

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SUPERVISORY UNION

**Budget To Be Voted
March 5, 2024**

Informational Meeting is
Thursday, February 29, 2024

MVSD BUDGET REPORT

Mountain Views School District Board Report

In 2023, the work of the Mountain Views School District Board was focused on several key steps to enhance teaching and learning in our schools.

Continuing to leverage pandemic-era ESSR funds to overcome learning loss, the district made key investments in math and reading education this year. Following intensive professional development, our math teachers created foundational agreements to advance teaching practices, engagement, high-quality instructional resources, and learning assessments. Similar investments in student literacy based on the science of reading culminated in a new 90% reading proficiency standard for the district. With historical measures around 65%, this represents an ambitious goal, but one our educators have eagerly taken on with new methods and exciting early results.

Following a district-wide assessment, the Board also approved additional administrative and educational resources at our elementary schools to address socio-emotional behavioral concerns using restorative approaches.

With voter approval of three ballot measures last spring, the Board was able to make significant progress on improving the conditions of our school buildings. A \$1.75M project was completed to replace the roof at Killington Elementary. A \$1.2M upgrade project was required to extend the service life of the heating system at Woodstock Union High School

after losing the use of 6 classrooms last winter.

As the maintenance team worked steadily to keep up the MS/HS building, district voters also approved \$1.65M for architectural services needed to complete the detailed design of the new Middle and High School Building. PC Construction was hired in October as the construction management firm for the project. Soon after, PCI Project Consulting were retained as owners' representatives to help complete project costing and value engineering. In December, their work resulted in \$16.5M in cost reductions to achieve a final construction cost of \$90M for the new building. With permitting, site work, and furnishings, voters will be asked to approve a \$99M total project cost in March of 2024. At a square foot price of \$569/square foot, this is among the most efficient school projects currently planned for construction in the state, with 5 other Vermont school buildings ranging from \$633 to \$726/square foot.

We are thankful for the commitment of fellow Board members, and of our exceptional administrators, educators, and school staff. Through all of our collective dedication to the students of our district, we have made real progress in overcoming the challenges presented by the pandemic, as well as tackling infrastructure issues long in the making. We look forward to continuing our important work together in the year to come.

**Keri Bristow, Chair, Mountain Views School District Board
Ben Ford, Vice Chair, Mountain Views School District Board**

Due to Vermont Legislature's last minute discussion of probable Act 127 changes on Thursday, Feb 1st, the Mountain Views School District Board held an emergency meeting on Friday, Feb. 2nd to revise the proposed FY25 operating budget that will be presented to voters. This came into effect after the board had submitted all of the reports to the towns for their Town Reports, which had already been printed. What appears in this insert will be different from the Town Reports.

MVSU Superintendent's Message

While we continue to feel the impact of the Covid years, we strive to return to the rituals, routines, and rhythms of previous years. Our students and their families require a level of care and compassion that previously was not needed, but now our teachers, Social Emotional Coaches, staff, administrators, and district leaders work hard to listen to their needs and address their concerns. This culture of empathy and belonging is pervasive in our school communities.

Five years ago a District Strategic Plan was crafted by parents, community members, Board representatives, students, teachers, and administrators. This year we have begun the process of creating our next five year MVSU Strategic Plan. The current Design Team, that includes all of these stakeholders, reviewed the current Portrait of a Graduate and provided feedback to make the wording more accessible and inclusive of current work and policies. The Design Team has also provided school leaders with guidance on Priority Areas and Goals. By February 2024, a draft will be presented to the Board of the Priority Areas, Goals, and Strategies for the next five years with a finalized document to share in May.

Professional growth has always been a priority for the District.

Educators in the Elementary, Middle and High Schools are continuing to develop the skills necessary to meet the Literacy and Math goals for proficiency. The Unified Arts Team is looking to create integrated learning experiences that link their coursework with those of content area teachers. A group of secondary teachers created rubrics and scaffolding to embed greater creativity in assessments. Principals and Directors have attended national conferences as participants and presenters.

On World Teachers Day, each teacher and staff member who has served 10, 20, or 30 years in this district received a marble or brass apple. Inscribed on the apple was a recognition of their years of work, and in the case of 20-plus year employees, the award also included their name and years of service. We have six team members who have been with us for more than 30 years. They are Jamie Gidney (BA), Jenny Hewitt (BA), Sharon Groblicki (BA), Lisa Kaja (RES), Tim Brennan (WUHS) and William Chamberlain (WUHS/MS). It was great to celebrate with the students these amazing teachers and staff members, and to finally formally recognize their contributions.

Sherry Sousa, MVSU Superintendent

FINAL FY24 TAX RATES CALCULATION

	<u>Barnard</u>	<u>Bridgewater</u>	<u>Killington</u>	<u>Plymouth</u>	<u>Pomfret</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Woodstock</u>
FY23 Equalized Tax Rate	\$1.5122	\$1.5122	\$1.5122	\$1.5122	\$1.5122	\$1.5122	\$1.5122
CLA	0.7637	0.8115	0.6160	0.7702	0.8215	0.8262	0.7537
Homestead Property Tax Rate	\$1.9933	\$1.8759	\$2.4713	\$1.9765	\$1.4632	\$1.8425	\$2.0198
FY23 Homestead Prop Tax Rate	\$1.7043	\$1.7456	\$2.0020	\$1.7340	\$1.5571	\$1.5205	\$1.8671
Increase (Decrease) from FY23	\$0.2890	\$0.1303	\$0.4693	\$0.2425	(\$0.0939)	\$0.3220	\$0.1527
Percentage Change from FY 23	16.96%	7.46%	23.44%	13.99%	-6.03%	21.18%	8.18%

