



Orange Southwest School District

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Proudly Serving the Towns of Braintree, Brookfield, and Randolph

June 25,2026

To the Orange Southwest School District Community,

At its June meeting, the Orange Southwest School District Board of Directors (the School Board) voted to discontinue active exploration of the district reconfiguration concept presented by Superintendent Clark in April 2026.

This decision applies specifically to the reconfiguration concept presented this spring, which proposed consolidating district schools into specialized grade-level hubs and closing Brookfield Elementary. It is separate from and does not affect the district's obligations under Vermont Act 955, which governs supervisory union restructuring and redistricting at the state level. The board will continue to fulfill its responsibilities under that process as required by law.

This decision was not made lightly. The superintendent identified real challenges facing this district, including rising out-of-district placement costs, staffing pressures, and long-term financial sustainability. Those challenges remain, and the board is committed to working with the superintendent to address them through the budget and planning process.

The board also heard clearly from the communities of Brookfield, Braintree, and Randolph. The level of engagement at the April meeting, and in the weeks since, reflects how deeply families and community members across this district care about their schools. That engagement mattered and it was heard.

Moving forward, the board has directed the superintendent to bring alternative strategies for addressing the district's financial and educational challenges through the regular budget process. We are committed to doing that work transparently and with ongoing community input.

We are grateful to Superintendent Clark for initiating this conversation well in advance of any deadline, and to every community member who participated. That kind of engagement makes this district stronger.

Sincerely,

The Orange Southwest School District Board of Directors