

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SUPERVISORY UNION

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

May 6, 2024, at **6:00** p.m.
(NOTE NEW TIME)

MVSU Conference Room
and
ZOOM video-conferencing

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wcsu-net.zoom.us/j/83398367848?pwd=dzJDNFdjSUNUV3lHaWJEK3FlbGxZZz09>

Meeting ID: 833 9836 7848
Passcode: 446201

Agenda

START THE ZOOM RECORDING

1. Call to order
2. Amendments to the Agenda
3. Executive Session
4. Public Comment
5. Reports:
 - a. Superintendent
 - b. Directors
 - c. Students
6. Time Scheduled Appointments
 - a. NEASC Presentation
 - b. BA Spring Travel
 - c. Culture Survey Data Presentation
 - d. Accept Resignations/Retirements
 - e. Approve New Hires
 - f. Grant Hiring Authority to Chair for Summer &/or Time-Sensitive
7. Committees
 - a. Finance Committee
 - b. Policy Committee
 - i. Adoption:
 1. C9- Local Wellness
 2. F20- Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability
 - ii. Second Reading:
 1. F23- Capitalization of Assets
 - c. Buildings & Grounds Committee
 - d. Working Groups
8. Approve Minutes
9. Public Comment
10. Executive Session
11. Reflection
 - a. What did we do well?
 - b. What could we do better?
12. Adjourn

AGENDA ITEM #1**Call to Order****PURPOSE:**

To begin the meeting, the Chair will determine if a quorum is present, then call the meeting to order.

WHO:

Chair: "I call this meeting to order at _____ p.m."

MOTION REQUIRED?

No

AGENDA ITEM #2**Amendments to the Agenda****PURPOSE:**

To add or delete items to the agenda. This is the only point in the meeting the agenda may be amended.

Amendments added cannot include items that statutorily require a warning to the general public, and should not include items that have a significant impact that ethically should be warned to the public. **Amendments should be the exception, not the rule.**

NOTE: Reorganizing existing items on the agenda is not the same as amending it; items can be reorganized at any point in the meeting.

WHO:

Chair

MOTION REQUIRED?

Yes, **after** the amendments are announced or after it is determined that there are no amendments.

- "Motion to adopt the agenda." Requires a second and a vote.

WHO:

Chair calls for a member to make the motion.

MOTION REQUIRED?

Yes. Motion required that states the statutory exemption from public session.

Chair makes the specific finding that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the board or person involved at a substantial disadvantage.

“Motion to enter executive session under 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(1)(D).”

Requires a second and a vote to enter the session.

For the public record, if applicable, Chair states aloud any invitees who are not board members to attend the executive session.

Only one topic per executive session can be discussed. Must exit the session (no motion to exit, as motions cannot be made in an executive session) in order to take any action.

PURPOSE:

All meetings of the body are meetings in the public, not of the public. Members of the public shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to express opinions, so long as order is maintained.

A public body is within its rights under Open Meeting Law to limit public comment to only those items listed on its meeting agenda. However, the MVSU/SD board feels this creates a barrier preventing the public from bringing to their attention issues that are of importance to them. Thus, the board chooses to be responsive to the needs and concerns of their communities by allowing opportunities for public comment beyond just those items listed on its agenda..

WHO:

Chair

- Comments by the public or members of the body must be addressed to the Chair or to the body as a whole, and not to any individual member of the body or public.

MOTION REQUIRED?

No

Board Rules for Public Comment:

→ Public in-person meetings:

- ◆ Persons wishing to speak must place their name and town of residence on the sign-in sheet;
- ◆ person must be acknowledged by Chair before speaking;
- ◆ speaker stands and addresses Chair or board as a whole;
- ◆ time limit of two (2) minutes per person.

