

**WARRANT TO CALL
MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 35 BUDGET MEETING
(20-A M.R.S. § 1485)**

TO: Ryan Cormier, a resident of Maine School Administrative District No. 35 (the "District") composed of the Towns of Eliot and South Berwick, State of Maine.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the voters of each of the municipalities within the District, namely, the Towns of Eliot and South Berwick, that a District Budget Meeting will be held at Marshwood High School, 260 Dow Highway, South Berwick, Maine at 7:00 p.m. on May 13, 2024 for the purpose of determining the Budget Meeting Articles set forth below.

ARTICLE 1A: To elect a moderator to preside at the meeting.

ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11
AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER CATEGORIES

ARTICLE 1: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$16,534,247 for Regular Instruction?

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all elementary and secondary instruction, the gifted and talented program, and the English language learners program.

ARTICLE 2: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$7,342,423 for Special Education?

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all special education services.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$79,400 for Career and Technical Education?

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all career and technical education services.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$1,141,134 for Other Instruction?

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all the co-curricular and extra-curricular programs.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$3,748,909 for Student and Staff Support?

The School Board Recommends a “YES” vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all student and staff support services such as, guidance, nursing, library, curriculum and staff development, technology, and assessment.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$1,181,793 for System Administration?

The School Board Recommends a “YES” vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for central administration, including the School Board, Superintendent, and Business Office.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$1,967,603 for School Administration?

The School Board Recommends a “YES” vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all school building administration.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$2,198,817 for Transportation and Buses?

The School Board Recommends a “YES” vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for all student transportation to and from school, including special needs students, out of district placements, and transportation to vocational education centers.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$3,587,296 for Facilities Maintenance?

The School Board Recommends a “YES” vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for the maintenance and operation of all school buildings and grounds, including custodial services, building repairs, utilities, insurance, building security, and minor construction projects.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$0 for Debt Service and Other Commitments?

The School Board Recommends a “YES” vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for the debt service for new schools and school additions only (if any). Debt service on renovation and equipment bonds or lease purchase agreements, if any, are included in one or more other articles.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$50,000 for All Other Expenditures.

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

Explanation: This article provides funding for the School Board Contingency fund and/or for transfer to the food service program.

ARTICLES 12 AND 13
RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 12: Shall the District appropriate \$27,264,529.85 for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and shall the District raise and assess \$13,306,200.00 as the municipalities' contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688?

(Totals and municipality share amounts as set forth below):

Total Appropriated (by municipality):		Total Raised (and District assessments by municipality):	
Town of Eliot	\$ 11,770,097.54	Town of Eliot	\$ 7,565,667.00
Town of South Berwick	\$ 15,494,432.31	Town of South Berwick	\$ 5,740,533.00
Total Appropriated (sum of above)	\$ 27,264,529.85	Total Raised (sum of above)	\$ 13,306,200.00

Explanation: The District's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the District must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

ARTICLE 13: **(Written ballot required.)** Shall the District raise and appropriate \$7,673,650 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$7,673,650, as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board?

The School Board Recommends \$7,673,650, and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model:

- Although the state has reached its required 55% statewide funding level responsibility, the state has also made a number of adjustments to costs the EPS funding formula recognizes.
- The EPS funding formula is based on statewide average costs for supplies and services and does not adjust for local cost variations.
- In order to attract and retain a highly qualified teaching staff our teacher salaries are approximately 20% higher than the state average, the funding formula only allows for a 6% regional adjustment.
- EPS funds only about 1/4 of our athletic and co-curricular program costs.
- For the safety of our students we provide more extensive transportation services than recognized by the EPS formula.
- Because of the importance we place on students and staff learning to use technology, we spend more on technology than the EPS formula allows.
- For the safety and welfare of our students, we provide a nurse in each school building, the EPS formula does not allow for a nurse in each building.
- To facilitate and enhance the opportunity for our students to maximize their educational experience we provide a greater level of counseling services than required by the EPS funding formula.
- Because of the rise in the cost of health insurance, the cost of our employee benefits is about 30% of salary and wages, the funding formula caps them at 19%.
- Despite all of the above, MSAD35 per pupil costs comparable with the State average.

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the District's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the District budget for educational programs.

ARTICLE 14 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 14: Shall the District will authorize the School Board to expend \$37,831,622 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 from the District's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, local funds non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools?

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

**ARTICLE 15 AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM
AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE**

ARTICLE 15: Shall the District appropriate \$289,677 for adult education and raise \$122,579 as the local share, with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program?

The School Board Recommends a "YES" vote.

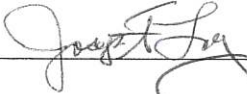
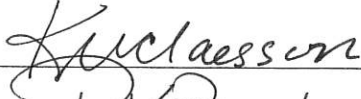



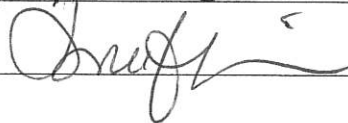
**ARTICLE 16 AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURES OF
GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS**

ARTICLE 16: In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the School Board be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school and other program purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

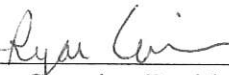
ARTICLE 17 AUTHORIZES TRANSFERS AMONG COST CENTERS

ARTICLE 17: Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget?

Given under our hand this day, May 1, 2024 at South Berwick, Maine.

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A majority of the School Board of Maine School Administrative District No. 35

A true copy of the Warrant, attest: 

Ryan Cormier, Resident
Maine School Administrative District No. 35