PROJECTED FY25 TAX RATES CALCULATION

	<u>Barnard</u>	<u>Bridgewater</u>	<u>Killington</u>	<u>Plymouth</u>	<u>Pomfret</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Woodstock</u>
FY24 Equalized Tax Rate	\$1.5984	\$1.5984	\$1.5984	\$1.5984	\$1.5984	\$1.5984	\$1.5984
CLA	0.6436	0.7432	0.5235	0.6225	1.0053	0.7643	0.6365
Homestead Property Tax Rate	\$2.4835	\$2.1507	\$3.0533	\$2.5677	\$1.5900	\$2.0913	\$2.5112
FY24 Homestead Prop Tax Rate	\$1.9933	\$1.8759	\$2.4713	\$1.9765	\$1.4632	\$1.8425	\$2.0198
Increase (Decrease) from FY24	\$0.4902	\$0.2748	\$0.5820	\$0.5912	\$0.1268	\$0.2488	\$0.4914
Percentage Change from FY 24	24.59%	14.65%	23.55%	29.91%	8.66%	13.50%	24.33%

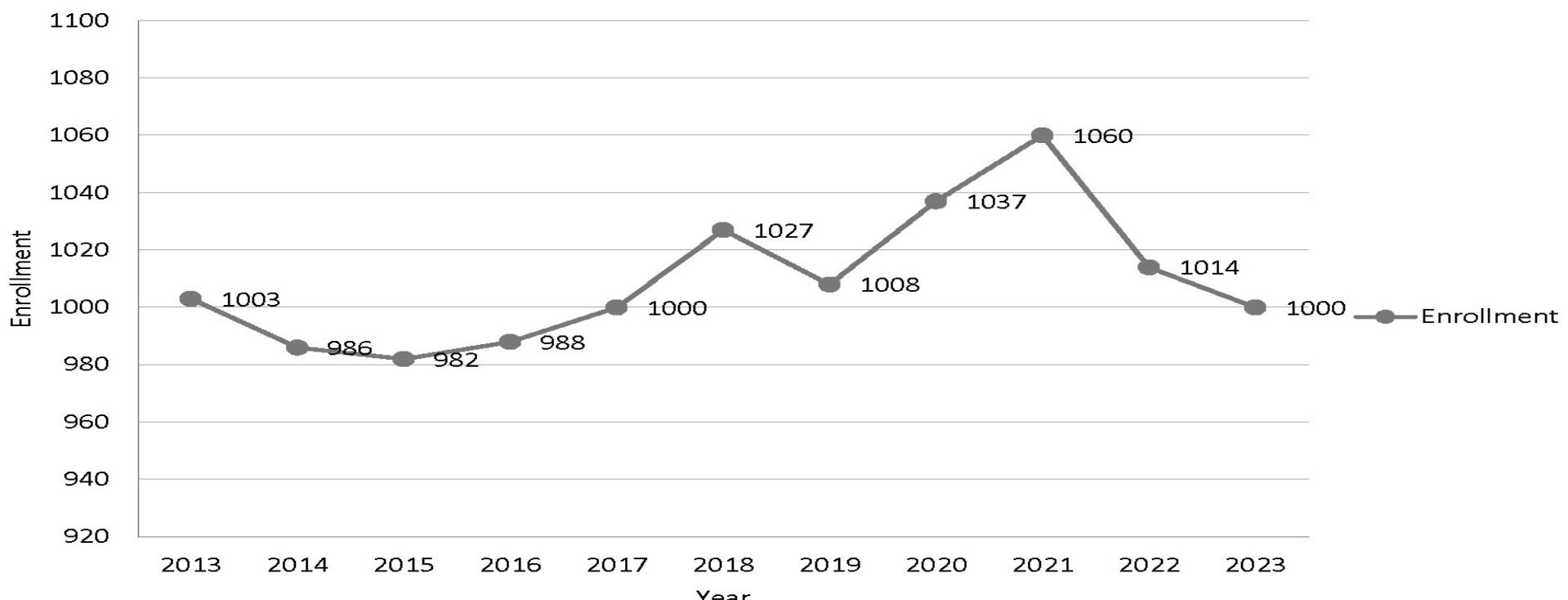
WCSU ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2023

Elementary School Enrollment	On-Site PreK	K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Total PreK-6
Barnard Academy	11	10	8	4	8	15	5	10	71
Killington Elementary School	22	13	10	15	8	20	13	11	112
Reading Elementary School	8	4	7	4	5	6			34
The Prosper Valley School							34	42	76
Woodstock Elementary School	43	54	24	38	48	46			253
TOTAL ELEMENTARY	84	81	49	61	69	87	52	63	546

Secondary School Enrollment -WUHSMS

Grade 7	65	MS TOTAL 130	WCUUSD resident students = 905 Tuition students from sending towns = 89 Act 129 VT High School Choice = 6	
Grade 8	65			
Grade 9	84	HS TOTAL 324		
Grade 10	80			
Grade 11	75			
Grade 12	85			
TOTAL SECONDARY	454		TOTAL ENROLLMENT 1000	

