin Park East and Windermere Court stimulus money was used to replace doors and windows at Franklin Park East and replace doors, windows and vinyl siding at Windermere Court. These projects were completed in August 2010 and have significantly enhanced the

overall appearance of the properties and made the use of the doors and windows significantly easier on our elderly residents. Furthermore, the energy efficiency of the property has been increased considerably.

The Authority also completed a major infrastructure project by replacing the deteriorated tile sanitary sewer lines with modern PVC piping at Franklin Park West. This has significantly decreased the amount of sewer back-ups and the need for outside contractors to clear the sewer lines.

The final major modernization project this year was the replacement of windows and façade renovations at Court Towers. The installation of the windows and balcony doors were completed in November and the façade renovations are nearly completed. The installation of the new windows will significantly improve the energy efficiency of the building and will help to keep future operating costs down. The new façade will help to change the overall appearance, marketability and status of the building.

In addition to the aforementioned items the Housing Authority continued to place an emphasis on filling vacant units that have been vacant for extended periods of time. This year has seen the several of our developments become fully occupied and/or maintain high occupancy rates. Franklin Park West, Franklin Park East and Windermere Court have all maintained nearly 100% occupancy. The occupancy rates at Grove Court and Court Towers also improved significantly. Our overall occupancy for the agency has improved to 92% from 81% last year.

The Housing Authority has also seen several key personnel changes this year. Most notably at the Francis Pitkat Congregate Living Center we created a Part Time House Manager position which has helped to improve all aspects of the management of the property. We also hired a new Kitchen Manager and Resident Service Coordinator.

The Leasing and Finance Departments combined a part-time and a full time position into one Leasing / Bookkeeping position which has helped to reduce costs and has considerably improved the time it takes to lease our apartments.

The Authority's Board of Commissioners would like to thank Town Officials and Employees for their cooperation during the past year.

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## **NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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### **District Staff:**

William H. Blitz M.P.H., M.U.P., R.S. Director of Health  
Michael Caronna, M.P.H., R.S. Dir. of Environmental Services  
Deborah Caronna, M.S., R.S. Dir. of Food Protection

### **Location of Department:**

375 Hartford Turnpike, Room 120,

The North Central District Health Department provides Vernon with full-time health department services and is on call seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day for emergencies.

The Department is governed by a Board of Directors (Board of Health) in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut. Katherine Voss, Dan Anderson and David Skoczulek, served as representatives to the Board. The Health Department is staffed by a Director of Public Health, a Chief of Environmental Services (both registered sanitarians), a Health Educator, nine sanitarians and a support staff of 2.5 clerical workers and a part-time bookkeeper. The Department has a Medical Advisor and contracts for auditing and legal services.

### **THE PRIMARY MISSION**

The primary mission of the NCDHD is disease prevention, surveillance and health promotion in the District's population. The District is responsible for programs in a number of areas including:

- Preventing epidemics and outbreaks of diseases; undertaking epidemiological investigations, follow-up and working to prevent the spread of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases and the like.
- Inspection of restaurants, other food service establishments and facilities and the epidemiological investigations follow-up and prevention of the spread of food borne diseases.
- Safety inspections of schools, convalescent homes and other institutions.
- Water quality testing of bathing areas.
- Review, testing and approval of new septic systems, as well as the review and approval of plans for system repairs and/or expansion.
- Provision of laboratory testing of drinking water, paint samples for lead, blood, stool and other samples such as insects and birds as may be necessary in the investigation of outbreaks and illnesses.
- Investigation of complaints in regard to public health hazards, nuisances, rodent or insect control.
- Inspection of housing units in response to physician's positive lead blood tests in children.
- The provision and support of health education and prevention programs.
- Monitoring the health status of the population.
- Assistance to the Department of Environmental Protection upon request for help in collection of samples or for follow-up or investigation of specific problems.
- Development and exercising plans for emergency response and mass dispensing of medications, anti-virals, and/or vaccines in response to natural and/or man made outbreaks.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

The director continues to review all communicable disease reports from labs, physicians and hospitals pertaining to residents of Vernon and follows up on any cases that need to be followed to stop any potential transmission, Vernon is served out of the Vernon office at 375 Hartford Turnpike, Room 120, Our main headquarters are in Enfield at 31 North Main Street.

In 2010-2011, North Central District Health Department offered Health Education programs open to residents of our District. Health Education programs work to improve the conditions and behaviors that affect the health of each community member by promoting healthier lifestyles, educating on disease prevention, and supporting community health initiatives. Our health education programs seek to reduce the incidence of preventable diseases and increase the wellbeing of our community. Health Education Programs are held in towns throughout the North Central District.

Nine exercise programs were offered in the 2010-2011 year:

- Five A.C.T.I.V.E. Classes (Activity Class To Improve Vitality in Everyone)
- Classes offered throughout the District included an Intermediate Tai Chi Class, Yoga/Pilates Class, Splash in' Action Class (water fitness), Low Impact Aerobics and Strength & Stretch Class
- Classes successfully engaged older participants who probably would not consider joining a gym.

Nutrition and Weight Management Programs

- Four programs were offered in the 2010-2011 year for residents 18 years and older residing in our member towns.
- One six week program
- Three four week programs

Putting On Airs Asthma Program

- For the 2010-2011 year, the Regional Asthma Coalition has continued to implement the Putting On AIRS (Asthma Indoor Risk Strategies) Program.
- Program funding is provided by a grant through the State Health Department.
- NCDHD serves Vernon, Stafford, Ellington and Windham through the State's Region 3, Putting on AIRS.
- Our health educator and one of our sanitarians are trained to provide in-home assessments for the AIRS program.
- During the 2010-2011 year, the program completed a total of 12 in-home assessments,

Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Program

- The purpose of this program is to improve the health and well-being of women, children and families in the towns of Vernon and Manchester.
- Safe Sleep Education, a sub-committee of FIMR, distributed materials on Safe Sleep. In the fall of 2010, a program was held on Back to Sleep: Does It Really Make a Difference?/SIDS Prevention in Your Home and Daycare. The program was well attended helping to educate daycare providers.

All Health Education programs are open to residents in our member towns.

During the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, the Bio-Terrorism section of the North Central District Health Department completed a nine town Mass Dispensing area tabletop exercise, an after action report, a vaccination program for school aged children and continued maintenance of the large volunteer pool. The section also participated in DEMHS region 3 and 4 emergency planning meetings, workgroups, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plans and the Mass Dispensing Area Plan.

The table top exercise was a success which uncovered areas requiring further review and attention. The after action report highlighted these areas, corrections were made and the plan strengthened.

The State Department of Public Health conducted a review of the Department's Mass Dispensing Plan. The District is responsible for the safe and effective delivery of counter- medication to approximately 170,000 people in the case of bio-terrorism attack or pandemic outbreak. Our new Bio-Terrorism Director is working to address any areas of the plan requiring attention.

### **SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ACTIVITY**

A review of the environmental services activity report for 2010-2011 indicates that the economic downturn has affected the housing industry throughout the Health District, including Vernon, while plans reviewed and permits issued in Vernon were similar to last year's numbers.

Our department reviewed a 16 lot subdivision known as Laurel Woods, off Bolton Branch Road. This property is to be serviced by the public sewer and individual private water supply wells. This department has been involved in reviewing the Bolton Lake Sewer Project, Contract 5 - as it relates to the location of new sewer lines to existing private water supply wells.

**Day Care Facilities** located in older buildings are now required to do a comprehensive lead inspection to identify potential sources of lead. Subsequent mitigation or abatement of the source is required with follow-up inspections. NCDHD inspects eleven day care facilities for annual safety and environmental health issues.

**Barber Shops, Beauty & Nail Salons** - The Health District enacted Barber Shop, Beauty Salon and Nail Salon Regulations pursuant to state statutes to license and inspect these salon facilities. In Vernon, 40 salons were inspected and licensed this past year. Staff personnel have also reviewed plans for new "salons" in the District to ensure compliance with the regulations and licensing requirements.

Each year, 16 public swimming pools are inspected and the pools are licensed; and, four Hotel/Motel facilities are inspected and licensed.

The District inspects complaints related to housing, trash, rodents and insects, sewage and water quality, and the food service industry (restaurants, etc.).

One of the district's main functions in Vernon is the licensing and inspection of food service facilities providing protection against food borne illness to the public. 127 facilities plus 8 public and parochial schools were licensed during this period with 254 inspections conducted. 11 plans and their related inspections were submitted for review for new or renovations to existing food service facilities.

During the past year, we received 70 temporary event permit applications. Each temporary event application received by our office is evaluated by a staff inspector. Depending on the complexity of the proposed food service, our department will inspect evening and weekend events as needed.

