

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SUPERVISORY UNION

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SCHOOL DISTRICT

School District Reorganization
and
Monthly Board of Directors
Meeting

March 11, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

MVSU Conference Room
and
ZOOM video-conferencing

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wcsu-net.zoom.us/j/85815561248?pwd=eDZmQlZZSUdobE5wd3pFS3BKYVhoUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 1556 1248

Passcode: 497852

PRE-MEETING ACTIVITY

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

Before the reorganizational meeting:

- All board members elected on March 5, 2024, whether new or returning, must be legally sworn in and take the Oath of Office/Oath of Allegiance through their town clerk prior to the reorganizational meeting, or you are not able to vote on board business.
- Review the [New School Board Member Tool Kit](#)
- Review the [Essential Work of the School Board](#)
- [Reorganization Tool Kit](#)

ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

1. Call to Order (*Superintendent*)
2. Welcome new board members (*Superintendent*)
3. Elections and Appointments (*Superintendent*)
 - a. Officers:
 - i. Elect one MVSU/SD Chair (*Superintendent calls for nominations*)
(*Once elected, Chair facilitates remainder of meeting*)
 - ii. Elect MVSU/SD Vice Chair (OPTIONAL)
 - iii. Elect MVSU/SD Clerk (MANDATORY)
 - b. Committees and Working Groups
 - i. Distribute standing committee charges.
 - ii. Discuss and/or make changes to the charges.
 - iii. Appoint board member(s) to each committee.
4. Operational Decisions
 - a. Discuss and adopt Code of Ethics
 - b. Approve board meeting schedule, designated posting places, and newspapers of record (attached)
 - c. Approve committee meeting schedule (attached)
 - d. Appoint SU/SD voting delegate for statewide health insurance
5. Adjourn reorganizational meeting.

MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

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 Meeting Results
6. Committee Updates
 - a. Finance Committee
 - b. Policy Committee
 - i. First Reading:
 1. C9 Local Wellness Policy
 2. F20 Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability
 - c. Buildings & Grounds Committee
 - d. Working Groups
7. Approve Minutes
8. Public Comment
9. Executive Session(s) - if needed
10. Reflection
 - a. What did we do well?
 - b. What could we do better?
11. Adjourn

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION

AGENDA ITEM #1	Call to Order- Superintendent
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PURPOSE: To begin the meeting, the Superintendent will determine if a quorum is present, then call the meeting to order.

WHO: Superintendent:: "The meeting is called to order at _____ p.m."

MOTION REQUIRED? No

AGENDA ITEM #2	Welcome New Board Member(s)- Superintendent
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PURPOSE: To introduce and welcome new board members.

WHO: Superintendent

MOTION REQUIRED? No

ELECTION RESULTS:

- Barnard- Heather Lawler (new 3 year term)
- Bridgewater- Ryan Townsend (new 3 year term)
- Killington- Katie Reed (new 3 year term)
- Pomfret- Bob Crean (new 3 year term)
- Woodstock- Keri Bristow (new 3 year term)
- Woodstock- Ernie Fernandez (new 3 year term)

a. Officers:

i.- Elect a Board Chair

PURPOSE: To elect the board officers for the MVSU/SD boards. The elected will hold the same position on both boards. A board chair and board clerk are legally required. A vice chair is best practice, but not legally required.

WHO: Superintendent calls for nominations for Board Chair. Board members call out nominations.

"I nominate _____ for Board Chair." Requires a second.

- More than one person can be nominated. All nominations require a second. If no one seconds a nomination, then the nomination fails.
- After nominations cease, the Superintendent will call for the vote. If there is only one nominee, the call is for one vote. If there is more than one nominee, a show of hands is required per nominee.

Once elected, the Board Chair facilitates the remainder of the meeting.

ii.- Elect a Board Vice Chair (Optional, but best practice)

WHO: Board Chair: Calls for nominations for Board Vice Chair in the same manner as above.

iii.- Elect a Board Clerk (Mandatory)

WHO: Board Chair: Calls for nominations for Board Clerk in the same manner as above.

b. Committees and Working Groups

i & ii.- Distribute and discuss charges:

PURPOSE: Board committees are small groups of individuals who advise the board on a specific area of operations. Working groups support a committee or the work of the board as a whole. The current committees and working groups of the board are outlined below. Any changes, such as disbanding a committee, forming a new committee, or changing the charge of a committee, requires approval and adoption by the full board.

