

Orange Southwest School District (OSSD)
Special Board Meeting on Wednesday July 9, 2025
Central Office Conference Room, 24 Central St, Randolph
5 pm

Google Meeting Joining Info
Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/upd-xcaz-qno>
Or Dial: (US)+1 513-472-0826
PIN: 499 934 387#

AGENDA

I. Opening

- Board Attendance: *Ensuring a quorum*
- Meeting Purpose: Regular Business – *as this is a special meeting, no changes to the agenda will be accepted.*
- Public Comment for items not listed on agenda: *Board welcomes comment but is not able to take any action. Comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker.*

II. Board Process

- Williamstown Tuition Request (included) (action)
- Debrief Paine Mountain Meeting (discussion)
- Ratify Support Staff Contract (coming prior to meeting) (action)
- Board Member Opening Update (possible action)

III. Board Education

- Policy Governance Training with Jeanne Collins (discussion)

IV. Closing/Incidental Information

- Action Item Recap (discussion)

Future Meetings

- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday August 13, 2025 @ RES, 6 pm

June 12, 2025

Catherine Hayes
1962 Cemetery Street (physical)
1818 Cemetery Street (mailing)
Brookfield, VT 05036
(802) 299-6334
Catherine.hayes@vermont.gov

Orange Southwest School District School Board
24 Central Street, Randolph VT 05060

Greetings Orange Southwest Supervisory Union and Board Members,

My name is Catherine Hayes. My son, Jurgen Hayes, is a rising 6th grader. We reside in East Brookfield, but we live very close to the Williamstown town line. I am writing to request a tuition waiver or assistance as permitted by 16 V.S.A. 821(c).

I make this request respectfully for the following reasons:

Jurgen will be a 6th grader this Fall of 2025. I have homeschooled him for the last three years. He currently works with a tutor named Ed Scott. I hired Ed to make sure Jurgen was ready to transition back into the classroom by this Fall. Ed notes that Jurgen is a highly engaged young man with a lot to offer his peers, especially in a classroom. He is a kind, polite, and very patient child for his age.

My family's property is located on Cemetery Street in East Brookfield. Attending the Brookfield elementary school would create extreme hardship for my family. We are on the opposite side of Brookfield from the elementary school. The Randolph and Braintree campuses are even further from our home. Williamstown is the same distance but is the most convenient based on my commute. I work in the Chittenden County Trial Court system in the Juvenile docket.

Logistically, Jurgen would have get on a bus by 6:45 a.m. or I would have to take him over to Brookfield Elementary. I would then drive Ellie, his sister (a rising 10th grader at Williamstown High School) for her to be on campus by 8:00 a.m. At the end of a school day, with Jurgen all the way in Brookfield, it would be hard if not impossible for him to continue to participate in his Williamstown Youth Sports activities because of the long bus ride home from the opposite side of Town.

Our home is so close to the Williamstown line it is much more manageable for me to take Ellie (and hopefully Jurgen) to school in Williamstown. And, due to the fact that my office is in Burlington and my law practice is in the Chittenden County Burlington Costello Courthouse, Williamstown Middle High School is in a much more convenient location.

As far as tuition is concerned, I am a juvenile public defender in Chittenden County. I work for the State of Vermont and am not able to afford tuition.

My children and I feel safe and comfortable within the Williamstown school system. We are members of its youth sports association. We know the Williamstown coaches, families, and athletes. Jurgen's teammates from soccer, town basketball, and AAU basketball predominately live in Williamstown and attend the Williamstown Middle School. These are boys he has been in sports with for three years. He has had basketball games and some practices in the Williamstown Middle High School gym and is familiar with the school building.

Additionally, Jurgen's older sister is an exceptional 9th (almost 10th) grade student at Williamstown High School. As a parent I am familiar with and have great communication with the school faculty.

I prefer my son to attend a school where he is familiar and comfortable. A school where his sister is in the same building. A school with his teammates and familiar parents. His tutor agrees that this is the best way to ensure a smoother and less stressful transition back into the traditional classroom.

Yesterday, June 11th, Jurgen enjoyed an entire day at Williamstown Middle School doing a "shadow day," in the company of one of his basketball buddies. He had a great experience and hopes to make it in for this Fall.

I am certain this is in his best interest. Please consider an arrangement that would allow Jurgen to thrive in Williamstown like his older sister. Please consider our request at your July 9th School Board Meeting. Thank you.

Sincerely,

 Catherine Hayes

(802) -299-6334

Catherine.Hayes@vermont.gov

To the Members of the Board,

My name is Nathan Wright, and I am writing to formally express my interest in filling the vacant seat on the Orange Southwest Supervisory Union School Board.

