

**WARRANT FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
DRESDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Hanover, New Hampshire and Norwich, Vermont

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING WARRANT ARTICLES APPLY TO THE OPERATION OF THE DRESDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHICH INCLUDES THE OPERATION OF THE FRANCES C. RICHMOND SCHOOL AND HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL, GRADES 7-12, AND SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS FROM HANOVER WHO ARE TUITIONED TO THE FRANCES C. RICHMOND SCHOOL BY THE HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT.

The legal voters of the Norwich (Vermont) Town School District and the legal voters of the Hanover (New Hampshire) School District are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual School District Meeting will be held as follows:

DISCUSSION PHASE: Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 7:00 P.M., at the Hanover High School Auditorium, Hanover, New Hampshire. A virtual option will be available to attend via Zoom link and the information will be shared via the SAU70 District website at SAU70.org. The meeting will also be streamed on CATV.

VOTING PHASE: Tuesday, March 2, 2021, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the Hanover High School Gymnasium in Hanover, New Hampshire (for Hanover voters) and in Tracy Hall in Norwich, Vermont (for Norwich voters). **Absentee ballots will be available ahead of the in-person voting date.**

During the discussion phase, the voters shall have the opportunity to discuss the following Warrant Articles and to transact any non-substantive business that may legally be acted on during the discussion phase under Article 7.

All voting on Warrant Articles 1 through 6 shall be conducted by secret written ballot during the voting phase, as provided in the Dresden School District Procedures for Australian Ballot.

ARTICLE 1: To elect by written ballot for one-year terms a Moderator, a Clerk, a Treasurer; an auditor for a two-year term and an auditor for a one-year term.

***Informational Notes:** The positions noted above are voted on annually. Information on each position is available at the Superintendent's office.*

ARTICLE 2: Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Forty-Two Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars (\$842,764) for technology infrastructure upgrades at the Richmond Middle and Hanover High Schools? And further authorize the School Board to issue bonds and/or notes in accordance with the provisions of the NH-VT Interstate School Compact (Article VII) and to authorize the school Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon (majority vote required).

The School Board recommends this article.

NOTE 1. No payment will be due in the 2021-22 school year. We are pursuing ERate funding reimbursements and will return any unused funds to fund balance in order to offset tax assessments in the year(s) after funding is secured.

Informational Notes: The technology infrastructure upgrades for the Dresden schools would include a four phase process during the 2021-22 school year and includes replacement of the follow equipment: Cable Plants, Wireless Access Points, E-911 Phone Systems, POE+Switches, Patch Cables, Racks and UPS Backups. The project will be discussed in depth at the Annual District Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 25th at 7:00 pm. A power point presentation can be reviewed on the Districts BoardDoc website or SAU70 website.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the District determine and fix the salaries of School District officers as follows: School Board members \$700 per member with additional \$300 for School Board Chair; School District Treasurer \$2,567; School District Clerk \$500; and School District Moderator \$200 in accordance with Article V-A of the NH/VT Interstate School Compact, and further raise and appropriate the amount of Eleven Thousand, Nine Hundred Sixty-Seven Dollars (\$11,967) to fund these salaries?
The School Board recommends this article.

Informational Notes: This article requests \$700 for the salary for School Board members, the same stipend as the last several years and an additional \$300 for the Board Chair. The salaries of the School District Clerk and Moderator are unchanged; there is a small increase for the Treasurer. This article's effect on the tax rate is negligible.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the District vote to approve the cost items in the two (2) year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Local #1348 of the AFSCME a/k/a Service Employees (including Custodial and Maintenance technicians) and the Dresden School Board, which calls for the following increases in service staff salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimated Increase
2021-2022	Over status quo budget \$18,513
2022-2023	\$25,517

and further, shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand, Five Hundred and Thirteen Dollars (\$18,513), such sum representing the estimated increase in service staff salaries and benefits for the 2021-2022 fiscal year brought about by this collective bargaining agreement (majority vote required)?

The School Board recommends this article.

NOTE 1. The sum necessary to pay the so-called status quo salaries and benefits for service staff if this article is defeated is included in the operating budget in Article 5.

NOTE 2. A favorable vote on this article shall be considered the approval of the cost items in both years (2) of the proposed collective bargaining agreement.

Informational Notes: In January, the Board and the Local #1348 of the AFSCME a/k/a Service Employees (including Custodial and Maintenance technicians) reached a tentative agreement for the next two-year period (2022-2023). The Local #1348 reached a very modest agreement with base pay increases set at 0.50% (21-22) and 1.0% (22-23), the addition of a 403b match, a 2 tiered co-pay program for insurance and many language updates throughout the agreement. A complete overview can be reviewed on the sau70.org website under the budget section.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District raise and appropriate the amount of Twenty-Eight Million, One Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand, One Hundred Eighty-One Dollars (\$28,174,181), for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the teachers and other school employees, school district officials, and agents, and for the payment of the statutory obligations of the District for the 2021-22 fiscal year? This sum does not include the sums appropriated in any of the other articles.
The School Board recommends this article.