WHO: Chair

MOTION REQUIRED? Yes, if any changes.

Finance Committee -

CHARGE:

1. Create and maintain a budget;
2. Quarterly and annual financial reports;
3. Evaluate working group proposals. Committee must weigh proposals against budget.

Considerations must support the [Portrait of a Graduate](#) and the [Strategic Plan](#).

Policy Committee -

CHARGE:

1. Create and modify policy as directed by statute or Board;
2. Evaluate working group proposals. Committee must weigh proposals against current policy and statutes.

Considerations must support the [Portrait of a Graduate](#) and the [Strategic Plan](#).

Buildings and Grounds Committee -

CHARGE:

1. Create and maintain infrastructure maintenance priority list;
2. RFP management;
3. Capital Project proposals;
4. Evaluate working group proposals. Committee must weigh proposals against infrastructure maintenance priority list.

Considerations must support the [Portrait of a Graduate](#) and the [Strategic Plan](#).

iii.- Appoint board members to committees:

WHO: The Chair appoints board members to a committee.

MOTION REQUIRED? No.

a. Discuss and adopt Code of Ethics:



Code of Ethics for Vermont School Board Members

As a member of my local school board, I will remember that my primary concerns must be the educational welfare of the students in my district and excellent return on investment for taxpayers. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with the following commitments. I will:

Act within the scope of my official role:

- Recognize that a board member's responsibility is to see that schools are well run, but not to run them
- Act only as a member of the board and not assume any individual authority when the board is not in session, unless otherwise directed by the board
- Give no directives, as an individual board member, to any school administrator or employee, publicly or privately
- Avoid making commitments that may compromise the decision-making ability of the board or administrators

Uphold the highest ethical standards:

- Not receive anything of value, by contract or otherwise, from the school district or supervisory union unless it is received:
 - As a result of a contract accepted after a public bid
 - In public recognition of service or achievement
 - As a board stipend reimbursement or expense allowed by law for official duties performed as a member of such board;
- Not solicit or receive directly or indirectly any gift or compensation in return for making a recommendation or casting a vote;
- Agree to recuse and remove myself from board deliberation and votes when necessary to avoid the appearance of conflict of interest;
- Not agree to the hiring of a superintendent, principal, or teacher already under contract with another school district unless assurance is first secured from the proper authority that the person can be released from his or her contract.

Respect my peers, my constituents, and confidentiality considerations:

- Voice opinions respectfully and treat with respect other board members, administrators, school staff, and members of the public;
- Maintain confidentiality of information and discussion conducted in executive session and uphold applicable laws with respect to the confidentiality of student and employee information;
- Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible.

I agree to abide by the principles outlined in this Code of Ethics and will do everything in my power to work as a productive member of the leadership team.

 Signature

 Date

b. Approve meeting schedule/posting places/newspapers of record:

Meeting dates, posting places, and newspapers of record as listed below:



2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Regularly scheduled monthly meetings are held in the MVSU conference room and digitally via Zoom™ on the first Monday of each month beginning at 6:30 P.M., barring holidays or conflicts.

The following is a list of meetings for the school year:

- No Meeting in July
- Monday, August 5th
- Monday, September 9th *(Note change due to Labor Day)*
- Monday, October 7th
- Monday, November 4th
- Monday, December 2nd
- Monday, January 6th
- Monday, February 3rd
- Monday, March 10th *(Note change due to Annual Meeting/Town Meeting Day)*
- Monday, April 7th
- Monday, May 5th
- Monday, June 2nd

Meeting changes: Should a conflict occur that requires a change of meeting date or time the change will be posted as soon as possible with the new meeting information at the designated posting sites.