I am a lifelong member of this community and a proud graduate of Randolph Union High School, Class of 1995. My educational journey began at Brookfield Elementary School, where I attended from kindergarten through sixth grade—during which time my uncle served as principal. From there, I continued my education at Randolph Union High School, completing grades 8 through 12.

This district holds a special place in my heart—not only as an alumnus, but also as a parent. I have three children who have either attended or are currently enrolled in our local schools, and it's that personal connection that inspires my desire to serve.

I am deeply committed to ensuring our schools remain a place where all students can learn, grow, and thrive—not just academically, but as individuals preparing for life beyond graduation. I want to help Randolph reclaim the strong reputation it once held, not simply by meeting minimum expectations, but by exceeding them. We should strive to be the standard that others look to when imagining what a successful and forward-thinking school district looks like.

I believe that serving on the school board is one meaningful way I can give back to the community that helped shape me. I would be honored to contribute my voice, perspective, and dedication to the continued success of our schools.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Nathan Wright
127 Radio Dr.
Randolph, VT 05060

Orange Southwest Supervisory District
24 Central St.
Randolph VT 05060

Ronald Wold
277 Hollyhock Hill Rd.
Randolph VT 05060

July 4, 2025

Dear Mr. Clark and the Members of the OSSD Board,

Please consider me for the open position on the OSSD School Board. I am interested in the position because I believe that every student should have access to an excellent education that includes the arts, the humanities and the sciences, and are able to connect these to their lives in the community. Twelve years ago, we moved to Vermont from New Hampshire to raise our family here and fully participate in this community. The next few years will be a pivotal time for public education in Randolph, and in Vermont. I hope I can help.

As for my background, I am a professional classical musician with a variety of other interests. I have taught music students at the high school and college level, including teaching many students at RUHS. I have also worked as a substitute teacher and as a volunteer at RTCC, as well as a senior project mentor and panel member. For the past two years I have been working as a professor of Diesel and Automotive Mechanics at VTSU in Randolph. I have been involved with several community organizations, including co-hosting The Heat of the House radio program with Representative Jay Hooper on WCVR, as well as broadcasting RUHS sports on the radio. I have also spent time on the board of the Chandler Center for the Arts, including serving as board President for a time.

If appointed to the board, I will bring curiosity, strong research skills, and an appreciation for all aspects of education. Having worked with the Chandler board, I have an understanding of what makes a governing organization function well, and I look forward to working with the current board to achieve that vision.

Together, we can build excellent schools for all of our students. Thank you for your consideration. I can be reached at (617) 794-6122 or at ronewold@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

Ron Wold

Beverly Lauchner
325 Vermont Route 66
Randolph, Vt, 05060
917-318-4780
bevlauchner@gmail.com

July 5, 2025

Mr. Michael Clark
OSSD Superintendent
24 Central St.
Randolph VT 05060

Dear Superintendent Clark and OSSD School Board,

Hello. My name is Beverly Lauchner, and I am interested in the open position on the Orange Southwest School Board. I believe my dedication to public education and my previous civic experience make me a good fit for this role.

Public education is a powerful agent of change, allowing opportunities for growth, advancement, and well-being. But this is only possible with the right supports in place. I am interested in providing this support to our local faculty, staff, and students. Not only am I married to a 24-year veteran public high school English teacher, but I have previous teaching experience as well. I developed and taught a Culinary Arts Career and Technical Education Program for high school students as well as a Human Nutrition course at the community college level. Both of these experiences enhanced my understanding and appreciation for the challenges public educators face.

Serving the community has always been a priority for me and has allowed me to enhance important skills I can bring to the board. My time as an elected official on the Leadville, Colorado City Council, as well as serving as Mayor Pro Tem, allowed me the opportunity to manage and control a multi-million-dollar budget, oversee staffing/personnel decisions for government employees, craft local ordinances, and control city real estate and personal property. I also helped oversee the revitalization and restoration of Leadville's historic downtown district when serving as the chair of the Leadville Urban Renal Authority Board. We reviewed and submitted grant applications and allocated dollars to help beautify and rebuild crumbling infrastructure and historic buildings. I also gained experience crafting governing documents for nonprofits, including policies, bylaws, and mission statement when I served as the Board president for Lake County Build a Generation. This nonprofit organization dedicated to combating health inequalities in the community, transitioned from a government agency to a nonprofit under my tenure in this role. Finally, serving on the Head Start Policy Council for two years allowed for added insight into the day-to-day operations, funding complexities, and program decisions of this pivotal educational program. I believe my involvement in these various community and civic organizations have augmented my leadership abilities, particularly relationship building and collaboration—skills that will serve me well as a member of the OSSD School Board.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Beverly Lauchner, MS, RDN, LD