

# Maranacook Area Schools

Manchester • Mt. Vernon • Readfield • Wayne

A caring school community dedicated to excellence.

www.maranacook.org

## Safety and student success both high priorities

Cathy Jacobs, RSU Board Chair with Gary Carr, Ph.D., previous RSU Board Chair

We have been honored to serve as board chairs for RSU 38, representing the towns of Manchester, Mount Vernon, Readfield, and Wayne. We realized many accomplishments this year, as we worked around all of the Covid-19 regulations.

A sincere thank you goes out to all of our teachers, administrators, support staff, students and parents who worked steadfastly during this pandemic to keep the needs of our students front and center. There have been many challenges in educating our students during these times, and our dedicated staff enabled us to continue to



provide for our students' needs. We will continue to work with all stakeholders to provide safe environments in which our

students can succeed.

Our district nurses have been involved in all Covid-19 cases. They have been busy tracing reported cases and reporting to the CDC. The nurses have also been involved with our students' mental health and made sure they received appropriate support. Thanks goes out to all nurses for their efforts to improve student education and mental health.

In March, we were able to increase class time for in-person learning for the elementary schools, improve teacher remote Wednesdays for the middle school, and alternate in-person learning on Wednesday at the high school. Playgrounds at all elementary schools were also reopened. Students at all levels have willingly adhered to social distancing and wearing face masks for the protection of all.

Curriculum work continued to move forward throughout this year. The Visual and Performing Arts Curriculum was approved and the K-5 mathematics

program review team will be ready to present their findings and recommendations to the curriculum committee in late April. District literacy and mathematics coaches worked with teachers throughout the district to improve instructional practices for remote learning, as well as in-person instruction.

"Snow days" may be a thing of the past, as we all observe the use of remote learning days during the pandemic. This has shown us how to more effectively use technology in a virtual classroom environment in order to keep the learning flowing. For this year, at least, the last school day of school does not need to be moved to a later date due to snow days. We will have to wait and see how it all pans out for next year and beyond.

There were several facility and maintenance projects proposed for the 2021-2022 budget that were moved to the bond, thereby reducing the proposed budget for the new year. Some of this work will be accomplished by the current

Maranacook staff, which will also contribute to savings for the district. A big thank you to Shaun Drinkwater, facilities and transportation director, for tirelessly searching for ways to reduce the burden on our taxpayers.

Upcoming projects include an elevator lift at Wayne Elementary, boiler work at the high school and a Genie lift for maintenance. The high school roof was completed during the summer of last year. The projects which were included in the construction bond have enhanced our school buildings and local education. All school rooms have been equipped with a filter ionization system to help prevent the spread of germs.



With the help of the Covid-19 funds,

see CHAIR page 2

## Despite challenges student needs remain RSU 38 focus

Superintendent James Charette

I want to begin by thanking the staff of the RSU 38 Maranacook Area Schools for the incredible effort they put into this school year. The challenges have been many but the district employees have stepped up in an unprecedented way to provide educational opportunities to all of the students whether remotely or in person. Every employee contributed to keeping our focus on addressing student needs in the work they did day in and day out. For that I am thankful.

The year began with the tremendous task of opening our schools to in-person learning while keeping health and safety at the forefront. Our district made a herculean effort to be prepared for students to return to school by developing remote, hybrid, and fully in-person plans. We prepared for all scenarios. But as the school year progressed the virus reminded us all that it is in control.

Using guidance and protocols from the Maine Department of Education (DOE) and the Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC) we have had periods of time where students and staff had to work remotely. Even so we were able to maintain in-person learning for a good part of the year. Now with vaccines becoming available we are seeing a light at the end of the tunnel that brightens

not just the 2021-2022 school year but also the remainder of this year.

We took a four-pronged approach to addressing the needs of our students and staff in order to return to in-person learning. We looked at four "pillars" to address the hierarchy of needs that included the need for safety in the physical environment, technological access for all, supporting



social emotional wellbeing and learning (mental health), and planning for academics and academic recovery.