- The MVSU bulletin board and website
- The Town Halls within the MVSD
- School campuses within the MVSD

Special meetings are sometimes necessary, particularly during budget preparation and prior to the Annual School District Meeting. Special meeting information will be posted in the designated sites at least 24 hours in advance of the special meeting.

Emergency meetings may be necessary to address an unforeseen event or an emergency. Public notice will be given as soon as possible.

The Vermont Standard and **The Mountain Times** are the local public newspapers used by MVSU and MVSD.

Monthly meeting agendas and minutes are available under the School Board tab on the MVSU's website, <https://mtviews.org/school-board-members>. Zoom™ links to access meetings can be found on the first page of the agenda, and meeting recordings can be found at the top of the corresponding minutes.

Draft

c. Approve committee meeting schedule:



2024-2025 Committee Meeting Schedule

Regularly scheduled monthly committee meetings are held in the MVSU conference room and digitally via Zoom™ on the third Monday of each month beginning at 6:30 P.M., barring holidays or conflicts.

The following is a list of meetings for the school year:

- No Meeting in July
- Monday, August 19th
- Monday, September 16th
- Monday, October 21st
- Monday, November 18th
- Monday, December 16th
- Monday, January 27th *(Note change due to holiday)*
- Monday, February 24th *(Note change due to Winter Recess)*
- Monday, March 17th
- Monday, April 21st
- Monday, May 19th
- Monday, June 16th

Meeting changes: Should a conflict occur that requires a change of meeting date or time the change will be posted as soon as possible with the new meeting information at the designated posting sites.

- The MVSU bulletin board and website
- The Town Halls within the MVSD
- School campuses within the MVSD

Special meetings are sometimes necessary. Special meeting information will be posted in the designated sites at least 24 hours in advance of the special meeting.

Emergency meetings may be necessary to address an unforeseen event or an emergency. Public notice will be given as soon as possible.

Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the MVSD Committees webpage, found under the School Board tab on the MVSU website, at <https://mtnviews.org/mvsd-committees>.

Draft

d. Appoint SU/SD voting delegate for statewide health insurance:

Each SU/SD has the ability to cast one vote to ratify the agreement reached by the statewide healthcare bargaining commission. The ratification process requires each SU/SD to notify the VSBA of the name, telephone number and e-mail address of its voting delegate by April 1.

(The appointed delegate for the last two years has been Adam Ameele.)

AGENDA ITEM #5	Adjourn
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Adjourn reorganizational meeting.

Monthly Meeting Agenda

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

With regards to events occurring during the month of February, it is important to reflect on the significant threat event that occurred on the 14th. While the statements directed at our school community were very concerning, I believe that our ability to address the situation effectively was based on our strong relationships with families and local law enforcement. The adults involved informed our administrators of a potentially volatile situation, and the Woodstock Police and Windsor Sheriff's offices came to our assistance immediately. The WUHS Team knew their roles and responsibilities, and executed them without hesitation. Law enforcement provided us with their assessment of the potential threat and offered resources to address the situation. At the end of the day, Principal Smail, Assistant Principal TanCreti, Social Emotional Coach Emery and I were able to reflect on the experience and offer thoughts about how we could do better. We continue to discuss the impact of that day and how we can continue to grow in providing our students and educators with the safest learning environment.

A piece of exciting work that has been coming together over the last few years is an Educators' Institute. For years, a small group has worked to create an opportunity for our teachers to share their expertise with others in our District and the surrounding school communities. On June 19th and 20th, MVSU will sponsor this two day event. This Institute enables teachers and staff to share their expertise with other educators and to expand their knowledge base through a workshop format. The Institute aims to bring new content, classroom teaching, increase expectations for student achievement, and raise educator morale. Topics include: Structured Literacy Intervention for Young Adults, Behavioral Interventions Post-Covid, AI in the Classroom, Culturally Responsive Approaches in the Classroom, Visual Thinking Strategies at the Hall Art Foundation, EL ELA Curriculum for Special Educators and Interventionists, and Deep Learning.

