

Missisquoi Valley School District Special Board Meeting
Missisquoi Valley Middle/High School Library
Thursday June 20, 2024
6:00 PM

Location:

The MVSD Board and Administration participated in 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: June 20, 2024

Board Members Present

Jen Chevalier, Renick Darnell-Martin, Meaghan Conly, Elaine Nester, Joanne Johnston, Pierrette Bouchard, Peter Magnant, Stephanie Gagne, Don Collins (joined participating virtually)

Absent Board Members

None

Administration and Visitors Present

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent, Bonnie Moulton, Director Human Resources, Beth Ann Miller, Director of After School and Summer Programs, Kosha Patel, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Joyce Hakey, School Principal, Derrick Garceau, Director of Technology along with the Northwest Access Cameraperson, and School Principals Chris Dodge, Justina Jennett, and Yeshua Pastina participating remotely.

1. Call Meeting to Order (6:00)

Jen Chevalier, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Correspondence, Visitors, and Public Comments

None

3. Agenda Review

None

4. Approval of the Minutes (Action)

a. June 4, 2024

b. A motion was made by Peter Magnant, seconded by Stephanie Gagne, to approve the June 4, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0-2 (Elaine Nester and Meaghan Conly abstained).

Missisquoi Valley School District Special Board Meeting
Missisquoi Valley Middle/High School Library
Thursday June 20, 2024
6:00 PM

5. Administrative Reports: Franklin, Highgate, Swanton

- a. Jen Chevalier asked for questions/comments on the Swanton report. Don Collins appreciated the Wednesday weekly. Chris Dodge highlighted literacy training, library renovations, and Jason Butler and custodial/maintenance crew for the summer work. Chris Dodge also recognized Justina Jennett as this is her last board meeting with MVSD.
- b. Jen Chevalier asked for questions/comments on Highgate report. Jen Chevalier highlighted the 6th grade graduation and what a great event it was. Yeshua Pastina spoke of the last in-service days and of retirees. Also spoke of transition meetings and new staff visits.
- c. Jen Chevalier asked for questions/comments on Franklin report. Joyce Hakey highlighted the Memorial Day weekend activities and Ride for Olivia, end of the year field trips, fun and fitness day, graduation and 6th graders being able to ring the bell, MVU walk and seniors playing on the playground, in-service, and the move in Franklin to the new building space. Joyce Hakey thanked Justina Jennett for her time and all she has done. Jennifer Dewing's retirement was also highlighted.

6. Presentations and Discussion Items

a. Budget Discussion

Renick Darnell-Martin read the below thank you statement to the community. Other board members echoed the appreciation to the voters. The board recognized the MVU Softball team as contributing to positive community support.

"The MVSD school budget has been successfully passed on its third vote, and I extend my sincere gratitude to the community members of Swanton, Highgate, and Franklin for their support. While no budget is perfect, it did represent a truly diligent effort to balance fiscal responsibility and the needs of our students and educators. We are thrilled to continue our operations and provide the best possible educational services to our students we can. Going forward, the board recognizes the need for continued improvement and will take into account the challenges faced during this tumultuous budget year. We understand the concern of our community members regarding the tax impact and will continue to consider that while striving to give our students the best education we can afford. Overall, reform is needed in Montpelier in how the state funds education and I encourage everyone to remember this come fall, and vote for representatives that support making Vermont affordable."

b. Board Goals: End of Year Data

Kosha Patel began by presenting the academic achievement goals, reading data by school and district. Meaghan Conly questioned support to raise literacy proficiency at Swanton, Kosha Patel explained the district plans to see how that can be supported. Jen Chevalier questioned the proficiency at MVU, Kosha Patel explained the training and hooks for students to ensure they are reaching those students. Kosha Patel shared the growth in math proficiency in all schools and grades, until grade 11. District wide there was an increase in math proficiency.

Missisquoi Valley School District Special Board Meeting
Missisquoi Valley Middle/High School Library
Thursday June 20, 2024
6:00 PM

Julie Regimbal shared information on the Engagement/Attendance Goal. It had been a district goal, then the board adopted it as their goal also. Julie Regimbal shared the month-by-month data and a lower attendance rate during the winter months. Even at lowest the attendance is still below 90%. Julie Regimbal shared a three-year comparison of attendance by school. District wide, the district is seeing a significant increase in the number of students not labeled as at risk or below. Renick Darnell-Martin asked for information to be gathered from middle to high school students. Peter Magnant asked how the district compared to other schools. There is no data out overall to make a comparison.

