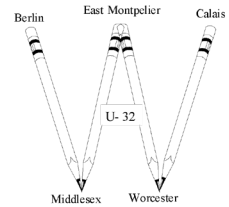


Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761



**Washington Central Unified Union
School Board Meeting
1.22.25
6:15-9:15 PM
(Virtual and In-Person)
U-32 Middle & High School
930 Gallison Hill Rd
Montpelier, VT**

Virtual Meeting Information

<https://tinyurl.com/bduhp355>

Meeting ID: 849 3594 9997

Password: 297072

Dial by Your Location: 1-929-205-6099

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Call to Order | 6:15 PM |
| 2. Welcome | 15 minutes |
| 2.1. Adjustments to the Agenda | |
| 2.2. Reception of Guests | |
| 2.3. Public Comments-Time limit strictly enforced, see note | |
| 3. Presentation | 60 minutes |
| 3.1. Final Budget Presentation- | |
| 3.1.1.Community Q & A | |
| 3.1.2.Board Questions on FY 26 Budget | |
| 4. Reports | 15 minutes |
| 4.1. Superintendent/ Central Office Leadership Team (COLT) Report- pg. 4 | |
| 4.2. Principal Report – pg. 6 | |
| 4.3. Student Report | |
| 4.4. Central VT Career Center Report | |
| 4.5. VSBA Report – pg. 11 | |

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 5. Board Operations (Discussion/Action) | 60 minutes |
| 5.1. Approve Budget FY 26 - pg. 20 | |
| 5.2. Final Budget Warning - pg. 29 | |
| 5.2.1. Approve Clerk/Treasurer Term Article 9 | |
| 5.3. Budget Communication | |
| 5.4. Update for the Configuration Committee | |
| 5.5. Legislative Breakfast | |
| 6. Finance Committee | 5 minutes |
| 6.1. Rumney EV Charger – pg.32 | |
| 7. Policy Committee | 10 minutes |
| 7.1. Second Reading: F20 Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability – pg.33 | |
| 8. Negotiations Committee | 5 minutes |
| 8.1. Matrix Review Update | |
| 9. Transportation Committee | 5 minutes |
| 9.1. Affirm Appointments to Committee/Next Steps | |
| 10. Personnel | 5 minutes |
| 10.1. Approve New Teachers, Resignations, Leave of Absence, and Changes in FTE | |
| 11. Consent Agenda(Discussion/Action) | 5 minutes |
| 11.1. Approve Minutes of 1.8.25 - pg.35 | |
| 11.2. Approve Board Orders | |
| 12. Future Agenda Items | |
| 12.1. Board Evaluation | |
| 12.2. Advocating as a Board | |
| 12.3. Superintendent Evaluation | |
| 13. Board Reflection | 10 minutes |
| 14. Public Comment | 15 minutes |
| 15. Adjourn | |

NOTE: To ensure the board has time to conduct its business, the board will adhere to a strict 1.5 minute public comment time limit per person. Microphones will be muted when time is up. If there is not enough time on the agenda for all members of the public wishing to comment at the beginning of the meeting, there is additional public comment at the end of the meeting.

WCUUSD Board Norms - Adopted November 18, 2020

- **Public input** – Notify the community about public forums and opportunities for public comment at board meetings.
- **Community involvement during regular meetings of the board** – Every meeting will include at least one opportunity for public comment. Public comment is an opportunity for board members to listen and ask clarifying questions. If a board member feels a concern raised in public comment warrants further board discussion, they may request that the issue be added to a future agenda.
- **Community dialogue** – The board may periodically schedule community forums that allow for dialogue, questions and answers from the board or the district leadership team.
- **Stay on time** – Start and end on time. The chair may appoint a time-keeper.
- **All voices will be heard** – Every board member gets a chance to speak. Some topics warrant having each board member speak in turn to ensure full representation.
- **Reflection** – To allow time for reflection, the chair and agenda steering committee will plan time for complex or contentious issues to be discussed at more than one meeting before the board votes, except where a decision is urgent.
- **Announcements in reports** – Announcements from the administration will appear in the reports and not as discussion items.
- **Role of the board** – At the end of each board meeting reflect on whether the board remained focused on its policy-making and oversight role during the meeting, rather than operational details that are the responsibility of leadership team.
- **Respect each other** – Listen, allow others to be heard, share concerns, assume positive intentions, be present, and celebrate successes.

AGENDA KEY

Agenda Section	Examples	Role/ Responsibility	Description
Call to Order	n/a	Board Chair or designee	Formal opening to meeting. Superintendent calls to order during annual reorganization
Public Comment			Opportunity for public comment on items not on the agenda. Board will adhere to a strict 1.5 minute public comment time limit per person. Microphones will be muted when time is up. If there is not enough time on the agenda for all members of the public wishing to comment at the beginning of the meeting, there is additional public comment at the end of the meeting.
Executive Session	Personnel Student Matter Negotiations		Only for discussion of items covered in VSA §313. Formal actions not taken in Executive Session
Reports to the Board	Superintendent/ COLT Student Report	Administration	Both regular/recurring reports and one-time reports happen here. One-time reports are determined by the Board workplan or requested by the will of the Board. Generally, reports invite clarifying questions but not formal discussion/action
Committee Reports	Finance Policy Education Quality	Board	Chair of the committee reports on substance of most recent committee meeting. Generally, reports invite clarifying questions; any discussion or action items would be listed in the respective section of the agenda
Discussion Items		Board with input from administration	Items on the agenda specifically for discussion of the Board. Chair can seek input from audience during discussions. Generally not intended for action (although nothing prevents the Board from taking an action)
Action Items	Personnel approvals	Board	Items formally on the agenda for Board action. Discussion can occur after a motion is on the table
Consent Agenda	Board Orders Minutes	Board	Designed for items that need proforma approval and/or are sufficiently routine. Board acts on all items in the Consent agenda and does not discuss any item unless it is pulled out during Agenda Adjustments



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Superintendent

It is with great pleasure that I share that Arlyn Bruccoli, Librarian at East Montpelier Elementary School, was the winner of the Rosen Publishing Northern New England School Librarian of the Month for January 2025. This award was presented to Arlyn at the January meeting of the Vermont School Library Association (VSLA) on January ninth. For more information see the attachment

We also want to celebrate Randy Brown, science teacher at U-32, for being selected to receive a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). Randy was recognized along with 5 other Vermont educators for his teaching and contribution to education. Learn more about his accomplishment in [this press release by the VT AOE](#) or by viewing the [White House Press Release](#).

WCLT - The Washington Central Leadership Team, WCLT, continues to work with Dr. Rebecca Haslam from [Seed the Way](#) to examine our own bias(es), respond to biases, redress biases and inequities, and create and sustain an anti-bias, equitable learning environment. The WCLT meets monthly to learn with Dr. Haslam on topics such as building culture for educational justice, examining the hidden curriculum and school culture, and responding to harm and creating a universal design for equity in our classrooms. The WCLT is deepening our understanding of these topics so that we may better lead our schools and support our community. This work is directly tied to the work of our Humanity and Justice Committee and the goals of our Strategic Plan.

Community Visits - I continue to visit schools for "coffee and conversations with the Superintendent" and some of our local community centers to listen, answer questions, and get to know more members of our community that are interested in what is happening in our schools. While attendance has been light, the folks that have come out to these meetings are engaged and want to know more about what is going on in education. I have been advertising on Front Porch Forum and in school newsletters and I am sure that as the year continues new folks will join the conversations.

Finance

It has been a busy few weeks preparing materials for the FY 26 General Fund Budget and tax rate calculations. The budget is entered into the NEMRC accounting software, which is used as an auditing tool against the Excel budget document to ensure accuracy and that nothing is missed. The summary, write up and tax calculations are completed after this comparison.

Holly has been hard at work this month with calendar year-end and year-beginning responsibilities. The District's Section 125 plan year begins 1/1/25, so it marked the end of the window for eligible employees to enroll in District benefits. Holly made enrollment changes with



the first payroll in January, updating the employee and employer deductions in the payroll software, Penny verified the set up was correct to ensure accuracy. Penny has begun work on the calendar year-end payroll reconciliation, which could not be completed until the last payroll of 2024, which was December 27th. This reconciliation is the first step to prepare numerous quarterly payroll reports (941s for the Feds, VT payroll quarterly reports, Unemployment tax wage report for the Department of Labor, Health Care Employer Assessment due to the Tax Department) and W-2s which are all due at the end of January.

Tim Couture and Susanne have worked closely to confirm that the Average Daily Membership (ADM) the AOE uses in the LTW ADM calculation is correct and matches the District's records. Discrepancies were identified and researched, resulting in some changes to the ADM which was certified by the District on January 3rd. Thank you Tim for the time spent on the reconciliation.

The FY 2023-2024 audit draft is currently in production, but has not been received and reviewed internally. As soon as it is, we will schedule it to be presented to the Finance Committee and Board

Human Resources

Heidi and Holly continue to onboard various positions throughout the District, whether it be coaches, paraeducators, substitutes and any long term subs. This includes completing background checks, new hire paperwork, benefits enrollment for eligible employees and issuing building access badges as needed.

Teachers in the District had until December 1, 2024 to submit a request for horizontal movement on the pay scale for the 2025-2026 school year. Twelve teachers submitted a request by the contractual deadline, and Heidi has been reviewing professional development credit hours for each. Teachers have been notified of credit hours on file and will have until October 1, 2025 to provide proof of completion of credits in order to move horizontally on the pay scale.

Student Support Services/Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

The Director of Student Support Services and the Director of Curriculum and Instruction are collaborating to assess how well your schools are aligning with the Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) expectations for establishing Educational Support Teams (ESTs) within the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). ESTs are a critical part of the MTSS framework, providing targeted support to students facing academic, behavioral, or social-emotional challenges.