Thursday, February 29, 2024

	BA	KES	RES	TPVS	WES	WUHSM S	Totals	
Pre K 3	3	10	5		12		30	
Pre K 4	8	13	4		30		55	
K	10	13	4		54		81	
Grade 1	7	12	7		24		50	
Grade 2	4	15	4		38		61	
Grade 3	8	8	5		49		70	
Grade 4	15	20	6		46		87	
Grade 5	5	14		34			53	
Grade 6	9	11		42			62	
Grade 7						66	66	
Grade 8						63	63	
Grade 9						86	86	
Grade 10						80	80	
Grade 11						76	76	
Grade 12						83	83	
Total Pre K	11	23	9		42		85	
Total K-12	58	93	26	76	211	454	918	
Total by School	69	116	35	76	253	454	1003	District Total
Percentage Change since Previous Month	-1 (-1.4%)	0	0	0	-1 (-0.4%)	0	-2 (-0.2%)	District Change
							-5 (-0.5%)	District Change from 1 year ago (2022-23)

	February 29, 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 2-29-24)

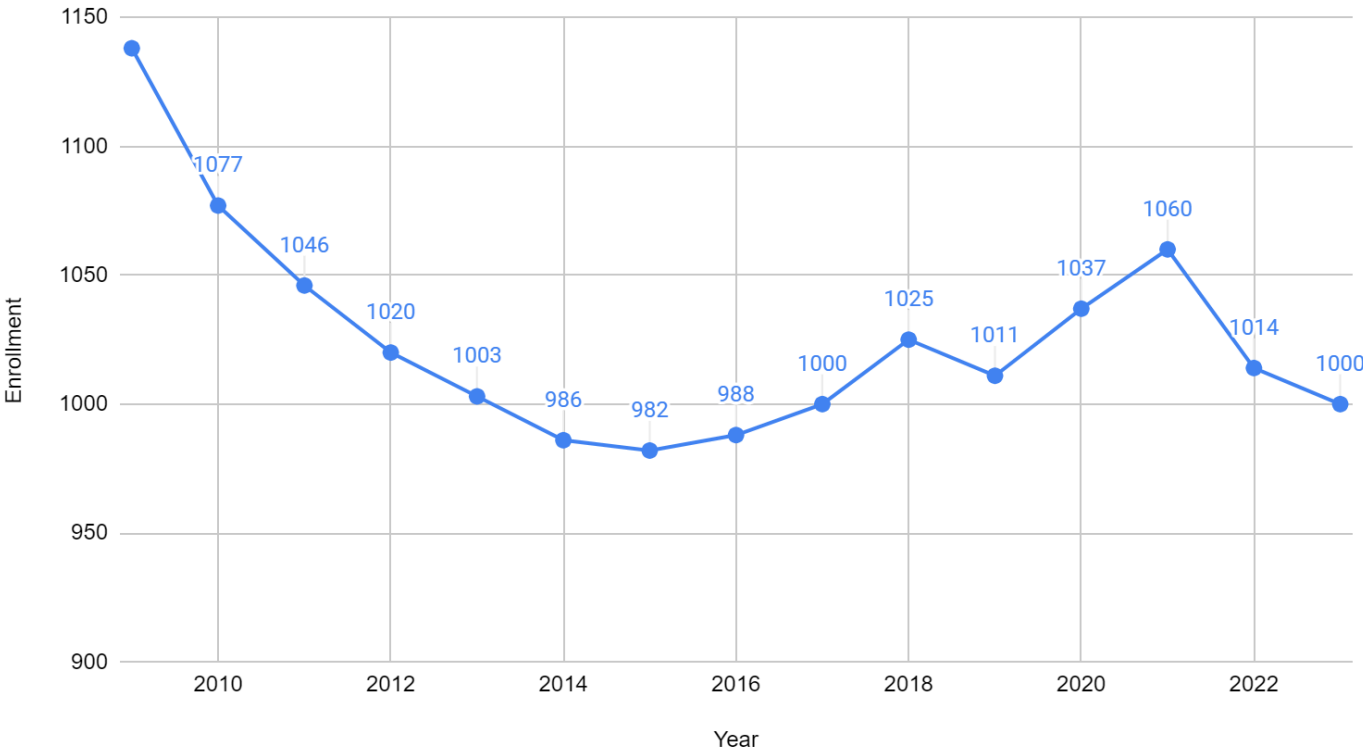
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10QJSmewKf-t0hNMpQQpiP3UTqhkzZENZLza0WXHbyQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Mountain Views Supervisory Union enrollment by school and town (as of 2-29-24)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12ZpDigZdo8hRVxcvLNFGwaNze_wbL1UF9VZ1KP5vXr8/edit?usp=sharing