Julie Regimbal shared information on Postsecondary Outcomes, sharing information on college enrollment, the VSAC survey, work-based placements, students attaining industry credentials and certifications (12 students), PSAT and SAT performance, and Beyond the Bell internships. Shared formal apprenticeship opportunities students have.

Bonnie Moulton presented teacher retention data. The district has retained 9% more teachers over a two-year period and met the board goal. Information was shared on support staff and professional numbers, the growth in retention, and the importance of employee engagement, retention, and the benefits of staff retention.

c. **Continuous Improvement Plan Approval (Action)**

Kosha highlighted CIP goals of Safe & Healthy Schools, Academic Achievement, Attendance/Engagement/Truancy. A motion was made by Joanne Johnston, seconded by Elaine Nester, to approve the three CIP goals. Motion carried 9-0.

7. Open Meeting Law Complaint Procedures

Julie Regimbal shared for information purposes only.

8. New Professional Hires (Action)

a. A motion was made by Renick Darnell-Martin, seconded by Don Collins, to approve three new professional hires. Motion carried 9-0.

b. **Resignation (Action)**

A motion was made by Peter Magnant, seconded by Meaghan Conly, to accept Jennifer Gagne's resignation. Motion carried 9-0.

9. Administrative Contracts Approval (Action): finding for executive session

10. Future Board Meeting:

Board meeting and retreat: Wednesday July 10, 2024

Missisquoi Valley School District Special Board Meeting
Missisquoi Valley Middle/High School Library
Thursday June 20, 2024
6:00 PM

11. Possible Executive Session for the purpose of discussing administrative contracts

- a. A motion was made by Renick Darnell-Martin, seconded by Stephanie Gagne to enter Executive Session inviting in Julie Regimbal. Motion carried 9-0. Entered executive session at 7:46pm.
- b. Exited Executive Session at 9:34pm.
- c. Peter Magnant made a motion, seconded by Meaghan Conly, to approve admin salary increases as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 9-0.

12. Adjourn meeting (8:00)

A motion was made by Peter Magnant, seconded by Stephanie Gagne, to adjourn. Motion carried 9-0. Meeting adjourned 9:35pm.

Missisquoi Valley School District Special Board Meeting
Missisquoi Valley Middle/High School Library
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6:00 PM

7. Policy Adoption (Action)

- a. [C9 Revised Wellness Policy](#) (Action)
- b. A motion was made by Stephanie Gagne, seconded by Renick Darnell-Martin, to approve the Wellness Policy. Motion carried 7-0.

8. Business Office (Action)

- a. [Warrants](#) (Action)

Renick Darnell-Martin read check warrants and made a motion to approve check warrants in the amount of \$4,851,354.33, seconded by Pierrette Bouchard. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. Easement Letter of Agreement (Action)

Possible finding for executive session to consider legal advice.

10. HR/Contracts (Action)

- a. New Professional Hires (Action) - None
- b. Administrative Contracts (Action): Possible finding for executive session
- c. Superintendent Evaluation (Action) Possible finding for executive session

11. Future Agenda Items: End of year data and CIP approval, Student Success Committee Updates

12. [Future Board Meeting:](#)

- a. MVSD Board Meeting June 20, 2024, in the Franklin Central School Cafeteria at 6:00 p.m.

Don Collins referenced that a final tour of the Franklin construction project was conducted, and the tour was well done, and the building was very impressive. The board will tour during this future board meeting.

13. Executive Session: for the purpose of discussing Confidential legal advice, administrative contracts, and the evaluation of the Superintendent.

- a. A motion was made by Peter Magnant, seconded by Renick Darnell-Martin, to enter Executive Session inviting in Julie Regimbal and Bonnie Moulton. Motion carried 7-0. Entered executive session at 7:35pm.
- b. Exited Executive Session at 9:13pm.

14. Adjourn Meeting (8:00)

A motion was made by Peter Magnant, seconded by Stephanie Gagne, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.