APPROVED MINUTES
DANVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL SCHOOL TOWN MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2025

The Town of Danville Special School District Town Meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by School Moderator Toby Balivet.

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters of the Danville School District authorize and direct the school board to close the existing high school by ceasing to operate grades 9 through 12 at the Danville School as of June 30, 2026, and thereafter provide for the education of students in those grades by paying tuition to a public or approved independent school as authorized by 16 V.S.A. §822?

A motion was made to amend the article to the following by Mark Tucker and seconded:

Motion with proposed amendment:
Shall the voters of the Danville School District authorize the school board to close the existing high school for grades 9 through 12 and to provide for the high school education of its students in grades 9 through 12 by paying tuition to a public high school, an approved independent high school, or an independent school meeting education quality standards, to be selected by the parents or guardians of the student, within or outside the State, as authorized by 16 V.S.A. §822?

A motion to amend that amendment to include the words “and/or direct” into the amended motion by Karena Shippee. Motion was seconded.

Motion with proposed amendment:
Shall the voters of the Danville School District direct and authorize **and/or direct** the school board to close the existing high school for grades 9 through 12 and to provide for the high school education of its students in grades 9 through 12 by paying tuition to a public high school, an approved independent high school, or an independent school meeting education quality standards, to be selected by the parents or guardians of the student, within or outside the State, as authorized by 16 V.S.A. §822?

Motion to amend the amendment failed by voice vote

A motion to amend the amendment was made by Skip Gray to amend the motion to include the date, as it appeared in the petitioned article:

Motion with proposed amendment:

A motion was made to amend the article to the following by Mark Tucker and seconded.

Shall the voters of the Danville School District authorize the school board to close the existing high school for grades 9 through 12 **as of June 30, 2026** and to provide for the high school education of its students in grades 9 through 12 by paying tuition to a public high school, an approved independent high school, or an independent school meeting education quality standards, to be selected by the parents or guardians of the student, within or outside the State, as authorized by 16 V.S.A. §822?

Motion to amend the amendment failed by voice vote

The body returns to the originally amended motion. A paper ballot was refused by the body. The body approves the original amendment by voice vote. Motion carries, article is amended.

The question is now:
Shall the voters of the Danville School District authorize the school board to close the existing high school for grades 9 through 12 and to provide for the high school education of its students in grades 9 through 12 by paying tuition to a public high school, an approved independent high school, or an independent school meeting education quality standards, to be selected by the parents or guardians of the student, within or outside the State, as authorized by 16 V.S.A. §822?

A motion was made to amend the article to by Allison Despathy, but the moderator ruled that her amendment was not germane to the article.

Allison Despathy moves to overrule the moderator's decision to allow her amendment, and her motion was seconded. Motion to overrule the moderator was denied by voice vote.

A vote on the main motion, as amended, is now on the floor. There were dozens of requests for paper ballots and the moderator rules that the vote will occur on paper ballots.

The vote was conducted via paper ballots. The votes were tallied by the town clerk and announced by the moderator: 567 votes were cast out of 583 in attendance. 12 votes were spoiled.

75 votes - YES
480 votes - NO

12 spoiled ballots

Motion fails.

ARTICLE 2: To conduct any other non-binding business that may come before the meeting.
None was brought forth.

Motion to Adjourn: All in Favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Clayton Cargill