WCSU Enrollment: 10 year comparison PreK -12th grade



WCSU & WCUUSD PROPOSED BUDGET FY - 25

FUNCTION CODE SUMMARY

	FY24 WCUUSD Adopted Budget	FY24 WCSU Adopted Budget	FY24 Adopted Budget	FY25 MVSD Adopted Budget	FY25 MVSU Adopted Budget	FY25 Proposed Budget	Change Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
1100 Regular Instruction Program	\$9,823,363.09	\$0.00	\$9,823,363.09	\$11,515,988.00	\$0.00	\$11,515,988.00	\$1,692,624.91	17.231%
1200 Special Education	\$0.00	\$3,037,437.00	\$3,037,437.00	\$0.00	\$3,635,378.00	\$3,635,378.00	\$597,941.00	19.686%
1300 Vocational Tuition Local	\$290,000.00	\$0.00	\$290,000.00	\$285,000.00	\$0.00	\$285,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	-1.724%
1400/1500 Co-Curricular Programs	\$508,718.00	\$0.00	\$508,718.00	\$550,383.00	\$0.00	\$550,383.00	\$41,665.00	8.190%
2100 Student Support Services	\$0.00	\$18,879.00	\$18,879.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$18,879.00)	-100.000%
2120 Guidance Services	\$960,474.00	\$0.00	\$960,474.00	\$1,201,597.00	\$0.00	\$1,201,597.00	\$241,123.00	25.105%
2130 School Nurse Services	\$440,433.00	\$0.00	\$440,433.00	\$502,299.00	\$0.00	\$502,299.00	\$61,866.00	14.047%
2140 Psychological Services	\$0.00	\$184,955.00	\$184,955.00	\$0.00	\$218,447.00	\$218,447.00	\$33,492.00	18.108%
2150 Speech and Other Therapy Services	\$0.00	\$307,160.00	\$307,160.00	\$0.00	\$374,971.00	\$374,971.00	\$67,811.00	22.077%
2160 Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Visions Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
2190 Other Student Services	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$20,232.00	\$24,732.00	\$20,732.00	518.300%
2212 Curriculum Development	\$276,725.00	\$161,395.00	\$438,120.00	\$0.00	\$173,586.00	\$173,586.00	(\$264,534.00)	-60.379%
2213 School Leadership	\$0.00	\$27,383.00	\$27,383.00	\$617,074.00	\$22,000.00	\$639,074.00	\$611,691.00	2233.835%
2215 Teaching & Learning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
2220 Library Services	\$411,806.00	\$0.00	\$411,806.00	\$248,509.00	\$0.00	\$248,509.00	(\$163,297.00)	-39.654%
2230 Technology Services	\$506,180.00	\$145,604.00	\$651,784.00	\$559,659.00	\$157,955.00	\$717,614.00	\$65,830.00	10.100%
2310 School Board	\$38,471.00	\$19,625.00	\$58,096.00	\$35,400.00	\$31,188.00	\$66,588.00	\$8,492.00	14.617%
2315 Legal Services	\$9,000.00	\$41,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$32,000.00	\$43,000.00	(\$7,000.00)	-14.000%
2317 Audit Services	\$0.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$47,500.00	\$47,500.00	\$2,500.00	5.556%
2320 Superintendent's Office	\$0.00	\$371,715.00	\$371,715.00	\$0.00	\$397,928.00	\$397,928.00	\$26,213.00	7.052%
2410 School Administration	\$1,750,070.91	\$0.00	\$1,750,070.91	\$2,092,231.00	\$0.00	\$2,092,231.00	\$342,160.09	19.551%
2420 Director of Instructional Support Services	\$0.00	\$166,270.00	\$166,270.00	\$0.00	\$320,190.00	\$320,190.00	\$153,920.00	92.572%
2495 Grant Writing	\$0.00	\$55,739.00	\$55,739.00	\$0.00	\$58,966.00	\$58,966.00	\$3,227.00	100.000%
2510 Fiscal Services	\$81,500.00	\$0.00	\$81,500.00	\$101,500.00	\$0.00	\$101,500.00	\$20,000.00	24.540%
2520 Director of Finance and Operations	\$0.00	\$475,929.00	\$475,929.00	\$0.00	\$535,461.00	\$535,461.00	\$59,532.00	12.509%
2540 Planning, Research, Development	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	(\$5,000.00)	-55.556%
2570 Human Resources	\$0.00	\$117,383.00	\$117,383.00	\$0.00	\$125,666.00	\$125,666.00	\$8,283.00	100.000%
2600 Building and Grounds	\$2,955,494.00	\$41,885.00	\$2,997,379.00	\$3,227,763.00	\$41,725.00	\$3,269,488.00	\$272,109.00	9.078%
2700 Transportation	\$683,352.00	\$99,500.00	\$782,852.00	\$787,391.00	\$90,365.00	\$877,756.00	\$94,904.00	12.123%
3100 Transfer to Food Services	\$1,052,248.00	\$0.00	\$1,052,248.00	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	(\$852,248.00)	-80.993%
4700 Building Improvements	\$399,000.00	\$0.00	\$399,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$0.00	\$450,000.00	\$51,000.00	12.782%
5000 Debt Services	\$1,103,449.00	\$0.00	\$1,103,449.00	\$1,078,822.00	\$0.00	\$1,078,822.00	(\$24,627.00)	-2.232%
5500 Sub-Grants	\$0.00	\$245,000.00	\$245,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$245,000.00)	-100.000%
Total Expenses	\$21,303,284.00	\$5,561,859.00	\$ 26,865,143.00	\$ 23,473,116.00	\$ 6,283,558.00	\$ 29,756,674.00	\$ 2,891,531.00	10.763%

Killington Elementary School Principal's Report

The 2022-2023 school year was filled with joy in teaching and learning. Current enrollment for grades Prekindergarten through grade six is 117 with students coming from within the school district and from Pittsfield.