We are currently gathering information on each school's EST processes, including the number of students receiving support, how meetings are scheduled, and the methods used to document meeting outcomes and track student progress. Once this information is collected, we will identify any gaps or inconsistencies in EST practices and work with the Principals to address them, ensuring a consistent approach across all schools that aligns with AOE expectations.



WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

2024-2025 Priorities ([Strategic Plan](#) Goals):

- Build and nurture a culture of well-being and inclusivity.
- Challenge, empower, and engage each student through evidence-based instructional strategies and curriculum and varied educational opportunities.
- Foster and commit to responsible leadership that engages the community and communicates transparently.

Update on Strategic Plan goals:

Well-being and inclusivity (HJC school and School Safety Team committee report out?)

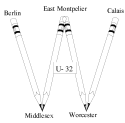
Berlin: Berlin staff are energized by the upcoming inservice and the topic of Economic Inequalities. We are brainstorming ways to raise the awareness of this topic in our curriculum and to find creative ways to better support families who may be in need. Our HJC team will be meeting on the 27th of January again. Our safety team is planning collaborative conversations with the Berlin PD and getting ready for the second round of Run, Hide, Fight drills in January.

Calais: We are in the midst of starting our HJC committee at Calais and are working to find the right way to ensure inclusion of all students, staff, families, and community members. Our hope is to have our first meeting in February. Additionally, we are working with the BLAMM group at U-32 to bring some programming to the school and tighten those connections and learning opportunities for students. Also, this month we are starting a new “Power of Positivity” call out program. Every week staff will be asked to report two positive moments from the week - one cultural and one academic - that we can share with staff, students, and families with the goal of celebrating all that is good, big and small, to continue to make all Cougars feel welcome and included.

Doty: Here at Doty we are continuing with Shelley joining Maureen for a 5/6 Guidance class where students are continuing to grapple with issues around people with disabilities. Ms Honi is reading “Stamped, for kids” by Ibram X. Kendi and students are discussing the origins of racism. The discussions students are having are rich and thoughtful. As a full staff we will be working towards our positive signage projects after we have completed the winter assessment window.

EMES: EMES staff recently met with Shelley Vermilya to begin our work as a school on a newly formed EMES HJC committee. We are also looking forward to our work as a district on January 21st, watching the video “Just Getting By” and discussing food and home insecurity issues across our communities. Finally, EMES staff and students look forward to hosting over a dozen U-32 students next week for three days during their J Term. Our students richly benefit from spending time with high school students each year.

Rumney: Staff were inspired after viewing an interview on Across The Fence featuring Bess O’Brien discussing her documentary “Just Getting By.” We chose to launch our HJC initiative as a collective effort during our staff meeting. Our initial activity will focus on a case study regarding



unintentional harm, particularly concerning economic insecurities, to further our understanding gained during our professional development session with Bess O'Brien.

U-32: The Leadership Team began our work with Rebecca Haslam of Seed the Way this past week and as a result of that work we are planning to incorporate pieces of the Equity Audit to incorporate an equity lens into our quality criteria for curriculum. In early January, we welcomed Chris Herren who presented to our high school students. It was inspiring and real, and students connected to his message about struggles with substance use, recovery, and support in real and impactful ways.

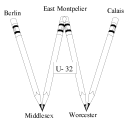
Update on Strategic Plan goals: ***Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment***

Berlin: Our teachers and interventionists are very busy this time of year. Our teachers are administering the Winter LCAP assessments, collecting and reviewing scores for progress reports and making instructional decisions based on the data that we are seeing. Our interventionists are finishing up Quarter 2 for intervention and are completing their assessments and uploading the data into IC. They are also busy writing progress reports for families and are getting ready to engage in some deep team planning and collaboration with the teachers and our district instructional coach, Ellen Dorsey. Ellen will work with our team to ensure that they are receiving the appropriate level of intervention. Our interventionists run a Data Team meetings weekly to analyze and talk with teachers about how to best support all students.

Calais: This month we are completing the next round of Acadience assessments, continuing with iReady practice at all grade levels, and working on improving our collection and use of data to inform our instruction. One thing we have noticed is we have some growth opportunities with collecting, analyzing, and using data to improve student outcomes and we are starting to build a new system to do just that. Our goal by the end of the year is to identify the new process, have started to trial our new methods, and to be ready for full implementation next school year.

Doty: We are currently in the midst of our winter assessment window. We are at the point in the process where we are starting to see things pop that will help guide our questions as we look at all the data when it comes in. We are continuing with our biweekly team meetings where we meet as teams to review student progress on goals and progression through our MLSS.

EMES: EMES teachers recently revised the EMES and district writing conventions rubrics across K-6. We are looking forward to sharing this resource with our colleagues in the coming months as we continue to do all-school and district-wide writing prompts. Ellen Dorsey and I also recently created an MLSS Progression document that identifies specific markers that will help identify the movement of students across our layers in the academic areas. Our hope is to share this district-wide in February. EMES teachers used this document to look at winter assessment results and determine layers of intervention for Quarter 3.



Rumney: It's amazing to watch the assessments as they roll in. Some teachers wanted to start as soon as possible, so they could start a new unit of study. Others wanted to get as much learning in as possible, so pushed their assessments to the last week possible. In the meantime, I am monitoring updates on iReady, eagerly anticipating the trends from the Winter results.

U-32: We are moving into the time of year when we are beginning to think about scheduling for next year. As we look to create a more sustainable program of studies that is right sized to our school needs and size and to be clear about our expectations, we are making modifications to the program of study to reflect our curricular goals of rigorous, relevant, and inclusive curriculum. Departments are continuing to work on tasks that embody those principles and department facilitators will be working on developing quality criteria as a means for engaging in feedback with their teams. By the end of the year we hope to have the beginnings of a more coherent system for teaching, assessing, and reporting out on transferable skills.

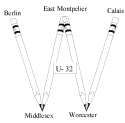
Update on Strategic Plan goals: ***Community Engagement and Communication***

Berlin: We have some very exciting things that are happening in our Berlin community. Two of our staff members, Lori Dutton-Renaud and Lucia Burke, have organized a food drive that will run until February 14th. All proceeds will go to the local Foodbank. We also have a group of students who are getting together after school to practice songs so that they can sing at the local Resident Care Facility, Chestnut Place. Lastly, our fabulous PTNA has planned a fun-filled Bingo night to be held on the 18th of February 5:30-6:30, come on out and join us! Our PBIS team is working on a Winter Wellness celebration to be held in February as well.

Calais: On Monday, January 13th we are hosting the second "Reimagine Calais" budget listening session where parents and community members are invited to come and discuss what the future of Calais is and should be. The idea is not just simply community engagement, but a means to listen to the ideas and thoughts of our community to understand how we can best imagine what Calais Elementary will look like in the future. Additionally, we will be starting to communicate the "Power of Positivity" each week in our newsletter and across social media.

Doty: We are working with Friends of Doty and gearing up for a movie night and our annual pie breakfast. Trips to community lunch continue to be favored outings for our older students. Doty is also a popular spot for winter birthday parties which are one way we reinforce our connection and commitment to the community as a resource for all.

EMES: EMES recently hosted a movie night in the gym. Over 150 students and families participated in this free evening, where they watched "The Wild Robot" and ate popcorn. We're looking forward to having another movie event on a Friday night in March.



Rumney: The circus is coming to Rumney! Students will participate in 8 days of intense fun and learning. This event concludes with a performance on January 31 at 2:00. Families received hard copy invitations to the event. This event was made possible by our PTNO, Jen Campbell, and Matt Pelkey. Thank you all for your efforts!

- On February 14 we will have our annual Morning Mug, which is sponsored by PTNO. Board members are welcome to attend.
- We will have our first movie night on a Friday night in February (TBD). The PTNO is working with Rumney staff to select a movie that meets copyright expectations that is also appropriate for pre-K and up.

U-32: Hadestown is coming to U-32! We are thrilled to host this production starting January 21st for two weekends. The show has been a collaboration between Montpelier and U-32 and we can't wait to see it go live. The Arts Bash was a great showcase of our students passion and creativity; musicians and visual artists displayed their work and hundreds of people came out to enjoy the gallery. Winter sports are in session and our gym is filled with community spectators. We are excited to continue to explore the ways that the U-32 campus can be a hub of activity in our unified communities.

Celebrations & Upcoming Events

Berlin

January 17, 2025: End of First Semester

February 18, 2025: Bingo Night

Calais

Our students have earned another "All-School" celebration for their work to achieve our PBIS school-wide goals. On January 17th we will be hosting a "Winter's Day" outside with activities, a campfire (monitored, of course), and roasting apples. Our newly formed "Parent Advisory Team" is hosting a Winter Carnival on Feb. 8th. Basketball is happening multiple times a week with practices and games

Doty

February 1, 2025: Pie Breakfast, 9AM to 11AM

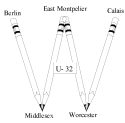
Date TBD: Movie Night

EMES

January 22 - 24: U-32 Students join EMES classrooms for J-Term

January 23: Vermont Family Network Puppet Show and Workshops

January 31: Report cards mailed home to families



Rumney

January 31: Circus Performance

February 14: Morning Mug

February 21: Our Drama Club will lead an All School Meeting that includes our community members

U-32

January 17, 2025: End of First Semester

January 21-23: J-Term

January 22, 23, 24: Hadestown Performances

January 27, 2025: Semester 2 Begins

January 30, 31, February 1: Hadestown Performances

Supervision & Evaluation Updates ([EQS 2121.3](#); 2121.4)

Berlin: Evaluations and tweaks to our systems continue to progress. I have had the pleasure of starting to meet with each one of our paraeducators to connect on their self-evaluations. We have connected about their strengths in practice and talked about potential goals or ways to leverage their strengths in the next few months. Their evaluations will be complete in late spring. I appreciate the time to connect, learn and listen to the staff that are such a strong support to our community.