The Health District is responsible for conducting follow-up interviews and on some occasions, follow-up inspections related to possible food borne illness. The food borne alerts form (single cases) and the enteric disease interview forms (confirmed cases) are both confidential and are submitted to the State Health Department for review.

In addition to routine food service inspections, well water supply reviews for food service and other related food service inspections, we respond to and investigate food related complaints and possible food borne illness reports received by the department. The department also responds to, and provides follow-up to, certain food recalls.

The water quality (bacteria levels) at Valley Falls Park, Camp Newhoca and Newhoca Park (Bolton Lake) are monitored by our Department. Water samples taken at the beach are sent to the State Health Department Laboratory for testing. Water quality was generally satisfactory this past year.

Previously at Valley Falls Park, elevated bacteria counts due to rain storm events sometimes necessitated the closing of the beach for a few days until bacterial levels drop back to acceptable levels.

The inspections and investigations are listed on the following pages. It should be noted that raw numbers are no indication of time spent or the relative complexity of inspections; therefore a comparison is only possible in the most general sense.

North Central District Health Department  
Vernon Year End Report  
2010-2011

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Soil Tests (Total)	7	4	7
New	1	3	3
Repair	6	1	4
Septic Permits			
New	2	4	2
Repair	5	6	3
Septic Inspections	21	36	17
Well Permits	8	10	8
Additions Reviews (on well/septic)	52	67	41
Plans Reviewed			
Subdivisions (Total Lots)	2/4	0	16*
New Plot Plans	10	7	5
Repairs	-	6	4
Wells Only	2	4	4
Well Water Test Reviews	8	10	9
Permits to Discharge	2	8	4
Food Licenses Issued	118	115	127
Temporary Food Permits	58	64	70
Food Service Inspections	255	221	254
Plans Reviewed for Food	17	13	11
Food Orders Issued	58	32	15
Complaints (Total)	160	169	168
Garbage & Refuse	35	21	26
Housing	60	79	64
Rodents & Insects	16	28	17
Sewage Overflow	18	12	9
Water Quality	1	0	1
Food Complaints	22	15	15
Salon Complaints	-	2	2
Food Related Illness Complaints	-	5	5
Miscellaneous	4	7	12
Complaint Orders Sent	33	13	25

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# SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER

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**Department Head:**

Paula Claydon

**Location of Department:**

26 Park Place

**Mission Statement:**

The Senior Center is committed to assisting Vernon seniors by providing programs and activities that meet their needs and address their concerns. The Center offers opportunities for socialization, recreation, and learning, health and fitness programs, transportation, entertainment and trips, volunteer opportunities, and information and referral.

**Presentations:**

The Center has provided numerous presentations throughout the year. These address a variety of senior issues with the goal of providing information and education. Some programs offered were Health Directives, Brain Health, Medications & Questions to Ask Your Doctor, Learn about Birds of Prey, Weather Myths & Mysteries, Common Scams, Medicare & You, Property Tax Relief.

**Leisure Activities:**

The following are some leisure activities provided at the Center:

- Bingo
- Book Club
- Card Games pinochle, set back, bridge and cribbage
- Chorus
- Computer Lab
- Drawing Class
- Games – chess, dominos, mah jongg, and scrabble
- Golf league
- Knitting
- Pool
- Shuffleboard
- Trips – One day and Multi-Day
- Wii Bowling

**Instructional classes:**

The following are some physical/mental activity programs offered at the Center:

- Belly Dancing
- Computer Classes
- Exercise
- Line Dancing
- Painting Class
- Pilates
- Tai Chi
- Wii Bowling
- Yoga
- Zumba

HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAMS

The following programs are offered:

- Blood pressure, blood sugar & cholesterol screening.
- Flu Clinics
- Foot Care
- Hearing screening

TRANSPORTATION

Senior bus provides weekly shopping trips, bi-monthly mall shopping, and special events. Senior car provides seniors transportation for out of town medical appointments.

### OTHER SERVICES

- AARP Income tax preparation
- CHOICES
- Driver safety course
- Library
- Medical equipment on loan
- Municipal Agent

### REFERRALS TO OTHER AGENCIES

The Center has been designated by the North Central Area Agency on Aging as a “Community Focal Point” for seniors. If the Center does not provide a particular service that a senior needs, a referral is made to another agency for assistance.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are important to the Center providing support to assist with the daily functioning. Volunteers serve on the events committee and provide special events. A Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is held each year in recognition of their service.

### ADVISORY BOARD

The members of the Senior Center are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Council. The Board meets once a month to discuss concerns or items of interest to the seniors. They act in an advisory role for the Center and provide the Director with information and suggestions on various senior issues, activities and programs.

This past year, a total of 711 unduplicated number of seniors participated in programs and activities offered by the Senior Center.

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## **SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

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### **Department Head:**

Marina C. Rodriguez

### **Location of Department:**

14 Park Place - 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### **Mission Statement:**

The Social Services Department's mission is to promote the social well being of the community, self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life for Vernon residents. The Department provides a variety of social service programs such as crisis intervention and case management, benefits counseling and advocacy, intake site for energy assistance applications, emergency fuel and utility assistance, limited emergency assistance, fee waiver for summer camp programs, and information and referral.

The Department provides staffing for the Human Services Advisory Commission to assist the Commission with its initiatives and manages the grants allocated to private, non-profit human services agencies serving Vernon residents. The Department administers the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program for urgent home repairs to qualifying Vernon homeowners, and manages State grants for social services.

### Summary of Department Services:

- The Department provided case management and crisis intervention for 431 cases.

- Emergency assistance was given to 57 cases toward rent, medicine and other needs.
- The Department processed 754 applications for energy assistance and helped 127 households through the Tri-Town Fuel Bank and Operation Fuel.
- The Department processed 678 applications for Renter's Rebate for low income elderly and those with social security disability; and benefit and health insurance counseling for 465 seniors.
- The Department received 9 requests for housing rehabilitation loans.

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## YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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### Department Head:

Alan M. Slobodien

### Location of Department:

9 Elm Street

**Mission Statement:** The Vernon Youth Services Bureau (YSB) is a community based agency dedicated to providing education, information and referral, prevention, intervention, and crisis services which promote the health and well being of youth and families in Vernon.

The YSB has the charge of coordinating the continuum of youth services within Vernon per section §10-19m of the Connecticut General Statutes, "Youth Service Bureau means an agency operated directly by one or more municipalities or a private agency designated to act as an agent of one or more municipalities for the purpose of evaluation, planning, coordination and implementation of prevention, intervention and treatment services for delinquent, pre delinquent, pregnant, parenting and troubled youth, and for the provision of opportunities for youth to develop positively and to function as responsible members of their communities." These functions include: Management and Administration, Needs Assessment, Community Resource Development, and Community Involvement and Advocacy. In addition, the YSB provides direct service programs such as the Truancy Intervention Program, After School and Summer Programs, Youth Employment, Summer Nutrition and Peer Advocate Programs. The YSB is an integral partner of the Vernon School Readiness Council that focuses on students in pre-school–third grade. Through developing a network of strong cooperative working relationships, the YSB takes the lead in positive youth development initiatives and works closely with other service providers that include non-profit agencies, town departments, and the Vernon Public Schools. The YSB was also a lead agency in the development of the Vernon Community Plan for Youth, Birth to Eighteen. This plan that provides a blueprint to the goal of "***All Vernon children birth to eighteen are safe, healthy and productive***" was introduced to the community at its unveiling ceremony in June 2011.

The YSB provided individual services through its Truancy Intervention, after school, Summer Fun and Peer Advocate Programs to 204 youths. 125 of these students attended RHS and the remaining 89 students attended the five elementary schools.

The Youth Services Bureau provides the following core program components:

- Youth and Family Advocacy Services
- Peer Advocate Program
- Crisis Intervention Services
- Truancy Intervention Program

- After-School & Summer Programs
- Information & Referral Services
- Community Planning Projects
- Summer Nutrition Program
- Youth Employment Programs

**Key partners include:**

- Vernon Public Schools
- Indian Valley YMCA
- Hockanum Valley Community Council
- Union Congregational Church
- Vernon Police
- Vernon Social Services
- KIDSAFE CT
- PTOs
- Superior Court, Juvenile Matters
- Parks and Recreation Department
- ECHN Family Resource Center
- Vernon School Readiness Collaborative
- Vernon Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council
- Rockville Hospital
- State Department of Education
- ERASE
- Local Service Organizations
- Capital Region Workforce Development Board
- CT Youth Services Association
- Vernon Community Network
- Vernon Citizens
- Rockville Community Alliance

**Funding Secured via YSB Grant Writing**

1. State Department of Education – YSB Grant	\$	23,085
2. State Department of Education – Enhancement Grant	\$	6,250
3. Local Prevention Council Grant	\$	4,245
4. School Readiness Grant	\$	107,000
5. Hartford Foundation Grant – Community Planning	\$	25,000
6. Early Childhood Discovery Grant	\$	25,000
7. Summer Youth Employment	\$	24,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 214,580</b>

# MAINTENANCE *AND* DEVELOPMENT



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## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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**Department Head:**

Harry Dan Boyko, Building Official

**Location of Department:**

55 West Main Street

**Mission Statement:**

*Provide solution oriented services to the community thorough the application of professional skills, adopted plans, and standards which facilitate the growth of the local economy and enhance the quality of life and preserve the natural environment for current and future generations.*

**Responsibilities and Duties:**

The enforcement of the State Building Code, Town Zoning Regulations and other Town Ordinances.

