

Maine School Administrative District No. 35
Board of Directors – District Budget Meeting Minutes
Marshwood High School – Gymnasium

<https://www.rsu35.org/page/board-meeting-stream-information>

Monday, May 12, 2025

7:00pm

Present: Mr. Joe Long, Chair
Mrs. Jennifer Therrien, Vice Chair
Mrs. Heather Holland
Mrs. Lisa Flynn
Mrs. Kate Claesson
Mrs. Rebekah Barker
Mrs. Heidi Early-Hersey, Acting Superintendent

Also Present: Mr. Ryan Cormier
Mr. Todd Hughes
Mr. Brett Hoogterp
Mrs. Christine Goulet
Mr. Jerry Burnell
Dr. Nina D'Aran
Mrs. Ann Shisler
Mr. Scott Reuning
Mr. E. William Stockmeyer, Attorney/Moderator

7:00pm Call to Order [\(27:14\)](#)

Due to the number of community members waiting to be checked in, the meeting started later than scheduled.

Mr. Joe Long (Board Chair) noted that Superintendent Caverly is not in attendance due to a medical issue; Mrs. Heidi Early-Hersey will serve as acting Superintendent.

Pledge of Allegiance

ARTICLE 1A: To elect a moderator to preside at the meeting.
[\(28:18\)](#)

Motion for Nomination: Jenn Therrien nominated Mr. E. William Stockmeyer

Second: Lisa Flynn

Motion Passed; Mr. E. William Stockmeyer is elected & sworn in as moderator. Mr. Stockmeyer then swore in the ballot clerks.

Overview of Proposed Budget by Mrs. Heidi Early-Hersey
[\(32:19\)](#)

Review of Rules and Procedures by Mr. E. William Stockmeyer
[\(39:03\)](#)

ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11
AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER CATEGORIES

ARTICLE 1: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$16,872,085 for Regular Instruction?
[\(47:49\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for all elementary and secondary instruction, the gifted and talented program, and the English language learners program.]*

Motion: Jenn Therrien
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: Mr. Rob Bernier (South Berwick) motioned for Article 1 be voted on by written ballot; this motion was seconded by a registered voter in attendance.
Mr. Paul Steinhauer (South Berwick) questioned whether there should be a discussion on this motion; Mr. Stockmeyer reviewed this question in the Maine Moderator's Manual. There is to be no discussion/debate on a motion to fix the method of voting.

Vote to move Article 1 to written ballot: Mr. Stockmeyer was not able to visually determine if the motion passed (10% required to change method of voting). Mr. Stockmeyer recommended registered voters come forward so the ballot clerks can count the yea votes, and then the nay votes. There was an objection to this recommendation by a registered voter; the vote to determine if Article 1 will be done by written ballot is moved to written ballot.

Written ballot results: Yea- 96 (14.91%) Nay- 548 (85.09%)
Over 10% voted yea, therefore Article 1 will be voted on by written ballot.

Article 1 written ballot results: Yea- 510 Nay- 107
Article 1 passes as written.

ARTICLE 2: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$7,367,403 for Special Education?
[\(2:02:41\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for all special education services.]*

Motion: Jenn Therrien
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: Mr. Stockmeyer made the decision to move the first two articles to written ballot to expedite the process; he noted the meeting will revisit this voting method after this article.
Mr. Joel Martin (South Berwick) moved to change the method of voting back to yeas or nays; this motion was seconded by a registered voter in attendance. Mr. Stockmeyer moved the voting method back to the original method of yea/nay.