We, like other school districts, received monetary support from the federal government that flowed through the DOE to support us in the return to school planning. In order to receive the funds we had to agree to implement the six standards proposed in the DOE framework, which included Covid screening each school day, masking, social distancing, hand hygiene, PPE, and return from illness protocols. Each of

the purchases made with the funds were tied directly into the four pillars we used to re-open schools to in-person learning in the fall. We sought suggestions from all employee groups as well as with the Board of Directors, particularly when it came to facility needs.

As we developed our budget for the 2021-2022 school year we paid close attention to developing a budget that tries to prepare for the many unknowns of the coming school year. We worked hard at using these external federal funds to directly address the costs tied to Covid while using our regular budget to operate the schools in as normal a manner as possible. We are very aware of the impact the pandemic has had on the individual families and our local town governments. Our goal all along has been to be fiscally responsible to our taxpayers and provide a top tier education to all of our students.

Thank you to the communities that make up RSU 38 Maranacook Area schools for your continued support of our students. We will strive, as always, toward our mission of "a caring school community committed to excellence."

Visit <https://www.maranacook.org/page/fy-22-budget-documents> for uses of these funds, or call (685-3336) for a copy.

**RSU#38  
Maranacook Area Schools  
Twelfth Annual Report  
May 2021**

### Annual Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, May 19, 2021  
Maranacook Middle School  
Gymnasium

Please bring this report to the meeting.

Due to COVID-19, and following Governor Mills Restarting Maine's Economy Plan, RSU #38 will be following the guidelines developed by the State of Maine.

These guidelines are constantly changing. Please refer to the [www.maranacook.org](http://www.maranacook.org) for any updates to the guidelines we will be following for this meeting.

### Budget Validation Referendum

Tuesday, June 8, 2021  
Town Polling Locations

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## Online and special programs supported elementary schools well

Jeffrey Boston, Principal, Readfield Elementary School, Janet Delmar, Principal, Wayne & Mt. Vernon Elementary, Abbie Hartford, Principal, Manchester Elementary

It is an honor and privilege to be writing this article as the principals of the RSU 38 elementary schools: Manchester, Mount Vernon, Readfield, and Wayne. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff, district leadership team, school board, and our RSU 38 communities for their continued support in keeping our schools open during this pandemic.



Jeffrey Boston

During the summer of 2020, the superintendent assembled teachers, administrators, and school board members to organize and collaborate as collective pillar groups in an effort to re-open our schools during a pandemic. The four pillar groups, based on the Maine Department of Education (DOE) model, were Pillar 1 Health and Safety (addressing facilities, transportation, and food service), Pillar 2 Connectivity and Devices, Pillar 3 Social and Emotional Learning, and Pillar 4 Academic and Academic Recovery (in-person, hybrid, and remote models). The pillar groups developed

their reopening plans based on mandates, guidelines, and recommendations from the DOE and the Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC). This created our foundation for keeping our schools opened.

Due to the pandemic, the learning curve for teaching and learning has been steep. The elementary teachers have participated in our professional development Wednesdays from September through February in the following ways: collaborating with grade partners on content area instruction due to reduction of instructional time, training for using online resources (SeeSaw, Loom, Jamboard, IM, Mystery Science), developing a remote learning kit for students (materials/manipulatives to use at home), practicing developing and implementing remote lessons, and conducting virtual open houses and parent/teacher conferences.

This fall, after considerable research and with a recommendation from educators, guidance counselors, and administrators from throughout the district, we purchased and began to implement a new SEL (social-emotional learning) curriculum, Second Step, for grades PreK-8. Second Step is a leading social-emotional learning program in American elementary schools. The program is research-based,

easy to adapt and scale, and is offered in a classroom kit (printed materials) for grades PreK-8. Each month is broken into themes that are necessary and important for students. The themes cover a variety of topics such as developing skills for learning, empathy, emotion management, problem-solving, and friendship skills. The feedback from students, families, teachers and staff has been extremely positive. Initial indicators point to an overall increase in awareness of students' social emotional health and well-being. We look forward to continuing with this curriculum in the upcoming school year.

