

# Regional School Unit 56

## Budget Newsletter

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**Regional School Unit 56**  
**147 Weld Street**  
**Dixfield, ME 04224**  
**Telephone: 207-562-4300**  
**Fax: 207-562-6075**  
**<http://www.rsu56.org>**

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### Superintendent's Message

~Cougar Pride~



It is my pleasure to serve as your Superintendent of Schools. I am proud to be a Dirigo Cougar. This newsletter is meant to serve two purposes: 1) to provide you with an overview of what happens in your schools on a daily basis, and 2) to provide you with comprehensive information in regards to the proposed 2023-24 RSU 56 School Budget. Your RSU 56 School Board, Administrative Team, and full RSU 56 Staff are dedicated to providing the students of Canton, Carthage, Dixfield and Peru the best education possible, while also being fiscally responsible to our Taxpayers. We know that our schools are, and should be, the pride of our communities.

In the proposed 2023-24 budget, we were able to maintain all programs other than high school soccer. With waning participation, soccer was eliminated from the budget. No one disputes that soccer is a tough cut. We would love to keep it and see if we can field a team, however, we were told that the projection is for 4 boys and 10 girls total between incoming freshmen and current high school students. Board approval was secured to reinstate soccer if anything else in the budget comes in under projected. Fingers crossed. Please know that we want to do what's best for kids; however, we also need to respond to community desires to keep the budget as low as possible. Making cuts is never easy for the Administrative Team or for the Board Members.

The 2023-24 proposed school budget is \$13,545,519.00, representing a 2.5% budget to budget increase or \$330,379. You will find all the budget information in this newsletter on pages 10 and 11. The impact of the proposed budget is outlined below:

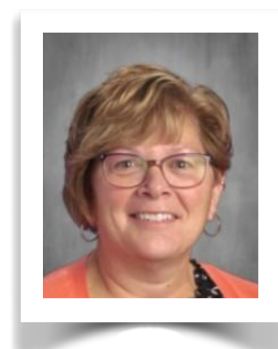
Canton: 12.531% percentage increase  
Carthage: 0.813% percentage increase  
Dixfield: 3.532% percentage increase  
Peru: 3.415% percentage increase

I invite and encourage you to attend the Public Validation/Hearing on the Budget in the Dirigo High School SCC (cafeteria) at 6:30pm on May 23, 2023. In addition, you are encouraged to vote in your town on June 13, 2023. We humbly ask for your support of the proposed 2023-24 School Budget as we strive to support the Dirigo Schools while also remaining fiscally responsible.

Please call (562-4300) or email ([pdoyen@rsu56.org](mailto:pdoyen@rsu56.org)) if you have any questions, concerns or comments.

Sincerely,

Pam Doyen  
RSU 56 Superintendent of Schools



### Table of Contents

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Page 2: Dirigo Athletics                  | Page 8: Nutrition/Buildings, Grounds & Transportation |
| Page 3: Dirigo High School                | Page 9: Proposed Bus Garage Information               |
| Page 4: T. W. Kelly Dirigo Middle School  | Page 10: Budget Information                           |
| Page 5: Dirigo Elementary School          | Page 11: Budget Information (cont'd)                  |
| Page 6: 21st Century After School Program | Page 12: Additional Updates/School Calendar           |
| Page 7: Technology/Special Services       |   |

# Dirigo Athletics!



Dirigo Athletics is an active member of the Mountain Valley Conference at the high school level and the Capitol Area League at the middle school level. Across Dirigo High School and TWK Dirigo Middle School, we have seen an overall increase in participation during the course of the 2022-2023 school year compared to other active members within the leagues at both Dirigo High School and TWKDMS. As a whole, the student athletes participating within Dirigo Athletics across the district have had the opportunity to participate in an increased number of JV games/events compared to previous years, to ensure that we are providing opportunities for our participating student athletes.



Although there were challenges during the course of the year, Dirigo Athletics was able to rise to the occasion and produce positive results across all athletic programs. This is directly correlated with the support of our student athletes, families, friends, boosters, volunteers, staff, and community members - which is greatly appreciated! Beginning with the winter season, we had the opportunity to extend our TWKDMS athletic programs to include fifth graders that were interested in participating in interscholastic programs. This will continue into the 2023 and 2024 school year based on the positive experiences. Dirigo Athletics was also able to continue offering Unified Basketball at TWKDMS to bring the Unified Basketball program to DHS for the first time, which provided a remarkable experience for many student athletes! We will continue to offer Unified Basketball at both TWKDMS and DHS in the 2023-2024 school year based on these incredible experiences.

Dirigo Athletics success extends beyond its sports teams and their winning seasons - much positive feedback has been received by officiating crews, visiting fans/families, and our community members. This is a reflection of the incredible support for Dirigo Athletics that is seen on a daily basis. Within the athletic programs offered by RSU 56, we have seen countless outstanding performances. Many teams competed in playoffs and championships which included but were not limited to: TWKDMS Boys' Cross Country being undefeated in the regular season; individuals on the TWKDMS Wrestling Team winning their second straight undefeated championship, DHS Football being named 2022 Class C North Regional Runner Up; DHS Cross Country individuals participating in the State Championship; DHS Wrestling individuals competing in the New England Qualifier Wrestling competition; and DHS Boys' Basketball winning their second consecutive GOLD BALL as State Class C Champions!

The Dirigo Community and visitors have continued to enjoy the newly-renovated Dr. G. G. Defoe Memorial Gymnasium at Dirigo High School. The outdoor basketball court at DHS, a community-based project, is nearing completion and transformation will continue as we enter the 2023-2024 school year!

*Nick Karavas*  
Assistant Principal of Dirigo  
High School & Athletic Director  
[nkaravas@rsu56.org](mailto:nkaravas@rsu56.org)  
[athletics@rsu56.org](mailto:athletics@rsu56.org)  
562-4251



The DHS Boys Basketball Team, with Cody St. Germain as the head coach, won the gold ball for the second year in a row.



