

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SUPERVISORY UNION

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

April 1, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

MVSU Conference Room
and
ZOOM video-conferencing

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wcsu-net.zoom.us/j/84386748159?pwd=T2ZVdE44ZHRvNkhKVmZRUGVBcnBKQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 8674 8159
Passcode: 865167

Agenda

START THE ZOOM RECORDING

1. Call to order
2. Amendments to the Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Reports:
 - a. Superintendent
 - b. Directors
 - c. Students
5. Time Scheduled Appointments
 - a. Annual Report Presentation
 - b. Approve Continuous Improvement Plan
 - c. MVSD Survey Results Discussion
 - d. Accept Resignations/Retirements
6. Committees
 - a. Finance Committee
 - b. Policy Committee
 - i. Second Reading:
 1. C9- Local Wellness
 2. F20- Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability
 - ii. First Reading:
 1. F23- Capitalization of Assets
 - c. Buildings & Grounds Committee
 - d. Working Groups
7. Approve Minutes
8. Public Comment
9. Executive Session
10. Reflection
 - a. What did we do well?
 - b. What could we do better?
11. 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.

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:

- **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 orh 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.

From the Superintendent

This month I wanted to highlight some important work of the Middle and High Schools that Assistant Principal Cody TanCreti and his team have been working on regarding creating an inclusive environment for all students. This is his report.

From Cody TanCreti, WUHSMS Assistant Principal:

Here is an update of the ongoing efforts of our Middle School regarding community belonging, empathy, respect, and the use of dehumanizing language within our school environment.

Throughout this academic year, our Middle School staff and students have been actively engaged in initiatives aimed at fostering a culture of inclusivity, belonging, and mutual respect. These efforts have included a variety of activities such as advisory circles, teachers embedding relevant content into their lesson plans, and most recently, a two-day workshop facilitated by Dr. Luvelle Brown. This workshop provided valuable insights and strategies for both students and staff to further advance our goals in these areas.

This work continues as our Middle School QSA is currently in the process of designing additional activities aimed at promoting empathy across social groups within our school. These initiatives will be led entirely by students. It is important to note that this work is not intended to be a one-time effort, but is being continuously and consistently supported by our middle school staff and students.

Tuesday, March 26, 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	4	15	4		38		61
Grade 3	8	8	5		49		70
Grade 4	14	21	6		46		87
Grade 5	5	14		35			54
Grade 6	9	11		42			62
Grade 7						66	66
Grade 8						63	63
Grade 9						86	86
Grade 10						78	78
Grade 11						76	76
Grade 12						82	82
Total Pre K	11	23	9		42		85
Total K-12	57	94	27	77	212	451	918
Total by School	68	117	36	77	254	451	1003
Percentage Change since Previous Month	-1 (-1.4%)	1 (0.9%)	1 (2.9%)	1 (1.3%)	1 (0.4%)	-3 (-0.7%)	0
							-6 (-0.6%)
							District Change from 1 year ago 2022-23

	March 26, 2024
Tuition Funding Source = "Operating School District"	906
Tuition Funding Source = "Other" (i.e., Exchange Students)	2
Tuition Funding Source = "Other VT School District"	95
Tuition Funding Source = "VT State Agency"	0
Tuition Funding Source = "Sponsored by Operating District"	0
Total	1003

Mountain Views Supervisory Union enrollment by town (as of 3-26-24)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YAQM5_oeqWMTyUdF_xFR9Tn3yhdmFkivkh7nibmGMco/edit?usp=sharing

Mountain Views Supervisory Union enrollment by school and town (as of 3-26-24)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pC1YANCplqgPH62c-c00QLIfE285A8_dW9rKeaXxOCw/edit?usp=sharing

From the Director of Technology and Innovation

I am excited to announce that we have selected Ormsby's Computer Systems (OCS) as the winner of our Firewall RFP. Firewalls are essential pieces of hardware that act as a barrier between our local networks and the broader internet. We received bids from 6 different vendors, some of whom were local and some of whom were regional or national vendors. OCS is a local vendor who has done work throughout the district, and they produced a cost effective solution and have expertise on staff to help us through the configuration, setup, and installation process. The installation of our new firewalls will occur over the summer. This project is funded through ESSER, and will include 5 years of licensing and service agreements.

From the end of February through the beginning of March students, teachers, and parents completed climate surveys created by the Quaglia Institute. This is our second year doing surveys through the Quaglia Institute, so we now have a large amount of school climate data and trends over time. I have been working to organize this data for school leaders to analyze and examine how these three different groups perceive the climate in our schools.

From the Director of Student Support Services

- Needs assessment and reflection of services and systems in special education and MTSS in preparation for next year.
- Developing ideas to focus on professional development for next year based on student and educator needs.
- Working with Julie Brown at department meetings to extend the LETRS training and learning to implement new instructional strategies for our students
- Several special education team members attended the first of a four part series about Functional Skills that will focus on the four most common areas that impact student success in school. This series will help us learn about the newest special education category in VT as well as help us develop and improve existing systems. It will also help facilitate how to link gen ed to special education; focusing on prevention instead of intervention.
- Several team members will be attending a training called Crisis Prevention and Intervention; focused on helping students manage their emotions and de-escalate dysregulation.