**Summary of Activities:**

A total of 1794 permits were issued between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011 with an estimated construction cost of \$20,416,187.44. Of this, 23 were issued for single family dwellings with an estimated construction cost of \$2,569,000.00. **Total building permit fees collected: \$357,935.46**

Of the total permit fees collected, any co fees or zoning review fees (for permit approval purposes) are included and obtained with the payment of the initial building permit application.

The Zoning Enforcement Officer has indicated that for the period July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011, a total of 14 Zoning Board of Appeals Applications were received and a total of \$3,220.00 was collected; 17 zoning compliance letters have been prepared and a total of \$425.00 was collected; 15 citations were issued however only 3 were paid and a total of \$450.00 was collected. **Total zoning fees collected: \$4,095.00**

**Inspections:**

Approximately 530 inspections are performed each month, and an estimated 6,350 inspections were performed for the fiscal year (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011).

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## CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

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**Department Head:**

Alan B. West, Superintendent

**Location of Department:**

22 Cemetery Avenue

**Commission Members:**

Jean Luddy, Chairperson  
Norine Edwards

Scott Brown  
Bradford Keune

*Vacancy*

**Active Cemeteries:**

Grove Hill Cemetery, 22 Cemetery Avenue  
Valley Falls Cemetery, Valley Falls Road  
Elmwood Cemetery, Bolton Road

**Inactive Cemeteries:**

- Bamforth Road Cemetery, Bamforth Road
- Old Dobsonville Cemetery, Dobson Road

**Responsibilities and Duties:**

The Cemetery Department is responsible for overseeing all services performed within the boundaries of the cemeteries. Services include funeral, selling of lots and placement of monuments, keeping of records, and reporting of all burials to the Town Clerks office on a monthly basis. The department also maintains the grounds and burial sites in the five cemeteries.

**Burials July 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2011:** 51 Full Burials – 38 Cremation Burials

**Lot Sales July 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2011:** 63 Lot Sales

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## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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**Department Head:**

Shaun Gately, Coordinator

**Location of Department:**

55 West Main St.

**Responsibilities and Duties:** The Economic Development Coordinator: Plans, organizes, and administers economic development efforts to strengthen the tax base, improve employment, and stimulate business activity; Provides continuing technical assistance to boards, commissions, developers and businesses; Provides consultation to assist in the retention and expansion of existing businesses; Administers commercial or industrial development projects; and Seeks out new community-compatible businesses.

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## **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

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**Department Head:**

Terry D. McCarthy, P.E. Town Engineer

**Location of Department:**

Town Hall Memorial Building 1<sup>st</sup> floor Room 5

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Engineering Department is to provide accessible, dependable and timely professional and technical services to all municipal departments, agencies, commissions, businesses and residents. To operate a professional office with well trained staff and modern equipment capable of being self sufficient, flexible and adjustable to meet the challenge of the ever changing needs of the municipality in a cost effective manner.

**Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Issuing Road excavation and driveway permits
- Providing field inspections of sanitary sewer installations
- Providing review of ongoing erosion and sedimentation control installations
- Providing staff support to the Inland Wetlands Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission

- Providing detailed technical reviews of site plan and subdivision plan submissions to the Inland Wetlands Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission
- Providing final site inspections on site development and subdivision construction
- Providing review, oversight and coordination with ongoing infrastructure improvements within the Town
- Provide timely assistance as necessary to Town Residents and Businesses.

From July 1, 2010 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the engineering department issued a total of 118 driveway and roadway cut permits resulting in \$8,650 of revenue to the Town. In addition the engineering department performed inspections on 57 sanitary sewer installations.

**Significant infrastructure improvements on going within the Town include:**

- Construction of the replacement of the Spring Street Bridge over the Hockanum River was completed in July of 2010. The construction of the replacement of the River Street Bridge over the Hockanum River was initiated in late 2009 and was completed in the fall of 2010. Both bridges are funded 100% by State and Federal Funds.
- Design of the Replacement of the West Main Street Bridge over the Hockanum River is ongoing. As of June 2011 the final design is approximately 70 % complete. The overall scope of the project is currently being evaluated for the need for a total bridge replacement based on determinations of the existing bridge’s conditions. Funding is 80% State. The Town’s share of 20% is provided in the Town’s Road Bond Program.
- Main Street Bridge over the Tankerhoosen River in Talcottville. The State has approved 80% funding for the design and construction associated with the replacement of the Main Street Bridge. The Town has committed approximately \$653,000 toward matching their share of the cost. It is anticipated that the Town will solicit design proposals from engineering firms in the spring of 2012.
- Historic Talcottville Improvements. This project is being funded through a \$500,000 grant from the State and a \$136,000 grant from the federal government. Construction was initiated on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and is substantially complete.
- Roadway Bond Projects will continue throughout the fall of 2010 into the 2011 construction season. Roadways will include Phase 3 of Prospect Street and Hatch Hill Road. A grant was received by the Town from the Department of Economic and Community Development to supplement funding on the Reconstruction of Phase 3 of Prospect Street.
- Reconstruction of South Street. The Town has received funding from the CRCOG through the STP Urban Systems program for the design, construction and inspection of South Street from Vernon Avenue Westerly to West Street. The maximum amount of money allowed is \$2,500,000 with the Town being responsible for 10% of the total amount. Preliminary design activities should be initiated in the spring of 2012.

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## **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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**Department Head:**

Bruce W. Dinnie, Director

**Location of Department:**

Lottie Fisk Building at Henry Park, 120 South Street  
 Teen Center at Center 375 Hartford Turnpike

### **On-Line Registration**

The Vernon Parks and Recreation continues its efforts to make your online experience easier. We have revamped our website to be more user friendly. Visit the website at [www.vernon-ct.gov](http://www.vernon-ct.gov) and explore the Parks and Recreation Department's page to view the many new and exciting programs.

Another advancement in the cyber world for the Vernon Parks and Recreation is our new Flickr account. Our department has partnered with Andre Garant and has created an extensive collection of pictures of our programs, special events, and Park sites. The site has already reached 50,000 views.

This Department has expanded programs for children and adults, offered new and exciting trips and has improved the traditional programs such as Summer Camps, Swim Lessons and Summer Highlights. Included are a variety of youth and adult fitness programs such as Pilates, Karate, Yoga, Aerobics, Zumba, Tumbling, Baseball Camps, Soccer Camps. Our sport leagues consist of Adult Softball, Adult Volleyball and Adult Basketball. The very popular youth basketball program for boys and girls is broken down into different leagues based on grade. Our signature programs such as Camp Newhoca, Learn to Swim, Community Gardens and R.E.K. (Recreation and Education for Kids after-school program) has continued to succeed. The Town of Vernon's Special Events are incredible, they range from the Arctic Splash, Mother's Day Dash, Memorial Day Parade, Fishing Derby, the SHOWCASE for the Town, July in the Sky Fireworks, Summer Days Carnival, Cross Country Challenge, Boo Bash and the WinterFest.

A few program highlights this year for our department were: The New York Yankees trip was held the day Derek Jeter hit his 3,000 hit, new adult exercise classes such a Zumba has started, Discover Newhoca was a huge success at an estimate attendance of 700, the Rise and Shine Program was started, and the Vernon Teen Center celebrated its twenty year anniversary.

The Teen Center attracts many teens (approximately 450) with its new ideas, programs, dances and special events. This is a place 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders don't want to miss!

Our Department is very proud of the Special Events that are offered throughout the year for all ages. These events draw thousands of people each and every year.

As for our Maintenance crew, they continue to excel in making our Parks and Facilities the pride of Vernon. Besides all the baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, and football fields that are maintained, they are responsible for all the Parks in Vernon such as Valley Falls, Henry Park, Community Field, Newhoca Park, Camp Newhoca and all of the school grounds.