Parents and Educators Aligned for Killington Students (PEAKS) celebrated the culmination of their mission to support the playground expansion project with the installation of the donor-recognition

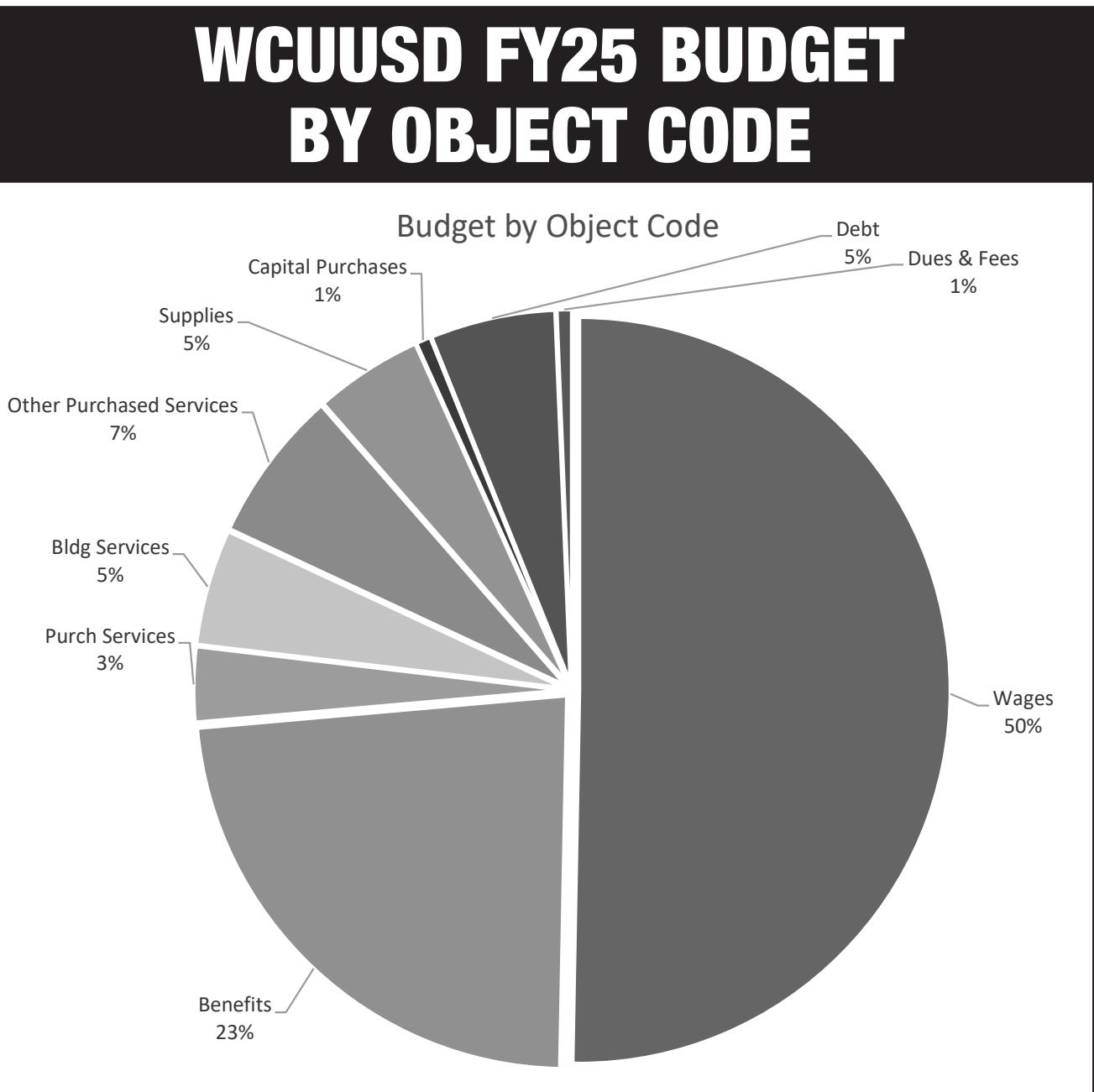
brick walkway from the bridge to the playground. The Grand Open-

ing of the playground took place during an ice cream social prior to the first day of school on August 28, 2023. A final opportunity to purchase a brick for the walkway was extended through the fall of 2023. Thank you to all of the contributors who participated in this fundraising event and to PEAKS for their tireless efforts in supporting a safe play place for all students at KES.

KES Faculty are committed to strengthening capacity in teaching mathematics and reading. KES Teachers in grades K-5 engaged in over 40 hours of intensive training in best practices in literacy instruction based on the science of reading. Likewise, KES math teachers in grades 5 & 6 joined the Woodstock middle and high school teachers to create essential agreements in teaching mathematics consistently across the district.

KES continues to support educational

See KILLINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - Page 8



**Windsor Central Unified Union School District
(a.k.a. Mountain Views School District)**
<https://mtnviews.org>

FY25 BUDGET:
 Budget financial details will be posted on our website as documents become available. Visit: MVSU website > About > Budget

AUDIT STATEMENT:
 The financial records are being audited by RHR Smith & Company for the year ending June 30, 2023. Copies of the completed audit, when available, may be requested by calling the Director of Finance & Operations at 802-457-1213, ext. 1089, or visit: MVSU website > About > District Finances

Reading Elementary School Principal's Report

The Reading Elementary School experienced a year full of enriched learning opportunities for both students and staff in the 2022-2023 school year. Current enrollment for grades Pre-K-Kindergarten through fourth is 34, with students coming from multiple towns within the MVSU district and Weathersfield.

Over the course of the 2022-2023 school year, RES faculty took part in a multitude of activities that increased their skills as educators with the overall goal of benefiting student learning and growth. All RES educators participated in the LETRS program, which is an intensive training in best practices in literacy instruction based on the science of reading.