From the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Planning Ahead for Summer and Fall 2024: This is the time of year when the CIA department is working with one foot in this school year, and one foot in the next. Credit-bearing and workshop request forms for next year are on the teacher dashboard of the SU website. Summer stipends for collaborative work are being formulated. EL Curriculum Training is in place for new teachers or teachers who haven't been trained yet. Next year's PD opportunities, inservice plans, and Late Start Wednesday are all in review and planning. Thank you for supporting teacher PD!

Elementary Math Curriculum Pilot Development Team: Thanks go out to the Math Equity group and Math Pact Teachers for joining the Math Curriculum Pilot Development Team. Over the next few months, this team will develop a process for the selection and piloting of math curriculum materials at the elementary level in the 24-25 school year. More information about this pilot will be shared in the fall.

Successful Middle School Strategic Planning: Middle Level Educators are in the process of analyzing data from the AMLE Successful Middle School Survey and building a strategic plan for improvement. By the end of the school year, the strategic plan will be shared with Dr. Cinquemani as new principal, as well as Mr. Tancreti, so they can be informed and help carry the vision and work moving forward into next school year.

From the Director of Finance and Operations

I have linked copies of the January Expenditure report. This year we are doing a better job managing our budget. We have spent about 40% of the approved budget year to date. Where we are doing better is that we have encumbered an additional 45% of the budget. By doing this we have a better understanding of where we are with our spending at any point in time. Let me know if you have any questions on the attached reports or if you would like the detail behind these summary reports.

Monthly Financial Report to board -013124.pdf

Monthly Financial Report Variances to board - January 2024.pdf

Our new electric buses arrived on Thursday and Friday 02/29/24 & 03/01/24. Green Mountain Power was in our parking lot connecting power to the panel for the chargers. We anticipate the electrical contractor to be here shortly to finish connecting the chargers so that we can begin using our new electric buses after the April school vacation. Keep a watch out for the buses with the blue bumpers.

[From the Student Representatives](#)

Aidan:

On Wednesday, March 20, the SAT was facilitated for high school students, most of them being juniors. The test, which was facilitated and completed entirely digitally for the first time in the US, took place in the morning, and although it had its challenges, most students were able to adapt to the digital platform well and navigate through the test with ease. Thank you to the teachers and administrators who helped students prepare for the test, and congratulations to all students who completed it. AP exams, along with other exams and standardized tests, are right around the corner, and we wish the best of luck to all students as they prepare for a rigorous end to the year.

Pre season for high school spring sports has officially started, with many teams preparing for scrimmages and jamborees that will lead them into the official season. Middle school spring sports are projected to begin in April when most of the snow is melted and the fields are usable. We wish the best of luck to all competing athletes this year and we are excited to support them in games and competitions.

Near the end of March, we welcomed students and teachers from Ingolstadt, Germany on an exchange trip organized in part by the CRAFT program. These students and teachers got the chance to meet and interact with teachers, faculty, and students from our own school. They also got to explore and visit focal points in our state. We were glad to host them in our community and we look forward to how this new connection grows over the coming years.

Owen:

Some students participating in our exchange programs have already left for France, and the rest are leaving for Madrid in the next couple weeks. These and our CRAFT program's exchange with FOSBOS in Germany are all great enrichment opportunities for students. This past week, students filled-out student voice surveys and Aidan's Code of Conduct team continued that project. Logistics for the next Student Leadership Summit are set and we're ready to collaborate with students and teachers from five other schools in our region.

5.A.	Annual Report presentation
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WHO:

Sherry Sousa, Superintendent

PURPOSE:

[MVSU 2024 Annual Report](#)

5.B.	Approve Continuous Improvement Plan
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WHO:

CIP Team and Jennifer Settle

PURPOSE:

To provide the AOE-Required Board Approval for the annual document required for federal grant access: [Mountain Views 2024-25 Continuous Improvement Plan](#)

5.C.	MVSD Survey Results Discussion
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WHO:

Keri Bristow, Chair
Ben Ford, Vice Chair

PURPOSE:

To provide an overview of the results of the new build survey.

5.D.	Accept Resignations/Retirements
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- [Megan Budusky, KES Elementary Teacher](#)
- [Karen Payne, Elementary PE Teacher](#)
- [Jonny Trudeau, WUHSMS Music Teacher](#)
- [Audrey Richardson, WUHSMS MTSS Coordinator](#)
- [Colleen O'Connell, WUHSMS World Language Teacher](#)

PURPOSE:

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

WHO:

- a. Finance Committee
- b. Policy Committee
 - i. Second Reading:
 - 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. First Reading:
 - 1. F23 (*recommended*) Capitalization of Assets - Current NA/[VSBA F23 \[08/15/2023\]/draft markup/clean](#)
- b. Buildings & Grounds Committee
- c. Working Groups

Mountain Views Supervisory Union
 Mountain Views School District
 Board of Directors Reorganizational and Monthly Meeting
 March 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
[Zoom recording](#)

Board Members Present:

Barnard:

Carin Park (virtual)
 Heather Lawler

Bridgewater:

Lara Bowers
 Ryan Townsend

Killington:

Anne Karl (virtual)
 Katie Reed

Plymouth:

Elliot Rubin
 Josh Linton

Pittsfield:

Ray Rice (virtual)

Pomfret:

Bob Crean
 Lydia Locke

Reading:

Anna Sessa
 Adam Ameele

Woodstock:

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

Superintendent: Sherry Sousa

Director of Finance and Operations: Jim Fenn

Director of Student Support Services: Shayna Kalnitsky

Director of Instructional Technology: Raphael Adamek

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment: Jennifer Stainton

Director of Buildings and Grounds: Joe Rigoli

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

Student Representatives: Owen Courcey, Aidan Keough-Vella (virtual)

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop

REORGANIZATION:

1. **Call to Order:** Quorum noted. Superintendent Sherry Sousa called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Welcome New Board Members:** Supt. Sousa welcomed new and returning board members.
3. **Elections and Appointments:**
 - a. **Officers:**
 - i. Supt. Sousa called for nominations for Chair. Anna Sessa nominated Keri Bristow. Seconded by Ernie Fernandez. No other nominations. All in favor.
 - ii. Keri called for nominations for Vice Chair. Bob Crean nominated Ben Ford. Seconded by Anna Sessa. No other nominations. All in favor.
 - iii. Keri called for nominations for Clerk. Matt Stout nominated John Williams. Seconded by Adam Ameele. No other nominations. All in favor.
 - b. **Committees and Working Groups:** Charges shared and discussed. Changes made to committee assignments. Motion by Anna Sessa to accept changes to committees; seconded by John Williams. All in favor.
 Ryan Townsend- join negotiations, stay of B&G; John Williams- join negotiations, stay on B&G; Josh Linton- join new build group, stay on communications; Carin Park- join finance, leave policy;

Sam DiNatale- stay on policy and communications, but cannot chair either; Anne Karl- stay on policy; Lydia Locke- join communications, willing to co-chair; Heather Lawler- join policy; Ernie Fernandez- join finance and fundraising if that group is willing; Lara Bowers- join B&G

4. Operational Decisions:

- a. VSBA recommended Code of Ethic: discussed. Motion by Ben Ford to adopt the Code of Ethics. Seconded by Anna Sessa. All in favor.
 - b. Motion to approve the FY25 meeting schedule, posting places, and newspapers of record. Moved: Josh Linton. Seconded: Bob Crean. All in favor.
 - c. Motion to approve the FY25 committee meeting schedule. Moved: Josh Linton. Seconded: Bob Crean. All in favor.
 - d. Motion to appoint Adam Ameele as SU/SD voting delegate for statewide health insurance. Moved: Josh Linton. Seconded: Ryan Townsend. All in favor.
5. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn the annual reorganizational meeting at 6:59 p.m. Moved: Adam Ameele. Seconded: Anna Sessa. All in favor.
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MONTHLY MEETING:

1. Keri Bristow called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.
2. Amendments to the Agenda: Add the acceptance of a resignation.
3. Public Comment: Public comment was heard on the topics of the new build, security at events, and the new build survey.
4. 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.
5. Time Scheduled Discussion:
 - a. Annual Meeting Results: The board discussed the results of the Annual Meeting voting. Ben Ford shared [a document](#) with the results and recent comparable VT school bond votes. Each member of the board shared their thoughts and what they have heard from their communities.
6. Committees:
 - a. Finance- no update.
 - b. Policy- Motion by John Williams to move both policies (C9-Local Wellness, and F20-Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability) to a second reading at the April meeting; seconded by Josh Linton. All in favor.
 - c. Buildings & Grounds- will be meeting next week.
 - d. Working Groups – no update
7. Motion by Adam Ameele to approve the minutes; seconded by Ryan Townsend. All in favor.
8. Public Comment: Public comment was heard.
Agenda addition: Resignation letter received from the Emergency Operations Coordinator. Ben Ford motioned to accept the resignation; seconded by Lara Bowers. All in favor. This was a one year grant funded position, from March 2023 to March 2024.
9. Executive Session- Motion by Adam Ameele to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter at 9:25 p.m. Seconded by John Williams. All in favor. The board took a short break, then began their session. The board exited executive session at 9:45 p.m. No action was taken. Motion to enter Executive Session at 9:46 p.m. for a personnel matter. Exited at 9:54 p.m. No action taken.
10. Meeting reflection was heard from the board.
11. Motion to adjourn at 9:56 p.m. by Ryan Townsend. Seconded by Anna Sessa. All in favor.

AGENDA ITEM #8

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 #9

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)(?).”

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 #10**Reflection****PURPOSE:**

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

WHO:

Full board

MOTION REQUIRED?

No.

AGENDA ITEM #11**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.