Informational Notes: *As currently built, the Dresden School District Budget will increase from \$27,803,976 to \$28,186,148 an increase of \$382,172, or 1.37%. After accounting for a projected decrease in 7-12th grade tuition and a decrease in 6th grade tuition as well in the amount of (\$818,645) and a larger projected June 30, 2021 surplus available of \$700,000, the amount to be assessed to the Hanover and Norwich districts for the 2021-22 budget as currently built is estimated to increase by \$700,817 or 3.30%. Since Dresden does not have its own tax rate, the tax rate impact of the Dresden budget is included within the tax rate estimates for the Hanover and Norwich districts and their respective budget documents. At this point, the total Hanover assessment is expected to be \$14,611,270, an increase of \$151,642, which is actually a 1.05% increase as the Average Daily Membership appropriation percentage calculation between the two districts has shifted 1.529% more towards Norwich from the prior year. The Norwich assessment is expected to be \$7,306,447 an increase of \$549,175 from the adjusted assessment, which would result in an 8.13% projected increase.*

While tax estimation is always hazardous, and a "tax rate" cannot be established for the Dresden District separately from the Hanover and Norwich tax rates, the potential tax rate increase for the Dresden portion of Hanover's tax rate is \$0.07, with Special Warrant Articles for agreements it would be projected at \$0.10. The total potential estimated homestead tax rate increase for Norwich's tax rate including the Dresden Assessment is \$0.1419, with the Special Warrant Articles for agreements it would increase to \$0.1429. It is important to note \$0.0809 of the rate increase was caused by a significant drop in the Common Level of Appraisal as set by town and state.

All these amounts are estimates. Actual revenue and assessment information will not be finalized until the state of Vermont sets various budgetary parameters as late as the spring of 2021, and the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration finalizes assessment and tax rates for the districts in October of 2021.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Dresden School District vote to amend its Articles of Agreement, specifically Article (D), effective as of the 2022-2023 school year to read as follows:

D. The Dresden School District shall be responsible for grades 7-12 inclusive, provided, however, that Dresden School District shall be responsible additionally for grade 6 upon the affirmative vote of a member school district designating Dresden School District as the exclusive provider of sixth grade educational services to the students of such member school district which designation shall become effective no earlier than the fiscal year following the next annual meeting, or such later date as the Dresden School Board determines in its discretion is necessary to permit the construction of any capital improvements to accommodate the projected additional students. Such designation shall be conditioned upon the member district contributing its equitable share of the capital, as determined by the Dresden School Board, for incremental grade 6 building costs. If such contribution is not made, such designation shall be deemed to have been made on a space available rather than exclusive basis.

The Dresden School District may operate schools for grades other than grades 7-12 for students received on a tuition basis. No tuition students shall be received from the Norwich and Hanover School Districts by the Dresden School District except pursuant to a tuition contract approved by the receiving and sending districts.

[New material underlined; majority vote required]
The School Board recommends this article.

Informational Notes: *The Hanover Finance Committee worked closely with the School Board to determine an improved and equitable methodology for determining a less volatile manner of paying for the education of the 6th grade class at the Richmond Middle School. The recommended change requires an amendment to the Articles of Agreement as stated in the above warrant article. This change will allow for more transparency and simplicity in budgeting and managing the long term goals of the School. By allowing for the designation of 6th graders to the Dresden School District, the costs associated with educating the students becomes a directly budgeted part of the Dresden expenditures. The Dresden average daily membership assessment method is then used to allocate the proper percentage to each member town. An in depth discussion surrounding the present tuition arrangement and proposed change can be viewed by watching the January 12, 2021 Budget Presentation along with review of the 6th Grade Tuition Warrant Article Power Point Presentation.*

ARTICLE 7: To transact any non-substantive business that may legally come before the discussion phase of this meeting.

Given under our hands and the seal of the District this 12th day of January 2021 (Articles 1-5) and this 20th day of January 2021 (Article 6).

Tom Candon
Marcela Di Blasi
Jonathan Hunt
Rick Johnson
Kelly McConnell, Chair
Garrett Palm, Secretar

Lisa Christie
Kimberly Hartmann
Kelley Hersey
Benjamin Keeney
Neil Odell, Vice Chair
Dan Rockmore

DRESDEN SCHOOL BOARD
DRESDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Deborah M. Carter, Clerk
Dresden School District

Please be advised expanded information including the Budget Books and Exhibits can be found on our District website at www.sau70.org under the "Departments" section, specifically "Business & Finance" then go to the Budgets section.