→ Digital meetings: no

- ◆ [Digitally raise your hand](#),
- ◆ wait to be acknowledged by the Chair,
- ◆ clearly state your name and town of residence for the minutes,
- ◆ address the Chair or the board as a whole

- If a member of the public has already spoken on a topic, they may not be recognized again until others have first been given the opportunity to comment.
- Order and decorum shall be observed by all persons present at the meeting. Neither members of the body, nor the members of the public, shall delay or interrupt the proceedings or the peace of the meeting or interrupt or disturb any member while speaking. Members of the body and members of the public are prohibited from making personal, impertinent, threatening, or profane remarks.
- Members of the body and members of the public shall obey the orders of the chair or other presiding member.

AGENDA ITEM #5

Superintendent & Directors

From the Superintendent

One of my professional goals for this year was to work with community representatives, students, educators, and Board members on a Design Team to develop our next five year Strategic Plan. In March, you reviewed the goals on the next proposed Strategic Plan. During the April Board meeting, you were presented with the Annual Report that closed the work of the first Strategic Plan. Tonight, I am sharing with you the published document that represents the work of the Design Team to create a new roadmap for the work of the District. This document provides the scaffolding for District work at the building, Central Office, and community level, and is shared with families, educators, businesses, and the Board to keep our work focused and intentional. Often new teaching candidates and families review this document on our website as they make the decision whether we are a District worthy of their consideration.

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

	BA	KES	RES	TPVS	WES	WUHSMS	Totals	
Pre K 3	3	10	5		12		30	
Pre K 4	8	13	4		30		55	
K	10	13	4		55		82	
Grade 1	7	12	8		24		51	
Grade 2	3	14	4		38		59	
Grade 3	8	8	5		49		70	
Grade 4	13	20	6		46		85	
Grade 5	5	13		35			53	
Grade 6	9	11		43			63	
Grade 7						65	65	
Grade 8						64	64	
Grade 9						85	85	
Grade 10						76	76	
Grade 11						76	76	
Grade 12						82	82	
Total Pre K	11	23	9		42		85	
Total K-12	55	91	27	78	212	448	911	
Total by School	66	114	36	78	254	448	996	District Total
Percentage Change since Previous Month	-2 (-3%)	-3 (-2.5%)	0	1 (+1.3%)	0	-3 (-0.7%)	-7 (-0.7%)	District Change
							-9 (-0.9%)	District Change from 1 year ago 2022-23

	April 30, 2024
Tuition Funding Source = "Operating School District"	898
Tuition Funding Source = "Other" (i.e., Exchange Students)	2
Tuition Funding Source = "Other VT School District"	96
Tuition Funding Source = "VT State Agency"	0
Tuition Funding Source = "Sponsored by Operating District"	0
Total	996

Mountain Views Supervisory Union enrollment by town (as of 4-30-24)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1u3enAVqnpAtlujm5hL_SbaqcxGqctVfB47RD-_yVDSs/edit?usp=sharing

Mountain Views Supervisory Union enrollment by school and town (as of 4-30-24)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LvdoIQjOIXNVwLn3pkvg4ea1n0w35sW-0runejj_KAk/edit?usp=sharing

From the Director of Technology and Innovation

Over the past 5 months the Artificial Intelligence Workgroup has been meeting to craft guidelines for the use of AI by students, teachers, and staff. AI offers many potential benefits for students and educators, but it also comes with risks. The MVSU seeks to help students understand the risks and benefits of AI, learn how to use AI appropriately and creatively, and help students navigate a world where AI tools are becoming increasingly prevalent.

The AI Workgroup has been grappling with how to give educators the opportunities to use generative AI in the classes, while also honoring parent and guardian perspectives and concerns around generative AI. To address this issue we are planning to revise the annual form process at the WUHSMS to include a new generative AI permission form. Students whose parents have given permission will be allowed to create free accounts with generative AI tools (such as Chat GPT) via their school issued email accounts, while those students whose parents don't give permission will be barred from creating generative AI accounts with their school issued email accounts.

The AI landscape is rapidly changing, so this approach will have to be revisited in future years. Many thanks to Luis Bango, Lauren Sullivan-Justice, and Andy Smith for their time and contributions to the AI Workgroup.