Vote on Article 2: Article 2 passes as written.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$101,900 for Career and Technical Education?
[\(2:06:43\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for all career and technical education services.]*

Motion: Lisa Flynn
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 3: Article 3 passes as written.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$1,191,624 for Other Instruction?
[\(2:08:01\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for all the co-curricular and extra-curricular programs.]*

Motion: Lisa Flynn
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 4: Article 4 passes as written.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$3,957,753 for Student and Staff Support?
[\(2:09:48\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for all student and staff support services such as, guidance, nursing, library, curriculum and staff development, technology, and assessment.]*

Motion: Heather Holland
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 5: Article 5 passes as written.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$1,226,987 for System Administration?
[\(2:11:27\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for central administration, including the School Board, Superintendent, and Business Office.]*

Motion: Heather Holland
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: nona

Vote on Article 6: Article 6 passes as written.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$2,069,142 for School Administration?
[\(2:12:33\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for all school building administration.]*

Motion: Rebekah Barker
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 7: Article 7 passes as written.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$2,305,125 for Transportation and Buses?
[\(2:13:25\)](#) *[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.]*

Motion: Rebekah Barker
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 8: Article 8 passes as written.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$3,847,563 for Facilities Maintenance?
[\(2:14:47\)](#) *[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.]*

Motion: Kate Claesson
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 9: Article 9 passes as written.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$0 for Debt Service and Other Commitments?
[\(2:16:23\)](#) *[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.]*

Motion: Kate Claesson
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 10: Article 10 passes as written.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the District be authorized to expend \$50,000 for All Other Expenditures.
[\(2:16:55\)](#) *[Explanation: This article provides funding for the School Board Contingency fund and/or for transfer to the food service program.]*

Motion: Kate Claesson
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 11: Article 11 passes as written.

ARTICLES 12 AND 13
RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 12: [\(2:17:43\)](#) Shall the District appropriate **\$27,999,809.99** for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and shall the District raise and assess **\$13,429,963.33** as the municipalities' contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-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	\$ 12,115,517.78	Town of Eliot	\$ 7,452,370.00
Town of South Berwick	\$ 15,884,292.21	Town of South Berwick	\$ 5,977,593.33
Total Appropriated (sum of above)	\$ 27,999,809.99	Total Raised (sum of above)	\$ 13,429,963.33

[Explanation: The District's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-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.]

Motion: Joe Long
Second: Jenn Therrien
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 12: Article 12 passes as written.

ARTICLE 13: [\(2:20:10\)](#) **(Written ballot required.)** Shall the District raise and appropriate **\$8,178,225** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$8,178,225, as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board?
[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 pre-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.]

Motion: Joe Long
Second: Jenn Therrien
Discussion: none

Written Ballot Vote: Yea- 477 Nay- 57
Article 13 passes in the amount of \$8,178,225.

Correction: [\(2:34:20\)](#) Mr. Stockmeyer noted there was a previous change in amounts between Articles 7 & 8 and he did not have the updated version. He noted that the total amount of the budget is not affected, but the amounts for Articles 7 & 8 were read incorrectly. He is voiding the previous results for Articles 7 & 8 and asking the attendees to vote again with the correct amounts.

Correction **ARTICLE 7:** Shall the District be authorized to expend **\$2,015,417** for School Administration?
[Explanation: This article provides funding for all school building administration.]

Motion: Rebekah Barker
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 7: Article 7 passes as written.

Correction **ARTICLE 8:** Shall the District be authorized to expend **\$2,358,850** for Transportation and Buses?
[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.]

Motion: Rebekah Barker
Second: Joe Long
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 8: Article 8 passes as written.

ARTICLE 14 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 14: Shall the District will authorize the School Board to expend **\$38,989,582** for the fiscal
[\(2:45:25\)](#) year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 from the District's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-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?

Motion: Joe Long
Second: Jenn Therrien
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 14: Article 14 passes as written.

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

ARTICLE 15: Shall the District appropriate **\$301,631** for adult education and raise **\$126,597** 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?

[\(2:46:27\)](#)

Motion: Joe Long
Second: Jenn Therrien
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 15: Article 15 passes as written.

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?

[\(2:47:11\)](#)

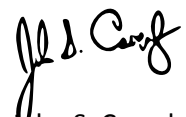
Motion: Joe Long
Second: Jenn Therrien
Discussion: none

Vote on Article 16: Article 16 passes as written.

Adjournment Mr. Stockmeyer moved to adjourn the meeting; this motion was seconded by multiple registered voters in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46pm.

Attest: True Record



John S. Caverly
Superintendent of Schools