



# Mill River Unified Union School District

2321 Middle Road, Suite 1  
North Clarendon, VT 05759

Tel: 802-775-3264 <http://millriverschools.org> Fax: 802-775-8063

Thriving Students. Premier Schools. Engaged Community

---

## Important Message for the Mill River Schools Community From Superintendent of Schools, Dave Younce

Mill River Schools Families and Community Members,

We are in the midst of solving a significant issue within our school district that you have probably seen news reports about, as it is near a crisis level across the state. We are having a very difficult time finding individuals willing to drive school buses. This issue is affecting schools throughout Vermont, even those that outsource busing services with private providers, and if it is not solved it promises to significantly impact the busing service we are able to provide for our community. The other day a report ran on WCAX about this shortage, which you can view at <http://www.wcax.com/story/35953491/shortage-of-bus-drivers-in-vt> .

The school district has been diligently working toward revising its busing system and schedule for this coming school year based on having the number of drivers we need to run effectively. However, the shortage leaves us with only 6 drivers currently on staff, with an ideal number of 9-10 to make our system work effectively and efficiently. If we are unable to secure qualified drivers to fill our vacancies, we will need to further revamp our bus schedules and routes, which will result in significant changes to route timing and pickup locations beyond any that were previously being considered for the sake of efficiency.

**We send you this letter with a sincere plea for assistance.** We are looking for quality individuals from our community or the surrounding communities who are willing to pursue licensure to serve as bus drivers. The incentives we are able to offer to qualified individuals are:

- Starting hourly rate of \$24.00/hr., with drivers paid according to previous experience.
- \$1500 incentive payment to any individual hired, with all costs for testing and licensure paid by the school district.
- Ability to bring young child(ren) or other family members (for example: spouse) to accompany you on board the bus during your work times.
- An opportunity to work with and on behalf of our community's best resource – its' students.

If you are at all interested in this opportunity please contact us as soon as possible. Contact information is: Nichole Peterson, [npeterson@millriverschools.org](mailto:npeterson@millriverschools.org), 802-775-3264. Please also do not hesitate to share this information with anyone you know who may have interest.

We sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter, and hope to hear from you if you are interested.

Best Regards,

Dave Younce  
Superintendent  
Mill River Unified Union School District

Clarendon  
Elementary School

Shrewsbury  
Mountain School

Tinmouth  
Elementary School

Wallingford  
Elementary School

Mill River  
Union High School