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2020	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2021	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Instruction						
1100-1199	Regular Programs	05	\$11,294,038	\$11,762,680	\$11,828,599	\$0
1200-1299	Special Programs	05	\$2,985,751	\$3,227,882	\$3,299,310	\$0
1300-1399	Vocational Programs	05	\$90,404	\$102,591	\$120,000	\$0
1400-1499	Other Programs	05	\$867,735	\$981,715	\$993,044	\$0
1500-1599	Non-Public Programs	05	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1600-1699	Adult/Continuing Education Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1700-1799	Community/Junior College Education Programs	05	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1800-1899	Community Service Programs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Instruction Subtotal			\$15,237,928	\$16,074,868	\$16,240,953	\$0
Support Services						
2000-2199	Student Support Services	05	\$1,385,247	\$1,458,495	\$1,576,043	\$0
2200-2299	Instructional Staff Services	05	\$615,540	\$665,932	\$693,215	\$0
Support Services Subtotal			\$2,000,787	\$2,124,427	\$2,269,258	\$0
General Administration						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2310 (840)	School Board Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2310-2319	Other School Board	03,05	\$107,005	\$65,786	\$66,499	\$0
General Administration Subtotal			\$107,005	\$65,786	\$66,499	\$0
Executive Administration						
2320 (310)	SAU Management Services	05	\$965,023	\$1,095,235	\$1,185,413	\$0
2320-2399	All Other Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2400-2499	School Administration Service	05	\$2,084,008	\$2,142,312	\$2,284,680	\$0
2500-2599	Business		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2600-2699	Plant Operations and Maintenance	05	\$1,891,459	\$2,241,299	\$2,191,107	\$0
2700-2799	Student Transportation	05	\$161,496	\$249,149	\$223,836	\$0
2800-2999	Support Service, Central and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Executive Administration Subtotal			\$5,101,986	\$5,727,995	\$5,885,036	\$0
Non-Instructional Services						
3100	Food Service Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3200	Enterprise Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Instructional Services Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 6/30/2020	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2021	Appropriations for	
					period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
Facilities Acquisition and Construction						
4100	Site Acquisition		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4200	Site Improvement	05	\$124,142	\$62,750	\$47,500	\$0
4300	Architectural/Engineering		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4400	Educational Specification Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4500	Building Acquisition/Construction		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4600	Building Improvement Services	05	\$29,211	\$118,000	\$44,000	\$0
4900	Other Facilities Acquisition and Construction		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Subtotal			\$153,353	\$180,750	\$91,500	\$0
Other Outlays						
5110	Debt Service - Principal	05	\$1,580,149	\$1,698,752	\$1,949,072	\$0
5120	Debt Service - Interest	05	\$1,968,750	\$1,883,398	\$1,625,830	\$0
Other Outlays Subtotal			\$3,548,899	\$3,582,150	\$3,574,902	\$0
Fund Transfers						
5220-5221	To Food Service	05	\$107,567	\$48,000	\$58,000	\$0
5222-5229	To Other Special Revenue		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5230-5239	To Capital Projects		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5254	To Agency Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5310	To Charter Schools		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5390	To Other Agencies		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9990	Supplemental Appropriation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9992	Deficit Appropriation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Transfers Subtotal			\$107,567	\$48,000	\$58,000	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$28,186,148	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
4600	Building Improvement Services	02	\$842,764	\$0
<i>Purpose: To raise and appropriate funds for technology inf</i>				
5251	To Capital Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0
5252	To Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0
5253	To Non-Expendable Trust Fund		\$0	\$0
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$842,764	\$0



Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Recommended)	Appropriations for period ending 6/30/2022 (Not Recommended)
2600-2699	Plant Operations and Maintenance	04	\$18,513	\$0
<i>Purpose: Vote to approve two year collective bargaining agr</i>				
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$18,513	\$0



Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2020	Revised Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2021	Estimated Revenues for Period ending 6/30/2022
Other Financing Sources					
5110-5139	Sale of Bonds or Notes	02	\$0	\$0	\$842,764
5140	Reimbursement Anticipation Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
5221	Transfers from Food Service Special Revenues Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
5222	Transfer from Other Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5230	Transfer from Capital Project Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5251	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5252	Transfer from Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5253	Transfer from Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
5300-5699	Other Financing Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
9997	Supplemental Appropriation (Contra)		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$0	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes	05	\$0	\$0	\$700,000
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$1,542,764
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$5,062,629	\$6,387,076	\$7,111,195



Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 6/30/2022
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$28,186,148
Special Warrant Articles	\$842,764
Individual Warrant Articles	\$18,513
Total Appropriations	\$29,047,425
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$7,111,195
Less Amount of State Education Tax/Grant	\$0
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$21,936,230