The outdoor basketball court at DHS nearing its completion!



The TWKDMS Unified Basketball Team



The DHS Girls Field Hockey Team

**2023-2024 Budget information can be found on Page 10 and Page 11**

# Dirigo High School (DHS)



Principal: Pam Doyen  
Assistant Principal/Athletic Director: Nick Karavas

**Mission of Dirigo High School:** *The mission of Dirigo High School is to be a safe and respectful community with a rigorous and diverse curriculum that offers opportunities for students to develop skills, gain knowledge, and aspire to make lifelong productive choices.*

Dirigo High School currently has an enrollment of 226 students, with 41 of the students residing in Canton, 20 in Carthage, 102 in Dixfield, and 45 in Peru. The remaining students are at Dirigo High School on superintendents' agreements except for two who are foreign exchange students. (For students who attend under superintendents' agreements, the funding through Maine Department of Education comes to RSU 56.)

The proposed Dirigo High School budget was brought to the Board of Directors being slightly down in controllable areas except for course reimbursement and athletics. Course reimbursement is for DHS staff members who will be taking college courses. The athletics budget went up due to the increased cost of transportation, officials and fees. Unfortunately, DHS Girls and Boys Soccer was cut due to low enrollment projections. If you recall, we tried a co-op with Spruce Mt. last year with minimal success. No one disputes that soccer is a tough cut. Both Mr. Karavas and I would love to keep it and see if we can field a team. We were able to secure board approval to reinstate soccer if anything else in the budget comes in under projected. Fingers crossed.

We will continue to offer a variety of classes in all subject areas. Our teaching staff consists of 2.2 English teachers, 2.5 science teachers, 2.5 social studies teachers, 2.5 math teachers, 2 foreign language teachers\*, one physical education/health teacher, one alternative education teacher, .5 music teacher, .5 art teacher, .5 library ed tech III, and one JMG specialist (partially paid for by RSU 56). We also have 2 special education teachers and 5 special education ed techs.

\*For the first time, in 2023-2024, we will be offering Mandarin Chinese, as Ms. Hu will be transitioning to DHS; her position is paid for with ESSER funds.



Brad Conant

We have one staff member at Dirigo High School who is retiring after 31 years of exemplary service. Brad Conant has been at DHS serving as both an educator and as the DHS Speech and Debate Team Coach, where he has worked tirelessly to ensure the continued success and longevity of the Debate Team. His impact on our community and its students is evident and he will be greatly missed. We sincerely thank you for all that you have done and wish you all the luck in your future endeavors, Brad!

*Pam Doyen  
Superintendent & Principal of  
Dirigo High School  
pdoyen@rsu56.org  
562-4251*



DHS Chorus performing at a Board Meeting.



Under the direction of Brad Conant, the DHS Speech and Debate Team has, once again, qualified for nationals. (Jocelynn, Alyssa, Junbei, Daisy)



Franklin Savings donated \$2,500 to the Cougar Den. Mrs. Kelly Porter organizes the Cougar Den for student use. The Cougar Den houses clothes, food, backpacks, personal supplies and more for students in need.



The DHS Boys Basketball Team, with Cody St. Germain as the head coach, won the gold ball for the second year in a row.



Rhianna baking at Region 9.



Emily, Grace and Alyssa watching The Polar Express.

## T. W. Kelly Dirigo Middle School (TWKDMS)

### *Community Engagement Becoming a Strength*

The 2022-2023 school year has really allowed TWKDMS to “open up” in a bigger way for our awesome community. This past September, over 85% of our students had parents attend the Open House, and the TWKDMS Positive Behavior and Intervention System (PBIS) hosted a “Bakers Bingo” fundraiser that filled our cafeteria to capacity. In November, TWKDMS hosted its first Veterans’ Day Luncheon, where middle school students could invite a veteran to a delicious turkey dinner provided by the RSU 56 Nutrition Department and paid for by our hard-working TWKDMS PTO/Boosters Club. We had over 20 local veterans attend the meal served by the Alternative Education students. Afterwards, most of our guests participated in a panel discussion about their experiences at a school-wide assembly. Students learned about the opportunities, values, and sacrifices that accompany a life in service to our country. This April, TWKDMS is hosting a Family Movie Night as a fundraiser for a Dirigo family impacted by a house fire, and our Student Council donated the proceeds from their winter school dance to a family facing steep healthcare costs. The Cougar Den is now in its 6th year of providing supplemental groceries, clothing, and backpacks to students and families in need throughout the year. This is possible thanks to generous donations from local businesses, individuals, and partner organizations. This year’s theme at TWKDMS is Dirigo Pride; we are proud of our community.



### *Student Performance Has Improved in Both Reading and Math*

In 2017-2018, TWKDMS students had the lowest percentage in Oxford County among middle school students for meeting or exceeding the state’s expectations in reading and math on state testing. That was our starting point as a new school district, and many changes were getting underway. First, the school began to use and analyze data to make better decisions about how to help students that had fallen behind. Second, the school gradually raised its expectations and accountability for student learning by conducting biweekly school-wide eligibility checks and reinstating a summer school program. Third, the school dramatically changed its approach to intervention to more efficiently provide support to more of our students, including two interventionist Ed Tech positions. All along, the staff and the students have worked hard to increase expectations and performance in our school. Despite the many challenges we have faced during these first five years as a school district, our spring 2022 results show that TWKDMS students now have the third highest scores among middle school students in Oxford County on the state’s spring assessments in reading AND math. It is important to note that during this period, the Department of Education changed the test (and they are about to again), but no matter what they throw at us, we will keep working hard and pushing our students to reach their full potential.