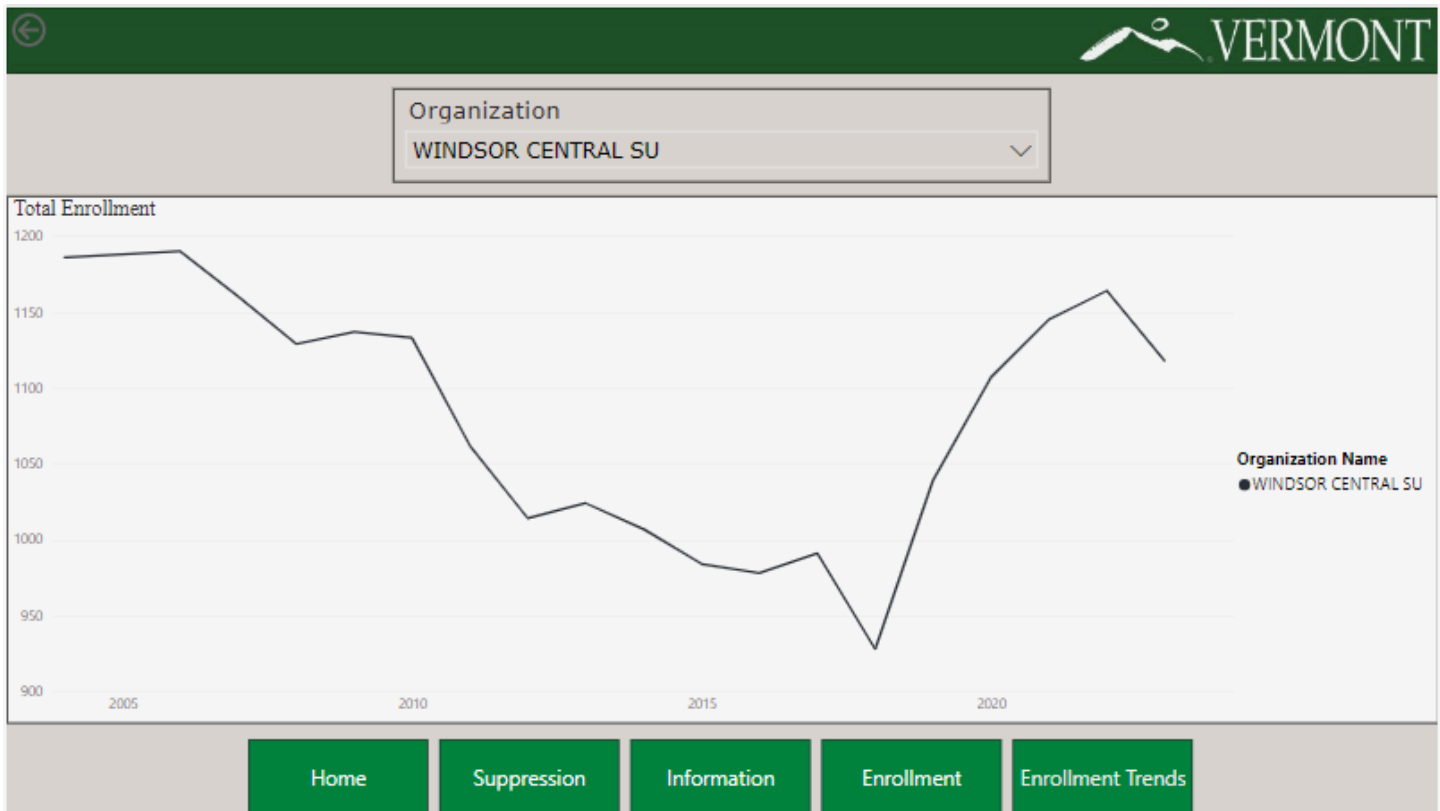
From the Director of Technology and Innovation