From the Director of Student Support Services

- The department is in full tilt as we staff and plan for existing needs, summer needs, and into next school year.
- Transition meetings continue to happen internally as the teams prepare to meet and have started meeting with families to have programs in place for students.
- Meeting with families of students enrolling for next year.
- Devyn Wokman and his SOAK team have been partnering with the special educators to plan for amazing summer opportunities for our students attending SOAK.
- Hannah Anderson, PALS Special Educator, will be the program coordinator for our ESY program.
- The MTSS team is in the final cycle of intervention and will soon begin the end of year assessments.
- Through analysis by Janine Saragusa and Sue Hagerman, our school psychologists, areas have been identified in which we can focus some of our work in the department to facilitate progress with our students.
- Interviewing potential candidates for our open positions for next year.

From the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Professional Learning Update:

- May is the last month of year-long, job-embedded professional development for teachers of reading and mathematics PreK-12. Thanks go out to Julie Brown and Patty Kelly for facilitating the professional learning, and for collaboratively creating instructional common agreements with classroom teachers.
- Our last Late Start Wednesday professional learning was last week, when teachers shared their learning with colleagues.
- Our Late Start Wednesday Professional Development is taking shape, with a strong emphasis on our EID Policy.
- Summer PD on our new ELA Curriculum called EL will take place at the end of June, and various groups will meet throughout the summer to plan for the 24-25 school year.

Thanks! - Assessment & Testing:

End-of-year testing is in full swing. The [District Universal Testing Calendar](#) outlines tests this season. From Cognia to AP to local assessments, ensuring our testing season happens smoothly requires time and organization from educators in every school. THANK YOU teachers, principals, and coordinators for making it all happen!

[From the Director of Finance and Operations](#)

Monthly reports for February are in the shared folder. We continue to spend within our budget. There are no budgetary concerns at this time.

[February Financial Report](#)

[February Variance Report](#)

The chargers for our electric buses have been installed and the buses are charged. Training on the buses and using the chargers is scheduled this week, so expect to see them on the road shortly.

The State of Vermont and Powerschool have finally agreed to an extension on the eFiance contract, extending it through June 30, 2027. We will be moving from the 2020 version of the software to the 2023 version in July. There are many software enhancements in this new version that will make it much more user friendly. We are just over one year into our use of this accounting software and are pleased that we made the switch. It has opened up a number of avenues for streamlining other parts of our human resources and business office functions.

[From the Student Representatives](#)

[Aidan:](#)

Over the past few weeks, students have been engaged with Cognia testing and preparation for AP exams, which begin today and will continue until the end of next week. Teachers have been working rigorously with students in and out of class to provide them with resources and help them study for these exams. We thank all the teachers and staff who have supported students through their preparations all year and we wish students the best of luck as they tackle their exams these next two weeks. On Thursday, April 18, students and teachers participated in two school-wide workshops (one for middle school and the other for high school) led by the Dance Theatre of Harlem. The workshops fostered community and teamwork through dance and offered an amazing experience to the student body and those who participated. Students also partook in Earth Day workshops centered around learning how to take care of our environment and taking action to do so. Students practiced stewardship skills and worked together on projects that promote sustainability and care for the environment. Two exchange trips took place over the past month, with a group of students going to France and another going to Spain for around a week and a half. Students were able to immerse themselves in a culture they've been studying for years and make connections with people who live in these countries and cultures. All of these events have helped keep student life positively despite the stress of the upcoming exams (attributions to the Principal's Newsletter).

Owen:

Our HSMS athletic teams are doing well and 268 students are playing a sport this season (about 60% participation). This month: current freshmen, sophomores and juniors can run for leadership positions in student council or as class officers; the school year's last all school meeting will send-off the senior class before graduation and upperclassmen will attend prom at the Killington Grand Hotel. This week: the theater program performed an adaptation of *The Women of Lockerbie*; the art department held a multi-day student art exhibition and AP exams kicked-off for students taking them. Cognia testing remains a challenge for students - the technology can be clunky to use and the tests can run long and bite into other class periods. Thank you to the faculty and Raph and his team for working hard and making this new testing process as seamless as possible.