The core academics at RES are also supported with genuine experiences that connect our school to the surrounding communities. In the past year, students engaged in artist residencies with the Saint Gaudens National Historical Park sculptor, visited Sculpture Fest in Woodstock, traveled to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, and participated in hands-on learning with the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Students have also made meaningful

connections within the Reading community by partnering with a local resident to plant and harvest pumpkins behind the fire department, collaborating with the town librarian to carve pumpkins, and visiting the renowned Hall Art Foundation.

These experiences would not have been possible without the support received from the generosity of donors in our school and community. Both the Hall Art Foundation and

the Reading PTO are exceptional supporters of our school. The support allows for RES students to partake in learning opportunities directed at growing as a whole.

READING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Finally, we are grateful to parents and the larger community for their support of our students. Together, as a team, we create a safe, welcoming environment that allows all students to prosper.

Brandon Hill, RES Principal

WCUUSD PROJECT REVENUES FY2025

	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY25 Budgeted
Local Revenue						
Tuition From Other LEA's	\$1,880,606	\$1,704,757	\$1,787,500	\$1,565,064	\$1,588,335	\$1,767,319
Tuition by Parent/Patron - Pre-School	\$12,525	\$7,783	\$16,000	\$13,427	\$12,000	\$9,000
Interest Earned	\$36,000	\$15,755	\$18,500	\$47,709	\$17,000	\$23,000
Rental Income	\$45,000	\$5,000	\$45,000	\$5,618	\$50,000	\$7,500
Miscellaneous Local Revenues	\$0	\$7,985	\$6,500	\$52,663	\$6,500	\$6,500
SU Services to Others	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$0
Prior Year Surplus Applied	\$211,624	\$0	\$350,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
Food Service Program	\$18,758	\$54,122	\$18,750	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Local Revenue	\$2,234,513	\$1,825,402	\$2,272,250	\$1,714,482	\$1,973,835	\$1,813,319
State and Federal Revenue						
Education Spending Grant	\$17,181,711	\$17,262,242	\$18,258,064	\$18,890,726	\$19,599,186	\$25,172,953
Small Schools Grant	\$149,627	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Transportation Reimb	\$442,798	\$217,406	\$266,978	\$266,978	\$266,978	\$266,978
State Pre-K Subsidy	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$713	\$0	\$0
Ed Fund Payment to Tech Center	\$151,202	\$176,302	\$147,557	\$148,732	\$165,000	\$148,000
Driver's Education Reimbursement	\$4,000	\$2,107	\$6,000	\$4,254	\$6,000	\$4,000
Vocational Ed Transportation	\$25,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$36,060	\$35,000	\$36,000
High School Completion Grant	\$0	\$524	\$0	\$12,190	\$0	\$0
State Food Service Program Revenues	\$8,046	\$27,955	\$9,200	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal School Lunch Program	\$398,573	\$647,320	\$401,826	\$0	\$647,320	\$0
Total State and Federal Revenue	\$18,360,957	\$18,333,856	\$19,124,625	\$19,359,653	\$20,719,484	\$25,627,931
Special Education						
Special Ed Excess Cost Revenue	\$235,748	\$218,500	\$218,500	\$155,129	\$218,500	\$155,000
Special Ed Block Grant	\$386,789	\$386,789	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
Special Ed Act 173 Block Grant	\$0	\$0	\$1,617,647	\$1,617,647	\$1,803,408	\$2,007,133
SPED Reimbursement - Extraordinary	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$95,795	\$0	\$0
SPED Coord charges to Pittsfield	\$0	\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$9,000	\$9,000
Special Ed Expenditures Reimbursement	\$1,459,071	\$1,425,933	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Ed State Placed Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SPED ED Service to other LEAs	\$0	(\$208,093)	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
Early Essential Education Grant	\$80,816	\$71,048	\$76,067	\$76,067	\$76,067	\$114,291
Total Special Education	\$2,162,424	\$1,903,177	\$1,912,214	\$1,944,638	\$2,136,975	\$2,315,424
Total Revenues	\$22,757,894	\$22,062,435	\$23,309,089	\$23,018,773	\$24,830,294	\$29,756,674

WARNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WINDSOR CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT a.k.a. MOUNTAIN VIEWS SCHOOL DISTRICT

MARCH 5, 2024

The legal voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District, a.k.a. Mountain Views School District, comprising the voters of the Towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock, are hereby **WARNED** and **NOTIFIED** to **VOTE**, in accordance with H.42 of the 2023 Legislative Session and signed by the Governor on January, 25, 2023, by **AUSTRALIAN BALLOT** either via mail as provided by their respective Town Clerk or at their respective Town polling places hereinafter named for the above-referenced towns on **Tuesday, March 5, 2024**, during the polling hours noted below.

The voters residing in each member district will cast their ballots in the polling places designated for their town as follows:

Barnard Town Hall, 115 North Road	10 am - 7 pm
Bridgewater Town Clerk's Office, 45 Southgate Loop	8 am - 7 pm
Killington Town Hall, 2706 River Road	7 am - 7 pm
Plymouth Municipal Building, 68 Town Office Road	10 am - 7 pm
Pomfret Town Offices, 5218 Pomfret Road	8 am - 7 pm
Reading Town Hall, 799 VT-106	7 am - 7 pm
Woodstock Town Hall, 31 The Green	7 am - 7 pm

ARTICLES TO BE VOTED ON BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT- MARCH 5, 2024

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator who shall assume office upon election and shall serve for a term of one year or until their successor is elected and qualified.

ARTICLE 2: To elect a Clerk who shall enter upon their duties on July 1 following their election and shall serve a term of one year or until their successor is elected and qualified.

ARTICLE 3: To elect a Treasurer who shall enter upon their duties on July 1 following their election and shall serve a term of one year or until their successor is elected and qualified.