Our Park Maintenance crew also played a vital role in clearing the massive amounts of snow that fell during the winter. The Park Maintainers worked numerous hours and went above and beyond the call of duty clearing roofs, bus stops and many other town facilities to get the town functioning at full power.

Maintenance highlights also include: additional picnic areas throughout the park with grills, and Newhoca Lodge has been converted to a year round facility (which includes new windows, heating system, bathrooms, and etc.)

Remember, Parks and Recreation, where the benefits are endless.

The Parks and Recreation Department extend a sincere thank you to all volunteers and instructors of our many programs.

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## **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

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**Department Head:**

Leonard K. Tundermann, AICP, Town Planner

**Location Of Department:**

Memorial Building, 14 Park Place, First Floor

**Responsibilities & Duties:**

The Planning Department works to enhance property values and preserve natural and historic resources in balance with the development of a strong economic base and the furtherance of sound planning principals. The Planning Department performs duties and meets its responsibilities in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes and the Vernon Code of Ordinances and Regulations. During 2010-2011 the Department continued its work with the Planning & Zoning Commission and Planimetrics, its consultant, in preparing a new Plan of Conservation and Development for Vernon. The Department continued to assist various land use and development commissions in administering policies and regulations that promote the sound long-range development and the general welfare and safety of the community. The Department also plays a role in promoting economic development by assisting local and prospective businesses meet location and building needs. Planning staff provide administrative and professional services to the Planning & Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands Commission, Design Review Commission, Local Historic Properties Commission, Economic Development Commission, and Conservation Commission. The Department works closely with the Engineering and Building Departments, the Fire Marshal, and the Water Pollution Control Department to ensure that development plans comply with regulations and codes, and works with the Zoning Enforcement Officer to ensure that the Zoning Regulations are enforced. The Planning Department provides guidance regarding land use and development policies, regulations, and procedures; provides pre-development assistance; and responds to requests for information. The Planning Department is also the lead agency for the 2010 U.S. Census and for the FEMA flood insurance mapping.

**Applications processed during 2010-11:**

Planning and Zoning Commission:	45
Minor Modifications:	25
Inland Wetlands Commission:	14

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## **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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**Department Head:**

Robert J. Kleinhans, Director

**Location of Department:**

375 Hartford Turnpike

**General Information**

The Public Works Department provides the residents of Vernon with a wide range of services of which the demand grows each year due to steady residential and commercial development.

The Director oversees the Public Works Department with a Lead Foreman, two Road Foremen, a Refuse & Recycling Supervisor and a Vehicle & Equipment Supervisor who supervise 39 employees. An Administrative Secretary, an Administrative Clerk and a Clerk Dispatcher staff the Public Works Office.

The maintenance and repair of approximately 125 miles of town-owned roads, the maintenance and repair of all storm sewers on town-owned roads and rights-of-way, refuse and recycling collection, all traffic line painting and street sign maintenance, snow and ice removal, bridge inspection and maintenance, and the general maintenance of 21 town-owned buildings and properties are just a few of the many priorities for which the Public Works Department is responsible.

One of the three foremen also serves as the Town Tree Warden and oversees problems that involve town-owned trees in addition to supervising the trimming, care and removal of trees throughout our town. New trees are planted each year.

The Public Works Department also provides several special services for the residents such as the year round scheduled bulky waste pickup, the spring sweeping program, and fall leaf collection. Another service that most residents are unaware of is that the Public Works Department is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for all department related emergencies such as blocked storm sewers, flooding during rain storms, road related problems and assisting the Police and Fire Departments during their emergencies.

The Hotline (860-870-3506) and the website gives residents up-to-date information on services provided by the department.

Last year the Public Works Department handled almost 29,000 phone calls including emergencies, educating the public about our programs, and addressing resident concerns.

As a community service, the Public Works Department plays an active role in assisting various local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and various beautification programs, school groups and social groups.

### **Highlights**

**Building and Grounds:** The principal function is to provide for the maintenance, repair and operational expenditures of town buildings and grounds. Upgrading and maintaining public buildings to make them both functional and attractive is the primary goal of the Public Works Department. There are two maintainers for all building repairs and maintenance and one custodian located at the Town Hall. In FY 2010-2011, over 155 requests from Town departments for various maintenance issues were logged in.

### **Major projects undertaken in FY 2010-2011 were as follows:**

- 1) Solar panels were installed at the Public Works Garage, the Police Department, the Safety Complex and Annex.
- 2) Senior Center stage flooring was replaced.
- 3) Storage/Supply Room was consolidated at the Public Works Offices at Center 375 and former Supply Room was renovated to create a training room.

**Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance:** The Public Works Department maintains all department equipment along with equipment from the Parks & Recreation Department, Engineering Department, Building Department, Tax Assessor, Fire Department, Ambulance Department, Fire Marshal, Police

Department, Board of Education, Senior Center and occasionally WPCA in the vehicle maintenance facility located at 383 Hartford Turnpike. In this facility, four mechanics and one part-time employee perform all major vehicle rebuilding and preventive maintenance on 225 major vehicles as well as 290 smaller machines such as asphalt rollers, leaf machines, snow blowers, pumps and mowers.

The department's four mechanics perform such tasks as welding, total engine and transmission repairs and replacements, scheduled preventive maintenance on all equipment, and complete equipment restoration and overhaul. They are responsible for the maintenance of all emergency generators that are located in several Town buildings.

The following equipment was purchased in FY 2010-2011:

- 1) 2002 Freightliner Condor Automated Sideload - \$60,000
- 2) 2011Peterbilt 320 Automated Sideload - \$215,000
- 3) 2011 Ford F250 with plow package - \$27,700

**Bridges:** All bridges are inspected during the year and Public Works handles any problems that arise including inspections before and after heavy rain to remove any debris that will restrict the flow of water, repair any undermining or washouts caused by heavy rains and inspection of all railings, fences or guard rails for damage and painting.

**Sweeping:** A total of 520 cubic yards of road sediment was collected; a reduction of 205 cubic yards from the previous year. There has been a continued effort to reduce the amount of sediment. The Public Works Department is currently using different anti-icing products and has eliminated the use of sand for winter operations except for emergency use or severe ice conditions.

**Drainage:** The Public Works employees cleaned approximately 475 catch basins, removing approximately 160 tons of sediment. With the anti-icing products being used during winter operations and no sand being used, a reduction in sediment collection is being noticed. As part of the cleaning process, each structure is evaluated and documented for its condition for repair or upgrade.

Major drainage projects in FY 2010-2011 included:

- 1) Cubes Road - 600 feet of pipes and basins
- 2) Pearl Drive - 300 feet of pipes and basins

**Road Work:** Total reconstruction of Ironwood Drive to improve drainage and road surface was completed. Twenty-three (23) roads were milled and paved in FY 2010-2011:

Barbara Road	Leona Drive	Brimwood Drive
Marjorie Drive	Bruce Drive	Neil Road
Castlewood Drive	Oakmoor Drive	Claire Road
Patricia Drive	Crest Drive	Vernwood Drive
Emma Lane	Vinetta Drive	Forestview Drive
Walker Terrace	George Drive	Wellwood Circle
Hayes Drive	Werner Drive	Howard Drive
Wolcott Lane		Lawler Road

Eleven (11) roads were reclaimed and paved in FY 2010-2011:

Discovery Road	John Drive
Donnell Road	Olive Lane
Duncaster Lane	Seneca Drive
Edith Road	Wilshire Drive
Faith Drive	Wilshire Road
Gerald Drive	

In addition, millings were spread on Bolton Lake Shore roads to improve travel and were also used to rebuild roads at the Town Community Gardens.

**Trees:** A total of 14 trees were removed by DPW and private contractors on Town-owned property that were either hazardous or obstructing sightlines. Many trees and bushes within the Town rights-of-way are pruned and trimmed each year for variety of issues ranging from low-hanging, broken, damaged, decayed, sightline problems, or sidewalk obstructions, and are part of our continuous maintenance program.

**Snow:** The winter of FY 2010-2011 was quite eventful with substantially more snow fall than previous years. Snowfall accumulated for the season to a total average for our area of 98.4 inches. This winter taxed us in many ways from long hours of plowing, equipment breakdowns, many hours of snow removal from cul-de-sacs, small side streets, and gutter lines due to the abnormal amount of snow fall in short periods of time and the lack of places to put the snow. Many additional hours were spent assisting in the removal of snow from Town-owned buildings as well.

A total of 2,652 tons of salt and 24,000 gallons of liquid calcium chloride were used to keep the roads safe for vehicle use.

**Leaf Collection:** The Public Works Department spent a total of 25 days collecting 18,654 cubic yards of leaves on town-owned streets. A total of \$127,289 for labor and fuel was spent for this service.