Another challenge involved the development of classroom schedules given the mandated DOE Covid-19 requirements and the condensed hybrid model of instructional time. As elementary principals, our schedules were built around maintaining consistent content blocks for our students in reading, math, and writing by focusing on priority standards.



Janet Delmar

Teachers also worked on blending science and social studies concepts within these content blocks. Close attention was given to how best to maximize the use of our literacy specialists, math interventionists, technology integrationists, and educational technicians. As our hybrid model evolved over the course of the school year from four days to five, we continued to make the necessary changes to best support our students.

This year, school did not look and function as in traditional years. RSU 38 followed CDC and DOE guidelines for social distancing. All students and staff were required to wear a mask unless eating. Students were provided a desk or individual work space placed 3-4 feet apart with individual student materials kept in designated areas. Playground use was limited to small groups of students at a time. The greatest challenge was the lunchtime routine as cafeterias were only allowed small groups of students, sitting 6 feet apart. Correct spacing required creative solutions which included having some children eating in classrooms or using the school's stage area, library, or art room for lunch spaces. Table surfaces were cleaned and disinfected between student groups. Art, music, computer, and library took place in the class-

rooms to minimize shared spaces and reduce the need for cleaning between student groups. Physical education took place outside as often as possible. The amazing news is that children were flexible and resilient and accepted these changes throughout the year.

Though this year has been anything but routine and ordinary, we are ever so grateful for the support of all our families. Their lives and routines were disrupted with our shorter days and Wednesday Learn at Home days until late February. We know the difficulties families faced with the changing needs for daycare. Additionally, families were called upon to support their children academically, provide technical support, and frequently communicate with their child's teachers. We are appreciative of community members and PTCOs who provided resources and support to schools. More than ever, it certainly took a village to succeed this year.



Abbie Hartford

## Despite year's challenges RSU 38 students show growth

Nancy Harriman, Ph.D., Director, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

We all have faced challenges in the past. However, the pandemic has topped them all. Working around the clock to maintain safety for students and support their continued learning, the pandemic has taken a heavy toll on staff, leaders, programming, and students' progress. Educators are well aware that the toll has been as heavy on families and their children's social-emotional learning (SEL). This was such a significant concern that a formal SEL curriculum was purchased and implemented PreK-8 this year.

Midyear assessment results for the many students who took the opportunity to return to learn at school suggest that despite all the restrictions and limitations this year, our

students are showing growth. However, there is no doubt that students may have delays in levels of achievement for some time to come. Delays in learning due to the pandemic, while not anyone's fault, may mean that it will take time to get all students back on level.

The district's goal is to avoid punitive actions that may have unintended consequences as students' progress through the grades. This means looking forward and carefully choosing what strategies to rely on to support students' learning and which ones to avoid.

Looking forward we will work to strengthen consistency of classroom instruction (Tier I) in the curriculum from grade to grade and school to school. We plan to implement the

district policy for retention in grade, which includes an in-depth look at growth data over time and a joint decision by family and staff.

Students will be encouraged to self-assess, set goals, and monitor their own progress. Staff will prioritize knowledge and skills needed for the next grade level. Supports for students transitioning between levels of schooling (elementary, middle, and high school) will be strengthened. As needed, summer programs will be provided for students. And, as always, we will work closely with families to support their students' learning.

The last may be the most important of all. Certainly, combined efforts of parents, students, and educators will be required for students as



they grow, mature, and learn. Young people also benefit from the attention and support of extended family members, neighbors, and others in their communities with whom they haven't been able to interact regularly. All have important roles to play in students' learning.