Calais: Evaluations continue to happen with all staff and a main goal of the process is identify areas of common growth so we can inform our professional development needs and practices.

Doty: Since break, my focus has been on supporting staff as they recover from various bugs, catching up students who have been out, and getting them what they need for assessments. Once assessments are finished, we will be back at it with observations and conversations around practice.

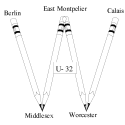
EMES: Since break, I have been meeting with teachers about the budget implications and our declining enrollment. We have begun the process of working together to identify grade level configurations next year, with the decrease in one classroom.

Rumney: Walk-through data for January showed consistency in math routines, as well as utilizing the iReady slides. In writing, I was able to view the progression through the grades. In 2nd grade they are working on:

- The beginning (the hook)
- The middle (the details)
- The ending (the conclusion)

And in 5th grade:

- The beginning is where they introduce a topic and define the focus
- The middle is where they explore the topic with facts and details
- The conclusion is related to the information throughout the writing



U-32: With the first semester coming to a close, we will be engaging all teachers in mid-year reflections to hear about how they are doing on their goals and to reflect on the first semester walkthroughs.

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Weekly Update

January 14, 2025

Dear Flor,

On January 9, Governor Scott delivered his fifth inaugural address ([transcript here](#)) to a joint session of the General Assembly.

On the topic of education, the Governor opined that Vermont has a quality and affordability crisis and outlined the framework for his Administration's education reform plan.

"With my budget in two weeks, we'll share our full proposal to improve the quality, equity, and sustainability of the Pre-K-through-12 system in Vermont. With those three principles, and the mandate voters gave us in November, we'll propose a multi-year plan to transform education.

"First, it will include an entirely new "student-centered funding formula" to provide more and better opportunities for kids and get costs under control.

"Second, we'll propose a new, simpler governance structure so we can deliver a better and more equal education across communities.

"Third, we'll provide school boards and administrators with support and guardrails to reduce cost pressures.

"Finally, we know Vermonters can't afford to pay more. So, if school boards contain spending growth to the projected level, my budget will lower the impact of this year's increase, with a goal to eliminate it."

Legislators are now in the first full week of the session. As the session unfolds, VSBA staff will work hard to represent school boards' interests in the legislative process but there is no substitute for your direct contact and advocacy with your legislators. We encourage you to stay up-to-date on legislative activity by reading the updates in these weekly emails and VSBA's legislative reports, and to stay in touch with your representatives. You will find high level talking points in this [2025 Legislative Platform](#).

In addition, you can watch live or recorded committee meetings. Each legislative committee has its own YouTube channel and the links to those

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- [Chair of Commission on Future of Public Education in Vermont Will Testify Tomorrow](#)
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- [Important Election Message from Secretary of State's Office](#)
- [Secretary of State's Office Releases Open Meeting Law Video](#)
- [Federal Judge Strikes Down 2024 Title IX Rules](#)
- [Religious Freedom, Maine Anti-Bias Law Clash at First Circuit](#)
- [LAST CHANCE: 2025 VSBA Membership Survey](#)

Get on Board!

- [Vermont Public's Story on School Board Service](#)
- [The Right Person Makes a Difference](#)

Get on Board! (cont.)

[Information about Running for School Board on VSBA's Website](#)

Governance Tip

- [Tell Your Story](#)

From the Agency of Education

- [Funding Opportunity: Clean Energy Infrastructure Improvements](#)
- [State Board of Education Adopts New Health and Physical Education Standards](#)

Save the Date

- [NEW! Chairs/Vice-Chairs Forum Date Added](#)
- [Understanding the Board's Role in Student Achievement Webinar](#)
- [Legislative Lunchtime Webinar](#)
- [More Upcoming Webinars](#)

HOT TOPICS

House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committee Hold Joint Meeting on Education Finance Systems

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Committee held a joint meeting to receive an orientation from the Joint Fiscal Office on Vermont's education finance system and an introduction to the Brigham case from legislative counsel. This meeting is recommended viewing for all school board members to increase and enhance your understanding of the current system in preparation for analyzing upcoming proposed changes to the system. You can find the [recording of the meeting here](#) and [materials presented here under the names Julia Richter and Jon Gray](#).

Chair of Commission on Future of Public Education in Vermont Will Testify Tomorrow

The Chair of the Commission on the Future of Public Education in Vermont will testify on January 15 to a joint hearing of the the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Education Committee. The hearing begins at 9:00am in Room 11 of the State House and will be livestreamed via the [House Education YouTube channel](#).

AOE Listen & Learn Summary Report and Video

The Vermont Agency of Education issued this [summary report](#) of its Listen and Learn Tour last week. [This video](#) provides a brief overview. Secretary Zoie Saunders and Interim Deputy Secretary Jill Briggs Campbell covered the Listen and Learn Tour with the House and Senate Education Committees on Friday ([recording here](#)).

Important Election Message from Secretary of State's Office

The Vermont Secretary of State's election management system (VEMS) will be unavailable 4/18/2025 – 4/21/2025. This means a district cannot hold a school budget vote during those days if their clerk relies on VEMS to manage the election. Not all municipalities/districts use VEMS for local elections. If the town clerk is the school board clerk, the Secretary of State's office will be in close communication with them. Please direct questions to Seán Sheehan, Director of Elections and Campaign Finance, at (802) 828-0175. Additionally, here is the link to the Elections Division contact form: <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/about/contact/>

Secretary of State's Office Releases Open Meeting Law Video

Vermont's open meeting law requires all meetings of public bodies to be open to the public at all times, unless a specific exception applies. The purpose of the law is to promote transparency, accountability, and better decision-making in government. Beginning July 1, 2024, public bodies (including school boards) are required to comply with [Act 133 \(2024\)](#), which amends the Open Meeting Law.

This [training video](#), issued by the Secretary of State's Office, covers the basics of what you need to know about Vermont's Open Meeting Law as well as recent updates to the law from Act 133 (2024). The Secretary of State's Office also worked with VSBA and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns to develop this [joint guidance](#). For more information on open meetings, see this [webpage](#).

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A federal judge in Kentucky struck down the 2024 Title IX Regulations on Jan. 9, ruling that the new regulations, which had sought to expand nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ students, violate the Constitution. The judge states that the Education Department had overstepped and violated teachers' rights by requiring them to use students' preferred pronouns. The ruling extends nationwide and can be found [here](#).

Religious Freedom, Maine Anti-Bias Law Clash at First Circuit

[Bloomberg Law](#) reports that a panel of First Circuit judges appeared troubled by Maine's bid to apply educational and employment antidiscrimination laws to religious schools receiving public funding during oral arguments Tuesday, January 7 in light of US Supreme Court precedent.

The First Circuit heard two cases dealing with the fallout of the high court's 2022 decision in *Carson v. Makin* that Maine can't leave religious schools out of its state tuition-subsidy program, which covers private school tuition for students without access to public schools. Maine schools that accept public funds must comply with the state's Human Rights Act. Religious organizations receiving funding were exempted from the state's ban on gender or sexual orientation discrimination until the law was amended in 2021.

"We know as a starting point that, because of the prior Supreme Court decision, the state can't say we're not giving you funds because you're a religious school," Judge William Kayatta said during oral argument at the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. If a private religious school's mission is to proselytize the adoption of a certain set of beliefs, and the state says you can't do that if you get funds, that "seems to be almost equivalent" to the reasoning the Supreme Court axed in *Makin*, Kayatta said.

Christopher Taub, chief deputy attorney general for Maine, said "our law does not prohibit schools from acting like religious schools." They're still free to teach "that God created only two genders, and that marriage is only marriage between a man and a woman," Taub said.

What the Human Rights Act does mandate is that "if there's a gay student for example, who wants to receive that teaching, you can't preclude them simply because they're gay," Taub said.

Taub tried to convince the judges that challenges brought by Crosspoint Church, which runs Bangor Christian School, and St. Dominic Academy, a Catholic high school in Auburn, Maine, are premature because there isn't an "imminent risk" that they'll be penalized for violating the Human Rights Act.

Tiffany Bates, an associate for Consovoy McCarthy PLLC who represents Crosspoint, pushed back on that idea. "I don't think we have to wait to find out" whether the law is unconstitutional and risk being penalized hundreds of thousands of dollars, especially when the state has said it believes "our beliefs are bigoted and discriminatory."

"You still need to have a student to apply and be not accepted" to have a ripe case, Judge Lara Montecalvo told Bates, who responded that both the First Circuit and the

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[NSBA Editor's note: The cases are Crosspoint Church v. Makin, 1st Cir., No. 24-1590, oral argument 1/7/25 and St. Dominic Academy v. Makin, 1st Cir., No. 24-1739, oral argument 1/7/25. NSBA filed [amicus briefs](#) in both cases.]

LAST CHANCE: 2025 VSBA Membership Survey

Thank you to 113 members who have completed the [2025 membership survey](#). Tomorrow (Jan 15th) is the last day to complete the membership survey so that we can continue to reflect and provide systems and resources that best support school boards and their members. We will randomly draw the name of one respondent who will win a \$50 Darn Tough gift card!



GET ON BOARD!

Vermont Public's Story on School Board Service

Yesterday (January 13th) VSBA President Flor Diaz-Smith was a guest on Vermont Edition and spoke about the value of school board service to our schools, local communities, and state. In case you missed it, you can listen [here](#) (starting at minute 37).

The Right Person Makes a Difference

You may be asked at some point: "What qualities, skills, and experience should a school board candidate have?" Here are some suggested answers to that question:

- A big picture thinker: setting the direction (vision) for the district with input from the community.
- A commitment to fulfilling a governance role, not that of day-to-day management.
- A willingness to consider a broad range of school district issues, not just a single issue.
- Understands they can legally act as a board member only when the board is in session.
- Is a good listener and yet, doesn't make commitments without the will of the board.
- Upholds the "whole board" principle—that no single person can act or speak for the board.
- Is able to support a decision when it is made, even if they voted against it.

