

**SOUTHWEST VERMONT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REMOTE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING  
NOTICE and AGENDA FOR MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021**

The legal voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District in the towns of Bennington, Pownal, Shaftsbury and Woodford are hereby WARNED and NOTICED that the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District Board of Directors will be holding a public informational hearing by electronic means on **Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:45 o'clock in the evening (6:45PM)** to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2021 District Meeting Warning.

**Information on how to access the remote hearing:**

Participants may access the meeting through use of the Zoom computer application/program utilizing meeting ID:977 0617 1049 with passcode: 667514. A direct link is available on the SVSU website- [www.svsu.org](http://www.svsu.org) which also lists call in numbers to access by phone.

**AGENDA FOR MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021**

- Call to Order
- Additions or deletions to the agenda
  - o Public comment
- To hear the reports of the School District Board of Directors
  - o Public comment
- Review and discuss **Article 5: Shall the voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District authorize the School Board of Directors to borrow money in anticipation of tax revenues to meet the current operating expenses of the District during the 2021-2022 school year?**
  - o Public comment
- Review and discuss **Article 6 : Shall the voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District authorize the School Board of Directors to transfer and expend funds, as necessary, from the established and audited capital reserve fund for capital expenses of the Union District?**
  - o Public comment
- Review and discuss **Article 9: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$24,383,351, 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 \$16,346 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 0.63% lower than spending for the current year.**
  - o Public comment
- Review and discuss **Article 10: Shall the voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District ("District"), establish a reserve fund to be funded at the end of each fiscal year from the District's accumulated fund balance, if any, whose purpose shall be to pay future**

**District operating expenses, or to fund (in whole or in part) future capital improvements, or both, as determined by the Board of School Directors?**

- o Public comment
- Discussion of other non-binding business (if applicable)
- Entertain motion to adjourn hearing.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021 in Bennington, Vermont.

**Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District**

**Signatures**

Christopher Murphy, Chair

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*Chris Murphy*  
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Cynthia Brownell, Vice Chair

DocuSigned by:  
*Cindy Brownell*  
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Scott McEnaney, Clerk

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*Scott McEnaney*  
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Richard Frantz

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*Dick Frantz*  
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Susan Hoag

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Jeff Leake

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Chaila Sekora

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Tammy Sohl

DocuSigned by:  
*Tammy Sohl*  
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Received for recording this 29 day of January, 2021.

*Cassandra Barbeau*

Cassandra J. Barbeau, Clerk

Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District

**SOUTHWEST VERMONT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL MEETING WARNING  
TUESDAY MARCH 2, 2021**

The legal voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District (consisting of voters of the Towns of Bennington, Pownal, Shaftsbury and Woodford) are hereby NOTIFIED and WARNED that pursuant to Act 48 of 2021, the following business will be transacted by Australian ballot on Tuesday March 2, 2021:

- Article 1: To set the annual salary of the Moderator at \$100.00
- Article 2: To set the annual salary of the District Clerk at \$1,000.00
- Article 3: To set the annual salary for School Board Directors at \$1,200.00 each
- Article 4: To set the annual salary for the School District Treasurer at \$25,462.00
- Article 5: Shall the voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District authorize the School Board of Directors to borrow money in anticipation of tax revenues to meet the current operating expenses of the District during the 2021-2022 school year?
- Article 6: Shall the voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District authorize the School Board of Directors to transfer and expend funds, as necessary, from the established and audited capital reserve fund for capital expenses of the Union District?
- Article 7: To elect one (1) moderator for a term of three (3) years beginning on July 1, 2021  
To elect one (1) School District Clerk for a term of three (3) years beginning on July 1, 2021  
To elect one (1) School Treasurer for a term of three (3) years beginning on July 1, 2021
- Article 8: To elect School Directors as indicated for such terms to begin immediately. The School Board Directors to be elected, at large, as follows:
- One (1) who are resident and legal voter of the Town of Bennington (3-year term)**
  - One (1) who is a resident and legal voter of the Town of Shaftsbury (3-year term)**
  - One (1) who is a resident and legal voter of the Town of Shaftsbury (1-year to fill unexpired term)**
  - One (1) who is a resident and legal voter of the Town of Woodford (3-year term)**
- Article 9: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$24,383,351, 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 \$16,346 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 0.63% lower than spending for the current year.
- Article 10: Shall the voters of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District ("District"), establish a reserve fund to be funded at the end of each fiscal year from the District's accumulated fund balance, if any, whose purpose shall be to pay future District operating expenses, or to fund (in whole or in part) future capital improvements, or both, as determined by the Board of School Directors?

