

AGENDA



**Addison Central School District
Executive Committee
Committee Meeting
Monday, February 19, 2024, 8:15 am - 9:15 am
Virtual Only**

ACSD District Vision and Mission

OUR VISION

Our vision is for all ACSD students to reach their full learning potential, have a sense of belonging in our schools, and enrich our community and the communities where they live in the future.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide high-quality, equitable, and varied learning environments that inspire a passion for learning and growth among our students.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Link to join Webinar

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86787955198>

- A. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum
 - 1. Introductions: Board Members, Administrators, and Staff
- B. Public Comment - Agenda Items
- C. Recommendation to Approve Minutes of 2/5/24 and 2/8/24

- D. Discuss New Board Member Onboarding
- E. Other
- F. Public Comment - Any Topic
- G. Adjournment

***Public Comment Guidelines:**

Public comments are encouraged and welcome at each regular board meeting during the period designated for public comment. Comments are limited to three minutes per person. Citizens will be called to make their statement by the board chair. Public comments regarding personnel, students or legal matters will not be heard by the Board.

MINUTES



**Addison Central School District
Executive Committee
Committee Meeting
Monday, February 5, 2024, 8:15 am - 9:15 am
49 Charles Avenue,
Middlebury, VT 05753**

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In Attendance

Barbara Wilson; Lindsey Hescock; Mary Heather Noble; Tim Williams

A. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum

Meeting called to order at 8:17 a.m.

1. Introductions: Board Members, Administrators and Staff

B. Public Comment - Agenda Items

No public comment.

C. Approve the minutes from 1/16/2023

Motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2024.

Move: Mary Heather Noble Second: Lindsey Hescock Status: Passed

D. Finalize the Agenda for 2/11/2024 Board Meeting

The group reviewed the draft agenda that Barb Wilson prepared. The Report of the Superintendent will have a presentation about adjustments to the MUHS schedule, and will also have some appointments/retirements. The committee also added a Facilities Update to the agenda per Jason Chance's recommendation.

The Report of the Chair will have some discussion around the roles for the Annual Meeting, and the Report of the Board will focus on Committee Updates.

E. Decide if a February 26th Board meeting is required

The Committee does not believe a Board meeting will be needed for February 26, 2024. If any Board actions are necessary to approve appointments, accept resignations, or pay ACSD Bills, we will warn a short meeting for February 27th at 6:00 p.m., just before the ACSD Annual

Meeting.

F. Discuss presentation roles for Annual Meeting

The group discussed the process for the Annual Meeting so that roles are clear. Former Governor Douglas will moderate again. Tim Williams will provide an overview of issues facing ACSD in FY25, and the major budget drivers. Matt Corrente will give the detailed budget presentation. The Board members should be briefly on the procedures so people know when to make a motion to nominate the moderator, at-large ACSD representative for the PAHCC board, and Board clerk roles.

The group discussed possibilities for the Board Clerk role, since Linda Barrett won't be continuing. Her term does not officially end until July 1, 2024, but the Board should have someone else lined up by the Annual Meeting if possible. Mary Heather will reach out to Mary Gill to see if she has interest or suggestions. Barb Wilson will reach out to Lorraine Morse.

G. Schedule Executive committee time to develop a plan to meet new Governance Standards

Barb Wilson's original plan was to assemble the Executive Committee to map out plans for adjusting to the State's new Governance standards. However, given the upcoming election and the on-boarding of a new member from Middlebury to fill Lindsey Hescock's upcoming vacancy, she instead suggested that the Executive Committee meet to prepare on-boarding materials. All agreed that this would be a good investment of time and effort -- the meeting will be on Monday, February 19, 2024 at 8:15 a.m.

H. Other

None.

I. Public Comment - Any topic

No public comment.

J. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Motion to adjourn.

Move: Mary Heather Noble Second: Lindsey Hescock Status: Passed

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MINUTES

**Addison Central School District
Executive Committee
Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2024, 8:15 am - 9:15 am
49 Charles Avenue,
Middlebury, VT 05753**

ACSD District Vision and Mission

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In-Person Attendance

Barbara Wilson; Mary Heather Noble; Tim Williams

Remote Attendance

Lindsey Hescock

A. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum

Meeting called to order at 8:20 am.

1. Introductions: Board Members, Administrators and Staff

Matt Corrente, ACSD Director of Finance and Operations also present.

B. Public Comment - Agenda Items

No public comment.

C. Make Adjustments to the 2/12/2024 board meeting based on pending ACT 127 Implementation Legislative changes

The Committee discussed adding an agenda item to the February 12, 2024 Board Meeting to provide the latest update on the VT legislature's changes to Act 127. They are proposing replacing the 5% tax rate cap with a new "transition mechanism" in the form of a new tax rate discount for district negatively impacted by Act 127.

Barb Wilson, Tim Williams, and Matt Corrente have all been paying close attention to the legislative hearings, and agree that the Board should proceed with the assumption that this change will occur -- meaning the 5% tax rate cap will be removed. The Board will need to decide whether to 1) proceed with the current budget and vote on March 5th, or 2) delay the vote and revise the budget for a vote by April 15th (which would require a new budget warning by March 15th).

Matt Corrente again explained what the new Act 127 transition mechanism would look like for ACSD. Our District is negatively impacted by Act 127 -- it reduces the state funding ACSD would receive by about 13%, so the "tax discount" would be commiserate with the, set at \$0.13. He also explained the 2 variables the feed into calculating the EDTR: Education spending (which we have control over), and Property Yield (which we don't control). His discussions with State Rep & Education Committee Chair Peter Conlon suggest that the property yield will go up quite a bit with the proposed change to Act 127's on-ramp. This will work in ACSD's favor. Right now the property yield is \$9,775 -- this would bump ACSD's EDTR to about \$1.52. To bring the EDTR closer to the \$1.48 that we had targeted for the FY25 budget, the Board would need to trim it by ~\$1 Million.

However, Peter Conlon indicated that the property yield might go up to as much as \$10,000 -- which would bring ACSD's EDTR much closer to it's target \$1.48 without needed to trim any spending. Both Matt and Tim recommend proceeding with the current budget and scheduled March 5th vote.

The committee discussed how to present the information to the full board to make the options clear, and how to revise voter education materials to clarify the change. The bottom line message is that ACSD budgeted appropriately under Act 127, and the strategy is still serving us well. We still needed to reduce our spending to keep taxes from rising significantly in FY25, and will still need to make long term spending adjustments to adjust to the full financial impact of receiving less State funds for our student population. But it does not appear that we will need to re-open the FY25 budget.

To do:

- Matt Corrente and Tim Williams will prepare supplemental material for the FY25 budget book to revise pages that reference the 5% tax rate cap. Matt will also prepare a presentation to give to the full Board at Monday's board meeting. This will include a chart to illustrate the comparison between the old 5% tax rate cap versus the new \$0.13 tax rate discount.
- Barb Wilson will revise her statement for the budget book.
- Tim Williams will prepare an Op-Ed for Addison Independent to explain how the changes to Act 127 will impact ACSD.
- Mary Heather will make revisions to the FAQs document, and Emily Blistein will complete the Budget Overview document with the new material.
- The Executive Committee will present the two option to the Board: 1) proceed with the March 5th vote on the FY25 budget as is (if the new Act 127 transition mechanism won't have a significant impact on the projected tax rates); or 2) delay the vote and re-open the budget (only if the changes will require the Board to make additional cuts to keep tax rates down).

No public comment.

E. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Motion to adjourn.

Move: Mary Heather Noble Second: Barbara Wilson Status: Passed

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