#### **Curriculum**

RSU 56 believes that a transparent, guaranteed, and viable curriculum is essential for students to reach their full potential over time as they move through the grades. In mathematics, RSU 56 adopted a consistent district-wide math program two years ago. At the elementary level, the program is known as MyMath, and then it continues up through the grades as Glencoe Math. This traditional program is already producing positive results, especially for those who were previously struggling in mathematics, and can be supported by intervention resources that align with its scope and sequence. In English and Language Arts (ELA), RSU 56 is using Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) preK through grade 5 and then selected essential units from the Amplify middle school program at TWKDMS. Adopted for the 2021-2022 school year, we are excited at the early evidence of its effectiveness in supporting instruction that follows the science of reading. All of the benchmark standards that serve as the guideposts for curriculum and instruction in RSU 56 are available online, and Google Classroom webpages are available for parents and guardians to review for most classes at the secondary level.

#### **Instruction**

RSU 56 is committed to focusing on increasing rigor and improving instructional practices across the district. For example, at Dirigo Elementary School, a cohort of teachers (including the middle school reading interventionist) is engaged in a course on Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling, more commonly known as LETRS. This training instructs staff on what literacy skills need to be taught, how to plan for them, and the research behind the practice. In addition, Dirigo High School and Dirigo Middle School have combined for a year-long, bi-weekly professional development series on rigor and critical thinking that follows the framework of Jay McTighe and Harvey Silver’s Teaching for Deeper Learning: Tools to Engage Students in Meaning Making (2020). Dirigo Elementary School also has a teacher-led Math Instruction committee working with the administration to plan and deliver professional development in math instruction, including lessons learned from the 2022 National Council for the Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) conference. RSU 56 is working to provide our staff with focused, research-based, and in some ways, “back to basics” professional development that will result in stronger instruction for our students.

#### **Assessment**

The first year that RSU 56 became a school district (17-18), we had the lowest percentage of students meeting or exceeding math standards as a district on the state assessments in all of Oxford County. According to the data published by the Maine Department of Education, as of last spring’s (21-22) math assessments, RSU 56 now has the third-highest percentage of students meeting or exceeding math standards in Oxford County. Although the tests themselves have changed (making it hard to analyze longitudinal data), our improvement relative to similar school districts over the past five years is worth noting. During this time, RSU 56 adopted an affordable progress monitoring system developed by the University of Oregon, EasyCBM. The information gathered from these shorter probes, plus the data collected by the state assessments (now known as the NWEA) and school-specific programs (for example, the middle school uses a diagnostic and math practice tool called IXL), can be used to direct students to the necessary resources to help them improve. Although the State of Maine is again changing its required state assessment, we will continue to find ways to move forward.



Jason Long  
Principal of T.W. Kelly Dirigo  
Middle School & RSU 56  
Curriculum Coordinator  
jlong@rsu56.org  
562-7552

**2023-2024 Budget information can be found on Page 10 and Page 11**

# Dirigo Elementary School (DES)

## Veterans' Breakfast and Recognition Assembly

On November 10, 2022, Dirigo Elementary School held its Veterans' Breakfast and Recognition Assembly. This event was put on hold for a couple of years due to Covid, so it was extremely nice having our community Veterans back at DES. During this celebration, we were lucky to honor Bode Gray, a Dirigo graduating senior, who completed bootcamp last summer and has enlisted in the U.S. Army. We also were able to honor our special 100-year-old veteran, Marlin Thurston, who served in the Pacific during World War II. As part of our celebration this year, our school raised over \$2000 for Operation Reboot, a program doing awesome work to support Veterans. We want to thank Region 9's culinary arts program for sponsoring, preparing, and serving a delicious meal to our Veterans.



Marlin Thurston - WWII Veteran from Peru is given a standing ovation at the DES Veterans' assembly as his great-grandchildren greet him.



Bode Gray, a senior at DHS, is interviewed by Mr. Swan about his bootcamp experience.

## Thank You!

Dirigo Elementary School would like to thank the many organizations and individuals who donate to our school each year. We have individuals and groups who donate classroom supplies, backpacks, books, clothing, and food for students to be used during school vacations. We have other groups who donate Thanksgiving baskets, holiday gifts, bikes, and money to support students in need. From bags of socks to support with fuel assistance, we know our families in need very much appreciate the love and support of this awesome community. Thank you all again for helping our students and their families and for being a much needed partner with Dirigo Elementary School.

- \* Dixfield Discount Fuel
- \* Whittemore Property Management
- \* Toes on the Go
- \* King Hiram Lodge #57
- \* Team Long Run
- \* River Valley Healthy Community Coalition
- \* Nine Dragons
- \* P'zazz
- \* Oxford County United Bikers of Maine
- \* DES Parent/Teacher Organization
- \* Friends of the River Valley
- \* Anonymous Individuals
- \* And so many more!

## Amplify

Dirigo Elementary School implemented a new reading program this year called Amplify. Amplify is a Science and Reading based program that incorporates science and social studies topics into the students' reading curriculum. Though the program is rigorous and has changed our approach to reading some, we are finding that it is rich in vocabulary and it is extremely beneficial to have a common approach to reading from Pre-K through grade 5. The pictures you see here are students participating in some of the science and social studies activities that are part of the program.



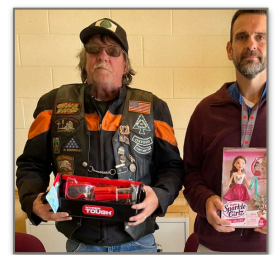
Students in grade 5 participating in an egg-drop experiment as part of a science/reading unit. Eggs were dropped from the school roof (left and center). Students in grade 3 are giving their best Viking pose. They were studying Vikings as part of their Amplify Reading unit (right).

## K-12 Music Concert

Dirigo Elementary School participated in RSU 56's first ever K-12 music concert this year. There was a packed crowd at Dr. G. G. Defoe Memorial Gymnasium at Dirigo High School for the concert, which featured songs from our K-5 students along with band performances by both the middle and high school bands. We are very excited about the growth of music in our district over the past few years and can't wait to see how our DES students continue to develop their musical talents over the next few years. We thank Mrs. Webster and Mr. Hamalainen for organizing and leading this event.



DES students performing in their Holiday Concert at the DHS Dr. G. G. Defoe Memorial Gymnasium as part of our first ever K-12 concert (left).