ARTICLE 4: To fix the salary for District Treasurer in the amount of \$7,500.00 for 2024-2025.

ARTICLE 5: The legal voters of the specified towns designated within this itemized Article shall elect only their director(s) as follows:

- Barnard: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Bridgewater: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Killington: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified

- Pomfret: one school director to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified
- Woodstock: two school directors to assume office upon election and serve a term of three years or until their successor is elected and qualified

ARTICLE 6: Shall the voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District, a.k.a. Mountain Views School District, approve the school board to expend Twenty-Nine Million Seven Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Four and 00/100 Dollars (\$29,756,674.00), 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 \$16,552.00 per Long Term Weighted (LTW) equalized pupil.

ARTICLE 7: **The Mountain Views School District proposes to incur bonded indebtedness for the purpose of construction of a new Union Middle/High School and to install athletic fields and related outbuildings and structures, and to demolish, remove and dispose of the existing Woodstock Union Middle/High School in Woodstock, Vermont, in an amount not to exceed \$99,000,000.**

The Vermont school construction aid program has been suspended since 2007. Accordingly, State funds may not be available at the time this project is otherwise eligible to receive State school construction aid. The District is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing by the District for the Project in anticipation of State school construction aid. To meet this responsibility while limiting impacts to district taxpayers, the district intends to use other funding sources such as Inflation Reduction Act funding for renewable energy projects and amounts raised through private fundraising.

Shall the bonds of the Mountain Views School District in an amount not to exceed \$99,000,000 be issued for the purpose of construction of a new Union Middle/High School and to install athletic fields and related outbuildings and structures, and to demolish, remove and dispose of the existing Woodstock Union Middle/High School?

Upon closing of the polls, pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §741(b)(2), the ballots will be counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock.

The legal voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification and registration relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Section 706(u) of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 2nd day of February 2024 in Woodstock, Vermont.

WINDSOR CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

a.k.a. MOUNTAIN VIEWS SCHOOL DISTRICT

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

WARNING, NOTICE, and AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

The legal voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District, a.k.a. Mountain Views School District, comprising the voters of the Towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock, are hereby **WARNED** and **NOTIFIED** that an **INFORMATIONAL HEARING** will be held at the Woodstock Union Middle and High School library, located in the Town of Woodstock, Vermont, on Thursday February 29, 2024, commencing at 6:30PM to discuss the Australian ballot articles of the 2024 Annual Unified Union District Meeting Warning. Additionally, the Public Informational Hearing will be accessible through electronic means (online meeting).

Information on how to access the remote hearing:

Topic: WCUUSD/MVSD Informational Hearing

Time: February 29, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Meeting ID: 893 0245 0476

Passcode: 525685

- **By computer:** Join Zoom meeting at <https://wcsu-net.zoom.us/j/89302450476?pwd=ZHJoY2QvTDhHZ3g0dTQxckNLdjC2UT09>
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- **By telephone:** Dial: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) or +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
Enter the meeting ID: 893 0245 0476 and passcode: 525685 if prompted.

AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

- 6:30PM: Call to Order
- 6:35PM: Additions or deletions to the agenda
 - Public comment
- 6:40PM: To hear the reports of the School District Board of Directors
 - Public comment
- 6:45PM Review and Discuss: **Article 4:** To fix the salary for District Treasurer in the amount of \$7,500.00 for 2024-2025.
 - Public comment
- 6:50PM: Review and discuss **Article 6:** Shall the voters of the Windsor Central Unified Union School District, a.k.a. Mountain Views School District, approve the school board to expend Twenty-Nine Million Seven Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Four and 00/100 Dollars (\$29,756,674.00), 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 \$16,552.00 per Long Term Weighted (LTW) equalized pupil.
 - Public comment

- 7:10PM: Review and discuss **Article 7: The Mountain Views School District proposes to incur bonded indebtedness for the purpose of construction of a new Union Middle/High School and to install athletic fields and related outbuildings and structures, and to demolish, remove and dispose of the existing Woodstock Union Middle/High School in Woodstock, Vermont, in an amount not to exceed \$99,000,000.**

The Vermont school construction aid program has been suspended since 2007. Accordingly, State funds may not be available at the time this project is otherwise eligible to receive State school construction aid. The District is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing by the District for the Project in anticipation of State school construction aid. To meet this responsibility while limiting impacts to district taxpayers, the district intends to use other funding sources such as Inflation Reduction Act funding for renewable energy projects and amounts raised through private fundraising.

Shall the bonds of the Mountain Views School District in an amount not to exceed \$99,000,000 be issued for the purpose of construction of a new Union Middle/High School and to install athletic fields and related outbuildings and structures, and to demolish, remove and dispose of the existing Woodstock Union Middle/High School?

- Public comment
- 7:30PM: Discussion of other non-binding business (if applicable)
- 7:35PM: Entertain motion to adjourn hearing.

KILLINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL From Page 5

opportunities for learning including: Instrumental Music Lessons and Band, Four Winds Nature Program, Student Leadership, Starbase, Trailblazers Ski Program, writing and art contests, and PEAKS annually sponsored One School One Book. KES partners with the Town of Killington to offer a state-licensed afterschool program available to PreK - 6 students Monday through Friday, 3 PM - 5:30 PM,

allowing qualifying families to apply for subsidized payments for the program.

KES is extremely grateful to the entire Killington community for the dedication and support of our students. Please visit our website at www.kesvt.org to find photos and newsletters to learn more about our school community.