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- Remembers that board business often requires confidentiality, especially in processes involving students, personnel, negotiations and security.

Information About Running for School Board on VSBA's Website

Want to share information with community members who are interested in running for school board? Refer them to "[Running for School Board](#)" on VSBA's website.

GOVERNANCE TIP

Tell Your Story

You may have heard the saying: "Tell your story, or someone else will."

In preparing for your annual district meetings and FY26 budget presentations, don't forget to share some of the many wonderful stories about your district with your communities. Spreadsheets filled with dollar amounts, percentage changes, and student counts become more meaningful when told as a story. When presenting your proposed budget to voters, be sure to translate it into a story or series of short stories about students--their achievements and successes. Of course, it is important to share data. However, accompanying data with specific, detailed and relevant stories that illustrate your point will make the data come alive. People love hearing stories. They remember them.

Being an effective communicator involves story telling. Have fun with it!

FROM THE AGENCY OF EDUCATION

Funding Opportunity: Clean Energy Infrastructure Improvements

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) launched the \$500 million Renew America's Schools Program to promote the implementation of clean energy improvements at K-12 public schools across the country. The DOE is implementing a prize-to-cooperative-agreement funding model to streamline the application process, and to provide LEAs earlier, more targeted supports. Deadline for application: Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 @ 5:00 PM. Please see the [Renew America's Schools funding opportunity webpage](#) for more information.

State Board of Education Adopts New Health and Physical Education Standards

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Education Standards. These standards will replace in full the previously adopted 2007 National Health Standards and 2013 SHAPE America National Standards for K-12 Physical Education starting in the 2025-26 school year. Read the [full memo here](#).

SAVE THE DATE

February 7, 2025

9:00 - 10:00 am

NEW! Chairs/Vice-Chairs Forum Date Added

We are adding a second date and time for the Chairs/Vice Chairs Forum in February: Friday, February 7th at 9:00 a.m. in addition to Monday, February 10th at 7:00 p.m. We hope this second date and different time of day will enable more chairs and vice chairs to participate. Many board officers see great value in this forum, especially during budget season and the legislative session. Come ready to listen and learn, and share your questions and suggestions for navigating this period of uncertainty in public education in Vermont.

[Register](#)

February 13, 2025

Noon - 1:00 pm

Understanding the Board's Role in Student Achievement Webinar

In recognition of National School Board Appreciation Month and the approximately 900 school board members in Vermont working tirelessly to serve as the trustees of the state's public education system, let's consider the questions: Does school boards' work affect student achievement and if so, how? Do school boards even matter?

The short answer is: Yes, they do. **Research studies suggest school boards can have an effect on student outcomes.** It is clear that school boards in high-achieving districts exhibit habits and characteristics that are markedly different from boards in low-achieving districts. So, what do effective school boards in high-achieving districts do that positively impacts student achievement? Come listen and learn from two experts in the field who have done extensive research on this topic and why what we do as school board members really does make a difference.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**March 6, 2025**

Noon - 1:00 pm

Legislative Lunchtime Webinar

Join us during the legislature's break for a lunchtime discussion and update on the 2025 legislative session as it relates to public education in VT. **Legislators will speak to the work in their respective committees and share a preview of what's to come in the remainder of the term.** They will be joined by VSBA and VSA staff members representing their respective organizations' members when engaging with the General Assembly on issues affecting education. VSBA has more than 60 resolutions covering a range of issues having to do with: governance, finance, instruction, labor relations, and miscellaneous. Come hear how these positions are being used to help inform the decision-making by the General Assembly.

[Register](#)

More Upcoming Webinars...

Sharpening the Saw: Continuous Learning for Boards Webinar

April 10, 2025 at Noon

[Learn more...](#)

According to Robert: Using Correct Meeting Procedures

May 20, 2025 at Noon

[Learn more...](#)

It's a Wrap! The 2025 Legislative Session & Implications for Vermont School Districts

June 10, 2025 at Noon

[Learn more...](#)

Driving Excellence: Goal Setting, Planning & Self-Assessing

August 12, 2025 at Noon

[Learn more...](#)

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Shaping the Advocacy Agenda: Understanding the 2020-2020 VSBA Resolutions

September 11, 2025 at Noon

[Learn more...](#)

Crafting Policies to Realize the Vision

November 13, 2025 at Noon

[Learn more...](#)

Get on Board! Candidate Training

December 10, 2025 at 6pm

[Learn more...](#)

If you have any thoughts about the VSBA Weekly Updates, please let us know. We always welcome your feedback.

Thank you for your dedicated service as school board members. What you do makes a difference!

Sincerely,



Sue Ceglowski
VSBA Executive Director



Our mailing address is:

2 Prospect St, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT 05602

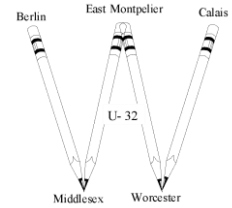
You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761

Steven Dellinger-Pate
Superintendent



TO: WCUUSD Finance Committee
FROM: Steven Dellinger-Pate, Superintendent
Susanne Gann, WCUUSD Business Administrator
RE: FY 26 General Fund Budget Draft #3 and Preliminary Tax Rate Projections
DATE: January 10, 2025

Review: The Board participated in a budget training September 18th, followed it up with a [Community Input Session](#) November 6th, and received the presentation of the first draft of the FY 2025-26 General Fund Budget on November 20th. The Board asked administration to provide additional information on proposed personnel changes, which was provided at the December 4th Board meeting. The budget presentation at the December 18th Board meeting included preliminary tax rate projections based upon the [December 1 letter from the Tax Commissioner](#).

Board Parameters: The principles that guide our budget decisions are outlined in the Board Parameters.

- Remain under the per pupil [spending threshold](#)
- Continue to offer and further develop the Multi-Layer System of Supports
- Consider configuration changes that support our criteria
- Frame budget decisions around meeting goals of the Strategic Plan and adhering to our Core Beliefs
- Frame programmatic decisions around Education Quality Standards and Equitable Distribution of Resources.
- Support accelerated growth for students from historically marginalized identities
- Budget towards long term financial sustainability of our district

Update: The AOE asked that district's certify their ADM counts by Friday, January 3, 2025. Washington Central was able to complete the certification. This count is one of the factors that determines the Long-term Weighted Average Daily Membership (LTW ADM). The AOE anticipates distributing version 4 of the updated LTW ADM for the District on December 10th to those districts that have certified their current year ADM. The tax rate projections have been updated with estimated LTW AD, based upon the certified SY 25 ADM, but this number may change slightly as all other factors are confirmed.

The budget was updated for the 6-semester average tech student FTE and updated tuition amounts. Tuition revenues for U-32 were updated based upon a revised tuition rate. Finally, salaries and benefits were updated for staff that petitioned for horizontal movement next year. The increase in the local education spending for this budget is 5.92% from \$34,180,343 in FY 2024-25 to \$36,203,852 in FY 2025-26.

Expenditures

FY 2025 = \$41,662,364

FY 2026 = \$43,225,002

\$ Increase = +\$1,562,639

% Difference = +3.75%

Revenues

FY 2025 = \$7,482,020

FY 2026 = \$7,021,150

\$ Decrease = -460,870

% Difference = -6.16%

Net Education Spending

FY 2025 = \$34,180,343

FY 2026 = \$36,203,852

\$ Increase = +\$2,023,509

% Difference = +5.92%

Tax Rate Projections: The [December 1 letter from the Tax Commissioner](#) provided a preliminary estimate for the Homestead Property Yield at \$11,879. New legislation starting July 1, 2025 applies a statewide adjustment for the average CLA to the property yield and town CLAs. The statewide adjustment of 72% makes the adjusted yield \$8,553 ($\$11,879 \times .72$), which is a decrease from last year's final property yield of \$9,893. This yield is impacted by the average expected growth in per pupil spending across the state, as well as the income yield and the non-homestead property tax rate, which will be set by the legislature.

- Long-term weighted average daily membership (LTW ADM) estimate of 2,359.12 was used to project the tax rate.
- The Annual Property Valuation and Review Report provided updated Common Level of Appraisal for each town. All CLAs were slightly lower than the early projections received from the Tax Department.
- The per pupil excess spending threshold is currently estimated at \$15,926 by the AOE. The per pupil spending for Draft #3 is \$15,346, which is below the per pupil excess spending threshold.
- **The local spending per equalized pupil is a 6.72% increase over FY 2024-25 from \$14,380 to \$15,346. This would be the per pupil amount that will be included in the warning.**
- The equalized tax rate, using \$8,553 as the property yield, is an increase of \$.3406 or 23.43% from \$1.4536 in FY 2024-25 to \$1.7942 in FY 2025-26.

Without the statewide adjustment to the yield, the FY 2025-26 equalized tax rate would have been 1.2918, **which would have been a decrease of \$.1618 or 11.13%.**

- The estimated changes per \$100,000 house value range from an \$84 decrease per year in Berlin to a \$378 per year increase in Worcester.

Common Level of Appraisal Change from FY 2024-2025 to FY 2025-2026

Towns	CLA 24-25	CLA 25-26	CLA Reduction	SWA CLA*
Berlin	72.29%	67.38%	-4.91%	93.12%
Calais	72.34%	62.68%	-9.66%	86.62%
East Montpelier	70.33%	61.59%	-8.74%	85.12%
Middlesex	71.72%	65.33%	-6.39%	90.28%
Worcester	79.09%	58.59%	-20.50%	80.97%

*SWA CLA is the Statewide Adjusted CLA: CLA/.72

FY 2025-26 Budget Draft #3 Tax Rate Projection – Equalized Tax Rate = \$1.7942

Towns	SWA Common Level of Appraisal Estimates	Post Legislative Session Tax Rates FY 24-25	Estimated Tax Rates FY 25-26	Increase (Decrease)	Increase per \$100,000 House Value
Berlin	93.12%	\$2.0108	\$1.9267	-\$0.0841	-\$84
Calais	86.62%	\$2.0094	\$2.0713	\$.0619	\$62
East Montpelier	85.12%	\$2.0668	\$2.1078	\$.0410	\$41
Middlesex	90.28%	\$2.0268	\$1.9874	-\$0.0394	-\$39
Worcester	80.97%	\$1.8379	\$2.2159	\$.3780	\$378

Factors that will change the preliminary tax rate:

- The final property yield, income yield and non-homestead tax rate is set by the legislature based on reports statewide as we progress in the budget development process, and may change post-legislative session.
- Final adjustments to the LTW ADM received from the Agency of Education.

Next Steps:

1. The Board adopts the final budget to be warned for the vote in March.
2. The School Board continues to work to inform and engage the community in the budget process.

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMPARATIVE SUMMARY
FY 2024 - 2025 BUDGET vs. FY 2025-2026 DRAFT #3

	BUDGET 2024-25	\$ INCREASE (DECREASE)	BUDGET 2025-26	BUDGET % CHANGE
<u>SALARIES AND BENEFITS</u>				
Salaries		\$ 575,523		1.38%
Benefits		\$ 608,234		1.46%
TOTAL SALARY & BENEFITS	\$ 29,052,369	\$ 1,183,757	\$ 30,236,126	2.84%
<u>NONSALARY ITEMS</u>				
Estimated inflationary costs offset by line item reductions		\$ (116,154)		-0.28%
Tuition to Other School Districts (Tech Centers)		\$ 69,667		0.17%
Interest on Short-term Debt		\$ (5,168)		-0.01%
Transportation		\$ 278,509		0.67%
Debt Service		\$ (22,963)		-0.06%
Fund Transfer - Capital		\$ (423,252)		-1.02%
Fund Transfer - Food Service		\$ 12,995		0.03%
Special Education		\$ 585,247		1.40%
TOTAL NONSALARY ITEMS	\$ 12,609,995	\$ 378,882	\$ 12,988,877	0.91%
TOTAL EXPENSE INCREASES / (DECREASES)	\$ 41,662,364	\$ 1,562,639	\$ 43,225,002	3.75%
<u>REVENUE CHANGES</u>				
Tuition		\$ (190,079)		-0.46%
Investment Earnings		\$ 32,896		0.08%
Miscellaneous Revenues		\$ (14,624)		-0.04%
Miscellaneous State Reimbursements		\$ 100,801		0.24%
Special Ed Revenues		\$ 95,427		0.23%
Fund Balance		\$ (485,291)		-1.16%
TOTAL REVENUE INCREASES / (DECREASES)	\$ 7,482,020	\$ (460,870)	\$ 7,021,150	-6.16%
LOCAL EDUCATION SPENDING INCREASE (DECREASE)	\$ 34,180,343	\$ 2,023,509	\$ 36,203,852	5.92%

Baseline Budget Comparison

Local Education Spending was \$38,446,499 or a 12.48% increase.
The budget was reduced \$2,242,647 from the baseline budget.

Percentages for consideration

Every 1% increase in the budget = \$341,803.
A 3% increase in the budget = \$1,025,410.
A 3% increase in the budget will require us to cut \$802,640.

Excess Spending Threshold

The excess spending threshold = \$15,926 per LTW ADM.
The estimated LTW ADM for the FY 26 budget is 2,359.22.
The estimated excess spending threshold is \$37,572,937.72
This budget is below the estimated excess spending threshold by \$1,369,085.72.

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY 2024-2025 BUDGET vs. FY 2025-2026 DRAFT #3

DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL 2023	ACTUAL 2024	FINAL BUDGET 2025	DRAFT #3 BUDGET 2026	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
REVENUES						
TUITION REVENUES	\$ 1,080,352	\$ 782,263	\$ 920,759	\$ 730,680	\$ (190,079)	
INVESTMENT EARNINGS INTEREST	\$ 164,129	\$ 219,216	\$ 218,729	\$ 251,626	\$ 32,896	
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME-OTHER / FUND TRANSFERS	\$ 306,628	\$ 127,133	\$ 179,476	\$ 164,851	\$ (14,624)	
EDUC. SPENDING REVENUES	\$ 28,821,017	\$ 31,699,134	\$ 34,180,342	\$ 36,203,852	\$ 2,023,510	
MISC STATE REIMBURSEMENTS	\$ 904,062	\$ 953,219	\$ 704,500	\$ 805,300	\$ 100,801	
SPED EXPENDITURE REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 4,869,348	\$ 4,495,279	\$ 4,973,266	\$ 5,068,693	\$ 95,427	
SUBTOTAL REVENUES	\$ 36,145,535	\$ 38,276,243	\$ 41,177,073	\$ 43,225,004	\$ 2,047,931	
FUND BALANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 485,291	\$ -	\$ (485,291)	
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 36,145,535	\$ 38,276,243	\$ 41,662,364	\$ 43,225,004	\$ 1,562,640	3.75%
EXPENSES						
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 8,579,736	\$ 9,160,460	\$ 8,922,263	\$ 9,418,854	\$ 496,591	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 2,415,680	\$ 2,588,289	\$ 2,936,853	\$ 3,390,397	\$ 453,544	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 161,039	\$ 113,887	\$ 105,687	\$ 118,275	\$ 12,588	
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SVC	\$ 64,989	\$ 178,464	\$ 119,800	\$ 217,450	\$ 97,650	
REPAIRS AND MAINT SVCS	\$ 6,732	\$ 3,493	\$ 1,700	\$ 900	\$ (800)	
TUITION TO OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS	\$ 561,305	\$ 692,978	\$ 829,605	\$ 899,272	\$ 69,667	
TRAVEL	\$ 11,398	\$ 16,307	\$ 16,550	\$ 18,500	\$ 1,950	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 245,946	\$ 238,795	\$ 278,750	\$ 226,700	\$ (52,050)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 49,388	\$ 61,445	\$ 66,650	\$ 59,700	\$ (6,950)	
EQUIPMENT	\$ 33,766	\$ 6,019	\$ 35,800	\$ 7,200	\$ (28,600)	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 9,966	\$ 23,031	\$ 11,300	\$ 24,050	\$ 12,750	
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	\$ 12,139,945	\$ 13,083,169	\$ 13,324,958	\$ 14,381,298	\$ 1,056,340	7.93%
PRESCHOOL PROGRAM						
SALARIES	\$ 369,637	\$ 378,556	\$ 365,399	\$ 344,003	\$ (21,396)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 138,602	\$ 141,891	\$ 142,913	\$ 171,416	\$ 28,503	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 1,289	\$ -	\$ 12,489	\$ 10,498	\$ (1,991)	
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SVC	\$ 6,364	\$ 10,326	\$ 13,350	\$ 14,000	\$ 650	
TUITION TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS	\$ 145,300	\$ 155,110	\$ 170,896	\$ 127,700	\$ (43,196)	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 8,770	\$ 1,988	\$ 6,750	\$ 2,400	\$ (4,350)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ -	\$ 419	\$ 4,500	\$ 500	\$ (4,000)	
DUES AND FEES	\$ -	\$ 37	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ -	
TOTAL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM	\$ 669,962	\$ 688,328	\$ 716,497	\$ 670,717	\$ (45,780)	-6.39%
GUIDANCE SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 748,386	\$ 804,271	\$ 1,033,720	\$ 1,051,484	\$ 17,764	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 221,044	\$ 256,076	\$ 438,249	\$ 386,707	\$ (51,542)	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 514	\$ -	\$ 8,746	\$ 10,037	\$ 1,291	
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SVC	\$ 11,636	\$ 2,425	\$ 12,650	\$ 3,800	\$ (8,850)	
TRAVEL	\$ 402	\$ 4,118	\$ 1,150	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,850	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 26,410	\$ 29,018	\$ 30,050	\$ 29,500	\$ (550)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 527	\$ 1,103	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,700	\$ 400	
DUES AND FEES	\$ -	\$ 567	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 700	
TOTAL GUIDANCE SERVICES	\$ 1,008,918	\$ 1,097,577	\$ 1,525,865	\$ 1,488,928	\$ (36,937)	-2.42%
HEALTH SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 406,041	\$ 421,342	\$ 509,932	\$ 381,822	\$ (128,110)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 153,925	\$ 160,104	\$ 234,636	\$ 170,045	\$ (64,591)	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT & PD	\$ 5,873	\$ 3,390	\$ 4,068	\$ 5,125	\$ 1,057	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 368	\$ 135	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,300	\$ (150)	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 11,712	\$ 6,432	\$ 15,400	\$ 5,700	\$ (9,700)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,750	\$ 900	\$ (850)	
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES	\$ 577,918	\$ 591,403	\$ 767,236	\$ 564,892	\$ (202,344)	-26.37%
CURRICULUM SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 273,698	\$ 218,965	\$ 227,717	\$ 223,316	\$ (4,401)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 40,454	\$ 22,950	\$ 20,364	\$ 20,178	\$ (186)	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT & pd	\$ 5,088	\$ -	\$ 2,848	\$ 2,136	\$ (712)	
PURCHASED PROF & TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$ -	\$ 2,194	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,200	\$ 200	
TRAVEL	\$ 1,848	\$ 1,238	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,300	\$ (700)	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 771	\$ 104	\$ 5,000	\$ 200	\$ (4,800)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 2,994	\$ 601	\$ 3,300	\$ 1,200	\$ (2,100)	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 1,336	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,000	\$ (450)	
TOTAL CURRICULUM SERVICES	\$ 326,188	\$ 247,051	\$ 264,679	\$ 251,530	\$ (13,149)	-4.97%
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TRAINING						
SALARIES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,683	\$ 44,683	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,611	\$ 23,611	