Dirigo Elementary School would like to publicly thank all of our substitute teachers and school volunteers. We know that your roles are not always easy, but they are very much needed and very much appreciated. Thank you for stepping in and supporting our school and the needs of our students!

## Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration

If you have not yet registered your child for Pre-K (4 year olds) or Kindergarten (5 year olds) please call us today (562-4207).

Charlie Swan  
Principal of Dirigo Elementary School  
cswan@rsu56.org  
562-4207

## Dirigo Elementary 21st CCLC After School Program

The after school program at Dirigo Elementary had a successful first year, serving 90 students, with over 40% showing improvement in math and reading. The program culminated the year with the first annual Family Dinner where the students planned the event, wrote the invitations, prepared the food and served over 100 meals.

New this year we have Nick Waugh teaching a photography class, integrating history, science and design elements. The DES Paparazzi, along with assistant Shay Sayer can be seen cruising the hallways taking action shots in the gym or outside focusing on nature. We are excited to have some eighth grade students come in to read and play board games with our group as part of their Capstone Projects.

We would like to thank Oxford Federal Credit Union who donated several Monopoly and Life board games. The students are learning about Money Matters while having some fun. Also, Arbe's Carpet donated comfy carpet squares to use on the floor. This March we were able to visit the Thurston Family Farm to learn how maple syrup is made and, of course, tried some samples on homemade ice cream! We truly appreciate all your contributions to the program.



I am happy to report that the program has doubled the daily student attendance since last year. This was made possible with the dedicated teachers and the dynamic 21st CCLC staff. Tammy-Lyn Perry, Program Manager, develops the awesome learning experiences. Nicole Welch, Site Coordinator, keeps the program running smoothly. The new Lead Teacher, Roberta "Birdie" Rocray, enthusiastically guides the students through activities. Together with our high school students, we have an amazing team supporting our students after school.

*Joy Mahoney, M.Ed.*  
*Director of DES 21st Century Learning Center*  
[jmahoney@rsu56.org](mailto:jmahoney@rsu56.org)  
562-4207



## Technology Department

This year the Technology Department has focused on Security and Privacy across RSU 56 along with our normal support duties. With the current atmosphere around security and breaches throughout the world and many focused on K-12 Education entities, we took on the challenge of increasing the security in RSU 56 for the 22-23 school year and years to come.

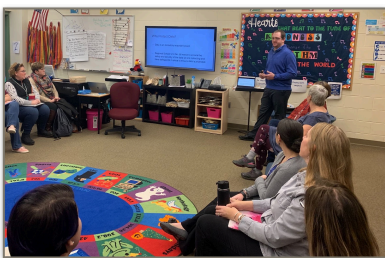


The RSU 56 Technology Department consists of a director and three technicians. The department serves 752 students and 165 staff members on a daily basis, with approximately 850 1:1 devices and many other devices that range from VOIP systems, Smart TV's, computers, laptops, iPads, printers, copiers and many other technology-based systems. Currently, RSU 56 is a 1:1 district from grades PK-12 which means that all of our students in grades PK-12 have their iPad or laptop to use during their time in school, and students in grades 6-12 can take them home at night.

The RSU 56 Technology Department has four specific goals:

1. Improve parent and community involvement in our students' education through the use of our digital platforms.
2. Continue to improve student access to online educational programming, assessments, and other online content through the district's high-speed data network.
3. Increase the effectiveness, quality, and reliability of the technology equipment that staff are using in their classrooms every day.
4. Continue to implement and provide a quality 1:1 device to all students in grades PK-12.

This year, our Technology Department continued to use ESSER and MLTI funding to refresh our student learning devices at Dirigo High School with new Apple MacBooks for our students and staff in grades 9-12.



This year, we provided training at each school and met with staff to discuss CyberSecurity, Data Privacy, and how to keep our district and student information safe in today's world. We also implemented a new policy that mandates all software we use in RSU 56 must have a signed Data Privacy Agreement to be used by students. This will help to protect our students and their data and will help us move forward with securing our district.

I would like to send a "Thank You" to Peter, Jared, and Shawn for all that you have done to help keep things running smoothly this year!

*Brian Keene*  
 Director of Technology  
[bkeene@rsu56.org](mailto:bkeene@rsu56.org)  
 562-4300 X8

## Special Services Department

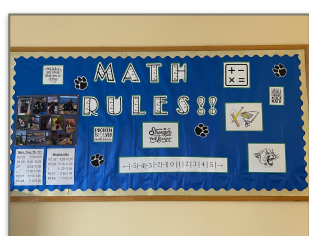
***Mission of RSU 56 Special Services Department:*** *To prepare each child from Pre-K through 22 years of age to contribute to their communities in meaningful and positive ways, by providing specialized instruction, allowing for individual differences and learning styles, and developing independence.*

I am happy to share with you that, while many districts are struggling to keep their Special Services Department fully staffed, we are lucky to have a fully staffed department of qualified individuals who work extremely hard each and every day to provide the very best programming options for all students. I am lucky to be part of such a dedicated and collaborative team. The hard work of the staff can be seen across our district in a variety of ways. This year many of the staff, Ed Techs and Teachers, have engaged in professional development opportunities such as the Seeing Stars curriculum, Motivating the Unmotivated: Teaching the Hard to Reach Student, Preventing Problem Behaviors, Lindamood Bell Phenome sequencing curriculum, Neurodiversity in Action: Implications for Supporting Individuals on the Autism Spectrum, and Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for schools. In addition we now have a member of our team trained as a trainer in the evidence-based "Step up to Writing" curriculum and over the summer she will be training several other members of the special services team.



This year marked the completion of the Department of Education special services audit which consisted of a generous amount of positive feedback in regards to our services as outlined in individual education plans and for our consistent and accurate documentation. I am also pleased to share that the hard work of students and staff is reflected in the fact that we have had six students meet all of their IEP goals and be dismissed from special education services. We work hard to ensure all students are in the least restrictive environment and have equal access to the general education curriculum whenever their needs can be effectively met. We are also thrilled to have successfully worked with the Western Foothills Regional Program to successfully transition a student from an out of district placement back into our supportive middle school environment.