Mary Guggenberger, KES Principal



WUHS/MS Principal's Report

I am privileged to present a glimpse of the achievements of the students, faculty, and staff at Woodstock Union High School and Middle School. During the 2022-23 academic year, we endeavored to provide personalized, authentic, and student-driven learning experiences for 450 students in grades 7-12. Our student body comes from the seven communities within our district—Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock—and fourteen other communities across the region. We were proud to receive recognition for our college preparation program. Our school received AP Honor Roll Silver from the College Board (one of only two Vermont schools to earn this recognition), acknowledging commitment to equitable access to advanced coursework. The Advanced Placement program includes sixteen classes across seven subject areas. GreatSchools.org honored the high school with a College Success Award for dedication to guiding students through successful college enrollment and transition.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges Commission on Public Schools completed a comprehensive review of our program, including a multi-day visit as part of the decennial accreditation process. The Commission commended many aspects of our school, including “the variety of learning opportunities that are personalized, authentic, and student-driven,” “the professional culture that demonstrates a commitment to continuous improve-

ment,” and “the safe, positive, respectful, and inclusive culture in the school.” In addition to engaging in the accreditation process, teachers worked collaboratively to map the curriculum by subject area or program across grade levels while considering Portrait of a Graduate connections and reviewing curriculum with an equity lens.

**WOODSTOCK
UNION HIGH
SCHOOL/MIDDLE
SCHOOL**

We continued our commitment to flexible pathways and community collaboration through many partnerships, including with Artistree, AVA Art Gallery, the Green Mountain Club, Hall Art Foundation, Kiss the Cow Farm, League of Women Voters, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, NuVu Innovation School, Pentangle Arts, Thompson Senior Center, the United States Forest Service, and many, many more. These partnerships supported numerous programs, including career exploration, job shadowing, CRAFT and C3, and arts and civics education. Vermont Senate Majority Leader Alison Clarkson, Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger '88, and elected officials from both parties from our sending towns met with social studies classes. We are grateful to the organizations and individuals who offered their time and resources to enrich our students' experiences.

More than eighty percent of our students participated in athletics and other extracurricular activities, showcasing excellence on

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Barnard Academy Principal's Report

Barnard Academy is the learning environment for 73 students currently enrolled in Prekindergarten through grade six. We have multi-grade classrooms where students access high quality instruction from experienced teachers. Our faculty, staff, students, and families value being part of a community, engaging in outdoors experiences, and academic growth.

Last spring our performing arts put on a musical "A Salute to Broadway" with outstanding acting from all grade levels Kindergarten through 6th grade. This fall the performance was "A Christmas Carol" created to highlight singing and dancing from all grade levels and holiday traditions. Our STEM classes are inventive

and creative hands-on activities focused on building, programming and experimenting. Our 5th and 6th grade students

have traveled regularly to The Prosper Valley School to build teamwork skills on the new challenge course. Our physical education classes include gymnastics, skateboarding, skating, and many traditional sports. We have enjoyed the experience of Walk-to-School days from the town hall. We held field trips to Boston Museum of Science, VT Institute of Natural Science, Woodstock ski/snowshoeing, local hikes, Plymouth State Park, Marsh-Billings National Park, the zoo, and Bethel Fish Hatchery. We have also held a Fire Safety Day, a Band Concert, and a Field Day.

Our teaching staff in grades K-4 engaged in over 40 hours of intensive training in best practices in literacy instruction. There is enthusiasm and commitment to the highest standards of reading and math instruction. We are supported by a quality interventionist and a Social Emotional Learning teacher to provide students a multi-tiered system of support.

We welcome family and community involvement with the school in the shared commitment to all students' success. The Barnard Educational Endeavor Society (BEES) and the Barnard Education Fund continue to support our school to go further with innovative and exceptional learning experiences. Thank you for the support!

Melissa Zoerheide, BA Principal

The Prosper Valley School Principal's Report

The 2023-2024 school year ushered in continued energy and growth at The Prosper Valley School. We enthusiastically welcomed our incoming 5th grade class, bringing our total student enrollment in grades 5 and 6 to 76 students.

This year multiple new place-based learning initiatives were introduced, enabled by a generous anonymous grant received. A challenge course was constructed, presenting immersive opportunities for team building and personal growth activities. Students also benefited from a hands-on maple sugaring unit utilizing our new and improved on-campus sugaring pan, arch and stack.

Sincere gratitude is due to both The Prosper Valley School Trust and the WES/TPVS PTO for their stalwart financial assistance and community volunteer efforts, allowing our cherished learning programs to thrive. Their stalwart support for experiential learning deeply aligns with our school's vision.

In addition, the annual Harvest Supper was resurrected in 2023 after being

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**PROSPER
VALLEY
SCHOOL**

BUDGET INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The legal voters of Windsor Central Unified Union School District (a.k.a. Mountain Views School District) are warned and notified that an

INFORMATIONAL HEARING

will be held at the Woodstock Union Middle/High School and online via Zoom on

Thursday, February 29, 2024

commencing at

6:30 P.M.

for the purpose of explaining the 2024-2025 proposed budget.

Meeting information and Zoom link can be found on the MVSU website at mtnviews.org under the About tab.

Woodstock Elementary School Principal's Report

During the 2022-2023 school year, there were 251 PreK-4 students enrolled at Woodstock Elementary School. We were thrilled to expand our PreK program yet again to include five classrooms for a total of 66 PreK students enrolled in our school. The 2023-2024 school year opened with an enrollment of 253 students in grades PreK-4. We are happy to serve the children of Bridgewater, Pomfret, Plymouth, and Woodstock as well as those attending via school choice from Barnard and Reading. Our teacher retention over the past year has been very strong, and our staff remains dedicated to our mission to provide a strong foundation and foster perseverance and belonging.

