

Approved
**Caledonia Central Supervisory Union
Peacham School Board Meeting
Monday, April 7, 2025 – 5:30 PM
Location- In person & Zoom**

Call to order by Andra Hibbert at 5:30pm

In Attendance: Andra Hibbert, Alex MacLean, Dan Devine, Diana Senturia, Superintendent Matt Foster, Assistant Superintendent Mike Moriarty, Principal Sam McLeod, David Kelley, Margaret Maclean.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda:

Sam has an addition to the agenda involving a family request and letter submitted. This will be taken into an executive session.

Approve Minutes:

- [March 3, 2025](#)
- [March 6, 2025](#)

The video recording failed for the meeting on March 6. Motions were not recorded in the minutes. The board updated the minutes of March 6, 2025 to include motions.

Motion: A motion to approve the minutes of March 3, and the completed minutes of March 6, by Diana. Seconded by Alex. All in favor.

Board Discussion:

- Selling Peacham School building to the Town for lease back
David Kelley attended virtually to review options: deed the school to the town, deed the building to a 501c3, or set up a triple-net lease. He reviewed the provisions he recommends be included in the lease. Matt and David spoke on the town voting measures of this action. Andra and Matt asked David his advice on logistical questions of insurance, construction funds, and length of lease. David will do research on these questions and continue communications with Matt.
- Legislative & Rural School Community Alliance Update
Margaret Maclean spoke on these updates. The Alliance now has 92 voting entities; 80 towns, 8 select boards, 4 other groups. She estimates \$20,000 raised.
Bill H454 proposes SUs have one school board and a population of 4,000 students. CCSU currently has five school boards and approximately 1,100 students. There would be less local control with this bill. There is no language in the bill on transition plans or cost. The rationale is larger scale would be cheaper, but there is no evidence that scale would be cheaper. She reviewed the logic behind proposed class sizes. Two House floor amendments have been established to include items not currently in the Bill; one around a vote of the town for engagement, one related to a process of determining school closure. The Alliance will be testifying in the Senate Education Committee this week.

Administrative Reports:

- [Principal Report](#)

Included in the packet. Sam spoke on recent and upcoming events: Grade K trip to a maple sugarhouse, Aging Well in Peacham community group coming for a luncheon, student-led theater work, field trip to Barnet School to view their theater performance, VINS and Montshire Museum field trips, Evergreen field trip.

- [Superintendent Report](#)

Included in the packet. Matt spoke on recent updates from USED and Vermont AOE. ESSER (Covid Relief) late liquidation funds previously approved by the former administration have been rescinded by the current administration. This affects CCSU to the tune of \$150,000 for expenditures that have already taken place, and for contracts currently underway. CCSU needs to reapply for re-approval of receipt of these funds, to be approved by the current USED administration.

The VT AOE flip-flopped on its advice to LEA superintendents to sign compliance to USED that diversity, equity and inclusivity initiatives are not being implemented in public schools. After much push-back from LEAs, that advice was reversed. The AOE will now respond to USED that compliance with Title VI has been, is, and will continue to be followed per statutory, regulatory, and decisional law, without agreeing to conditions or assurances that are not supported by current law. Superintendents will no longer be asked to provide individual certifications. This is an active situation.

- [Student Services Report](#)

Included in the packet. No updates.

Board Discussion (continued):

- Organization of limiting screen time among Peacham kids

Matt said that the state was supposed to come up with legislation on this topic this year, but their focus has shifted due to current events.

- VSBA Update

Mark was absent to give this update. Andra spoke on VSBA's involvement in the recent advocacy efforts on Title VI.

- Proposed Executive Session: Appointment, employment, or evaluation of a public officer or employee and to hear Tuition Waiver Request in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313 (7).

Motion: A motion to enter into executive session by Diana. Seconded by Alex. All in favor.

Motion: A motion to approve two children that have moved in the current school year be able to attend Peacham School to finish out their current school year by Diana. Seconded by Alex. All in favor.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn:

Motion: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:38pm by Diana. Seconded by Alex. All in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellie Keefe.