

**Missisquoi Valley School District
Board Meeting Minutes
Missisquoi Valley Union Middle/High School Library
March 12, 2024, 6:00pm**

Location:

The MVSD Board and Administration participated at the Missisquoi Valley Union Middle/High School Library for this meeting. The meeting was held hybrid with remote access for the community and other interested persons.

Date: March 12, 2024: [Link to meeting recording](#)

Board Members Present

Jen Chevalier, Renick Darnell-Martin, Don Collins, Joanne Johnston, Peter Magnant, Meaghan Conly, Stephanie Gagne, Pierrette Bouchard.

Absent Board Members

Administration and Visitors Present

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent, Lora McAllister, Business Manager, Bonnie Moulton, Director Human Resources, School Co-Principals Dan Palmer and Christie Martin, with School Principal Yeshua Pastina and Central Office Administrators Wendy Cunningham, Kosha Patel, and Beth Ann Miller participating remotely. MVU Teacher David Szabo along with MVU Students. Derrick Garceau, Technology Director along with the Northwest Access Cameraperson.

1. Call the Meeting to Order 6:00PM

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent, called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Agenda Review

None

4. Correspondence, Visitors, and Public Comments Public Comments

None

5. Presentation

MVU Middle School Social Studies Teacher and students presented on History Night

6. Meeting Organization

A. Julie Regimbal sought nominations for Board Chair

- a. Meaghan Conly nominates Jen Chevalier,
- b. Motion carries 8-0

B. Julie Regimbal sought nominations for Vice Chair

- a. Meaghan Conly nominates Renick Darnell-Martin
- b. Motion carries 8-0

- C. Julie sought nominations for Clerk
 - a. Joanne Johnston nominates Peter Magnant
 - b. Motion carries 8-0
- D. Date and time of Regular Board Meetings
 - a. Current 2nd & 4th Tuesday with exceptions of holidays & vacations
 - b. No changes/comments
 - c. 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month, 1st-MVU, 2nd-Elementary @ 6:00
- E. Discuss and possible adoption of VSBA Code of Ethics
 - a. Peter Magnant made motion that the MVSD board abides by VSBA Code of Ethics, seconded by Jen Chevalier
 - b. No discussion
 - c. Motion carries 8-0

F. Annual Motions

Julie Regimbal referred to the motions that the board approves on an annual basis. The first motion authorizes the MVSD Administration to seek grants, adopt plans and administer programs in compliance with all laws...

- a. Meaghan Conly moved, seconded by Pierrette Bouchard, to authorize the Missisquoi Valley School District administration to seek grants, adopt plans, administer programs in compliance with all laws, assurances, requirements, policies, and regulations; establish written agreements, and to act as the representative of the School District for all federal and state funds and collaborative agreements, including but not limited to:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, (I.D.E.A.) Amendments of 1997, Local Education Agency, Parts A and B, PreSchool Flow-Through Consolidated Federal Program Grants; Title I, Title II A, Title IV McKinney-Vento Early Childhood Programs (EEE, Early Education Collaborative, Success by Six, etc.) EPSDT, Medicaid, 21st Century, Transportation, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable, Department of Public Safety, Rise VT, VEHI, Grants from Private Foundations

The board approved the motion on an 8-0 vote.

- b. Peter Magnant moved, seconded by Stephanie Gagne to authorize the Board Chair, Vice Chair if the Chair is not available, to sign professional staff contracts on behalf of the board after the recommendation of hire by the superintendent using the linked hiring process.

The board approved the motion on an 8-0 vote.

- c. Don Collins motioned, seconded by Meaghan Conly to authorize the Board Chair, Vice Chair if the Chair is not available, to sign federal grants and other contracts as needed.

Peter Magnant asked for clarification on the types of grants, Lora McAllister responded.

The board approved the motion on an 8-0 vote.

- d. Don Collins nominated Renick Darnell-Martin to serve as the MVSD voting delegate for the statewide health insurance. Renick accepted the nomination.

The board approved Renick Darnell-Martin as the delegate on an 8-0 vote.

