

OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 26, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

The legal voters of the Otter Valley Union Unified School District, consisting of the Towns of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting are hereby notified and warned to meet in person at the Otter Valley Union High School Auditorium on **Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 6:30 PM**, to consider and act upon the following articles (Articles 1-10) and for a public informational hearing to discuss the articles to be voted upon by Australian ballot (Article 11-12). **Legal voters who attend via Zoom may not act upon Articles from the floor but may participate for informational purposes only.** The legal voters are further notified and warned that voting on Articles shall take place by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at the times and places listed for the official polling places of the respective Towns comprising the district below.

Virtual Option for Observing Annual District Meeting

Remote attendees may not act upon Articles from the floor but may participate for informational purposes only. The Meeting link and dial in information can be found on the calendar on the RNESU website: <http://www.rnesu.org>.

To be acted upon on Wednesday, February 26, 2025.

- Article 1: To elect a Moderator who shall assume office immediately and serve a one-year term or until the election and qualification of a successor.
- Article 2: To elect a Clerk who shall assume office on July 1, 2025 and serve a one-year term or until the election and qualification of a successor.
- Article 3: To elect a Treasurer who shall assume office on July 1, 2025 and serve one-year term or until the election and qualification of a successor.
- Article 4: To establish the salaries for the elected officers of the District.
- A. School Directors - \$1,500 per member per year and an additional \$750 for the member serving as the School Board Chair
 - B. Moderator - \$150 per meeting
 - C. Clerk - \$150 per meeting
 - D. Treasurer - \$6,000 per year
- Article 5: To approve all minutes from the last Unified Union District annual meeting to date.
- Article 6: Shall the legal voters authorize the School Board to borrow money by issuance of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026?
- Article 7: Shall the voters approve the Unified Union District's conveyance of a +/-10-acre parcel of land along the easterly boundary of the Otter Valley Union High School (OVUHS) property and southerly of the OVUHS's access driveways, in exchange of One Dollar (\$1.00), to the Valley Community Center (VCC), contingent on VCC securing sufficient funds by March 30, 2027 to construct a community center or recreation facility with related improvements southerly of the OVUHS access driveways with no additional Unified Union District financial commitment to the property or to VCC?
- Article 8: To hear and discuss the Board of School Directors of the Unified Union School District's presentation of its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year as stated in Article 11 to be voted upon by Australian Ballot.
- Article 9: To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.
- Article 10: To adjourn the meeting until 7:00 AM March 4, 2025, when voting by Australian ballot shall commence.

To be voted upon by Australian ballot on March 4, 2025:

- Article 11: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Twenty-eight Million Twenty-two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-nine Dollars (\$28,022,999) which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? The Otter Valley Unified Union School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$13,516, which is

9.38% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year.

Article 12:

To elect the following officers to serve from their election and qualification until March following the election and qualification of their successors:

- A. School Director, Brandon for a term of three (3) years
- B. School Director, Leicester for a term of one (1) year remaining of a three (3) year term
- C. School Director, Pittsford for a term of three (3) years
- D. School Director, Pittsford for a term of two (2) years remaining of a three (3) year term
- E. School Director, Sudbury for a term of three (3) years
- F. School Director, Whiting for a term of two (2) years remaining of a three (3) year term
- G. School Director, At-Large for a term of three (3) years
- H. School Director, At-Large for a term of two (2) years remaining of a three (3) year term

For the purpose of voting by Australian ballot:

In person voting will be available at local polling places on **March 4, 2025**. To request to have an OVUUSD absentee ballot mailed to you, please contact your Town Clerk, or use the "My Voter Page" online resource from the Secretary of State which can be found here: <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. Please make your request for **mailed** ballots to your Town clerk no later than **February 25, 2025**. 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 7:00 PM on the day of the election, to be counted.

The Town polls will be opened for voting March 4, 2025 as follows:

Town of Brandon	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Brandon American Legion Post #55
Town of Goshen	9:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Goshen Town Hall
Town of Leicester	10:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Leicester Town Office
Town of Pittsford	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Pittsford Town Office
Town of Sudbury	10:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Sudbury Town Hall
Town of Whiting	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Whiting Town Hall

Upon closing of the polls in Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury and Whiting, the ballot boxes will be sealed, transported to, and re-opened at Brandon American Legion Post #55 in the Town of Brandon, where the ballots will be counted and commingled by a tabulator under observation of representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pittsford, Sudbury, and Whiting under the supervision of the Clerk of the Otter Valley Union Unified School District.

The legal voters of the Otter Valley Union Unified 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.

On behalf of the Otter Valley Union Unified School District Board of Directors:

Dated at Brandon, Vermont

January 14th, 2025



Laurie Bertrand, Board Chair
Otter Valley Unified Union School
District No. U053