AGENDA ITEM #6	Time Scheduled Appointments
-----------------------	------------------------------------

6.A.	NEASC presentation
-------------	--------------------

WHO:

Garon Smail, WUHSMS Principal

PURPOSE:

To share Woodstock Union High School and Middle School's accreditation status after completing our decennial review with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

6.B.	BA Spring Travel
-------------	------------------

WHO:

Melissa Zoerheide, BA Principal

PURPOSE:

[BA Spring Travel](#)

6.C.	Culture Survey Data Presentation
-------------	----------------------------------

WHO:

Sherry Sousa, Superintendent
[Climate Survey Data Report 2024](#)

6.D.	Accept Resignations/Retirements
------	---------------------------------

[Alyssa McDonough, WUHSMS Health & Phys. Ed.](#)

6.E.	Approve New Hires
------	-------------------

PURPOSE:

If a vacant position requires a licensed educator, the Superintendent nominates a candidate for employment and the board holds the responsibility for approval. (16 V.S.A. § 242)

[Kelly Jean, BA Elementary teacher](#)

[Detlef Hogge, WUHSMS Driver's Education teacher](#)

[Smith Donelon, KES Elementary teacher](#)

[Gabrielle Bradley, Elementary PE/Health teacher](#)

[Carol Paine, WUHSMS Special Education teacher](#)

[Corey Solitaire, WUHSMS Science teacher](#)

[Amy Wood, WES Elementary teacher](#)

[Joshua Pauly, WUHSMS Music/Band teacher](#)

[Dr. Allen McMurrey, WUHSMS MTSS Coordinator](#) (MTSS= Multi-Tiered System of Supports)

6.F.	Grant Chair Hiring Authority
------	------------------------------

PURPOSE:

The district's busiest hiring season is spring and summer. Due to the nature of educational contracts, hiring new educators can often be a time-sensitive matter. Forcing a potential new hire to wait a month or more for the security of a contract can have a negative impact on our ability to hire quality, highly sought after educators. Granting the Chair the temporary ability from now throughout the summer to approve new hires eliminates this obstacle. The board will receive a full review of all newly hired licensed educators that the Chair has approved at their regularly scheduled monthly meeting, and authority will revert back to the full board when regular meetings resume in August.

MOTION REQUIRED?

Yes.

- "Motion to grant the Chair the authority to approve new hires through July."
Requires a second and a vote.

PURPOSE:

To provide an update on the work of Committees and Working Groups.

WHO:

- a. Finance Committee
- b. Policy Committee
 - i. Adoption:
 1. C9 Local Wellness Policy: [current/VSBA & AOE/working draft markup/clean](#)
 2. F20 Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability: [current/VSBA/working draft markup/clean](#)
 - ii. Second Reading:
 1. F23 (*recommended*) Capitalization of Assets - Current NA/[VSBA F23 Capitalization of Assets \[08/15/2023\]/draft markup/clean](#)
- b. Buildings & Grounds Committee
- c. Working Groups

Mountain Views Supervisory Union
 Mountain Views School District
 Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
 April 1, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
[Zoom Recording](#)

Board Members Present:*Barnard:*

Carin Park
 Heather Lawler (virtual)

Bridgewater:

Lara Bowers
 Ryan Townsend (virtual)

Killington:

Katie Reed

Plymouth:

Elliot Rubin
 Josh Linton

Pittsfield:

Ray Rice (virtual)

Pomfret:

Bob Crean (virtual)
 Lydia Locke

Reading:

Anna Sessa (virtual)

Woodstock:

Ben Ford
 Sam DiNatale (virtual)
 Matt Stout (virtual)
 Keri Bristow
 John Williams
 Ernie Fernandez (virtual)