MVSU Historical Enrollment (PreK - 12)



The chart above shows the historical enrollment within the MVSU over the past 15 years. A few important things to note about this data:

- Enrollment numbers were captured in the fall of each year (October or November)
- Enrollment includes public PreK students, which opened at WES and KES in the fall of 2018.
- Enrollment numbers don't include students attending private PreK programs as part of Act 166. However, these students are counted in ADM calculations.
- In 2018 the AOE changed their method of collecting enrollment data. Any data prior to 2018 exist outside of our current data systems and can't be verified.



This chart from the [Vermont Education Dashboard](#) shows Enrollment Trends for the district over time. A few important things to note about this data:

- The AOE uses data from the DC06 data collection (Fall ADM) to gather this data. On this chart the AOE currently shows 1,118 students attending WCSU schools in the fall of 2022. However, this data appears to include 88 students who have withdrawn from our schools at the time of this submission (we had 1,116 students in the file, but 88 of the students in that file had already withdrawn from one of our schools). We are working with the AOE to examine this data more closely.
- Although the numbers in the AOE's dashboard are different from our internal enrollment numbers, the shape of the graph is roughly similar.

From the Director of Student Support Services

- The MTSS team has been working on reviewing interventional criteria in an effort to streamline and strengthen intervention services as well as provide a process for students who are “graduating” from needing interventional services. .
- Julie Brown has presented several instructional protocols to the MTSS team for them to use in their practice and support teachers who are implementing them in their classrooms. We hope to develop the toolboxes of educators by combining the new literacy learning with high leverage instructional practices to accelerate the learning for students who are working to close the proficiency gap.
- Nurses are engaging in a self assessment of their practices and will begin a cycle of evaluation by an administrator and nursing professional.
- Updated job descriptions for paraeducators have been developed with Linda Loprete using feedback from special educators. They will be utilized for hiring and the evaluation cycles for special education support staff.
- In addition to the district offerings, special educators will be engaging in a multipart series of professional development focusing on functional skills. This will support their work and the work of the related services providers to analyze needs of and develop intervention and instructional plans for students.
- We continue to receive enrollment information for new students moving into our schools and in the special education department. These new students and the services we are providing are often challenging to orchestrate but administrators and educators across all our schools have been flexible, creative and committed to finding solutions to meeting the needs of our students.

From the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Please see www.wcsu.net → Quick Links → [Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment](#) for information about WCSU's CIA.

Inservice Day: Educators engaged in a day of forward-thinking and student-centered training throughout our March 4th inservice day. Grades 5-12 teachers of literacy engaged in a ½ day of training with Julie Brown around evidence-based reading comprehension instructional strategies. A group of elementary teachers joined Kristen Hubbell in a day-long LETRS training on the science of reading. Teachers of mathematics in grades K-4 continued their learning around mathematics instruction and the development of common agreements. CRAFT teachers met for a day of planning around the pathway and its future. Nurses and counselors engaged in professional learning around suicide prevention and student support.

Indiana Literacy for Leadership: Sherry Sousa, Julie Brown, and Jen Stainton presented to the Reading League of Indiana, the Indiana Department of Education, and the Indiana Learning Lab on our district's model for system change that leverages teacher voice. [Click here to view it.](#)

From the Director of Finance and Operations

Joe and I have not been happy with the service we have received from VSBIT. Last year, after telling us to budget for a 7% increase we received an invoice for a 23.9% increase. I was able to negotiate this down to a 15.4% increase before we paid them. Because of these concerns I have investigated other sources for our insurance coverage. Attached is a memo from me and a not to exceed proposal from the Fred C. Church Agency for our FY25 coverage for \$252,285, a \$9,000 reduction from our current year costs. I have worked with the agency before and highly recommend them. I am asking the board for your support to move our coverage to Fred C. Church and the companies they are recommending effective July 1, 2024.