**Refuse and Recycling:** The Vernon Transfer Station continues to offer Vernon residents an affordable disposal options for most unwanted household items. A total of 1,863 tons of bulky waste was received in FY 2010-2011. Metal items discarded equaled 193 tons including 221 appliances containing freon gas which was safely removed before disposal. Four trailer loads totaling approximately 1,200 tires were recycled. Residents also recycled 94 lead acid batteries. There were 1,420 gallons of waste oil and 375 gallons of antifreeze received at the facility for recycling.

The brush disposal program in Vernon is true recycling - 8,500 cubic yards of incoming brush were processed into a mulch product which in turn was offered back to residents free of charge. The Christmas tree curbside collection and tree drop-off yielded 2250 trees which were also processed into mulch. A mulch delivery program was instituted in March 2010. From March 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011, 43 deliveries were made generating additional revenue of \$2,760.

Other programs offered to residents include the free drop-off of electronics and metal items at various times throughout the year. Electronic recycling continues to increase. In 2010-2011, 36 tons of electronics were safely removed from the waste stream and recycled.

Improvements to the Transfer Station facility included the installation of an additional bulky waste ramp and a crusher/compactor for bulky waste. This unit is working well and continues to decrease the

number of container hauls required to dispose of bulky waste. Less container hauls require less funding for the hauling contract in the budget.

The Town's hazardous waste program saw 205 carloads of household hazardous waste brought to the CREOC facility in Manchester.

The weekly scheduled bulk pick-up program for bulky waste and metal generated \$10,590 in additional revenue. A total of 236 collections were scheduled.

Total tonnage collected of plastics, tin and paper products including cardboard was 2,514 tons in FY 2010-2011. With the introduction of automated refuse and recycling collection, MSW tonnage was reduced 748 tons in FY 2010-2011 and recycling tonnage was increased by 588 tons. These positive trends are anticipated to continue as the program is expanded. The number of additional refuse carts purchased by residents in FY 2010-2011 is 52 which brought in additional revenue of \$4,680.

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## **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT**

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### **Authority Members:**

Chairman Adam B. Weissberger, Past Chairman John K. Anderson, Vice Chairman Everett R. Weaver, Past Vice-Chairman Melissa M. Shannon, Gary Leavitt, and Richard J. Madden

### **Department Head:**

Director, David R. Ignatowicz

### **Location of Authority:**

Regular Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Conference Room at the Water Pollution Control Facility to review assessments, regulations, sewer user charges; developers permit agreements and matters concerning the sewer collection system and the wastewater treatment plant.

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

The Water Pollution Control Authority consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Town Council. All members may serve a maximum of two consecutive full terms of three years each. The Authority has all the powers and duties as set forth in Chapter 103 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and shall exercise its powers and duties throughout the Town.

The Authority is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the sewage collection system, the wastewater treatment facility, the issuance of fees and collection of fees such as sewer user charges, special sewer assessments, sewer connection and inspection fees, plus the enforcement of laws, rules and regulations under the Authority's jurisdiction.

### **Summary of Activities:**

The Wastewater treatment plant, located at 100 Windsorville Road, is an advanced treatment facility designed to process an average of 7.1 million gallons of wastewater per day. Sewage is collected from Vernon, Tolland and Ellington and portions of Manchester and South Windsor through 112 miles of sewer lines of various sizes. There are also 7 pumping stations that assist the conveyance of flow to the plant. During the past year approximately 1.15 billion gallons of raw sewage was treated with an

average flow of 3.16 million gallons per day. In addition to this, 7.02 million gallons of septic tank waste was transported to the plant for disposal and 35,125 gallons of permitted non-residential wastewater was transported to the plant via tanker trucks and successfully treated.

The plant operates under State and Federal regulations as stipulated in the Town's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, CT-0100609. Treated water is discharged into the Hockanum River, classified by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection as a water quality limited stream. This requires a high degree of treatment from the Vernon plant because it makes-up such a large portion of the river's flow.

The requirements for Vernon's wastewater treatment include reducing the amount of suspended solids, biochemical oxygen demand and ammonia-nitrogen, all of which are present in wastewater. Once the wastewater enters the plant it goes through three distinct stages of treatment. Primary treatment consists of separating the solids from the water by a gravity settling process. Next, the water flows to aeration basins to a biological process (secondary treatment). Organic matter that remains in suspension in the water after primary treatment is used as food for microorganisms in the aeration tank. By providing adequate oxygen through air diffusers, the microorganisms are able to reproduce and breakdown most of the organic matter into very simple elements. Excess microbes are removed from the waste-stream as sludge. The Vernon plant is unique because powdered activated carbon is added to the secondary treatment system. The carbon not only adsorbs refractory compounds in the wastewater, but also creates more surface area where a higher degree of biological activity can occur in a relatively small basin. In the final stage of treatment, the water goes through sand filters followed by disinfection using a chlorine solution. This destroys any pathogenic or disease causing bacteria. After disinfection, any residual chlorine is removed. Before the treated water is discharged to the Hockanum River, the dissolved oxygen content in the water is raised to a minimum of 7 parts per million by the use of fine bubble air diffusers.

The key indicators that determine how well a sewage treatment plant is operating are the removal of BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) and suspended solids. When bacteria or "bugs" found in wastewater utilize suspended or dissolved organic matter as food, they also use up the dissolved oxygen in the water. The amount of bug food (or strength of sewage) in wastewater is measured by incubating a sample mixed with aerated water for five days. The more food the bugs in the sample consume, the more dissolved oxygen they use up. We measure the drop in oxygen and call it Biochemical Oxygen Demand. The Vernon plant averaged 98.3% removal of BOD and 98.1% removal of suspended solids indicating successful treatment of the incoming wastewater. The treatment plant is designed to achieve nitrification. That is, to convert organic and ammonia-nitrogen which are normally found in sewage, to a more stable form called nitrate prior to being discharged from the plant. Due to its stability, it does not stress the dissolved oxygen levels naturally found in the Hockanum River, which otherwise could adversely affect aquatic life. The Federal EPA and CT DEP have adopted limits for the number of pounds of nitrogen per day that will be allowed to be discharged from treatment plants tributary to the Long Island Sound. This will require the plant to go beyond converting ammonia to nitrate. It will necessitate the reduction of nitrogen by converting it to a gaseous state, a process called denitrification.

In January 2008 a planning study conducted by the engineering firm Malcolm Pirnie of Middletown, CT for the Town of Vernon was submitted to the CT DEP for review and approval. The study recommended plant modifications and process alternatives for achieving nitrogen reduction. Since that time, the Town has determined that it is more cost effective to purchase nitrogen credits through the DEEP nitrogen trading program in order to comply with its nitrogen discharge limits. In the near future however, the

Town of Vernon will be required to upgrade the treatment plant to treat another nutrient in addition to nitrogen. EPA and the CT DEEP have proposed a limit of 0.14 milligrams per liter of phosphorus in the plant's effluent discharge. The Town is currently awaiting a determination of its NPDES permit limits and will need to address a significant plant upgrade for nutrient reduction to include both nitrogen and phosphorus.

During the 2010-11 fiscal year the Water Pollution Control Department replaced the existing coarse bubble air diffusers in the treatment process with fine bubble diffusers and to added automated controls that will result in significant electrical savings by providing more efficient oxygen transfer in the aeration basins. The project was engineered by Malcolm Pirnie of Middletown, CT under Contract No.869-9/27/07 for a total cost of \$163,800 and constructed by Kovacs Construction of Danbury, CT under Contract No. 929-7/23/09 for \$622,892. The total construction cost of \$786,692 was offset by an award of \$365,115 from the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund in cooperation with CL&P. The net local cost to the WPCA was \$421,577 and will save approximately \$200,000 annually in electrical costs.

In addition to operating the treatment facility and sewer collection system twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the Water Pollution Control Department also has an on-going maintenance program for continued flushing and cleaning of the sanitary sewer mains on town-owned streets and rights-of-way in Vernon. The Water Pollution Control Department also responded to 1,339 Call-Before-You-Dig requests, as required, during the fiscal year.

The Town of Vernon and neighboring Town of Bolton entered into a consent agreement with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection on October 14, 1999, requiring the towns to take the necessary steps to address wastewater disposal alternatives for the Bolton Lakes Area. In response, the Towns created the Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority in 2003. The BLRWPCA has worked with the engineering firm of Fuss & O'Neill of Manchester, CT to design a low pressure sewer system that will facilitate off-site wastewater disposal and send wastewater from the Middle and Lower Bolton Lakes Area to the Town of Manchester for treatment. The Regional Authority is made up of representatives of Vernon and Bolton and has worked closely with the CT DEEP, OPM and USDA Rural Development to forge operating procedures, design plans, inter-municipal agreements, and has sought financing options that could provide the most cost effective benefit to our residents.

