

**Missisquoi Valley School District
Board Meeting Minutes
Highgate Elementary School Library
April 5, 2022**

Location: The MVSD Board and Administration participated at the Highgate Elementary School Library for this meeting. The meeting was held hybrid with remote access for the community and other interested persons. Peter Magnant, Steve Scott and Joanne Johnston participated virtually.

Date: April 5, 2022

Board Members

Devin Bachelder Chair, Don Collins, Vice Chair, Terri O'Shea, Joanne Johnston, Tobias Maguire, Peter Magnant. Steven Scott, Renick Darnell-Martin

Absent Board Members

Jen Chevalier

Administration

Julie Regimbal Superintendent, Lora McAllister, Business Manager and MVU School Administration Jay Hartman, Jennifer Desorgher, Dan Palmer Central Office Administration: Kosha Patel, Tania Hayes, Sylvia Gagne, School Board Secretary-Pierrette Bouchard.

Visitors Present

The following visitors attended the board meeting: James Sullivan, Jennifer Bailey, Lauren Howe, Andre Mathieu, Tamara Mathieu, Louanne Wood, Shawn Cheney

Public Comments were made by James Sullivan, Jennifer Bailey, Lauren Howe, Andre Matthieu.

Call the Meeting to Order

Devin Bachelder called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM
Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Review

Correspondence, Visitors, and Public Comments

James Sullivan requested to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting in order to discuss the Ag Program. Jennifer Bailey expressed her concern regarding the Proficiency Grading system and the impact it has on college applications and scholarships. Lauren Howe expressed her concern about Proficiency Grading and its impact. Andre Matthieu thought that the MVSD district should engage with other districts regarding Proficiency Grading.

To hear the public comments, follow the link below:

[MVSD Board Meetings on Northwest Access TV](#)

Approval of March 22, 2022 Board meeting minutes=

Tobias Maguire moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 22, 2022, seconded by Renick Darnell-Martin. . The Board approved on a 6:0:1 vote.

Presentation

Proficiency Reporting and Grading

Jennifer Desorgher provided an overview of Proficiency Reporting and Grading. She provided some history and context of Proficiency Based Grading Purpose and Goals, History and Context of Proficiency Based Grading at MVU, Grade Calculations and Reporting, Frequently Asked Questions and Future Improvements. Several board members commented that additional work needed to be completed along with some tweaks. Devin thought it should be placed on the agenda again. Don Collins suggested outlining the changes at the first August board meeting.

To view the full presentation, please follow the video link below:

[MVSD Board Meetings on Northwest Access TV](#)

Administrative Reports

MVU Administrative Updates

Dan Palmer provided an overview of MVU updates regarding the State Testing, Musical, High School Graduation, Eighth Grade Celebration, April 1 In-Service, April Vacation Camp, Newsletter, Upcoming Events. Jay Hartman explained that the softball student numbers are down and brought grade 8 students to join the JV Varsity Team to have enough numbers for a team.

For more details regarding this report, click this link:

[View MVU Administration Report](#)

Superintendent/Central Office Newsletter/Updates

Julie Regimbal provided an overview of the Superintendent's /Central Office Newsletter regarding introducing new MVU Co-Principal, Highgate Reaching New Heights, Pupil Weighting Legislation, MVU Diversified Agriculture Updates, Elementary School Choice, Curriculum Updates including Instructional Rounds, Stem Festival, Recovery Plan Updates, Special Education Update, Early Childhood Program, Family Workshop Series, Echo Early Childhood Partnership, Applications for the 2022-2023 school year, Human Resources and After School Program.

For more details regarding this report, click this link:

[View Superintendent/Central office Report](#)

New Business

ARP ESSER Proposed Plan

Julie Regimbal went over the ARP ESSER Proposed Plan with the COVID 19 Federal Emergency Funding representing about eight million dollars for the MVSD District. Twenty percent of the funding needs to be reserved to address the academic impact of loss instructional time. They have targeted tutoring, After School Tutoring, Math Curriculum materials, Literacy Curriculum materials, Professional

Development for Teachers, SEL, MTSS, PBIS Professional Development, Highgate and Franklin Outdoor Classroom, Athletic Trainer for MVU, Instructional coach and interventions, SLP, Guidance, Thought Exchange at MVU.

