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## Annotated Transition Timeline

### For the following Union Districts:

Enosburgh-Richford UUSD; Franklin Northwest UUSD; Orleans Central UESD; Orleans Southwest UESD; Oxbow UUSD; Washington Central UUSD; Windham Northeast UESD; Windham Southeast UUSD

**November 30, 2018** – date on which State Board issued its Final Report and Order

**Transitional Board** – Chair and Clerk of the board of each Forming District, including existing union school districts, or other member(s) of the board selected by a majority of the board (*Art 9(A)*)

**Organizational Meeting – February 18, 2018 or as soon thereafter as possible** (*Art 8; Sched'g Agmt*)

- Superintendent works with Secretary of Education to draft Warning
- Secretary signs Warning and returns to Superintendent
- Superintendent posts and publishes Warning 30-40 days in advance
- Secretary or Designee convenes Organizational Meeting of the New Union District
- Business transacted includes:
  - Transitional Board is sworn in and begin duties
  - Voters decide if budgets will be voted by Australian ballot
  - Voters decide if elections will occur by Australian ballot

**First Meeting of Transitional Board** – unless your legal counsel advises otherwise, this should occur **between 2 and 14 days after Org Mtg** (*Art 9*)

- Superintendent convenes first meeting of Transitional Board
- Business transacted at first meeting includes:
  - Elect Chair and Clerk of Transitional Board
- Business transacted at first *and/or subsequent* meetings include:
  1. [*Potentially*] Warn special meeting of New Union District for voters to vote whether to amend Articles per 16 VSA § 706n effective on or before July 1, 2019 – see note regarding Amendment Committee below
  2. Warn special meeting of the District to elect initial members of New Union District Board – timing governed by warning requirements for elections
  3. Prepare first draft of proposed FY 2020 budget for the New Union District, which Transitional Board will provide to initial New Union District Board at New Union District Board's first meeting
  4. Perform any other duties necessary to begin to transition the New Union District to full operations on July 1, 2019 that must occur before initial Board is elected

**Note: Amendment Committee** – Act 49 created a special process for amending Articles during the transitional period. The delayed Org Meeting date makes it impossible to meet the Act 49 deadline for a favorable vote of the electorate (February 28, 2019).

It is *possible*, however, (1) to *use the work* of the *Amendment Committee* and (2) to *adopt* the amendments *before July 1, 2019* pursuant to the pre-existing statute 16 VSA § 706n:

- Amendment Committee completes its proposed amendments by February 28.
- Transitional Board / Initial Board considers the work of the Amendment Committee and has authority - but is not required - to do any of the following pursuant to § 706n:
  1. Warn proposed amendments (as the proposed amendments of the Board per § 706n) in form presented to it by Amendment Committee – vote before July 1

OR

2. Warn proposed amendments (as the proposed amendments of the Board per § 706n) in any form the Board chooses – e.g., amending language; deleting language; adding entirely new language; not addressing certain topics; addressing additional topics; etc. – vote before July 1

OR

3. Not warn any proposed amendments prior to July 1

**[Potential] Special Meeting of the District** – to vote on amendments offered by the Transitional Board – *see* note regarding Amendment Committee above

- Vote is preceded by 30-40 day warning period (*16 VSA § 706p*)
- If amendments do not involve Board membership, then this vote *could be warned concurrently* with special meeting to elect initial Board Members (see next item)

**Special Meeting of the District** – to elect initial members of New Unified District Board

If proceeding by Hybrid model (per existing Articles or in amended form)

- Vote is preceded by 30-40 day warning period (*16 VSA § 706p*)
- Petitions for candidates if election by Australian ballot (decided at Organizational Meeting):
  - Only signed by residents of Town to which seat is allocated
  - Filed with Town Clerk for town to which seat allocated deadline for petitions:
    - § 706k(b) – by 5 p.m. on 6th Monday before vote
    - (§ 706e (initial bd) – 30-40 days before vote)
  - Within 7 days after deadline: town clerks send names to New Union District Clerk (who was elected at the Organizational Meeting) for compilation into a uniform ballot
- Vote on each nominated member is by entire electorate of New Union District

**First Meeting of the Initial Board – within 14 days after Election** – Superintendent convenes first meeting of Initial Board at which, among other things, Board members:

- Are sworn in and assume duties
- Elect Chair and Clerk of New Union District Board from among the elected members
- Consider draft proposed FY2020 budget prepared by Transitional Bd
- *[Potentially]* consider draft amendments prepared by Amendment Committee – see note regarding Amendment Committee above

**Additional explicit duties of Initial Board** – performed before July 1, 2019, but not necessarily at first meeting of Board:

- Revise and adopt draft proposed FY2020 budget
- Warn special meeting of the District to vote on proposed FY 2020 budget
- *[Potentially]* Warn special meeting of New Union District for voters to vote whether to amend Articles per 16 VSA § 706n effective on or before July 1, 2019 – see note regarding Amendment Committee above
- Perform other duties necessary to transition the New Union District to full operations on July 1, 2019

**Special Meeting of the District** – as early in May as possible

- Vote is preceded by 30-40 day warning period (16 V.S.A. § 706p)
- To vote on Initial Board's:
  - Proposed FY2020 budget for New Unified District
  - *[Potential]* amendments (as the proposed amendments of the Board per § 706n) – see note regarding Amendment Committee above

**July 1, 2019** – New Union District assumes full responsibilities for resident students; Forming Districts cease to operate/exist except to finalize audits and any other actions the New Union District cannot legally perform.