

SAMPLE BALLOT

**OFFICIAL BALLOT
SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
WESTFORD, VERMONT
NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

WESTFORD SCHOOL ARTICLES

Article I. Shall the **Westford Town School District**, which the State Board of Education has found advisable to include in the proposed unified union school district, join with the school districts of Essex Junction Incorporated School District, Essex Town School District, and Essex Community Education Center Union School District #46, 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 Essex Westford Educational Community Unified Union School District, as provided in Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated, upon the following conditions and agreements:

- (a) **Grades.** The unified union school district will offer pre-kindergarten through grade twelve education to all of the students in the unified union school district. Westford students enrolled and attending a public or an approved independent high school (grades 9-12) during the 2016-2017 school year at the expense of the Westford School District as tuitioned high school students shall be "grandfathered" through June 30, 2020 as provided in Article 2 in the Final Report.
- (b) **Board of School Directors.** The unified district board of school directors will be closely proportional to the fraction that its population bears in the aggregate population of the unified union school district. The initial composition of the unified union school district board of directors will be based upon the 2010 Federal Census, and shall be recalculated promptly following the release of each subsequent decennial census. However, at no time will a combining/forming town/district have less than two board members with a weighted vote of one on the board of school directors. Subject to the previous sentence, each proportionality calculation shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.
- (c) **Assumption of debts and ownership of school property.** The unified union school 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 7 and 8 in the Final Report.
- (d) **Final Report.** The provisions of the Final Report approved by the State Board of Education on August 18, 2015, which is on file in the Westford Town Clerk's office, shall govern the unified union school district.

In the event that the Essex Junction and Essex Town school districts vote "yes" to approve the proposed unified union school district but the Westford Town School District votes "no," pursuant to Act 153 of 2010, a regional educational district will be established. In this case, the name of the new district will be the Essex Educational Community Unified Union School District.

YES
NO



TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING