

ORANGE SOUTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025
6 PM AT Williamstown Middle High School Library
120 Hebert Road, Williamstown VT

[Click Here](#) for the video recording of the meeting.

AGENDA

- I. **Meeting with Paine Mountain to begin exploring potential opportunities – Board members at the regular Paine Mountain School Board meeting were Rachel Gaidys, Aimil Parmelee, Hannah Arias, Rachel Fish, Martha Hafner and Ryan Anderson (remotely). Michael Clark attended as well. There was no public present, and no public comment. No revisions to the agenda were made as this was a special meeting of the OSSD Board. Discussion between the two boards of legislation, the passing of H.454 and the drawing of new district lines to be operational by July 1, 2028. Discussion of what may be legislated, and what the districts could look at. Hannah Arias speaks of facilities disintegration as being the reason for the initial outreach, and Paine Mtn. responds that they are interested in “producing a state-of-the-art facility that houses all of our communities.” Martha Hafner believes new construction is discouraged under the bill, but Michael Clark and Paine Mtn. both agree there are sections of the bill that address construction, and the legislature is aware that will have to be addressed. Boards agree this is an exciting opportunity to openly discuss district needs and ideas, to explore collaboration and help neighbors. Moving forward and being proactive feels like the best move with this legislation. Hannah Arias speaks of conversation within the community, small schools have educated generations and are community resources, there’s nostalgia and deep emotion. Discussion of the option to separate the middle school and the high school, Paine Mountain states this doesn’t reduce any financial burden, and does increase bussing. Conversation about the disparity of what high schools offer across the state, smaller schools aren’t necessarily able to offer the extra-curriculars larger schools can. Geography is a challenge, the fact that OSSD owns it’s busses and has a transportation director is considered. Sharing of visions for communities, students and campuses, not looking to consolidate into any existing schools, looking for partnership and longer-term plans. Board members agree they would like to continue the discussion, and see if other communities are interested. Are there specific things to talk about? Boards will arrange to meet again in August .**

Hannah Arias calls the OSSD Board business meeting to order at 7:30 with the same board attendees.

II. Director of Curriculum and Student Achievement salary placement --

VOTE: Amil Parmelee moves to add the title “Director of Curriculum and Student Achievement” to the positions under a Level I Administrative contract. Rachel Fish seconds, and the motion passes unanimously.

III. Approval to access transportation reserve for purchase of a van –

VOTE: Rachel Gaidys moves to approve the purchase of a hybrid van using reserve funds. Amil Parmelee seconds, the motion passes unanimously.

IV. Approval to access the facilities reserve for RES Pre-K playground – *this request was previously approved by the board, but the planned work wasn’t done so the funds were not spent.*

VOTE: Rachel Gaidys moves to approve the purchase and installation of a playground for Randolph Elementary School. Rachel Fish seconds and the motion passes unanimously.

With no further business, Hannah Arias adjourns the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Kyle Southworth

Administrative Assistant, 6/20/2025