Superintendent: Sherry Sousa

Director of Finance and Operations: Jim Fenn

Director of Student Support Services: Shayna Kalnitsky (virtual)

Director of Instructional Technology: Raphael Adamek

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment: Jennifer Settle

Director of Buildings and Grounds: Joe Rigoli

Principals/Administration: Maggie Mills (virtual), Mary Guggenberger (virtual), Brandon Hill, Garon Smal, Cody TanCreti, Melissa Zoerheide (virtual)

Student Representatives: Owen Courcey, Aidan Keough-Vella

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop (virtual)

1. Quorum noted. Keri called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
1. Amendments to the Agenda: none
2. Public Comment: Public comment was heard.
3. Reports: The full written reports can be found in the [board book](#). A brief narrative of the reports was given by the Superintendent, the Directors, and the Student Representatives.
4. Time Scheduled Discussion:
 - a. Annual Report: The Superintendent presented the [Annual Report](#).
 - b. CIP: Jennifer Settle discussed the 24/25 Continuous Improvement Plan. Motion by Carin to approve, seconded by John. All in favor.
 - c. Survey Results Discussion: Ben shared [a presentation](#) on the results of the bond survey.
 - d. Accept Resignations/Retirements: Motion by Josh to accept with regret, seconded by Carin. All in favor.
5. Committees:
 - a. Finance- Ben provided a brief update.

- b. Policy- Second reading of C9-Local Wellness. Elliot discussed changes since the first reading. Motion by Carin to adopt at the next meeting, seconded by John. All in favor.
Second reading of F20-Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability. Elliot explained that this policy incorporates F21, so motion should include the elimination of that policy when this one is adopted. Motion by Ben to adopt F23 at the next meeting and eliminate F21, seconded by John. All in favor.
First reading of F23-Capitalization of Assets. Motion by Ben to move it to a second reading at the next meeting, seconded by John. All in favor.
- c. Buildings & Grounds- Matt gave a brief update.
- d. Working Groups – there will be a negotiations update in executive session.
- 6. Motion by Josh to approve the minutes; seconded by Anna. All in favor.
- 7. Public Comment: none.
- 8. Executive Session- Motion by Carin to enter executive session under 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(1)(B) at 9:02 p.m. Seconded by John. All in favor. The board exited executive session at 9:28 p.m. Motion by Ben to accept the negotiated teachers' agreement, seconded by Lara. All in favor.
- 10. Meeting reflection was heard from the board.
- 11. Motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. by Josh, seconded by Anna. All in favor.

AGENDA ITEM #9	Public Comment 10 minutes
----------------	---------------------------------

PURPOSE:

To hear input, concerns, etc. from the attending public.

WHO:

Chair

MOTION REQUIRED?

No

Board Rules: Public sign-in sheet (when in-person meetings are resumed). Person stands and announces name; time limit of two (2) minutes per person.

Digital meetings: Digitally raise your hand, wait to be acknowledged by the Chair, please identify yourself for the record, then address the board.

AGENDA ITEM #10**Executive Session****WHO:**

Chair calls for a member to make the motion.

MOTION REQUIRED?

Yes. Motion required that states the statutory exemption from public session.

Chair makes the specific finding that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the board or person involved at a substantial disadvantage.

“Motion to enter executive session under 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(1)(A).”

Requires a second and a vote to enter the session.

For the public record, if applicable, Chair states aloud any invitees who are not board members to attend the executive session.

Only one topic per executive session can be discussed. Must exit the current session (no motion to exit, as motions cannot be made in an executive session), take action if any, and a new motion made to enter the next executive session.

AGENDA ITEM #11**Reflection****PURPOSE:**

This is a time to process board self-evaluation and implement recommendations for improvement.

WHO:

Full board

MOTION REQUIRED?

No.

AGENDA ITEM #12**Adjourn****PURPOSE:**

Ends the meeting

WHO:

Chair calls for a member to make the motion to adjourn and notes the time.

MOTION REQUIRED?

Yes. Needs a second and vote.