Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed SU Structure for Missisquoi Valley School District

Senator Bongartz and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

I am writing to you regarding the "Senate Ed Map Details Version 2" (March 5, 2026) which outlines proposed changes to Vermont's school districts and supervisory unions. As a stakeholder in the Missisquoi Valley School District (MVSD), I am seeking clarification on why our district is being proposed for inclusion in a larger Supervisory Union (SU#11: Northwest Area) rather than being recognized as a standalone Supervisory District (SD).

Since our unification in 2019, MVSD has operated as a cohesive, single school district. We currently serve over 1,800 students in a PK-12 configuration. This student count is significantly higher than several districts currently identified as standalone SDs in the "grey area" of your proposal, such as:
Montpelier Roxbury SD: 1,178 students
Addison Northwest SD: 932 students
Winooski SD: 783 students

I would like to highlight several factors that make our inclusion in the proposed SU#11 structure particularly problematic:

- CTE Center Alignment: This move would effectively remove us from our current CTE center, the Northwest Career and Technical Center, which is part of the Maple Run Unified School District.
- Distinct Configurations: We share no common configurations with our neighbors in the Franklin Northeast or Grand Isle areas. Our district is built on a specific model where Swanton, Franklin, and Highgate operate as PK-6 schools feeding into Missisquoi Valley Union.
- Historical Precedent: The State Board of Education previously removed Sheldon from our prior SU because it functioned as a K-8 system with high school choice, recognizing that its needs did not align with our integrated PK-12 structure.
- Proven Efficiency: MVSD is a low-spending district that consistently delivers some of the strongest state testing results in the county. Our transition to a single school district has directly enabled these efficiencies and improved educational outcomes.

While I understand the committee's goal of regional optimization, forcing a unified, high-performing district back into an SU structure would be a step backward. It threatens the progress we have made in operational effectiveness and local governance. Reverting to an SU model would be detrimental to the stability and success of the Missisquoi Valley School District.

I look forward to hearing your perspective on how the committee arrived at this configuration for the Northwest Area and whether there is an opportunity to revisit MVSD's status as a standalone SD.

Sincerely,

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent
Missisquoi Valley School District