The plan for the installation of sewers is to construct them in five phases, over a five year period. This will allow the BLRWPCA to maximize grant and loan opportunities from various sources. Phases one and two of the project are nearly complete. Phase three is under construction and Phases four and five are in final design stages. The total project cost is estimated to be \$21,959,000 and should be completed by the end of 2013.

Vernon has inter-municipal sewer agreements with those contributing communities who utilize the treatment plant and who support the cost of annual operation and maintenance through sewer user charges. In addition, contributing communities pay a portion of the capital cost of the treatment plant based on their allocated portion of the plant design capacity. Of the plant's design capacity of 7.1 million gallons/day, 90,000 gallons per day is allocated to Manchester; 115,280 gallons per day to South Windsor; 400,000 gallons per day to Tolland and 1,020,000 gallons per day to Ellington leaving 5,474,720 gallons per day allocated to Vernon.

The operations and maintenance budget for the plant and the sewer collection system approved by the Water Pollution Control Authority and the Town Council for fiscal year 2010/11 was \$5,602,523 representing a 1.85% reduction from the previous year. Revenues to fund the budget are generated

through a dedicated sewer user charge in which users are billed on a quarterly basis. The charge for sewer use remained \$5.69/1000 gallons of metered water used. For the average household, this equated to a charge of \$74.00 per quarter. After compiling water consumption meter readings, approximately 30,000 sewer user bills are sent out per year and the business office processes the payments.

What makes the whole process work is the dedication and professionalism of the entire department staff; from those who process billing information, revenues and expenditures, to the certified operators, mechanics and laboratory personnel who take samples and analyze wastewater, repair pumps, maintain buildings and grounds, clean pipes, maintain generators and pump stations, operate complex machinery and who understand the importance of providing clean water and protecting our environment as well using our allocated financial resources as efficiently as possible. When measuring success, there is no better validation of performance than to be recognized by our peers in the water reclamation profession. The Vernon staff was duly recognized for outstanding performance and operations excellence and proudly received the New England Water Environment Association's (NEWEA) Wastewater Utility Award for 2010.

# PUBLIC SAFETY



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## **ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT**

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### **Department Head:**

Craig P. Segar, Animal Control Officer

### **Location of Department:**

The Animal Control Facility is located at 100 Windsorville Road adjacent to the Water Pollution Control Facility. The Animal Control Facility is open from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Saturday through Tuesday, and holidays. On Wednesday through Fridays we are open from 7:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

The officers within the Animal Control Department enforce state laws and town ordinances pertaining to animals. This department also responds to complaints involving sick wildlife. This department maintains the Animal Control Facility, and we care for the animals sheltered there.

### **Summary of Activities:**

During the fiscal year 2010-2011, the Animal Control Department responded to 1552 complaints. Of these complaints, 117 involved raccoons, 319 involved cats, 881 involved dogs, and 235 involved other animals. We impounded 167 cats/kittens and 146 dogs/puppies. Of the cats/kittens/dogs/puppies that we handled during this fiscal year, 112 were redeemed back to their owners (mostly dogs), 104 were adopted to new owners (mostly cats), 46 were found deceased, and 49 were euthanized. This department tested 11 animals for rabies and 2 tested positive for the disease.

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## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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### **Department Head:**

William Call, Fire Chief

### **Locations of Stations:**

**Vernon Center Station**, 720 Hartford Turnpike

**Dobsonville Station**, Birch Road

**Ta1cottville Station**, 100 Hartford Turnpike

**John Ashe Station**, 25 Nye Street

**Fitton Station**, Prospect Street

**Public Safety Building**, 280 West Street

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

The Town of Vernon fire department is a volunteer service agency that provides fire, rescue, hazardous materials and basic life support transport emergency medical services to the community. The department provides those services Utilizing six stations and approximately 212 members. There are 150 firefighters, ii special service members, 40 ambulance members, and 8 auxiliary members. The department operates 6 engines, 2 heavy rescues, 2 aerial trucks, 1mobile air unit, 3 ambulances, 1 command unit and, pickup with trailer.

We also operate a special hazards vehicle and decontamination unit by the state of Connecticut, and operate 2 ATV units that are firefighting and EMS transport equipped. This year we were fortunate to receive a \$195,435.00 grant from FEMA. The funds were used to purchase 60 complete sets of firefighter turnout gear, 2 thermal image cameras, AEDS, and an upgrade to our breathing air compressor equipment. In addition the town approved a combined package to replace a 1985 Rescue truck, 1989 pumper, and a 1990 pumper that we will keep to use a spare. In 2009 - 2010 the fire

department's budget was approximately \$1,019,162 of which approximately \$630,000.00 went directly to the Connecticut Water Company for the use and maintenance of au fire hydrants in the community.

The Vernon Ambulance is a division of the fire department. They are charged with providing basic life support transport service for the community. Service is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The service utilizes two state-certified ambulances that are available at the public safety building. A third state-certified ambulance is available as a back-up at the Vernon center station on Hartford Turnpike. In 2010, the ambulance division's budget was approximately \$1,251,812 income generated from billing for services was expected to be approximately \$1,200,000.00 for the same period. The Ambulance has been the busiest entity of the department in that 86% of all calls are for EMS service. On most days, the Ambulance is staffed full-time from 6 a.m. To 6 p.m., and a second ambulance is staffed from 8 a.m. To 3 p.m. These crews are paid hourly (non-benefited) for their time. Nights and weekends are covered with at least one ambulance fully staffed, and crews are also paid an hourly wage for their time. There are no full-time employees, and only the two supervisors are considered part-time town employees.

The biggest events that occurred during this time period were the major winter snow storms, 1 hurricane, and 1 heavy snowstorm that forced the town to be without electricity for almost 2 weeks. This department provided countless hours providing emergency services, and manpower to assist in mitigating the effects of all events.

### **Ambulance Report**

STATE OF CONNECTICUT - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
**EMS PROVIDER ACTIVITY REPORT FORM**

(Complete One report Form for Each Town Served)

Reporting Period: **January 01, 2010 to December 31, 2010**

EMS Region #3

NAME OF CITY/TOWN: **VERNON**  
(See Attachment A)

Lic./Cert # **C146B1**

NAME OF EMS PROVIDER: **Town of Vernon Fire Department**

CONTACT PERSON: **Jean Gauthier**

TELEPHONE # **860-871-7468 x2**

E-MAIL ADDRESS: **kgauthier@vernon-ct.com**

**Call Related Information**

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. Total Number of requests for EMS received by your community's 9-1-1 PSAP, for which your Ambulance Service was requested (within your PSA) _____ | 3348 |
| 2. The number of 911 calls to which you responded (Within your PSA) _____   | 3236 |
| 3. Average "Response Time" for your service in minutes (Lights and Sirens) _____  | 6.49 |
| 4. Average "Response Time" for your service in minutes (No Lights and Sirens) _____   | 8.38 |
| 5. Number of 9-1-1 calls cancelled _____  | 54   |
| 6. Number of 9-1-1 calls your Ambulance Service passed onto another provider _____  | 112  |
| 7. Total number of emergency mutual aid 9-1-1 calls to which you responded (add up from below) _____  | 49   |
| Town <u>Ellington</u> # calls <u>9</u> Town <u>Manchester</u> # calls <u>1</u>  |      |
| Town <u>Tolland</u> # calls <u>31</u> Town <u>Other</u> # calls <u>8</u>  |      |
| 8. Average Response Time for your Mutual Aid Calls _____  | ***  |
| 9. Number of 9-1-1 calls on which a First Responder was on-scene prior to your arrival _____  | 162  |
| 9.1 Average Designated First Responder response time (if applicable) _____  | N/A  |
| 10. Number of 9-1-1 responses on which a Paramedic was on scene or intercepted in route to hospital. _____  | 1159 |
| 10.1 Number of 9-1-1 responses on which the Paramedic was on the transport to the hospital _____  | 1043 |

**Patient Related Information**

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 11. TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAUMATIC INJURY PATIENTS: _____                              | 754  |
| 12. MEDICAL EMERGENCY PATIENT (Total Number) _____                                | 1933 |
| 12.1 Cardiac Arrest Patients _____  | 45   |
| 12.1.1 Number of patients defibrillated _____                                     | 6    |
| 12.1.2 Successful defibrillations _____   | 6    |
| <small>(resulting in return of spontaneous cardiac activity)</small>              |      |
| 13. Number of patients treated and/or transported under the age of 18 years _____ | 251  |
| 14. OTHER _____   | 716  |

## FIRE MARSHAL

**Department Head:**

Ray Walker, Fire Marshal

**Location of Department:**

55 West Main Street

The staff of the Office was increased to 4 Deputy Fire Marshals with the appointment of William Call. The Deputies provide a variety of services including fire scene investigations, presentation of public education programs, the inspection of buildings, and assistance during special events such as the Town's July fireworks show. The Deputies allow the Office to provide 24/7 responses for 365 days a year. The Office also continues the inter town mutual aid assistance program with South Windsor.