Thank you to all Special Services team members and all RSU 56 staff that work in collaboration with the special services department for their daily dedication to the learning and development of students. Thank you to all of the families for their collaboration as we strive as a district to provide the best possible education for all students. You are all very much appreciated!



As always, if you have any questions or concerns surrounding Special Services, please do not hesitate to contact our department.

*Heidi Connelly*  
 Director of Special Services  
[hconnelly@rsu56.org](mailto:hconnelly@rsu56.org)  
 562-4300 X6

## School Nutrition



It's an exciting time in school food service as Maine is leading the nation, second to California, in making sure our students are fed nutritional meals at no cost to their families. The State of Maine has made the commitment to bridge the gap between those who are income eligible for free meals and those that do not qualify, meaning all of our students are offered a meal at no cost to their families. On average we are feeding 313 student breakfasts and 450 lunches daily.

It has, once again, been a challenging time in food service as we have had to deal with many supply chain issues, but with dedication and creativity from our staff, it never showed. The Nutrition department consists of one Director and eight school-year employees ranging from 3 hours to 8 hours daily. With this small staff, we have been able to offer a variety of programs and move to a much more scratch-cooked meal base to utilize our commodity foods. Our meals need to meet very stringent standards set forth by the federal and state governments, including lean proteins, 51% whole grains, and multiple fruits and vegetables offered daily. Our middle and high schools started to offer themed meals this year in conjunction with the regular menu. We have had Asian, Mexican, and Italian-inspired meals as well as scratch-made soups. There have been some wonderful smells of freshly baked bread and baked goods coming from the kitchen this year. Ask your middle school student about the hand-made pizza dough introduced this year.

Our elementary and middle schools qualified once again for the fresh fruit and vegetable program. This is a grant-sponsored program funded by the USDA to offer students a fruit or vegetable snack in addition to our regular breakfast and lunch programs. The intent of this program is to introduce students to items they may not otherwise get the opportunity to try. The main stipulation is that it must be a fresh item, as the name implies. Our students have had the chance to sample items such as guava, ugly fruit, dinosaur melons, and a wide variety of apples.

Dirigo Super Snacks are being offered at the elementary school for the afterschool program. This program is offered with monies from the CACFP USDA-sponsored program. Our students that participate in the 21st Century program are offered a light meal in the afternoon to hold them over until they get home. Utilizing this program, we plan to expand into the middle school by procuring a vending machine that will dispense meals to students when they attend after-school enrichment programs.

In other exciting news, a new and improved freezer is up and running at the middle school. This freezer was purchased with carryover money from the Nutrition Department, a huge improvement as it is also larger than the one it replaced.

On behalf of all food service employees, I want to thank you all for entrusting your children's nutritional needs to the RSU 56 Nutrition Department.

*Gena Cloutier*  
 Director of School Nutrition  
[gcloutier@rsu56.org](mailto:gcloutier@rsu56.org)  
 562-7552 Ext. 4108

## Buildings, Grounds & Transportation



RSU 56 strives to maintain safe, clean buildings and athletic fields and to provide safe, reliable transportation for students. Our BGT Department employs a total of 26 employees, which includes 17 Bus Driver/Custodians, two Mechanics, one full-time Custodian, one part-time Custodian, two Van Drivers, one Bus Aide, one Director, and one Administrative Assistant. The Drivers cover 12 daily bus runs (AM & PM) throughout Canton, Carthage, Dixfield and Peru. Our special needs students are transported daily by three mini-vans to Rumford and Dixfield and one microbus to Auburn. In 2021-2022, the buses covered 187,000 total miles for daily student runs, and the vans covered approximately 60,000 miles for special needs. These miles do not include co-curricular and extra-curricular trips. The Custodians maintain three buildings (Dirigo High School, TWK Dirigo Middle School, Dirigo Elementary School), as well as 23 acres of grounds and sports fields.



*Kenny Robbins*  
 Director of Buildings, Grounds & Transportation  
[krobbins@rsu56.org](mailto:krobbins@rsu56.org)  
 562-4300 X2





# Proposed Bus Garage



The School Board of Regional School Unit 56 has discussed the idea of a district-owned bus garage for many years, and the board feels that this is an opportune time to begin the process. For more than 30 years, the school district has rented space in the Dixfield town garage on Main Street. Both the town and the school district have added to their equipment over the years, and space in the town garage is at a premium. RSU 56 currently has a fleet of 17 buses, 5 passenger vans, 1 food van, 2 plow trucks, and 4 tractors which are used for mowing and snow blowing. Two mechanics maintain all of these vehicles from two bays in the town garage. The district's annual lease payment for 2022-2023 is \$24,000 plus the actual cost of half of the utilities.

The plan is to construct a bus garage by building a 40' x 80' stand-alone building at One Middle School Drive in Dixfield (visible from Weld Street, where the buses are parked). The building will be a metal structure with two bays, an office, and a bathroom. An architect drew up plans and bid specifications for the building. The project was put out to bid, and there was a public bid opening on March 27, 2023, in the Dirigo High School Library. The total cost of the project (based on the low bid) is \$1,058,504. An additional \$6,496 is being included in order to purchase materials to finish off the bathroom and office space.