Transportation Bid Award

Lora McAllister provided a spreadsheet from the current two bus transportation providers M & C Transport and Terricel Bus Company. They launched the bid on March 11th and it was due back on April 1st. M&C are currently providing transportation for Highgate and Franklin. M&C did not bid on Highgate. The bid for Franklin is up 43% and does not have a fuel clause. Terricel's Bus Company bid for Highgate is up 41% over what the district is currently paying. Terricel's bid for Swanton and Swanton/MVU is up 7% with a fuel cap of \$4.00. M&C Transport did bid on field trips and co-curricular. The board will discuss further in executive session.

To view the full discussion, please follow the video link below:

[MVSD Board Meetings on Northwest Access TV](#)

Budget Marketing

Lora McAllister provided a one-page summary of the revised FY23 budget for the board's review. Julie said that they will send to local postal customers mailboxes, an insert in the St. Albans Messenger, social media, FaceBook page, Front Page Forum and the MVSD Website. Devin suggested that board members send any revisions to Lora. He proposed having a question-and-answer session regarding the budget in each town starting on April 12th in Franklin prior to the start of the board meeting at 6:30pm, April 13th in Highgate and April 14th in Swanton. Following the school vacation, there will be a budget informational meeting at 7pm at MVU.

Old Business

Check Warrants

FY 22 Check Warrants

March 2022 Warrants

Accounts Payable:	\$	1,137,814.49
Payroll-Checks:	\$	47,090.65
Payroll and Other Disbursements:	\$	1,522,778.58
Payroll Deductions	\$	582,008.70
Total	\$	3,289,692.42

Terri O'Shea motioned to accept the check warrants as read. Renick Darnell-Martin seconded. Motion carried 8-0

Adoption of E-1 Title 1 Part A LEA Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Kosha Patel went over the requirements of the E-1 Title I Part A LEA policy. The policy must show how we are engaging parents and families along with school defining specifically how and getting input on the home school compact.

Don Collins moved, seconded by Terri O'Shea to rescind the current policy and adopt E-1 Title I Part A LEA Parent and Family Engagement policy. The board approved 8-0 vote.

Capital Projects Update

Lora McAllister provided an update on the following

Highgate HVAC Upgrade will be kicked off during April break.

Franklin Design Starting programming review next couple of weeks to identify the needs of the school and priorities.

Franklin/ Swanton Controls / Franklin Insulation: The Subcontracts are issued and material ordered.

MVU Roof planned start date is June 28th. It is looking like a 6-week project working long days with increased crew size to complete prior to school coming back.

Babcock Design: Working on Franklin ARP ESSER application first and will then move forward with Babcock contract and application if all goes well.

Other Business

Board Goals Member Appointment

Don Collins moved to appoint Renick Darnell-Martin to the board goals committee. Terri O'Shea seconded the motion. The board approved 8-0 vote.

Future Meeting Dates and Sites

The next meeting will be held on April 12, 2022 in Franklin. Devin Bachelder proposed the May 3rd board meeting be located in Swanton, May 17th in Highgate, June 7th at MVU and June 14th at MVU. It was noted that June 7th conflicted with elementary school events so the board changed the meeting date from June 7th to May 31st.

Don Collins moved, seconded by Steve Scott to approve the board meeting dates as presented. The board voted 8-0 to approve it.

After July, Devin Bachelder asked if there were any objections to designate one school per month to host the board meeting. Peter Magnant reminded the board that the reason the board had the first meeting of the month at MVU was because it represented all three schools. There did not appear to have any other objections.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be April 12, 2022 at 6:30 PM. This meeting will be held at the Franklin Elementary School Library.

Executive Session

Terri O'Shea moved, seconded by Renick Darnell-Martin to enter executive session at 9:05pm for premature public knowledge of a contract negotiation, and student matter inviting Julie Regimbal and Lora McAllister would put one or more parties at a substantial disadvantage. The board approved 8:0.

The board exited the executive session at 9:51pm.

There was no motion regarding the student matter.

Renick Darnell-Martin made a motion, seconded by Don Collins to reject all bids due to the budgetary impacts of the proposed increases and the potential loss of our transportation waiver. Motion carried 7:0.

Meeting Adjourn

Don Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. Renick Darnell-Martin seconded. Motion carried a 7:0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:52pm.