[Insurance Memo](#)
[Insurance proposal](#)

Attached is the monthly update on grants, donations and gifts. We have received an additional \$67,692 since December 31, 2023 bringing our total for the year to \$398,722.

[Grants, donations and gifts report](#)

From the Student Representatives

Aidan:

Students have continued to engage in their second semester courses over the past month, with many preparing for AP exams in May and the SAT, which will be facilitated during school on March 20. Winter sports have come to an end with many teams competing in statewide competitions and some earning championship titles - congratulations to the Boys Varsity Nordic team for winning the state championship title! The closing of winter sports means that spring sports are around the corner, with many teams posting game schedules and preparing for the season ahead. On Friday, 2/16, English teacher Martha Perkins hosted the Woodstock Poetry Out Loud Contest, where students captivated their audience with a performative recitation of a chosen poem. Congratulations to this year's winner Agnes Kardashian, and first alternate, William Obbard, and we wish you the best of luck as you represent Woodstock in the regional competition (information from the [WUHSMS Principal's Newsletter](#)). The Code of Conduct Working Group has continued their work with reformatting the current HS CoC, with their current initiative being collecting input regarding the rights and responsibilities of students, teachers, educators, and administrators. The group hopes to use this input to create a list of the rights and responsibilities of different subgroups (students, teachers, etc) of the school community, which will act as the heart of the document and will be used to shape the document as a whole.

Owen:

The high school's CRAFT program is doing an agriculture and life-sciences focussed exchange with a school in Ingolstadt, Germany. Four sophomores are over there now and we'll host five students in the next couple weeks... CRAFT is a phenomenal program, this opportunity for an agriculture-based exchange is just another example of that! I think many students and staff were disappointed with the results of Tuesday's bond vote, but people remain positive and grateful to the Buildings and Grounds teams for their endless hard work at the HSMS. The Superintendent's Student Advisory Group is organizing with student leadership clubs from, so far, four other area high schools for the Student Leadership Summit this November. It's been great to see sophomore/freshman members of our club working hard on this project and on the HS Code of Conduct - lots to look forward to on that end.

AGENDA ITEM #5	Time Scheduled Appointments
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5.A.	Annual Meeting Results
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WHO:

Chair, Vice Chair, Board Members

PURPOSE:

To discuss the results of the Annual Meeting.


AGENDA ITEM #6	Committees
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PURPOSE:

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

WHO:

- a. Finance Committee
- b. Policy Committee
 - i. First 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](#)
- c. Buildings & Grounds Committee
- d. Working Groups

Mountain Views Supervisory Union  Mountain Views School District
 Board of Directors Emergency Meeting
 February 2, 2024, 5:00 p.m.
[Zoom recording](#)

Board Members Present on Zoom:

Barnard:

Carin Park
 Bryce Sammel

Bridgewater:

Lara Bowers (5:35 p.m.)

Killington:

Plymouth:

Elliot Rubin
 Josh Linton

Pittsfield:

Pomfret:

Bob Crean
 Lydia Locke

Reading:

Anna Sessa

Woodstock:

Keri Bristow
 Ben Ford
 John Williams
 Matt Stout
 Sam DiNatale

Superintendent: Sherry Sousa

Director of Finance and Operations: Jim Fenn

Student Representatives: Owen Courcey, Aidan Keough-Vella

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop

1. Keri Bristow called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. Amendments to the Agenda: None.
3. Due to potential implications of actions at the Statehouse regarding Act 127, the recommendation is to vote on a new budget to present to voters. Motion by Sam DiNatale, seconded by Anna Sessa, to adopt Article 6 as presented. Roll call taken.
 Ayes: John Williams, Lydia Locke, Ben Ford, Carin Park, Elliot Rubin, Bryce Sammel, Anna Sessa, Bob Crean, Sam DiNatale, Matt Stout
 Nays: Josh Linton
 In light of anticipated changes to Act 127, Article 7 should be reworded to remove the reference to the Act. Motion to add this item to the agenda by Ben Ford, seconded by Sam DiNatale. All in favor. Motion to approve Article 7 as written by Ben Ford, seconded by Bob Crean. Discussion ensued. All in favor.
4. Public Comment: Public comment was heard.
5. Motion to adjourn at 5:41 p.m. by Bryce Sammel, seconded by Anna Sessa. All in favor.