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY 2024-2025 BUDGET vs. FY 2025-2026 DRAFT #3

DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL 2023	ACTUAL 2024	FINAL BUDGET 2025	DRAFT #3 BUDGET 2026	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
EMPLOYEE TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT	\$ 85,391	\$ 104,726	\$ 92,400	\$ 117,100	\$ 24,700	
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TRAINING	\$ 85,391	\$ 104,726	\$ 92,400	\$ 185,394	\$ 92,994	100.64%
LIBRARY SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 376,070	\$ 392,164	\$ 377,954	\$ 320,813	\$ (57,141)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 105,470	\$ 99,887	\$ 129,835	\$ 93,382	\$ (36,453)	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 1,684		\$ 2,645	\$ 3,843	\$ 1,198	
PROFESSIONAL ED SERVICES	\$ 1,300	\$ 2,731	\$ 1,450	\$ 2,900	\$ 1,450	
TRAVEL	\$ 295	\$ 294	\$ 350	\$ 300		
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 11,539	\$ 21,933	\$ 13,250	\$ 21,600	\$ 8,350	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 49,586	\$ 48,524	\$ 53,100	\$ 47,300	\$ (5,800)	
EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,100	\$ 100	
TOTAL LIBRARY SERVICES	\$ 545,943	\$ 565,533	\$ 584,584	\$ 496,238	\$ (88,296)	-15.10%
INSTRUCTIONAL -RELATED TECHNOLOGY SVCS						
SALARIES	\$ 553,750	\$ 591,857	\$ 472,360	\$ 517,058	\$ 44,698	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 100,241	\$ 103,527	\$ 74,727	\$ 145,030	\$ 70,303	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,187	\$ 12,601	\$ 1,414	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 67,073	\$ 39,594	\$ 226,486	\$ 170,600	\$ (55,886)	
RENTALS AND LEASES-COPIER	\$ 60,210	\$ 80,696	\$ 65,184	\$ 84,600	\$ 19,416	
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 106,185	\$ 113,450	\$ 133,300	\$ 128,300	\$ (5,000)	
TRAVEL	\$ 1,345	\$ 735	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,500	\$ (3,500)	
SUPPLIES-TECH RELATED	\$ 42,535	\$ 30,542	\$ 45,600	\$ 34,200	\$ (11,400)	
SOFTWARE	\$ 410,754	\$ 430,870	\$ 400,000	\$ 336,800	\$ (63,200)	
EQUIPMENT	\$ 346,851	\$ 376,633	\$ 330,000	\$ 330,000	\$ -	
TOTAL INSTR REL-TECHNOLOGY SVCS	\$ 1,688,944	\$ 1,767,903	\$ 1,765,844	\$ 1,762,689	\$ (3,155)	-0.18%
BOARD OF EDUCATION SVCS.						
SALARIES	\$ 27,000	\$ 25,776	\$ 32,180	\$ 31,515	\$ (665)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 2,817	\$ 2,476	\$ 3,048	\$ 2,729	\$ (319)	
PURCHASED PROF & TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$ 10,663	\$ 86,785	\$ 10,000	\$ 86,900	\$ 76,900	
LEGAL SERVICES	\$ 31,576	\$ 32,656	\$ 58,450	\$ 58,450	\$ -	
INSURANCE	\$ 113,015	\$ 105,622	\$ 124,050	\$ 124,050	\$ -	
POSTAGE	\$ 2,507	\$ 3,078	\$ 2,750	\$ 3,400	\$ 650	
ADVERTISING	\$ 965	\$ 4,770	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,600	\$ (1,900)	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 15,235	\$ 10,014	\$ 19,000	\$ 10,500	\$ (8,500)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 2,047	\$ 645	\$ 2,250	\$ 1,600	\$ (650)	
EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 8,242	\$ 8,321	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,100	\$ (1,900)	
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SVCS.	\$ 214,067	\$ 280,144	\$ 270,228	\$ 333,844	\$ 63,616	23.54%
SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 366,739	\$ 407,659	\$ 520,035	\$ 525,380	\$ 5,345	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 130,700	\$ 158,562	\$ 214,660	\$ 209,256	\$ (5,404)	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT & PD	\$ 7,584		\$ 10,373	\$ 10,892	\$ 519	
PURCHASED PROF & TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$ 10,804	\$ 24,855	\$ 14,400	\$ 27,200	\$ 12,800	
COMMUNICATIONS-POSTAGE	\$ 17,934	\$ 28,578	\$ 19,400	\$ 31,100	\$ 11,700	
PRINTING AND BINDING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 750	\$ (750)	
TRAVEL	\$ 1,595	\$ 3,433	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,800	\$ (3,200)	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 24,358	\$ 12,227	\$ 26,350	\$ 13,400	\$ (12,950)	
BOOKS AND PERIODICALS	\$ 268	\$ 758	\$ 750	\$ 900	\$ 150	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 7,405	\$ 11,595	\$ 8,400	\$ 12,700	\$ 4,300	
TOTAL SUPERINTENDENT SERVICES	\$ 567,385	\$ 647,667	\$ 822,868	\$ 835,378	\$ 12,510	1.52%
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL						
SALARIES	\$ 1,544,118	\$ 1,672,388	\$ 1,670,066	\$ 1,585,801	\$ (84,265)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 471,754	\$ 475,755	\$ 545,426	\$ 643,181	\$ 97,755	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 10,608	\$ 3,499	\$ 42,166	\$ 39,159	\$ (3,007)	
PURCHASED PROF & TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$ 4,797	\$ 23,806	\$ 14,000	\$ 26,400	\$ 12,400	
COMMUNICATIONS-POSTAGE	\$ 13,777	\$ 8,830	\$ 18,750	\$ 9,900	\$ (8,850)	
TRAVEL	\$ 4,482	\$ 4,953	\$ 4,800	\$ 5,700	\$ 900	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 47,976	\$ 48,197	\$ 55,300	\$ 51,400	\$ (3,900)	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 10,986	\$ 13,267	\$ 12,700	\$ 15,150	\$ 2,450	
TOTAL OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL	\$ 2,108,498	\$ 2,250,696	\$ 2,363,208	\$ 2,376,691	\$ 13,483	0.57%
FISCAL SERVICES						
SALARIES	\$ 349,147	\$ 378,708	\$ 370,408	\$ 383,565	\$ 13,157	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 105,351	\$ 158,228	\$ 126,225	\$ 136,414	\$ 10,189	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT & PD	\$ 6,733	\$ 7,614	\$ 14,238	\$ 19,221	\$ 4,983	
PURCHASED PROF & TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$ 37,094	\$ 5,099	\$ 42,150	\$ 22,100	\$ (20,050)	
AUDITING SERVICES	\$ 34,413	\$ 34,600	\$ 42,150	\$ 42,150	\$ -	
TRAVEL	\$ 2,378	\$ 2,059	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ -	

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY 2024-2025 BUDGET vs. FY 2025-2026 DRAFT #3

DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL 2023	ACTUAL 2024	FINAL BUDGET 2025	DRAFT #3 BUDGET 2026	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 967	\$ 947	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,100	\$ (1,900)	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 1,171	\$ 300	\$ 1,300	\$ 700	\$ (600)	
INTEREST ON SHORT-TERM DEBT	\$ 120,209	\$ 124,111	\$ 130,006	\$ 124,838	\$ (5,168)	
TOTAL FISCAL SERVICES	\$ 657,460	\$ 711,665	\$ 732,077	\$ 732,688	\$ 611	0.08%
OPERATION AND MAINT.PLANT						
SALARIES	\$ 1,305,065	\$ 1,576,505	\$ 1,645,080	\$ 1,804,610	\$ 159,530	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 434,476	\$ 511,075	\$ 611,505	\$ 698,173	\$ 86,668	
UTILITY SERVICES	\$ 28,674	\$ 24,354	\$ 44,450	\$ 45,750	\$ 1,300	
CLEANING SERVICES	\$ 84,664	\$ 79,696	\$ 104,650	\$ 107,650	\$ 3,000	
REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE & RENTALS	\$ 314,732	\$ 383,244	\$ 365,800	\$ 434,300	\$ 68,500	
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 2,627	\$ 2,898	\$ 2,850	\$ 3,200	\$ 350	
TRAVEL/GAS &BOTTLED GAS	\$ 10,611	\$ 6,360	\$ 12,250	\$ 16,100	\$ 3,850	
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$ 190,941	\$ 238,471	\$ 207,900	\$ 232,650	\$ 24,750	
ELECTRICITY	\$ 333,712	\$ 374,674	\$ 365,300	\$ 411,750	\$ 46,450	
OIL	\$ 171,821	\$ 111,277	\$ 194,500	\$ 189,900	\$ (4,600)	
OTHER ENERGY-WOOD CHIPS / WOOD PELLETS	\$ 58,995	\$ 94,957	\$ 147,550	\$ 154,600	\$ 7,050	
SOFTWARE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	
EQUIPMENT	\$ 127,708	\$ 108,745	\$ 147,250	\$ 101,500	\$ (45,750)	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 90	\$ 1,478	\$ 100	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,700	
TOTAL OPER. AND MAINT.PLANT	\$ 3,064,115	\$ 3,513,733	\$ 3,849,185	\$ 4,225,983	\$ 376,798	9.79%
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SV						
SALARIES	\$ 5,639	\$ 6,348	\$ 6,681	\$ 6,909	\$ 228	
BENEFITS	\$ 1,926	\$ 2,012	\$ 2,780	\$ 2,605	\$ (175)	
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SV	\$ 1,623,239	\$ 1,660,867	\$ 1,616,045	\$ 1,876,754	\$ 260,709	
TOTAL STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SV	\$ 1,630,804	\$ 1,669,227	\$ 1,625,506	\$ 1,886,268	\$ 260,709	16.04%
STUDENT TRANS-OTHER						
STUDENT TRANS-FIELD TRIPS	\$ 50,251	\$ 62,810	\$ 61,500	\$ 79,300	\$ 17,800	
TOTAL STUDENT TRANS-OTHER	\$ 50,251	\$ 62,810	\$ 61,500	\$ 79,300	\$ 17,800	28.94%
DEBT SERVICE						
REDEMPTION OF PRINCIPAL	\$ 773,231	\$ 772,533	\$ 772,855	\$ 773,111	\$ 256	
INTEREST LONG TERM DEBT	\$ 329,080	\$ 217,051	\$ 226,325	\$ 203,106	\$ (23,219)	
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$ 1,102,311	\$ 989,584	\$ 999,180	\$ 976,217	\$ (22,963)	-2.30%
REFUND PRIOR YEAR						
REFUND PRIOR YEAR TUITION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL REFUND PRIOR YEAR	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
FUND TRANSFER OUT						
FUND TRANSFER-CAPITAL	\$ 880,000	\$ 901,234	\$ 923,252	\$ 500,000	\$ (423,252)	
FUND TRANSFER-FOOD SERVICE	\$ 149,115	\$ 50,371	\$ 147,405	\$ 160,400	\$ 12,995	
FUND TRANSFER-COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 5,000	
TOTAL TRANSFER TO OTHER FUNDS	\$ 1,029,115	\$ 1,001,605	\$ 1,120,657	\$ 715,400	\$ (405,257)	-36.16%
SUPPORT PROGRAMS-SPECIAL EDUCATION						
SALARIES - SUPPORT	\$ 1,494,003	\$ 1,616,336	\$ 1,678,094	\$ 1,667,861	\$ (10,233)	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS - SUPPORT	\$ 652,608	\$ 719,099	\$ 1,177,966	\$ 1,144,503	\$ (33,463)	
SPECIAL EDUCATION SHARED SERVICES	\$ 300,650	\$ 3,749,939	\$ 4,886,634	\$ 4,972,727	\$ 86,093	
ZENITH PROGRAM	\$ 81,617	\$ 85,691	\$ 165,326	\$ 170,187	\$ 4,861	
STATE PLACED STUDENT COSTS	\$ 5,870	\$ 171,257	\$ 154,350	\$ 196,650	\$ 42,300	
SUMMER PROGRAM	\$ -	\$ 99,066	\$ 93,713	\$ 108,248	\$ 14,535	
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	\$ 3,500	\$ 154,543	\$ 177,547	\$ 184,386	\$ 6,839	
SLP SERVICES	\$ -	\$ 577,457	\$ 753,978	\$ 800,616	\$ 46,638	
OT SERVICES	\$ 398	\$ 35,095	\$ 750	\$ 37,533	\$ 36,783	
PT SERVICES	\$ 958	\$ -	\$ 2,450	\$ -	\$ (2,450)	
TRANSPORTATION (NOT SUMMER)	\$ 134	\$ 138,555	\$ 4,450	\$ 224,189	\$ 219,739	
EEE PROGRAM	\$ 5,390	\$ 23,074	\$ 6,000	\$ 89,036	\$ 83,036	
STATE PLACED 504 STUDENTS	\$ -	\$ 12,834	\$ 3,550	\$ 33,800	\$ 30,250	
TOTAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS-SPECIAL EDUCATION	\$ 6,784,101	\$ 7,382,945	\$ 9,319,270	\$ 9,629,736	\$ 524,928	5.63%
SPED ADMINISTRATION						
SALARIES	\$ 306,313	\$ 325,623	\$ 318,897	\$ 356,069	\$ 37,172	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 88,042	\$ 100,210	\$ 101,110	\$ 109,890	\$ 8,780	
TUITION & PD	\$ 12,298	\$ 22,436	\$ 7,252	\$ 31,975	\$ 24,723	
INSURANCE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ (3,500)	
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,800	\$ -	\$ (4,800)	
ADVERTISING	\$ 674	\$ 533	\$ 750	\$ 700	\$ (50)	
TRAVEL	\$ 1,208	\$ 859	\$ 2,450	\$ 1,300	\$ (1,150)	
SUPPLIES	\$ -	\$ 116	\$ 4,450	\$ 2,700	\$ (1,750)	

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY 2024-2025 BUDGET vs. FY 2025-2026 DRAFT #3

DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL 2023	ACTUAL 2024	FINAL BUDGET 2025	DRAFT #3 BUDGET 2026	\$ Increase (Decrease)	% Increase (Decrease)
SUPPLIES-SOFTWARE	\$ 5,214	\$ 5,640	\$ 6,000	\$ 10,800	\$ 4,800	
DUES AND FEES	\$ 3,275	\$ 1,651	\$ 3,550	\$ 1,900	\$ (1,650)	
TOTAL SPED ADMINISTRATION	\$ 417,024	\$ 457,068	\$ 452,759	\$ 515,334	\$ 62,575	13.82%
ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER						
SALARIES	\$ 60,166	\$ 66,219	\$ 68,795	\$ 71,492	\$ 2,697	
MISCELLANEOUS BENEFITS	\$ 19,368	\$ 16,671	\$ 21,997	\$ 24,302	\$ 2,305	
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	\$ -	\$ 2,503	\$ 1,627	\$ 1,709	\$ 82	
PURCHASED PROF & TECHNICAL SERVICES	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800	
TRAVEL	\$ 1,965	\$ 976	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,200	\$ (50)	
TOTAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER	\$ 81,498	\$ 88,869	\$ 93,669	\$ 101,503	\$ 7,834	8.36%
CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES						
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	\$ 763,160	\$ 833,051	\$ 910,194	\$ 1,014,974	\$ 104,780	
TOTAL COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	\$ 763,160	\$ 833,051	\$ 910,194	\$ 1,014,974	\$ 104,780	11.51%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 35,512,999	\$ 38,034,754	\$ 41,662,364	\$ 43,225,003	\$ 1,562,639	3.75%

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

The legal voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District, a municipal corporation consisting of the Towns of Berlin, Calais, East Montpelier, Middlesex, and Worcester, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet in their respective towns at the polling places hereinafter named on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 1 through 8 as outlined below.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Clerk for a term of one year, or three years in the event the voters also pass Article 9 below.

ARTICLE 2. To elect a Treasurer for a term of one year, or three years in the event the voters also pass Article 9 below.

ARTICLE 3. To elect a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.

ARTICLE 4. To elect the following School Directors:

Berlin	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Calais	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
	One (1) School Director	Two (2) Years of a Three (3) Year Term
East Montpelier	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
Middlesex	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term
	One (1) School Director	Two (2) Years of a Three (3) Year Term
Worcester	One (1) School Director	Three (3) Year Term

ARTICLE 5. To fix the annual compensation of the Union School District officers.

Clerk: \$1000.00
Treasurer: \$6,700.00
Directors: \$1,200.00 each
Chair: \$2,400.00

ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters of the Washington Central Unified Union School District approve the school board to expend \$_____ which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$_____ per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is _____% higher than spending for the current year.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors of Washington Central Unified Union School District to hold any audited fund balance as of June 30, 2025 in a reserve fund to be expended under the control and direction of the Board of School Directors for the purpose of operating the school?

ARTICLE 8. Shall the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of the receipt of revenues for the 2025-2026 school year?

ARTICLE 9. Shall the District Clerk and Treasurer be extended to three-year terms?

Polling Places and Times:

Berlin Municipal Office 108 Shed Rd. Berlin 10:00 AM-7:00 PM

Calais Elementary School 321 Lightening Ridge Rd. in Calais 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

East Montpelier Elementary School 665 Vincent Flats Rd. in East Montpelier 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Rumney Elementary School 433 Shady Rill Rd. in Middlesex 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Doty Elementary School 24 Calais Rd. in Worcester 10:00 AM-7:00 PM

A public hearing will take place on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 5:30 PM to provide information on the articles to be voted by Australian Ballot at the municipalities' respective Town Meetings on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. The public hearing will be at U-32 Middle & High School 930 Gallison Hill Rd., Montpelier, VT 05602 in Rm 128/131. There will be a virtual option as well. <https://tinyurl.com/57upnjtt> Meeting Id: 812 6487 3033 Password: 757374 Phone: 1-929-205-6099

Upon the polls closing, the ballots shall be transported and delivered to the East Montpelier Elementary School at 665 Vincent Flats Road in the Town of East Montpelier, where they will be commingled and counted by members of the Boards of Civil Authority of district towns under the supervision of the Clerk of the Washington Central Unified Union School District.

The legal voters of Washington Central Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said annual meeting shall be as provided in Sections 553 and 706 (u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Melissa Tuller, WCUUSD Clerk

Flor Diaz-Smith, Chair (East Montpelier)

Zach Sullivan (East Montpelier)

Ursula Stanley, Vice-Chair (Middlesex)

Chris McVeigh (Middlesex)

Diane Nichols-Fleming (Berlin)

Patrick Whelley (Middlesex)

Kealy Sloan (Berlin)

Mckalyn Leclerc (Worcester)

Vacant (Berlin)

Julia Hewitt (Worcester)

Michelle Ksepka (Calais)

Natasha Eckart (Worcester)

Daniel Keeney (Calais)

Elizabeth Brown (Calais)

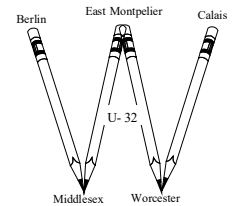
Amelia Contrada (East Montpelier)

Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761

Steven Dellinger-Pate
Superintendent



TO: WCUUSD Board
From: Steven Dellinger-Pate
Date: January 14, 2025
RE: Rumney EV Charging

The Rumney EV charging station has been in operation for ~10 years as part of a grant given to WEC. The district has the ability to set pricing for the station. Another district that installed a charger chose to charge a flat rate / hour to cover electric costs + admin costs. Our district is responsible for the electric bill for usage of the charging station. WEC reports that usage of the EV chargers varies but the trend is that they are being used more often each year.