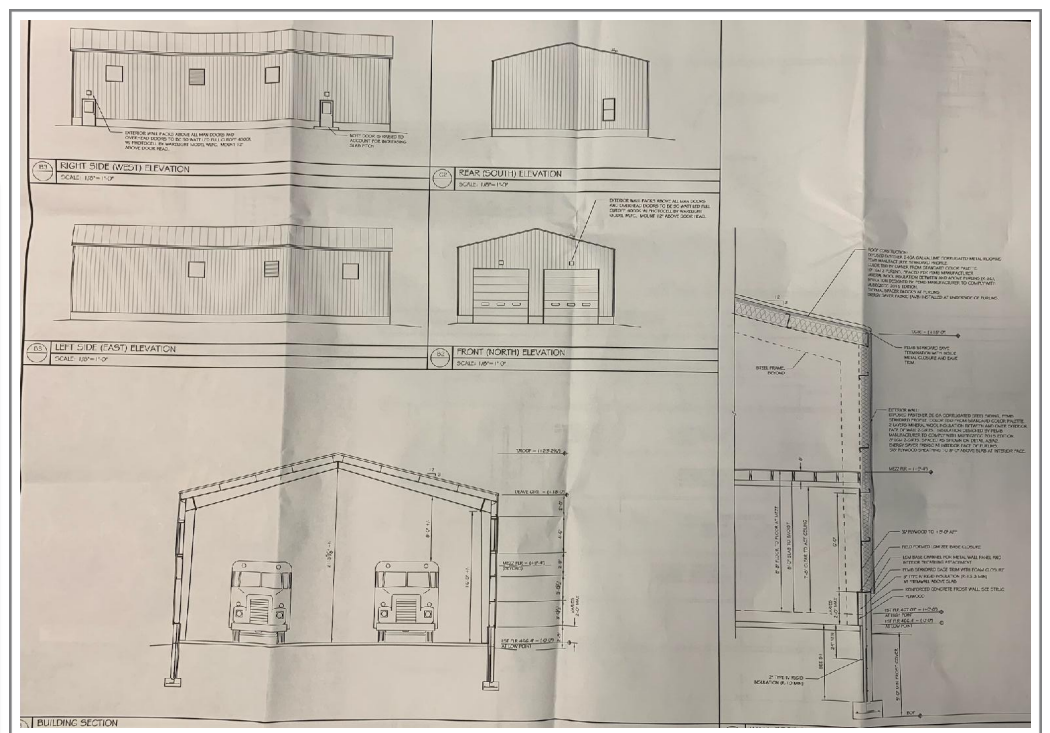
One benefit of the proposed new bus garage is that our mechanics and buses will be at the same location, which will eliminate having to move buses back and forth for service. In addition, the mechanics will be on-site to tend to any mechanical problems at the start of the morning and afternoon runs.

More information will be available during the hearing on the building project on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Community Center of Dirigo High School. This hearing will take place directly before the annual district budget meeting. A warrant article regarding the funding of the bus garage will be voted on during the budget meeting. If approved, the district will cover the cost of the garage from the fund balance. The townspeople at the budget meeting will be asked to authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$565,000 from available fund balances to the Bus Garage Capital Reserve Fund. **Approval of this article will not increase the RSU 56 operating budget or increase the amounts to be raised by each town in the RSU.**

There will also be a ballot question on June 13 in each town of RSU 56 to request voter approval for the School Board to construct the bus garage. If the warrant article is approved during the budget meeting and if the referendum question passes, the bid will be awarded to a general contractor who will start construction in the fall.



Approximate site location at One Middle School Drive, Dixfield.



Proposed Bus Garage Design

**Annual Budget Meeting**

All school systems are required to hold an annual budget meeting to be followed by a budget validation referendum vote.

At the annual budget meeting on Tuesday, May 23 at Dirigo High School, the voters will vote on the warrant article amounts and total budget approved by the RSU 56 Board on April 11, 2023. Once a budget is approved at the annual budget meeting, it must then be approved by a referendum vote in each community of the RSU.

The annual budget meeting will be available for people to view using the Zoom link below or listen to by calling the phone number below. According to state statute, remote participants will not be able to speak or vote.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89918594867?pwd=eUQvSjFRdVJyNHNiHRFL0tBbVkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 1859 4867      To join by phone, dial  
 Password: 134713      1-305-224-1968 and use the  
 enclosed meeting ID & password.

Please feel free to call 562-4300 or email Pam Doyen, Superintendent (pdoyen@rsu56.org) or Mary Dailey, Business Manager (mdailey@rsu56.org) if you have any questions.

**Budget Validation Referendum Vote**

The budget validation referendum vote will be held on June 13, 2023. Voting hours are shown below. There will be two ballots for the school this year. One ballot asks for a yes or no response regarding approving the budget. If the voters approve of the action taken at the annual budget meeting, then the budget is considered adopted. If the voters vote no regarding the action taken at the budget meeting, then the board must go back and approve a new budget and repeat the entire process. The second ballot asks for a yes or no response to the district building a bus garage. For more information about the bus garage, please see the article on page 9.

**June 13, 2023 Budget Referendum Voting Hours by Town**

|          |   |                     |
|----------|---|---------------------|
| Canton   | Canton Town Office, 94 Turner Street      | 8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. |
| Carthage | Carthage Town Office, 703 A Carthage Road | 8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. |
| Dixfield | Dirigo High School, 145 Weld Street       | 8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. |
| Peru     | Peru Town Office, 26 Main Street          | 8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. |

**Important Dates and Times**

|               |  |                               |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------|
| May 23, 2023  | Bus Garage Hearing followed by Annual Budget Meeting | Dirigo High School, 6:30 p.m. |
| June 13, 2023 | Budget Validation Referendum Vote                    | Town polling places           |

