

**WHAT:** The School Board's Role in District Climate and Culture

**WHEN:** Thurs 1:00

**WHERE:** Edgewater

## **Phil Gore**

*Vermont School Boards Association, Director of Board Services*

Phil is a nationally recognized speaker, researcher, and author on school governance. He is Director of Board Services for the VSBA. Previously, he was the Division Director for Board Development Services with the Texas Association of School Boards. A former Seattle-area school board member, Phil served as Director of Leadership Development Services for the Washington School Boards Association and as the Director of State Association Partnerships for NSBA. He is co-editor of *Improving School Board Effectiveness: A Balanced Governance Approach*. Phil completed his PhD at the University of Washington in educational leadership and policy studies. His research focused on the factors and sources of information school boards consider when evaluating a superintendent. His master's thesis discussed the importance of balance between centralized and localized control of public education.

## **Mark Kaufman**

*Caledonia Central Supervisory Union and Twinfield Union, School Board Member*

Mark is a member of the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union Board and the Twinfield Union School Board. He has served as a school board member in three other states. He has also served as U.S. Marine, teacher, administrator, psychologist, and director of a variety of national programs in education. He currently provides consulting services to educational organizations and nonprofit agencies on education, community integration, and student assessments. He resides in central Vermont and loves retirement, martial arts, music, and working with his local and regional school boards.

## **Mark Koenig**

*Addison Northwest School District, School Board Member*

Mark has been a member of the Addison Northwest School District since its consolidation in 2016. During that time, he has been part of the negotiations, superintendent evaluation, and finance committees. In addition, Mark is one of the employer commissioners on the statewide School Employee Healthcare Commission. Aside from his work with school districts, Mark has also been a member of the Vergennes City Council, as well as a part of the Citizen Review Board Exploratory Committee which drafted a report regarding community policing in Vergennes. Mark has worked as a teacher, property manager, lawyer, analyst, and medical researcher. Mark and his wife, Erin, were Peace Corps volunteers who worked as college instructors in the Kingdom of Tonga (in the South Pacific). They have one son, Chance, who attends Vergennes Union High School, as well as a dog (Cruze), cat (Hanuman), and snake (Pia). Mark spends any spare time he might stumble across renovating his 1870s home.