**Press Release Template**

**(send out on Supervisory Union or District letterhead)**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: [superintendent or other name and title]

[email of contact person]

[phone number of contact person]

**February is School Board Appreciation Month**

[TOWN] – In February, the Vermont legislature will pass a resolution declaring February as School Board Appreciation Month. “The month of February is a perfect time to promote awareness and understanding of the important work performed by school board members,” said Sue Ceglowski, Executive Director of the Vermont School Boards Association. [Your SU/SD/school district name] is joining public school districts across the state in celebrating School Board Appreciation Month to honor local board members for their commitment to [community’s name] and its students.

“It takes strong schools to build a strong community, and these individuals devote countless hours to ensuring all of our students receive a high-quality education while giving taxpayers excellent value for their money,” superintendent [superintendent’s full name] said. “School board members are a community’s steward of its most precious resource---students.”

[Superintendent’s last name] said the essential work of school boards in Vermont include:

* Engaging with the community to create a shared vision for the future of the district
* Adopting and monitoring education policy
* Working in partnership with the superintendent to achieve the district’s goals
* Approving annual budgets and providing financial oversight
* Monitoring progress and performance
* Ensuring effective and ethical board practices

“The school board acts as trustees on behalf of [community’s name] to provide strong oversight of public education. Even though we make a special effort to show our appreciation in February, their contributions and commitment to our district are year-round,” [superintendent’s last name] added.

# # #