**FY 23-24 TOTAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS \$13,545,519.00 (2.5% increase over 2022-2023)**

| TOWN          | LOCAL ALLOCATION      | LOCAL DEBT        | CURRENT ADD'L LOCAL   | TOTAL TO BE RAISED FY 23-24 |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Canton        | \$757,522.83          | \$1,655.78        | \$448,188.03          | \$1,207,366.64              |
| Carthage      | \$571,888.50          | \$1,108.48        | \$300,042.84          | \$873,039.82                |
| Dixfield      | \$1,132,508.83        | \$3,502.89        | \$948,164.45          | \$2,084,176.17              |
| Peru          | \$1,034,928.83        | \$2,545.24        | \$688,947.20          | \$1,726,421.27              |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>\$3,496,848.99</b> | <b>\$8,812.39</b> | <b>\$2,385,342.52</b> | <b>\$5,891,003.90</b>       |

| State Mandated Formula for Distributing Local Cost of Budget: |                        | Calculation of current additional local percentages |                         |              |                     |
|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| FY 23/24  |                        | Town  | 50% Valuation           | 50% Students | Percentage Of Costs |
| Allocation - State Share                                      | \$7,358,115.10         | Canton  | \$108,683,333.00        | 113.0        | 18.789%             |
| Allocation - Local Share                                      | \$3,496,848.99         | Carthage  | \$82,050,000.00         | 62.5         | 12.579%             |
| Debt Service - Local Share                                    | \$8,812.39             | Dixfield  | \$162,483,333.00        | 334.5        | 39.750%             |
| Technology Services   | \$0.00                 | Peru  | \$148,483,333.00        | 200.0        | 28.883%             |
| Excess Balance Fwd Previous Yr                                | \$277,500.00           | <b>TOTALS</b>                                       | <b>\$501,699,999.00</b> | <b>710.0</b> | <b>100.00%</b>      |
| Balance Forward Current Year                                  | \$0.00                 |   |                         |              |                     |
| Gate Receipts   | \$5,000.00             |   |                         |              |                     |
| Miscellaneous Revenue   | \$13,900.00            |   |                         |              |                     |
| MaineCare Revenue   | \$0.00                 |   |                         |              |                     |
| Additional - Local Share                                      | \$2,385,342.52         |   |                         |              |                     |
| <b>Total - General Appropriations</b>                         | <b>\$13,545,519.00</b> |   |                         |              |                     |

| TOWN     | LOCAL TAXES FY 22-23  | VARIANCE FY 2022-2023 MINUS 21-22 | TOTAL TO BE RAISED FY 23-24 | VARIANCE FY 2023-2024 MINUS 22-23 | PERCENTAGE INCREASE | ADULT EDUCATION |                     |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|          |                       |                                   |                             |                                   |                     | Town            | Local Share         |
| Canton   | \$1,072,922.76        | \$36,560.05                       | \$1,207,366.64              | \$134,443.88                      | 12.531%             | Canton          | \$20,987.71         |
| Carthage | \$865,998.20          | -\$104,023.09                     | \$873,039.82                | \$7,041.62                        | 0.813%              | Carthage        | \$14,050.38         |
| Dixfield | \$2,013,069.10        | -\$212,572.34                     | \$2,084,176.17              | \$71,107.07                       | 3.532%              | Dixfield        | \$44,400.56         |
| Peru     | \$1,669,414.72        | -\$135,027.57                     | \$1,726,421.27              | \$57,006.55                       | 3.415%              | Peru            | \$32,261.96         |
|          | <b>\$5,621,404.78</b> | <b>-\$415,062.95</b>              | <b>\$5,891,003.90</b>       | <b>\$269,599.12</b>               | <b>4.796%</b>       | <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$111,700.61</b> |

**The Estimated Annual Tax Increase On A Home Valued At \$100,000 Based On The Proposed School Budget Will Be As Follows:**

Canton: \$132.00      Carthage: \$9.47      Dixfield: \$22.03      Peru: N/A

*N/A: Peru responded that since the year-to-year differences do not amount to \$100,000 (a mil), taxes would not increase based solely on the figures provided by the school. This is based on the RSU 56 appropriation amounts provided in relation to Peru's 2022 figures since the town does not have access to any actual 2023 figures at this time.*

*-This information was provided by each town office-*

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

**ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11**  
**AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER CATEGORIES**

**ARTICLE 1:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

**School Board Recommends \$4,032,027**

**ARTICLE 2:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

**School Board Recommends \$2,916,515**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.

**School Board Recommends \$85,552**

**ARTICLE 4:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction.

**School Board Recommends \$473,494**

**ARTICLE 5:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

**School Board Recommends \$1,427,678**

**ARTICLE 6:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

**School Board Recommends \$458,564**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for School Administration.

**School Board Recommends \$601,292**

**ARTICLE 8:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

**School Board Recommends \$1,080,807**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

**School Board Recommends \$1,528,643**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

**School Board Recommends \$767,947**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures.

**School Board Recommends \$173,000**

**ARTICLES 12 THROUGH 14**  
**RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and to see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and assess as each municipality'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 in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

**Recommended amounts set forth below:**

| <b>Total Appropriated (by municipality):</b> | <b>Total Raised (and Regional School Unit assessments by municipality):</b> |
|--|---|
| Town of Canton \$1,720,585.81                | Town of Canton \$757,522.83   |
| Town of Carthage \$951,077.59                | Town of Carthage \$571,888.50   |
| Town of Dixfield \$5,091,507.39              | Town of Dixfield \$1,132,508.83   |
| Town of Peru \$3,044,529.04                  | Town of Peru \$1,034,928.83   |
| <b>Total Appropriated</b>                    | <b>Total Raised:</b>  |
| <b>(sum of above) \$10,807,699.83</b>        | <b>(sum of above) \$3,496,848.99</b>  |

*Explanation: The Regional School Unit'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 Regional School Unit must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

**ARTICLE 13:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the Regional School Unit voters for non-state-funded school construction projects or non-state-funded portions of school construction projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the Regional School Unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.

**School Board Recommends \$8,812.39**

*Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the Regional School Unit's long-term debt for major capital school construction projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the Regional School Unit voters.*

**ARTICLE 14: (Written ballot required.)** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (**Recommend \$2,385,342.52**), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (**Recommend \$2,212,342.52**) as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board Recommends **\$2,385,342.52**, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$2,212,342.52**. The School Board gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model: This model does not fully cover the costs of regular classroom instruction, special education instruction, extracurricular and co-curricular student activities, district administration and leadership, student transportation, and school technology.

*Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Regional School Unit'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 Regional School Unit budget for educational programs.*

**ARTICLE 15 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

**ARTICLE 15:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 from the Regional School Unit'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 for non-state-funded school construction debt service, 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.