Mountain Views Supervisory Union
Mountain Views School District
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
February 5, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
[Zoom recording](#)

Board Members Present:

Barnard:

Bridgewater:

Lara Bowers
Ryan Townsend (7:30 p.m.)

Killington:

Anne Karl
Katie Reed

Phymouth:

Elliot Rubin
Josh Linton

Pittsfield:

Ray Rice (virtual)

Pomfret:

Bob Crean
Lydia Locke

Reading:

Anna Sessa
Adam Ameele

Woodstock:

Ben Ford
Sam DiNatale
Matt Stout (virtual)

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: Garon Smail (virtual), Maggie Mills, Mary Guggenberger (virtual), Brandon Hill, Melissa Zoerheide, Aaron Cinquemani

Student Representatives: Owen Courcey, Aidan Keough-Vella

Recording Secretary: Rayna Bishop

1. Ben Ford called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.
2. Amendments to the Agenda: Remove Executive Session (agenda item #9) as it is not needed. Motion by Anna Sessa, seconded by Lara Bowers. All in favor. Add a Time Scheduled Appointment (agenda item 5.f.) for Accept Resignations/Retirements. Motion by Anna Sessa, seconded by Josh Linton. All in favor.
3. Public Comment: None.
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. Woodstock Community Food Shelf Presentation: Caroline Shepard delivered a presentation on the Woodstock Community Food Shelf's food support program and the Backpack Program. Food shelf volunteers shop, bag, and send food home on weekends for children who are experiencing food insecurity. Caroline discussed the increase in the number of children and families they serve.
 - b. Draft Strategic Plan: Superintendent Sousa delivered a presentation on the proposed 2024-2029 Strategic Plan goals and objectives. Presentation link: [Proposed Strategic Plan Goals 2024](#)

- c. Recognition of Retiring Board Members: With some school board terms expiring in March, two of the members will not be returning to their positions. Marianne Ralph will leave a Woodstock representative seat, and Bryce Sammel will leave a Barnard representative seat. Both will be missed and we wish them all the best and thank them for their service.
 - d. Union Arena Trust/Trustees: Updating documents for purposes of investment management. Motion by Sam DiNatale to adopt the UA Declaration of Trust, seconded by Ryan Townsend. All in favor. Motion by Ryan Townsend to adopt the UA Investment Objective Profile, seconded by Josh Linton. All in favor.
 - e. Approve HVAC grant: Motion by Anna Sessa to accept the grant funding for HVAC upgrades at the Reading Elementary School and the Killington Elementary School; seconded by Sam DiNatale. All in favor.
 - f. Accept Resignations/Retirements: Motion to accept with regret the retirement of Tim Brennan, WUHS Science Teacher, and the resignation of Michael Lannon, BA Elementary Teacher, by Josh Linton and seconded by Ryan Townsend. All in favor.
6. Committees:
- a. Finance- no update.
 - b. Policy- no update.
 - c. Buildings & Grounds- no update.
 - d. Negotiations- no update.
 - e. Working Groups – HSMS Working Group has been very busy!
7. Motion by Sam DiNatale to approve the minutes from January 8, 2024. Seconded by Anna Sessa. All in favor.
8. Public Comment: Public comment was heard.
Zoom recording paused
9. Executive Session- Motion by Josh Linton to enter executive session to discuss a contractual matter at 8:03 p.m. Seconded by Anna Sessa. All in favor. The board exited executive session at 8:34 p.m.
[Zoom recording resumed](#)
Motion by Anna Sessa to endorse the separation agreement negotiated by Superintendent Sousa. Seconded by Ryan Townsend. The ayes have it with Josh Linton abstaining.
10. Meeting reflection was heard from the board.
11. Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. by Sam DiNatale. Seconded by Ryan Townsend. 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(s)****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 one 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.