

OFFICIAL BALLOT
SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
MOUNT ABRAHAM UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOVEMBER 8, 2022

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●

ARTICLE 1: FORMATION OF UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Shall the Mount Abraham Unified School District #61, consisting of the towns of Bristol, Monkton, New Haven and Starksboro, which the proposed articles of agreement have identified as necessary to the formation of the proposed union school district, join with the Addison Northwest School District #54, consisting of the towns of Addison, Ferrisburgh, Panton, Vergennes, and Waltham which are identified as "necessary" to formation, for the purpose of forming a union school district, as provided in Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated, upon the following conditions and agreements:

a) Grades. The union school district shall be organized to provide for the education of resident students in grades Pre-Kindergarten (PK) through twelfth (12) and shall assume full and sole responsibility therefore on July 1, 2023.

b) Operation of schools. The union school district shall operate and manage one or more schools offering instruction in grades Pre-Kindergarten (PK) through twelfth (12).

c) Union school district board. The New School District Board of Directors shall be composed of fifteen (15) directors who shall have equal votes and shall be determined as follows:

1) The combined population of all Necessary Towns (and after the formation of the New School District, the town of each forming District referred to as "Member Town"), determined by the most recent U.S. Census will be divided by fifteen (15). Each Member Town shall have at minimum one (1) representative to the Board of Directors. Representation of each Member Town shall be determined by a vote of the eligible voters of each town separately and the number of board members allocated each town shall be done proportionately based on town population and weighted as necessary.

2) The initial Board of Directors shall have the following allocation:

Number of School Board Members By Town

<u>Town</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Individual Weight Value</u>
Addison	1	1365	8.05
Bristol	3	3782	7.43
Ferrisburgh	2	2646	7.80
Monkton	2	2079	6.13
New Haven	1	1683	9.93
Panton	1	646	3.81
Starksboro	2	1756	5.18
Vergennes	2	2553	7.53
Waltham	1	446	2.63

d) Assumption of debts, ownership of school property, and operating funds surpluses and deficits. No later than June 30, 2023, the union school district shall assume the indebtedness of forming districts, acquire the school properties of the forming districts, and pay for them, all as specified in the final report and proposed articles of agreement. Addison North School District shall assume any and all general operating surpluses and deficits of the Forming Entities that may exist at the close of business on June 30, 2023. In addition, reserve funds identified for specific purposes will be transferred to the Addison North School District and will be applied for said purposes unless otherwise determined through appropriate legal procedures.

e) Final report. The provisions of the final report and proposed articles of agreement approved by the State Board of Education on the 20th day of July, 2022, which is on file in the office of the clerk of each school district named in this warning, shall govern the union school district.

f) School Closure.

An elementary school within the Addison North School District cannot be closed for all grades K-5 without a vote of the electorate as follows:

1. At any time during the first four (4) years of the Addison North School District's operation, an elementary school for all grades may be closed with a majority of the vote of the towns whose resident students attend that school as of the operational date of the Addison North School District.
2. After the first four (4) years of operations, an elementary school may be closed with approval of two-thirds (2/3) majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors of the Addison North School District and approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voters of the Addison North School District.
3. An elementary school will not otherwise be closed.
4. School closure shall be defined as the District ceases to use the school building for the provision of direct education for a majority of grades operated within the building in the year prior to the first date of operations of the Addison North School District.

MAUSD Y 1115
N 2281

ANUSD Y 771
N 2001

Total

1886

YES ☐

4282

NO ☐