**School Board Recommends \$13,545,519**

**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 THE ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET FOR THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL REGION AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE**

**ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Region 9 School of Applied Technology approve a budget for adult education in the amount of **\$429,880.91** for the year beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of its adult education program, and shall Regional School Unit No. 56 raise **\$111,700.61** as its share of the adult education budget for Region 9 School of Applied Technology?

**ARTICLE 18 AUTHORIZES A TRANSFER TO THE BUS GARAGE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

**ARTICLE 18:** Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to **\$565,000** from available fund balances at the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year to the Bus Garage Capital Reserve Fund?

*Note: Approval of Article 18 will not increase the RSU's operating budget or increase the amounts to be raised by each RSU town.*

**ARTICLE 19 AUTHORIZES THE DISPOSITION OF ANY ADDITIONAL STATE SUBSIDY RECEIVED**

**ARTICLE 19:** In the event that the Regional School Unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Board be authorized to use 25% of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Board; to use 25% of the additional state subsidy to transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund for maintenance of plant and minor remodeling; and to use 50% of the additional state subsidy to decrease the local cost share expectation, as defined in Title 20-A, section 15671-A(1)(B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Board?

**ARTICLE 20 AUTHORIZES TRANSFERS AMONG COST CENTERS**

**ARTICLE 20:** 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 2023-2024 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget?

**ARTICLE 21 AUTHORIZES ISSUANCE OF A BOND OR NOTE TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF A SCHOOL BUS**

**ARTICLE 21:** Shall the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 56 be authorized to issue a bond or note in the name of the RSU for purposes of purchasing one school bus in an amount not to exceed **\$132,750** to be paid in not more than three annual installments and appropriate the same?

# Pest Management Notification

### Pest Control

Because pesticides pose risks, RSU 56 uses an alternative approach to merely applying pesticides. Control of insects, rodents, and weeds is focused on making the school buildings and grounds an unfavorable place for pests to live and breed. Through maintenance and cleaning, we reduce or eliminate available food and water sources and hiding places for the pests. We also routinely monitor the school area to detect pest problems and prevent the pests from becoming established. Some techniques we use include pest monitoring, sanitation, pest exclusion, proper food storage, pest removal and – as a last resort – pesticides. This holistic approach is often called Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

### Pesticide Use

Sometimes pesticide use may be necessary to control a pest problem. When that happens, RSU 56 will use low risk products available. If higher risk pesticides are necessary, applications will be done when students are not in attendance. Notices will be posted at application sites, as parents, guardians and staff have a right to know.

### Your Right to Know

Parents, legal guardians, and school staff will be notified of specific pesticide applications made at the schools. Notification will be posted at the site at least two days before planned pesticide applications.

### Asbestos Notification

As of Summer, 2019, all RSU 56 buildings are asbestos free.

### REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 56

CANTON~CARTHAGE~DIXFIELD~PERU

### 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

| July 2023 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | T  | F  |
| 3         | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10        | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17        | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24        | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 31        |    |    |    |    |

| August 2023 |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| M           | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|             | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 7           | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14          | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21          | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28          | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

| September 2023 |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| M              | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|                |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4              | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11             | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18             | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25             | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| October 2023 |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | T  | F  |
| 2            | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 9            | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16           | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23           | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30           | 31 |    |    |    |

| November 2023 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|               |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6             | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13            | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20            | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27            | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

| December 2023 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|               |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4             | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11            | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18            | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25            | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| January 2024 |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | T  | F  |
| 1            | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8            | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15           | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22           | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29           | 30 | 31 |    |    |

| February 2024 |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|               |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 5             | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 12            | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19            | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26            | 27 | 28 | 29 |    |

| March 2024 |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|            |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4          | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11         | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18         | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25         | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| April 2024 |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | T  | F  |
| 1          | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8          | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15         | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22         | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29         | 30 |    |    |    |

| May 2024 |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|
| M        | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|          |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6        | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13       | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20       | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27       | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| June 2024 |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | T  | F  |
| 3         | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10        | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17        | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24        | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL- August 30 for grades K-6 and 9; August 31 for Grades 7-8 and 10-12. Pre-K starts on September 5.

#### FIRST TRIMESTER

AUGUST 30- DECEMBER 1

61 STUDENT DAYS

First Quarter - Aug 30- Nov 3

(45 student days)

#### SECOND TRIMESTER

DECEMBER 4 - MARCH 14

61 STUDENT DAYS

Second Quarter - Nov 6 - Jan 19

(43 student days)

Third Quarter - Jan 22- Apr 5

(49 student days)

#### THIRD TRIMESTER

MARCH 18- JUNE 6

53 STUDENT DAYS

Fourth Quarter - Apr 8- Jun 6

(38 student days)

#### Late Arrival (Staff Development)

Every Wednesday - Sept. 6 - June 5

#### Teacher Workshop Days

Aug. 25- Teacher Prep Day  
 Aug. 28- Aug. 29 / October 6  
 Nov. 22 / March 15

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| <b>DHS Graduation Date</b> |
| June 7                     |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Last Student &amp; Teacher Day</b>             |
| 6/6/2024*   |
| *Storm days may extend the last day beyond June 6 |

#### School Holidays and Vacations

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Labor Day                  | September 4      |
| Indigenous Peoples Day     | October 9        |
| Veterans' Day              | November 10      |
| Thanksgiving & Day After   | November 23 & 24 |
| Christmas Vacation         | December 22 - 29 |
| New Year's Day             | January 1        |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Day | January 15       |
| Presidents' Day            | February 19      |
| Winter Vacation            | February 20 - 23 |
| Patriots' Day              | April 15         |
| Spring Vacation            | April 16- 19     |
| Memorial Day               | May 27           |
| Juneteenth                 | June 19          |

Holiday

School Vacation

Late Arrival

Early Release day before Christmas Break and on last day of school

Workshop

Board Approved Date: 2/14/23

# Don't Forget to vote