Usage:

Rumney School			
Year	Energy (kWh)	Session Count	Approx. Annual Bill Impact*
2022	3,107	277	\$626
2023	6,285	390	\$1,428
2024	10,090	85	\$2,292

- Note: The estimated bill impacts in 2024 are overstated because a WEC member was giving Rumney excess solar generation (“group net metering credits”) to the school to help offset additional costs.

In 2021, the Board solicited bids for the removal of the charging station. I have [included a link](#) to one of the proposals for reference.

On 4-28-21, the Board took the following action:

4.4.4. Update Electric Vehicle Charger at Rumney: Flor Diaz Smith asked for board input about this. A memo had been provided to explain the options. Chris McVeigh suggested that we leave it in place as it is, with no additional investments. Chris McVeigh moved to leave the charger at Rumney School in place, and make no further changes to it. Seconded by Jonas Eno-Van Fleet. Discussion: James Garrity explained that, regardless, the unit should be checked once a year for safety assurances. This motion carried unanimously.

[This letter](#) was sent to the Middlesex Select Board to inform them of the Board’s decision.

The recommendation of the administration is that the Finance Committee refer the installation and use of charging stations on school property be to the Policy Committee to develop a policy that is brought to the full board. This will help guide the administration in the direction the Board would like to take.

Recommended

WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors' Policy

FISCAL MANAGEMENT & GENERAL

POLICY: F20

WARNED: 1.22.25

ADOPTED: _____

EFFECTIVE: _____

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Statement of Policy

It is the policy of the Washington Central Unified Union School District to manage its financial affairs in a lawful, responsible, and transparent manner. As trustee of local state and federal funds allocated for use in public education, the Board shall fulfill its responsibility to see that funds are used to achieve the purposes intended.

Administrative Responsibilities

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures and/or assist the board to:

1. Establish and maintain a system for receipt, deposit, disbursement, accounting, control, and reporting procedures that meets the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for state and local governments and will follow, at a minimum, the code structure contained in the Handbook for Financial Accounting of Vermont School Systems: Financial Code Classification system.
2. Examine claims against the district for school expenses and draw orders for the payment of those claims.
3. Establish, with the advice and consent of the Auditor of Accounts and the Vermont Secretary of Education, a system of accounts for the proper control and reporting of school district finances and for stating the annual financial condition of the district.
4. Arrange an annual audit of accounts by a certified public accountant. The Board shall review the final audit.
5. Provide suitable crime insurance coverage or bonding for employees handling large sums of money, for any school directors authorized to receive or disburse funds, and for the collector, or treasurer, or both.
6. ~~Maintain inventories of supplies, materials, and instructional equipment to be presented to the board annually.~~
7. Follow the bidding requirements set out in V.S.A. §559.
8. ~~Establish~~ Maintain a system for managing miscellaneous accounts such as fees, fines, penalties, book losses, breakage and sale of equipment and materials. At the school level, the principal ~~or principal designee~~ will be responsible for overseeing all student accounts.
9. Ensure that the Board is aware of any material deviations from the budget.

10. Provide the Board with financial reports at least quarterly, and as requested. The reports will provide the board with the information needed to assure focused and responsible management of financial resources, included but not limited to:
- a. Appropriation Accounts
 - i. Original appropriation
 - ii. Authorized transfers and adjustments
 - b. Revised appropriations
 - i. Expenditures to date
 - ii. Outstanding encumbrances
 - iii. Unencumbered balance
 - c. Revenue Accounts
 - i. Estimated revenues
 - ii. Amounts received to date
 - iii. Revenue estimates to be received during the balance of the fiscal year.

[1] 16 V.S.A. §563(8)

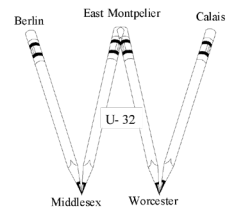
[2] 16 V.S.A. §563(8)

VSBA Versions:	August 15, 2023
Date Warned:	
Date Adopted:	
Legal Reference:	<p>16 V.S.A. §§563(8),(9) (Powers of school boards)</p> <p>16 V.S.A. §559 (Public bidding)</p> <p>16 V.S.A.§.§ 492, 735(f), and 24 V.S.A. §§ 832, 833 (Bonding requirements)</p> <p>16 V.S.A. §1756 (Indemnity and insurance)</p> <p>Vermont State Board of Education Manual of Rules & Practices Rule Series 3250 and 6300</p> <p>Vermont Agency of Education Rules Series 100 (District Quality Standards)</p> <p>Vermont Agency of Education Handbook for Financial Accounting of Vermont School</p>

Washington Central Unified Union School District

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1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761



Washington Central Unified Union School Board Meeting 1.8.25 6:15-9:15 PM Rumney Memorial School (Middlesex)

Present: Flor Diaz Smith, Elizabeth Brown, Zach Sullivan, Daniel Keeney, Ursula Stanley, Chris McVeigh, Mckalyn Leclerc, Patrick Whelley, Natasha Eckart, Michelle Ksepka, Lei DeGroot, Julia Hewitt, Amelia Contrada, Kealy Sloan

Administrators: Superintendent Steven Dellinger-Pate, Jen Miller-Arsenault, Julia Pritchard, Celia Guggemos, Alicia Lyford, Karoline May, Lisa LaPlante, Gillian Fuqua, Amy Molina

Others: April Davis, Allison Fayle, David Lawrence, ORCA Media, Adam Rosen, Ellen Knoedler, Allen Gilbert, Amber Larrabee, Chani Waterhouse, David Delcore, Jen Campbell, Jen P, Matthew Pelkey, Meg Allison, Nicole Mintken, Shelley Vermilya, Veronica Eldred, Sonya Rhodes

1. **Call to Order:** Flor Diaz Smith called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.
2. **Welcome:** Flor Diaz Smith welcomed those present and wished a happy new year. She asked for a moment of silence before the start of the meeting in honor of a recent tragedy affecting the WCUUSD community.
 - 2.1. **Adjustments to the Agenda** (none)
 - 2.2. **Reception of Guests**
 - 2.3. **Public Comments:** (none at this time)
3. **Presentation: Math Outcomes:** Karoline May, principal at Rumney School, presented a slide deck: Math, Rumney, 2024-25.
 - 3.1. **Community Feedback:** Flor Diaz Smith invited questions or feedback from those present.
4. **Board Operations**
 - 4.1. **U-32 Student Council Reflection:** Elise O'Brien, John Stafford, Callister Boyd, presented to the board. This is the Student Council's third year of existence in this form. They spoke to the board about the wishes from students to be involved in the budget planning process. They shared some of the services and opportunities that students deem important and would like to preserve, such as personalized learning opportunities, health services, special

education services. The students invited questions or comments from the audience. Some topics of discussion:

- clear/ direct communication with student council
- the use of social media such as FB, Instagram

4.2. Approve Announced Tuition (WCUUSD and CVCC): Zach Sullivan moved to announce the FY2025-26 district tuition rates as \$25,626 elementary, \$24,728 secondary. Seconded by Michelle Ksepka, this motion carried unanimously.

4.3. Configuration Committee Next Steps & Board Appointments: Patrick Whelley moved to appoint Daniel Keeney, Julia Hewitt, Chris McVeigh, Kealy Sloan, Flor Diaz Smith, Becca Tatistcheff, Gillian Fuqua, and Steven Dellinger-Pate to the Configuration Committee. Seconded by Ursula Stanley, this motion carried unanimously.

4.4. Budget Warning Language: Michelle Ksepka suggested adding language to extend the term of the clerk and treasurer. The suggestion would be to add an Article 9 to ask this question. Patrick Whelley asked for clarification on the terms of the Middlesex seats. Superintendent Dellinger-Pate will clarify. This does not require board action; the purpose was for the board to review the language.

4.5. Annual Report Format: Flor Diaz Smith shared that we will stay with the same format from the previous year. Some discussion followed around the practice of mailing post cards and offering access to the annual report online, mailing if requested, and picking up at various locales.

Julia Hewitt shared that she had heard from a constituent that the compensation for board chair does not reflect the amount of work and time they put into their position (it should be higher...). She wanted to share this sentiment publicly though she is not advocating for higher stipends for board members; she wanted to acknowledge this comment and honor the work that WCUUSD board chair does.

4.6. Superintendent Evaluation: The VSBA will be hired this year to complete this process. Flor Diaz Smith had provided a written overview of the service that the VSBA provide for superintendent evaluation. Ursula Stanley moved to authorize Flor Diaz Smith to sign the agreement to use VSBA in our superintendent evaluation process. Seconded by Michelle Ksepka, this motion carried unanimously.

5. Personnel

5.1. Approve New Teachers, Resignations, Leave of Absence, and Changes in FTE: (None)

6. Consent Agenda:

6.1. Approve Minutes of 12.18.24: Ursula Stanley moved to approve the minutes of December 18, 2024. Seconded by Patrick Whelley; this motion carried unanimously.

7. Future Agenda Items

7.1. Board Evaluation

7.2. Daniel Keeney: EV charger (Flor Diaz Smith stated that this is going to the Finance Committee first, and then will come to the board.)

- 8. Board Reflection:** Ursula Stanley appreciated having student council representatives and hearing student voice in that aspect.

Natasha Eckart would like to include on each agenda an opportunity for students to present/speak to the board. She also invited board members to come to the student Pilot presentations.

- 9. Public Comment:** Allen Gilbert thanked Superintendent Dellinger-Pate for visiting Doty School (“Coffee and Conversation”); this allowed for great conversation with community members.

- 10. Adjourn: Patrick Whelley moved and Kealy Sloan seconded. The meeting adjourned by consensus at 8:01 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Grace, Board Recording Secretary