The Office conducted over 1,300 inspections of existing buildings, worked in conjunction with the Building Dept to review plans and permits and conduct needed fire safety inspections for 108 projects for new construction work. The Office also investigated numerous fires including structures, motor vehicles, and dumpsters. There were no fire fatalities or serious injuries.

The Office worked with the CT Water Co to improve the water supply for firefighting purposes, this work included new hydrants and increases in water main sizes in such areas as Union St and Prospect St. One of the initiatives started last year was a program, staffed primarily by the Deputy Fire Marshals, to inspect the existing apartment complexes. While it will take several years to complete, the benefits of both the inspections and associated public education efforts may already be paying off. For example in several of the past fires in residential occupancies smoke detectors were credited with awakening and saving the occupants and the maintenance of fire and smoke barriers in the buildings assisted the volunteer firefighters in containing the fire to the room or area of origin resulting in few long term displacements of the tenants.

A special initiative conducted this fiscal year was a joint project of the fire marshal, the administrative staff of the Building Dept. and members of the TVFD to upgrade the TVFD's Knox Box program. The Department's program now complies with currently published best practices for entry systems as set forth by the National Fire Protection Association.

The membership of the International Fire Marshals Assoc. elected Fire Marshal Ray Walker to their Board of Directors. In that capacity Ray will represent local fire marshals in small communities, help review and evaluate future codes and regulations, and work to improve the training and professionalism of fire marshals at all levels.

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## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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### **Department Heads:**

James Kenny, Chief of Police

Stephen Clark, Captain of Police

### **Location of Department:**

725 Hartford Turnpike

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

The Police Department For The Town Of Vernon Is Charged With The Mission Of The Preservation Of The Peace And The Protection Of The Citizens And Their Property. We Are Tasked With The Detection And Investigation Of Criminal Activity, Apprehension Of Offenders, Resolution Of Conflict And To Assist Those In Need Or Who Cannot Care For Themselves.

### **Summary of Activities:**

Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Saw the Retirements Of Three Long Time Vernon Police Officers. Officers Timothy Murphy (20 Years Of Service), Sergeant Paul Miffitt (20 Years Of Service) And Lieutenant Brian Smith (31 Years Of Service) Left The Department. During 2011, Officers Gary Jonas, Kerry Reynolds And Daniel Champagne Were Promoted To The Rank Of Sergeant And Sergeant William Meier Was Promoted To Lieutenant.

During fiscal year 2010-2011 the department participated in the town response to three weather related town declarations of emergency. The unprecedented snow fall during the winter of 2010, placed high demands on the department's personnel and resources.

The department continued its participation in the Metro Traffic Task Force by conducting DWI and Seat Belt enforcement patrols and checkpoints funded by federal and state grants monies. In addition to the traffic enforcement aspect of the Task Force, one department member is participating in the Task Force accident reconstruction squad. This is a multi-department squad of on call accident reconstructionists who have advanced accident investigation training and specialized equipment and are able to respond to members towns to assist in the investigation of serious injury and fatality motor vehicle accidents.

The department has continued its participation in the Capitol Region Emergency Service Team (CREST). This team is a multi-jurisdiction special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team made up of officers from 10 communities that have received advanced training to handle high risk warrant service and deal with hostage situations. The CREST Team is one of eight teams in the capitol region that received monies for equipment under homeland security grant funding. Four members of the department participate as team members with Captain Clark being assigned as assistant team leader. During FY 2010-2011 the CREST Team participated in a SWAT challenge hosted by the West Hartford Police Department. Thirty three teams from five states, federal agencies and the military participated in this year's event. The annual two day event challenges participants in all aspects of police special weapons and tactics and is culminated in a challenge run that has been said to be the most challenging event in the country.

On August 3, 2010, members of the Vernon Police Department responded to Hartford Distributors in the town of Manchester to assist the Manchester Police Department on a report of an active shooter. Information was received that the shooter was a former employee who was shooting unarmed co-workers inside the building. The Manchester Police Department requested assistance from area departments as well as the Capital Region Emergency Services Team (CREST). Sgt. Foster and Officer Murphy responded to the scene and made entry into the business, with area patrol officers, looking for the shooter. Officers Gunnoud, Jonas, King and Captain Clark responded as part of CREST. The SWAT team made entry into the building in support of the patrol officer entry teams. Vernon officers worked with other officers to locate and rescue employees and locate the armed and very dangerous shooter, who had ultimately killed 8 co-workers. This incident remains the worst case of work place violence in the state. The professionalism and commitment to duty displayed by the Vernon officers is a credit to the department and community.

#### **PLANNING AND TRAINING:**

The Vernon Police Department devoted over 8,000 hrs to training during the year. Three new Police Officers started or completed all or part of their basic training and supervised field training programs. New Officers complete a Basic Recruit Training Program of over 800 hrs at the Connecticut Police Academy. After graduation they must complete a Supervised Field Training Program of over 560 hrs. During the Supervised Training Program, officers receive one-on-one training and supervision from specially trained Field Training Officers. Recruit Officers work through four phases of increasingly difficult and challenging fieldwork and are subject to daily evaluations. All new officers must successfully complete this demanding program in order to receive their Connecticut Police Officer Certificate. Renewal of this certificate through mandatory in-service training is required for all officers every three years. New dispatchers must complete state mandated training in Emergency Telecommunication, Emergency Medical Dispatch and Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications System as well as a similar Training Program.

The police department conducts in-service training to maintain police officer certification and to meet various state and federal training mandates. Vernon participates in the Capitol Region In-Service Training Program, in which officers receive training required for recertification by the Police Officer Standard and Training Council (POSTC). Training subjects include officer safety, use of force, domestic violence, sexual violence, legal updates, bigotry and bias crimes, civil liability, juvenile law, gangs, human relations, and other subjects. All officers from the Chief of Police down take part in the department in-house training program consisting of five additional training days spaced throughout the year. This year training included transition to the new Glock pistol, classroom and range training, baton and OC, bloodborne pathogens- TB, Hazards material and meth lab awareness, handcuffing-arrest and control tactics, Taser, vehicle pursuit, breaching tools, ballistic shield, and Bean Bag Shotgun. All officers received training in Immediate Action-Rapid Deployment tactics for active violence incidents. The officers then participated in simulated drills where they responded to an active violence scenario with live role players. Officers were armed with FX Simunition weapons, breaching tools and first aid supplies. During the scenario officers encountered different threats and obstacles and had to apply their training and experience to resolve the incident. This training requires officers to make use of force decisions and to apply force against live role players under realistic conditions. All Officers trained and qualified with their pistol, H&K G36 patrol rifle, X26 Taser, Bean Bag Shotgun, baton, OC, and the Stinger Spike system tire deflation system. Additional training is required to maintain certification in the Intoxilyzer, Medical Response Technician or Emergency Medical Technician and the COLLECT system.

13 Officers are certified as instructors through the Police Officer Standard and Training Council. Subject areas include use of force, firearms, patrol rifle, impact munitions, shooting decisions, tactical use of weapons, arrest and control, handcuffing, OC spray, Baton, medical response technician, building searches, hazardous material, radar-laser, weapons of mass destruction, vehicle stops, personal protection equipment, and Taser. Some officers hold certification through equipment manufacturers and private training companies. Officers must teach yearly to maintain their state certification.

Officers attend free training classes at the Connecticut Police Academy and other locations in subjects including interview and interrogation, driving while intoxicated, sexual assault investigation, drug interdiction, crime scene investigation, critical incident management, undercover drug investigation, instructor development, field training officer, basic and special weapons and tactics, computer forensic.

The Police Department pays for training in specialized areas and to maintain various advanced instructor certifications. Employees receive training in homicide investigation, child abuse, emergency response to terrorism, crisis negotiation, traffic crash reconstruction, bloodborne pathogens and tuberculosis, Taser, firearms maintenance, train-the-trainer and internal affairs investigations, leadership and other subjects.

Additional hours are devoted to maintaining and training the department's two canine teams. The dogs and handlers train monthly with other canine teams in the area and recertify yearly. The on-duty canine teams are available to assist other departments as needed.