In person voting will be available at local polling places on March 2, 2021. However the Board encourages the use absentee balloting during this time of COVID-19 in order reduce in person contact and maintain social distancing within the Town offices. To request that an absentee SWUESD ballot is mailed to you, please contact your Town Clerk or by using the "My Voter Page" online resource from the Secretary of State which can be found here: <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. Absentee ballots must be returned before the close of the Town Clerk's office on the day before the election, or to the polling place before 7:00PM on the day of the election, in order to be counted.

Voting at the meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, shall be at large by Australian ballot. The polls will be open as indicated below for each respective town; there will be separate polling places in each of the member districts of which the voter is a resident as follows:

Residents who are legal voters from the Town of Bennington vote at the Bennington Fire House, River Street, Bennington, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00AM to 7:00PM.

Residents who are legal voters from the Town of Pownal vote at the Pownal Center Firehouse, Pownal Center, Vermont. Polls will be open from 10:00AM to 7:00PM.

Residents who are legal voters from the Town of Shaftsbury vote at the Town Garage on North Road, Shaftsbury, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00AM to 7:00PM.

Residents who are legal voters from the Town of Woodford vote at the Woodford Town Building, Route 9, Woodford, Vermont. Polls will be open from 7:00AM to 7:00PM.

**Register to Vote!** Residents of the District may register to vote at their Town Clerk's Office or online at [www.ovr.sec.state.vt.us](http://www.ovr.sec.state.vt.us). Eligible residents registering on Election Day must do so at the polling place where they will cast their Town Meeting ballot.

DATED at Bennington, Vermont this 28th day of January, 2021.

## Signatures

Christopher Murphy, Chair 

Cynthia Brownell, Vice Chair 

Scott McEnaney, Clerk 

Richard Frantz 

Susan Hoag \_\_\_\_\_

Jeff Leake \_\_\_\_\_

Chaila Sekora

Tammy Sohl

DocuSigned by:  
Tammy Sohl  
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Received for recording this 29 day of January, 2021.

Cassandra Barbeau

Cassandra J. Barbeau, Clerk  
Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District

**SOUTHWEST VERMONT UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTICE TO VOTERS WITH RESPECT TO CHECKLIST  
AND ABSENTEE VOTING FOR ANNUAL MEETING  
MARCH 2, 2021**

The checklist for the March 2, 2021 Annual Meeting of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District, is the most recently prepared, posted and revised in accordance with Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The checklist for the March 2, 2021 Annual Meeting has been posted as follows:

**Town Clerk's Office**  
205 South Street  
Bennington, Vermont 05201

**Bennington Public Library**  
Silver St.  
Bennington, Vermont 05201

In addition to the locations specified above, pursuant to Title 16 V.S.A. 706p(a), current checklists and warnings will also be posted in at least one public place in each member school district of the union school district.

**ABSENTEE VOTING:** Voting by absentee ballot is permitted with respect to the Annual Meeting of the Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District, to be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

Absentee voting shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 51, Title 17 of Vermont Statutes Annotated Section 2531 entitled "Application for Absentee Voter ballot."

Application shall be made to the Clerk of the Southwest Vermont union Elementary School District, at the Clerk's regular business office during the Clerk's regular business hours, unless otherwise specified by the Clerk.

A voter who expects to be an early or absentee voter, or an authorized person on behalf of such voter, may apply for an early voter absentee ballot until 5:00 P.M or the closing of the Town Clerk's office on the day preceding the election.