

MVU's Proposed Budget

School Directors Report To The MVU School Community:

The MVU School Board would like to extend our continued appreciation to the MVU community for supporting our school budget. Your support helps us continue to make necessary improvements to our school facilities and educational programs.

Here are a few updates from last year:

- We continue to take part in the work done at the SU level concerning Act 46, the school board merger law. (See the Act 46 Report, included in this Town Meeting Report.)
 - The Ag Advisory Committee has been rekindled and is working on improvements that involve potential partnerships with the Cold Hollow Career and Northwest Technical Centers.
 - Our new food service has proven to be a success. Last year, MVU experienced the greatest increase in student meal participation of any school in Vermont.
 - The main water line replacement project did not happen, due to Swanton Village construction delays. The \$125,000 voters authorized last year will show as budget revenue and then be requested again at the 2018 budget vote. The project will be completed this summer.
- Due to aging facilities and the need for several major improvements, we have decided to ask the community to vote on a school bond in November of 2018 to fund this work. The previous bond from 1997 was paid off in 2017. Some of the improvements will be:
- Replacing the 49-year old bleachers in our gym, for safety concerns;
 - Replacing components of the original heating, plumbing, and electrical systems;
 - Moving the main electrical panel system and boilers out of an underground room, that is constantly at risk from contact with a high volume of flowing ground water;
 - Purchasing and connecting a generator to provide electricity during community emergencies;
 - Constructing an enclosed walkway connecting the main building to J Pod to increase building security and prevent injuries from slips and falls during inclement weather.

The goal is to comply with safety and security codes, upgrade HVAC systems that are nearly 50 years old, maintain the same \$125,000 annual bond payment, in place for the past 20 years.

The Board would like to thank the entire MVU staff and administration for their hard work and dedication to the students and their families. This year's new administration team established a very positive climate from day one and continues to work on improving MVU academics and school culture. We are extremely proud of the many student and staff accomplishments and their contributions to our town communities and beyond.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to our departing superintendent, Winton Goodrich. Winton has spent the past four years tirelessly serving the FNWSU. He has been a great supporter of MVU, the Board, and the families in our community. We wish him well in his retirement.

In conclusion, we sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve the students and families of the MVU community. We hope that you will consider becoming an active partner at MVU by attending school activities and Board meetings; following the MVU website and social media; watching MVU events on Channel 15/16; and contacting us with any questions throughout the year.

Please join us on Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7pm for our annual budget information meeting in the MVU Library. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Boucher, Chair	355-3084	Gregg Gervais	868-9120
Eric Beaugard	285-6208	Marc Bessette	868-5412
Don Collins	868-7975	Richard Flint	868-2652
Vickie Gratton	285-2083	John Ho	285-6676
Fr. Rob Spainhour	343-6871		

PROJECTED TAX RATE

Homestead Tax Rate increases vary by town due to changes in the percent of resident students attending high school:

Franklin	Highgate	Swanton
FY18 \$0.6540	FY18 \$0.5387	FY18 \$0.6410
FY19 \$0.7116	FY19 \$0.5528	FY19 \$0.6387
+5.8¢	+1.4¢	-0.02¢



SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- This year our STEM Fair grew to include 160+ grades 7-12 student participants. 18 students will continue on to the Vermont State Science Fair this year. • Unique Agriculture Education program that includes course work in Resource Management, Animal Science, and Applied Mechanical Technology and serves nearly 200 students in grades 7-12.
- Well rounded co-curricular programming that includes athletic, music, and drama opportunities for our students.
- Continued high participation in our comprehensive after school program for middle and high school students, which also provides summer opportunities. • Universal breakfast help provide all students the energy and focus needed to learn. • One to one Chromebooks provide students access to technology and online resources throughout their school day. • Blue and White Day activities that focus on student wellness, resiliency, and drug & alcohol prevention.
- Growing Career & College Readiness programming that includes our 'Careers Exploration course, job shadows and interviews, internships, & work based learning experiences.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Increasing and improving interventions to provide targeted supports for students.
- More Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement course offerings.
- New courses, including College Writing and Math SAT/ACT Prep.
- Plans for a new sugartown to increase the capacity of our Agriculture Program.
- A continued commitment to the requirements of Act 77, with more Personalized Learning opportunities and Proficiency Based Learning.



TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET:

The MVU Proposed Budget for FY19 is \$14,685,738, which is a 1.04% increase from the FY18 year.



EDUCATION SPENDING

FY18=\$14,649,490
(Expenditures)- \$2,643,803 (Revenues)
= \$12,005,687 Local Ed Spending

FY19=\$14,710,738
(Expenditures)- \$2,829,515 (Revenues)
= \$11,881,223 Local Ed Spending

Local Ed Spending is decreased by \$124,464

EDUCATION SPENDING PER EQUALIZED PUPIL

FY18=\$12,005,687
Local Ed Spending ÷ 856.23 Pupils
= \$14,022

FY19=\$11,881,223
Local Ed Spending ÷ 847.97 Pupils
= \$14,011

State Average = approx. \$15,500 Ed Spending per Pupil



Annual Informational Meeting
Thursday, March 1, 2018
at 7pm in the MVU Library



PLEASE VOTE
Tuesday, March 6, 2018

FRANKLIN 7 am to 7 pm
HIGHGATE 7 am to 7 pm
SWANTON 7 am to 7 pm



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Thursday, March 1, 2018
at 7pm in the MVU Library