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**Otter Valley Unified Union
School District
Annual District Meeting
Wednesday, March 1, 2023
OVUMHS Auditorium*
6:30 PM**

**Virtual option available to listen and watch meeting only, with no authority to vote from the floor.*

VOTING OPTIONS

- **Early Voting** – in-person at Town Office
- **By Mail** – with an Absentee Ballot (request from Town Clerk)
- **In-Person Voting** – March 7, 2023 at Town’s Polling Location

*** BRANDON VOTERS – We are not allowed to mail your school ballots; you must take one of the actions above to vote on the school budget.**

**OTTER VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
March 1, 2023 at 6:30 pm.**

The legal voters of the Otter Valley Unified Union School District (Unified Union District) comprising the voters of the Towns of Brandon, Goshen, Leicester, Pitsford, Sudbury and Whiting are hereby notified and wanted to meet at the Otter Valley Union High School in the auditorium *(virtual option available to listen and watch only, with no authority to vote from the floor)* on March 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. to conduct the following business:

Article 1: To elect the following officers to serve from their election and qualification until the next Annual District Meeting following the election and qualification of their successors:

- A. Moderator
- B. Clerk
- C. Treasurer

Article 2: To approve the minutes from the Unified Union District meetings held on February 23, 2022 and April 25, 2022, the ensuing year.

Article 3: To hear the Board of School Directors of the Unified Union District present its estimate of expenses for the ensuing year.

Article 4: To approve the following compensation to Unified Union District Officers:

- 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 authorize the Unified Union District to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund or Town Tax Funds by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date provided, however, that the Unified Union District is authorized by Vermont Statutes to borrow sufficient funds to meet pending obligations.

Article 6: To transact any other school business thought proper when met.

The meeting shall then be recessed to Tuesday, March 7, 2023 for the purpose of voting the following articles at the usual polling places in the member districts by Australian ballot, said ballots being brought to the Brandon American Legion Post #55 following the closing of the polls in the member districts where they will be commingled and counted by the Board of Civil Authority of the constituent districts.

The Town polls will be opened as follows:

Town of Brandon	10:00 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 Pitsford	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM	Pitsford 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

Article 7: 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, Goshen for a term of one (1) year remaining of a three (3) year term
- C. School Director, Leicester for a term of three (3) years
- D. School Director, Pitsford for a term of two (2) years remaining of a three (3) year term
- E. School Director, At-Large for a term of three (3) years
- F. School Director, At-Large for a term of three (3) years

Article 8: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend Twenty-four Million One Hundred Seventy-four Thousand Three Hundred Ninety-five Dollars (\$24,174,395) 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 \$18,629 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 9.5% higher than spending for the current year.

Virtual Option for Observing Annual District Meeting:
Remote attendees can listen and watch, but are not able to speak or vote on the articles from the floor.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83973761064?pwd=bnNSMkY0ZWt1bW9kRHhNMTIwbnNkdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 7376 1064

Passcode: 199348

One tap mobile

+13017158852, 83973761064#... *199348# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

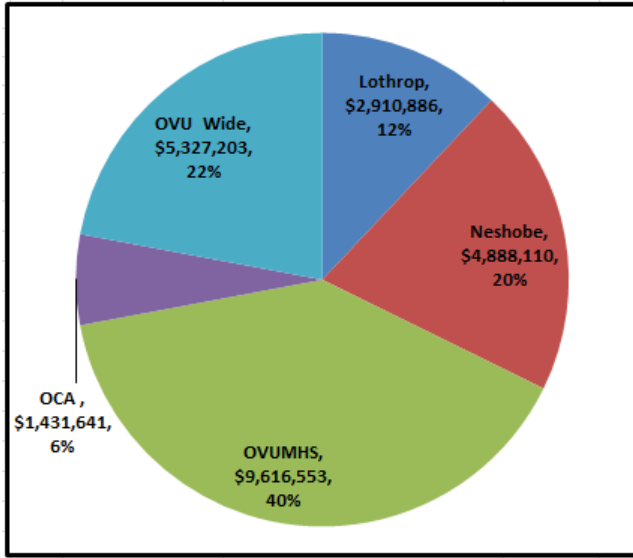
+1 301 715 8852 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

Meeting link and dial in information can also be found on the calendar on the RNESU website: <http://www.rnesu.org>.

Proposed Otter Valley Unified Union School District Proposed 2023-2024 Budget \$24,174,395

Additional information and commonly asked questions can be found on the RNESU website at www.rnesu.org.



	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY24 Proposed
Lothrop	\$2,727,647	\$2,918,198	\$2,910,886
Neshobe	\$4,300,076	\$4,641,467	\$4,888,110
OVUMHS	\$8,164,847	\$9,105,981	\$9,616,553
OCA	\$1,325,867	\$1,377,966	\$1,431,641
OVU Wide	\$4,549,708	\$4,662,842	\$5,327,203
Total	\$21,068,145	\$22,706,455	\$24,174,395

*District Wide includes the Otter Valley UU School Board costs, RNE central office support services, special education, transportation, food services, and technology.

BUDGET FACTS

Proposed budget includes salaries and benefits per agreements; Lothrop, 1 less classroom teacher - Neshobe adds 1 Para-educator and 10hrs/week Library support - OVUMHS adds 1 FTE combined English Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher, an earlier late run - OVU District wide reserve \$100,000 for school safety, security & social services - updated vocational educational costs by enrollment - update shared RNESU services based by policy - and small line by line adjustments based on history & inflation.

Considerations of Budget Proposal:

- Net Education Spending – our taxable budget is up by \$1,747,785 or 8.06%
- Equalized pupils are down by (16.82) students or (1.32%)
- Result: Education Spending per Equalized pupil is up \$1,616 or 9.50% to \$18,629. OVUUSD’s proposed spending per equalized pupil is (8%) or (\$1,526) below the VT Tax Commissioner’s anticipated average spending of \$20,155.

State Impact on Budget Proposal:

- Announced State Tax Yield of \$15,479 is up by \$2,165 per equalized pupil or 16.26%.
- Result: Proposed Homestead Tax Rate BEFORE Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is \$1.20, which is **down** (\$0.07) or (5.81%)

Town Impact on Budget Proposal – Applying Common Level of Appraisal(CLA)

Current CLA	Town & (Prior Year CLA)	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Difference	Annual change \$100,000 House site
84.15%	Brandon (93.03)	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.43	\$ 0.06	\$ 60.00
85.86%	Goshen (92.53)	\$ 1.38	\$ 1.40	\$ 0.02	\$ 20.00
78.97%	Leicester (93.28)	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.52	\$ 0.15	\$ 150.00
77.89%*	Pittsford (91.64)	\$ 1.39	\$ 1.55	\$ 0.15	\$ 150.00
93.49%	Sudbury (103.53)	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.05	\$ 50.00
84.97%	Whiting (94.85)	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.42	\$ 0.07	\$ 70.00

*Pittsford Town has appealed their CLA, which is subject to re-evaluation and may change.

Please Vote: Early Voting by Mail, or at the Town Offices, or at the Polls on March 7, 2023