WARNING

SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

MOUNT HOLLY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the Mount Holly Town School District are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Mount Holly School in said Town of Mount Holly on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, between the hours of 10:00 AM, at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 PM, at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles:

- Article I: Shall the Mount Holly Town School District, which the State Board of Education has found necessary to include in the proposed unified union school district, join with the Ludlow Town School District and the Black River Union School District #39, which the State Board of Education has found necessary to include in the proposed unified union school district, for the purpose of forming a unified union school district to be named the Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District (hereinafter the "New Unified Union District"), as provided in Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated, upon the following conditions and agreements.
 - (a) **Grades.** The New Unified Union District will offer and operate prekindergarten through grade six education to students. The New Unified Union District will also operate Black River High School Middle School until no later than June 30, 2020. The School Board for the New Unified Union District shall determine the timeline for closing Black River High School Middle School. After the New Unified Union District has ceased operating Black River High School Middle School, it will pay tuition in accordance with the law to provide for the education of students in grades seven through twelve.
 - (b) **Board of School Directors.** The New Unified Union Board of School Directors shall be composed of eight (8) directors. Membership on the New Unified Union Board of School Directors is apportioned to each town in equal numbers: Mount Holly four (4) directors and Ludlow four (4) directors. The directors shall have equal votes. Directors shall be nominated from the legal voters of each respective town and shall be elected on an at-large basis by the voters of the New Unified Union District.
 - (c) Assumption of debts, ownership and closing of school property. The New Unified Union District shall assume the indebtedness of member districts and assume all operating deficits and/or surpluses or reserve funds of the member districts; acquire and pay for the school properties of member districts; all as specifically identified and provided for in Articles 6 and 7 in the Final Report. The New Unified Union Board of School Directors shall not close or discontinue any elementary school within its boundaries without a unanimous vote of the school board and an affirmative vote of the town in which the elementary school is located.

The complete provisions of Articles 6 and 7 regarding operating deficits and/or surplus, reserve funds, acquisition of school properties and closing of schools are set forth in the Final Report and are incorporated in their entirety by specific reference herein.

(d) **Final Report.** The provisions of the Final Report approved by the State Board of Education on October 18, 2017, which is on file in the Mount Holly Town Clerk's office, shall govern the New Unified Union District.

Article II: To elect eight (8) school directors from the nominees to serve on the school board of the proposed New Unified Union Board of School Directors for one (1), two (2), or three (3) year terms respectively:

One (1) school director who is a resident of Mount Holly for a one-year term.

Two (2) school directors who are residents of Mount Holly for a two-year term.

One (1) school director who is a resident of Mount Holly for a three-year term.

One (1) school director who is a resident of Ludlow for a one-year term.

Two (2) school directors who are residents of Ludlow for a two-year term.

One (1) school director who is a resident of Ludlow for a three-year term.

The legal voters of the Mount Holly Town School District are further notified that other qualification, registration, absentee voting and procedures relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

A copy of the Final Report, detailing the proposal to join the New Unified Union School District as accepted by the State Board of Education on October 18, 2017, is available in the Mount Holly Town Clerk's Office.

Board Clerk

Faenza, Board Member

Dated this 19th day of October, 2017 at Mount Holly, Vermont.

David Venter, Board Chair

Mary Alberty, Board Member

Sebastian Frank, Board Member

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