

**OFFICIAL BALLOT
SPECIAL MEETING
WASHINGTON CENTRAL UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
JUNE 25, 2019**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

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

Note: Articles 1-5 are proposed amendments to the Articles of Agreement for the Washington Central Unified Union School District. The format of the proposed amendments is as follows: wording in regular text is current language to be retained; wording with ~~strike through~~ is current language to be deleted; and wording in **bold underline** is proposed new language for the article.

ARTICLE 1

Shall the voters approve the following amendment to the Washington Central Unified Union School District Articles of Agreement:

Article 4 – Closure of School Buildings

A. Academic Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

In academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, the New Union District shall not close any school building conveyed to the New Union District by a Forming District or cease using the building to provide direct education in at least one grade, prekindergarten through grade 12, unless first approved by the voters residing in the town(s) in which the school is located.

Provided, however, that if the school building was conveyed by a Forming District that was already a union school district, then the New Union District shall not close the school building or cease using the building to provide direct education in at least one grade in academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 unless first approved by the electorate of the New Union District.

B. Academic Year 2021-2022 and After

In academic year 2021-2022 and after, the New Union District Board shall not close any school building or cease using the building to provide direct instruction in at least one grade, prekindergarten through grade 12, unless first approved by **both a majority of the Union District Board and the voters residing in the town in which the school is located.** ~~the electorate of the New Union District.~~

YES

NO

ARTICLE 2

Shall the voters approve the following amendment to the Washington Central Unified Union School District Articles of Agreement:

Article 11: Representation on New Union District Board – On or After the District’s Annual Meeting in 2020.

~~The New Union District Board shall be composed of individuals elected pursuant to the “Hybrid Model” of board representation, in the numbers and allocation set forth for election of the initial members under Article 10(A), unless and until the voters of the New Union District amend this Article 11.~~

Immediately following the School District Annual Meeting of 2020, the Board of School Directors shall be expanded to include five (5) additional members elected for a total of fifteen (15) members, with 3 members from each town. The additional members will be elected at the 2020 annual School District Meeting. All members will be voted on by the entire electorate. Votes of the entire electorate shall be counted together (comingled) without being first counted at the town level.

The terms of office for the additional member shall be as follows:

- Berlin – term ending 2022**
- Calais – term ending 2021**
- East Montpelier – term ending 2023**
- Middlesex – term ending 2022**
- Worcester – term ending 2021**

*Except as provided for the election of the initial members of the New Union Board in **Article 10(B)**, each New Union District Board member shall serve for a period of three (3) years or until his or her successor is elected and qualified, as required by Vermont law.*

Each member of the New Union Board who serves after the expiration of terms of the initial Board members, shall be elected at an annual or special meeting of the New Union District. Terms of office shall begin and expire on the date of the New Union District’s annual meeting. In the event the New Union District’s annual meeting precedes Town Meeting Day, the terms of each Board member shall begin and expire on Town Meeting Day.

If the voters amend this Article 11, the amendment shall ensure that the terms of office are staggered as required by law.

YES

NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 3

Shall the voters approve the following amendment to the Washington Central Unified Union School District Articles of Agreement:

Article 15 (tentative) – Input on Policy and Budget Development

The District Board shall provide timely and sufficient opportunity for local input on policy and budget development; structures to support and encourage public participation within the District will be established by the District Board of School Directors on or before June 30, 2020.

These structures may include but not be limited to local school councils that have an advisory responsibility in key areas.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 4

Shall the voters approve the following amendment to the Washington Central Unified Union School District Articles of Agreement:

Article 16 (tentative)

If a competent judicial authority concludes that any of these articles are illegal for any reason, then that article or part thereof shall be nullified. The remaining article or part thereof shall be deemed severable from the nullified article or section of an article and shall remain in full force and effect.

YES
NO

ARTICLE 5

Shall the voters approve the following amendment to the Washington Central Unified Union School District Articles of Agreement:

Article 17 (tentative)

These articles are prepared due to the State Board's order forcing merger of the Washington Central Supervisory Union member towns. By voting on these Articles, the voters in the member towns are not waiving any rights to challenge the legality of the State Board's forced merger order. All rights are reserved.

YES
NO

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT