

# SUPPORT LAKEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## FACTS

As of Jan 9, 2024

The Mountain View Union Elementary School District (MVUESD) includes the towns of Greensboro, Stannard, Hardwick and Woodbury

MVUESD Board of Directors: 10-member Board: Woodbury 2, Hardwick 5, Stannard 1, Greensboro 2

Greensboro Board Members: Samantha Friend [sfriend@ossu.org](mailto:sfriend@ossu.org), Daria Messina [dmessina@ossu.org](mailto:dmessina@ossu.org)

### History-How we got to where we are:

**Act 60** (1997) was an attempt to more fairly fund Vermont School districts; **Act 68** (2004) set up separate Homestead and non-Homestead property tax rates; **Act 46** (2018) established larger school districts and allowed districts to be forced to combine; **Act 127** (2022) requires a new funding account for increased costs to educate English language learners and students in poverty.

### Petition:

**December 2023**, Petition to close Lakeview Elementary School in Greensboro presented to MVUESD Board of Directors.

**December 28, 2023**. Mountainview School board voted to reject petition. Voted to continue with a nonbinding (non-enforceable) Australian ballot vote to provide the board more information from the four towns.

MVUESD School Board has the power to close a school

An Australian ballot vote is then required by registered voters in each town to determine the will of the people.

All votes from the four towns are combined to determine the answer.

### Financials:

**Greensboro** is a "Sending Town" The town raises and sends contributions to the State Education Fund for non-homestead education taxes. Greensboro's contribution is based on high property values. Money is then sent from the Education Fund to towns with lower property values to support their schools. In addition, Greensboro raises tax dollars to support the town's portion of the Hazan Union and the Mountainview budgets.

**Example: FY24**, Hazan Union: \$1,087,655, MVUESD: \$890,284, and approximately \$2.2mil. to state Education Fund.

Total = \$4,177,939 raised to support education.

**Budget:** Fixed costs vs. flexible: FY24-25 budget, 97% is fixed cost: salary, benefits, maintenance, utilities; 3% flexible: supplies, field trips, misc.

### Act 127: Effective FY2025

Provides increased support from the State Education Fund for (1) Students in poverty, (2) English language learners, (3) schools with small enrollment (less than 100), (4) areas with low population density.

equity where Act 60 & 66 failed.

Creates

Contributes an

estimated \$2mil /yr. to OSSU.

### The Articles of Agreement:

If the school board and the voters of the four towns, Greensboro, Stannard, Hardwick and Woodbury, choose to close Lakeview Elementary, Greensboro would continue to be responsible for their portion of the budget which includes the cost of educating our students and the upkeep of the current building.

Greensboro would remain members of the MVUESD with the same financial responsibilities.

The Lakeview building could be sold but at this time it would be impossible to estimate the effect on our financial responsibilities.

**School Choice:**

The MVUESD offers choice to all towns In the Mountainview district.

The # of Greensboro students going to Hardwick 12, Woodbury 0

The # of Hardwick students going to Lakeview 7, Woodbury 11

The # of Woodbury students going to Lakeview 0, Hardwick 9

The # of students from Stannard going to each school: Lakeview 8, Hardwick 5, Woodbury 0

Mountainview Union Elementary School District will be adding funding for a preschool in the FY 24 -25 budget.

**Collaboration within the District OSSU & MVUESD:** Music, Art and PE teachers, are shared across Mtn View, the meals at Woodbury and Lakeview come from Hardwick Elementary and is a shared OSSU resource now. Access to special education services is OSSU-wide, including instructional assistants. UVM Connection : 8 week segment on food groups, with hands on food prep.

**Collaborations with in the Community of Greensboro at Lakeview include:**

Four Winds Nature Program; Greensboro Historical Society sharing local history; HCA arts enrichment; Greensboro Free Library afterschool program and in school enrichment; Greensboro Nursing Home; Craftsbury Outdoor Center

**The Importance of Lakeview Elementary to Our Community**

A community school draws families to our area.

A community school provides a workforce base that supports the efforts of our local businesses.

A community school keeps our community vibrant.

A community school contributes to a healthy community.

A community school provides opportunities for people to interact.

A community school supports learning and growth for all ages.

**For more information, Please Attend the following:**

**Mountainview Union Elementary School District Annual Meeting**

**February 27, 2024 6PM Hardwick Elementary School.**

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**Greensboro Town Meeting**

**March 5, 2024**

**10am lakeview Union Elementary**

**On the ballot: A Non-Binding Australian ballot to close Lakeview Elementary.**

**Vote in person or by mail. Polls open 10AM to 7PM**

**The absentee ballot can be mailed to the Town Clerk, dropped off at the town office or brought to Town Meeting.**

**if you are unable to vote in person, request a ballot from your town clerk**

**Greensboro Town Clerk: Kim Greaves 802-533-2911 [townclerk@greensborovt.gov](mailto:townclerk@greensborovt.gov)**

**Lunch will be provided by the sixth grade class to raise money for their class trip**

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**For further financial questions.**

**OSSU Supervisory Union Office 802-472-6250 or email [info@ossu.org](mailto:info@ossu.org)**

**Dr David Baker Superintendent [dbaker@ossu.org](mailto:dbaker@ossu.org)**

**NO vote to prevent Lakeview Elementary from closing.**