- e. Julie Regimbal explained that the district must designate an official newspaper for ads/notices, warning the board agenda. She recommended that the Missisquoi Valley School District designate the St. Albans Messenger to be their official newspaper. Ads/notices minutes and agendas will also be posted on the MVSD website. Meaghan Conly moved, seconded by Stephanie Gagne to designate the St. Albans Messenger as the Missisquoi Valley School District's official newspaper. The board approved the motion on a 7-1 vote.

7. Introduction of New Board Members - Jen Chevalier

Jen Chevalier introduced Stephanie Gagne & Pierrette Bouchard as new board members and stated the board is still looking to fill a member from the town of Highgate for the remainder of this year, then to run for the remainder of the three year term.

8. Consent Agenda (Action)

Approval of the Minutes of [February 20](#), [Budget Information Meeting of 2/27](#)

- A. Don Collins motioned, seconded by Peter Magnant to approve the February 20th meeting minutes. The board approved 7-0-1 (Pierrette Bouchard abstained)
- B. Peter Magnant motions, Meaghan Conly seconded to approve the February 27th Budget Information Meeting minutes. Board consensus was that the meeting was a positive experience. The board approved 5-0-3

9. Administrative Reports (Information)

Jen Chevalier asked if the board members have reviewed the administrative reports and if there were any questions. In response Dan Palmer answered a question regarding the STEM Fair. Christie Martin highlighted the Jr Iron Chef competition and Dan Palmer highlighted the blood drive. Meaghan Conly asked about follow up data regarding school choice applications. Julie Regimbal will provide an update in the April or May District newsletter.

10. Business, HR and Facility Items (Action)

A. [Warrants](#) (Action)

Joanne read check warrants for the amount of \$4,050,466.79 for the month of February. Renick Darnell-Martin moved to accept the warrants as read. Joanne Johnston seconded. The board approved 8-0.

B. [Food Service Surplus Proposals](#) (Action)

Lora McAllister explained that due to claim revenue coming in above costs, excess revenue above and beyond 3 months expenses must be spent.

Lora presented a proposal developed by a team spending 60% of the food service surplus. Discussion ensued regarding the source of revenue from federal and state reimbursement claims. Peter Magnant moved to accept the proposal as written, Renick Darnell-Martin seconded. The board approved 8-0.

C. [Swanton Babcock window contract amendment and roof proposal](#) (Action)

Peter Magnant explained the changes to the previous window contract approval, due to changes in windows there is additional funding available that can now be put into the Babcock roof. Lora McAllister answered questions throughout the discussion. Pierrette Bouchard questioned the funding source, Lora explained it is the general fund surplus from this school year. Peter Magnant moved, seconded by Joanne Johnston, additional discussion regarding

available contractor, Lora stated Evergreen Roofing will be completing the roof work. The board approved 8-0.

D. Letter of Resignation

Julie explained that Justina Jennett, Swanton Assistant Principal, has submitted a letter of resignation effective at the end of FY24. Jen suggested a gift of some form from the board. Julie explained that the intent is to replace with another Assistant Principal. Meaghan Conly will represent the board on the interview committee.

11. Discussion Items (Possible Action)

A. [Budget Revote Timeline](#)

Lora McAllister shared information on meetings, timelines, and advertising information. Don Collins requested placing an item on the next agenda to debrief on why the budget failed. Additional discussion around sending a survey to the community about locations, times, etc., for informational meetings. The Finance committee meeting on 3/18 at 5:00 will discuss revised budget

B. Vacant Highgate seat next steps (Discussion)

Jen stated that some interest has been shown, and she will be having discussions with those individuals. The process to obtain a seat will be a letter of interest submitted, and the board will interview. This will be for the remainder of this term only, then the person would be added to ballot the following year if they chose to run for the third year of the term. Central Office will place a newspaper ad for the board seat, advertise on town and school electronic boards and digital advertising.

12. Future Agenda items

Budget, Cybersecurity, VTCAP Results, Teen Leadership program, Work Based Learning, STEM fair winners, proficiency-based grading, committees, negotiations

13. [Future Meeting](#) (Possible Action)

MVSD Board Meeting Tuesday March 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Highgate Elementary School Library

A correction was made to May dates.

14. Adjourn (8:00)

Peter Magnant moved to adjourn, seconded Joanne Johnston, the board approved 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.