The department continues to cooperate with other area police departments by contributing officers and resources to regional teams. The department has a commander, three tactical officers and two negotiators on the Capitol Region Emergency Service Team (CREST). One officer is assigned to the Metro Traffic Service Team, and one officer is assigned to East Central Narcotic Team. The officers are on-call and require training to maintain their proficiency.

**DETECTIVE DIVISION:**

During the last fiscal year, the detective division was commanded by Lieutenant John Kelley. The detective division currently had one sergeant and five detectives assigned to it. In addition, one officer assigned to the East Central Narcotics Task Force and one evidence technician report to the detective division commander.

The detective division investigated/assisted with 286 cases in fiscal year 2010-2011. The detective division had a clearance rate of 89%. The case load for the detective division has increased nearly 24% since the previous fiscal year. In addition to criminal complaints, detectives completed 31 background investigations. As a result, two police officers were hired. Detectives provided assistance to the patrol division by processing crime scenes and interviewing witnesses and suspects. Detectives worked closely with the States Attorney’s Office as well as other state and federal agencies. The following is a breakdown of investigations conducted during the fiscal year.

<b>Crime Type</b>	<b>New Cases</b>	<b>Crime Type</b>	<b>New Cases</b>
Assaults	9	Missing persons	3
Assist other agency	13	Narcotics	22
Bad checks	5	Pistol permit	1
Burglary	43	Robbery	7
Cell phone/computer exams	28	Sex assault	25
Child abuse	8	Sex offender registry violations	9
Criminal mischief	5	Suspicious situations	15
Domestic violence	2	Untimely deaths	3
Fraud	35	Violation of protective order	1
Harassment	2	Voyeurism	1
Identity theft	5	Weapon violations	14
Larceny	22	Writ services	8

**PATROL DIVISION:**

The patrol division continues to try and maintain adequate staffing to replace officers who have left due to retirement or resignation. Officer vacancies take approximately twelve months to fill with new hires due to the length of the academy and field training mandated by the State of Connecticut. The Patrol Division is staffed by 2 Lieutenants, 6 Sergeants and 26 officers.

During the calendar year 2010 the patrol division responded to 19,149 calls for service.

For many years the Vernon Police Department reported crimes to the U.S. Dept of Justice and Connecticut State Police using the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR). This system is a summary count of crimes. Part 1 crimes are Murder, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson. Part 2 crimes are all other crimes.

In March of 2003 the Vernon Police Department began reporting crimes to the U.S. Department of Justice and the Connecticut State Police using a system called the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This system collects specific data on each crime and reports the data to the U.S. Department of Justice. The Dept. of Justice uses the data to create an annual statistical analysis of crime in the United States. The designation of Part 1 and Part 2 are not used in NIBRS. There are now 22 major categories and many subcategories in what are called Group A Offenses and 11 categories in what are called Group B Offenses.

Because of the change in the method of reporting beginning in 2003 you will see a significant change in the numbers for burglary and larceny. This change is caused by the way the incidents are counted. The numbers used in the UCR Part 1 table for the years 1999 through 2004 were taken from the statistics found on the State Police Crimes Analysis web site. The statistics for 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 are based on data supplied by the State Police Crimes Analysis Unit.

**Table of UCR Part 1 crimes.**

Year	Murder	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MV Theft	Arson
1999		1	14	14	119	524	58	1
2000		1	17	9	128	638	53	1
2001		1	32	19	110	635	41	1
2002		0	17	23	108	634	46	1
2003		3	14	20	121	369	49	2
2004		7	14	13	55	256	55	4
2005		12	14	20	81	242	63	8
2006		5	13	33	77	184	60	3
2007	2	4	19	36	85	213	36	5
2008	0	5	10	13	68	235	27	1
2009	1	5	9	17	105	244	27	7
2010	0	5	11	12	66	190	18	12
2011	0	7	8	16	68	206	33	1

During the calendar year 2010 the Vernon Police Department made a total of 962 criminal arrests. The following is a breakdown of the arrests by charge category:

<b>Forcible Rape</b>	1	<b>Forcible Fondling</b>	2	<b>Statutory Rape</b>	1
<b>Robbery</b>	10	<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	5	<b>Simple Assault</b>	32
<b>Intimidation</b>	2	<b>Arson</b>	6	<b>Burglary</b>	13
<b>Shoplifting</b>	38	<b>Theft from Bldg.</b>	4	<b>Theft from Vehicle</b>	4
<b>All other larceny</b>	12	<b>Forgery</b>	36	<b>False Pretense</b>	1
<b>Impersonation</b>	2	<b>Credit Card Fraud</b>	1	<b>Embezzlement</b>	4
<b>Vandalism</b>	83	<b>Narcotic Violations</b>	246	<b>Drug Equipment</b>	90
<b>Weapons Violations</b>	5	<b>Bad Checks</b>	3	<b>Disorderly Conduct</b>	329
<b>Driving Under Inf.</b>	48	<b>Family Offenses</b>	33	<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	4
<b>Trespassing</b>	19	<b>All other Offenses</b>	139		

During the calendar year 2010, the Vernon Police Department continued to work toward safer streets for the motorists by vigorously enforcing motor vehicle statutes. Officers issued 6157 citations for motor vehicle violations. The following is a breakdown of citations issued:

**Infractions 1126      Summons 1177      Parking Tickets 581      Written Warnings 3273**

The patrol division is directly supported by a dedicated staff of 8 civilian dispatchers with one authorized position unfunded due to budget restrictions. The police dispatchers handle both routine complaints and 911 emergency calls phoned into the dispatch center. The dispatchers deal with walk in complaints,

handle requests for information and utilize both state and national data bases for information to further department goals.

**RECORDS DIVISION:**

The Records Division is currently staffed by three records clerks with a full time records supervisor. The records division is responsible for filing more than 12,000 cases, data entry into the records management system, preparing court transmittals, preparing weekly payroll for the department's 65 members, processing pistol, solicitor, raffle, pawn and precious metal permits. The records division has the additional responsibility for overseeing billing false alarm fines, filing and maintaining motor vehicle violation records, billing for private duty, sending notices for unpaid parking tickets and responding to all requests for the production of records under the Freedom of Information Act.

The following fees were collected by the Records Division during the year:

Report Fees	\$2061.83
Pistol Permits	\$7405.00
Weapon sale permit	\$800.00
Raffle Permits	\$125.00
Solicitor Permits	\$358.00
Alarm Fines	\$2050.00
Outside Work	\$160,212.02
Precious Metal Permit	\$50.00
Pawn Permits	\$25.00
Fingerprinting	\$3450.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$176536.85</b>

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:**

During the fiscal year the department received additional funding which combined with a federal COPS technology grant allowed for the purchase of a new digital radio system. This new system will meet the P25 Federal FCC compliance standard and greatly improve the radio system reception as well as reduce the maintenance costs incurred with the old system. The new radio system utilizes two new or improved radio transmitter sites in a simulcast mode. Both sites have emergency generator back up to allow use during large scale power outages.

The vulnerability of the old system was clearly demonstrated during the October snow storm when the radio system failed and several receiver sites were damaged. Fortunately the new system, although not completed, was able to be used to ensure emergency communication during the emergency.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS:**

**East Central Narcotics Task Force**

The department is continuing its membership in the East Central Narcotics Task Force (ECNTF). The officer assigned by the department is a member of the four town task force with the mission of long term narcotic investigations in Manchester, Vernon, Glastonbury and South Windsor. Members of ECNTF are cross sworn in each community and actively cooperate with members of the Vernon Police Department detective division. The Vernon Police Department withdrew from the Statewide Narcotics Task Force and rejoined the East Central Narcotics Task Force in February 2009. 2010-2011 was highlighted with the arrest of a major narcotics dealer in Tolland and the seizure of assets and property in excess of one million dollars.

**Activity for Vernon Officer**

Total cases	94
Total arrests	78
Total search warrants	31

**School Resource Officer-Rockville High School**

The full time assignment of a Vernon Police Officer to the Rockville High School began in 1994 and a partnership between the Vernon Board of Education and Police Department continues through today. Currently Officer Earl Middleton is the officer assigned to the high school.

The position of school resource officer has evolved into an integral part of the education process at the high school. The SRO works with administrators, staff and students as part of the day to day operations at the school. The SRO provides law enforcement, law related education and law related counseling to both staff and students as part of their daily routine. The SRO works with school administration and department staff to implement a canine drug search of the school twice a year to help reinforce the Board of Education’s drug free school policy.

The following is a breakdown of the SRO duties for the year:

Calls for service	177
Calls involving Talcottville School	25
Criminal investigations	144
Arrests	35
Juvenile review Board referrals	6
Special presentations given	69
Informal classroom presentations	75
Faculty assists	348
Student assists	476
Parent Conferences	159