Here are some programmatic highlights for the 2022-2023 school year:

- In the fall of 2022, many teachers at WES began piloting new literacy programs with the goal of identifying a district-wide literacy program that will better meet all students' learning needs. In addition, many WES teachers engaged in a year of intensive training in best practices in literacy instruction through the LETRS program.
- All students in grade K-4 resumed taking Spanish two or three times a week. The student response to learning about Spanish language and culture has been enthusiastic.
- In October, we reintroduced the tradition of a WES Halloween Parade around the Green and were accompanied by parent musicians for a jazz/blues/funk parade.
- Our students participated in fall and winter Walk and Roll to School events sponsored by Local Motion.
- Our school librarian, Joyce Yoo Babbitt, launched a wildly popular weekly 3-minute podcast that featured student voices promoting

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great books.

- In December, all students in grades 1-4 were able to travel to Dartmouth College for education day at the basketball arena and attend a women's basketball game.
- In the new year, students, staff, and families participated in a Winter Wishes kindness and empathy challenge, where people were encouraged to send positive notes to one another through an inter-school mail program.
- In March, our PTO helped launch an effort to reinvigorate parent and caregiver volunteerism in the school to great results, and the PTO pulled off a successful new tradition, a spring carnival, "The Spring Fling."
- Spring also saw the renewal of our traditional in-person talent show, "Show Your Stuff," which featured the talents of students and staff on stage at the Town Hall Theater.
- Our fourth grade students rounded out their time at WES shining as members of a Shakespeare company performing *Hamlet* through Northern Stage's BridgeUP: Theater in the Schools program.

We are grateful for community partners such as Artistree, Billings Farm, Yoh Theater, and Pentangle Arts who graciously invite us to their programming, and more broadly we are thankful for our community's ongoing engagement with and support of our school. We are proud to be a part of this community.

Principal Maggie Mills, WES Principal

POLLING PLACES

The voters residing in each member district will cast their ballots on March 7 in the polling places designated for their town as follows:

Barnard	* Barnard Town Hall - 10 am – 7 pm 115 North Road, Barnard, VT
Bridgewater	* Bridgewater Town Clerk's Office - 8 am – 7 pm 45 Southgate Loop, Bridgewater, VT
Killington	* Killington Town Hall - 7 am – 7 pm 2706 River Road, Killington, VT
Plymouth	* Plymouth Municipal Building - 10 am – 7 pm 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT
Pomfret	* Pomfret Town Offices - 8 am – 7 pm 5218 Pomfret Road, North Pomfret, VT
Reading	* Reading Town Hall - 7 am – 7 pm 799 VT-106, Reading, VT
Woodstock	* Woodstock Town Hall - 7 am – 7 pm 31 The Green, Woodstock, VT

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called off due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It was a huge success! It is always the first Saturday of October so mark your calendars now.

Finally, we are thankful for the anonymous donation of telescopes and telescope parts to our Horizons Observatory which considerably increased astronomy education access. Such a wonderful investment in the Horizons Observatory enables meaningful learning experiences for not only our students but for families, and the larger community.

Moving forward, our students and faculty will continue harnessing our unique campus resources – the observatory, greenhouse and garden, sugar shack, the challenge course and trail system – to sustain interdisciplinary education programs that engage learners in our curriculum through the local environment. We remain committed to leveraging our extraordinary human and environmental assets for the enrichment of current and future students. Go Dragons!

Aaron Cinquemani, TPVS Principal

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and off the field. Several athletic teams, including a unified sports team, competed in state championships, securing four championship titles. The math and scholar's bowl teams won regional and state competitions. The Yoh Theater delivered multiple remarkable performances, enriching our school community with artistic talent. The Social Action Club organized its third Leadership Summit for Social Justice, underscoring the importance of student voice and leadership. Our international travel and exchange programs

returned after a three-year pandemic-induced hiatus, with twenty students traveling to Spain and France. Seventeen seniors earned the state-endorsed Seal of Biliteracy, acknowledging global competency and the ability to communicate across cultures.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the community, and we eagerly anticipate another year of achievements at Woodstock Union High School and Middle School.

Garon Smail, WUHS/MS Principal

MOUNTAIN VIEWS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TOWN	NAME	EMAIL	TERM EXPIRES
BARNARD	Carin Ewing Park	carin.park@mtnviews.org	March 2025
	Bryce Sammel	bryce.sammel@mtnviews.org	March 2024
BRIDGEWATER	Lara Bowers	lara.bowers@mtnviews.org	March 2025
	Ryan Townsend	ryan.townsend@mtnviews.org	March 2024
KILLINGTON	Anne Karl	anne.karle@mtnviews.org	March 2026
	Katie Reed	katie.reed@mtnviews.org	March 2024
PLYMOUTH	Josh Linton	josh.linton@mtnviews.org	March 2026
	Elliot Rubin, MD	elliot.rubin@mtnviews.org	March 2025
POMFRET	Lydia Locke	lydia.locke@mtnviews.org	March 2026
	Bob Crean	bob.crean@mtnviews.org	March 2024
READING	Adam Ameele	adam.ameele@mtnviews.org	March 2025
	Anna Sessa	anna.sessa@mtnviews.org	March 2026
WOODSTOCK	Keri Bristow, Chair	keri.bristow@mtnviews.org	March 2024
	Ben Ford, V.Chair/ Clerk	ben.ford@mtnviews.org	March 2025
	Matt Stout	matthew.stout@mtnviews.org	March 2025
	Sam DiNatale	samantha.dinatale@mtnviews.org	March 2026
	Marianne Ralph	marianne.ralph@mtnviews.org	March 2024
	John Williams	john.williams@mtnviews.org	March 2026