### CHAIR from page 1

we were able to achieve many safety goals. We continue to remain diligent and to advocate for our schools at the state and federal levels to guarantee our schools have the resources they need to succeed. Our goals are to develop long-term maintenance and operational plans and to look at all possible options to improve our schools efficiency and effectiveness. For this fiscal budget session and in the future, we may include a 10-to-20-year capital improvement plan for our buildings, a review of the RSU 38 organizational plan, and a continued look at consolidation of our elementary schools.

Our dedication to our students' academic, social and emotional success continues to be at the forefront of our work at the school board level. We will continue to strive for excellence for our community and remain fiscally responsible to the taxpayers as a "Caring School Community dedicated to Excellence".



# 2021-2022 District Budget

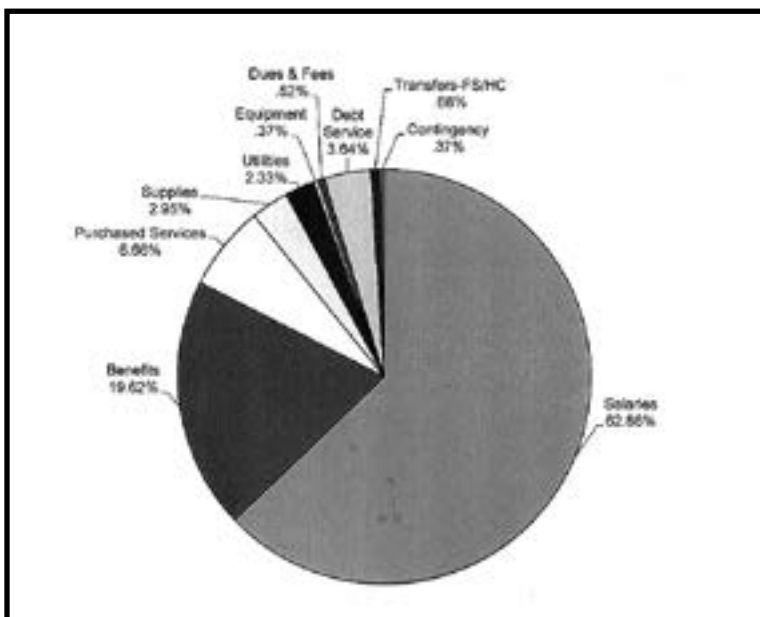
Voted by School Board 4/14/2021

Description	Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022	Percent Change
<b>General Fund – School Level Budget</b>			
<b>Manchester Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	138,751.00	161,107.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	164,537.00	163,943.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	198,416.00	219,558.00	
Regular Education Instruction	1,083,153.00	1,166,111.00	
Special Education Instruction	304,029.00	291,207.00	
Gifted & Talented	15,214.00	16,026.00	
Co-Curricular	900.00	900.00	
<b>Manchester School Level</b>	<b>1,905,000.00</b>	<b>2,018,852.00</b>	<b>5.98%</b>
<b>Mt. Vernon Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	122,863.00	107,524.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	117,947.00	118,110.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	144,359.00	137,802.00	
Regular Education Instruction	727,458.00	718,273.00	
Special Education Instruction	203,286.00	135,647.00	
Gifted & Talented	5,021.00	5,399.00	
Co-Curricular	500.00	1,000.00	
<b>Mt. Vernon School Level</b>	<b>1,321,434.00</b>	<b>1,223,755.00</b>	<b>-7.39%</b>
<b>Readfield Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	163,042.00	168,274.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	176,636.00	180,667.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	201,652.00	212,498.00	
Regular Education Instruction	1,239,184.00	1,275,353.00	
Special Education Instruction	198,160.00	202,359.00	
Gifted & Talented	15,214.00	16,026.00	
Co-Curricular	900.00	900.00	
<b>Readfield School Level</b>	<b>1,994,788.00</b>	<b>2,056,077.00</b>	<b>3.07%</b>
<b>Wayne Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	101,405.00	100,428.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	91,444.00	92,945.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	128,720.00	133,417.00	
Regular Education Instruction	472,223.00	481,882.00	
Special Education Instruction	74,091.00	77,786.00	
Gifted & Talented	5,423.00	6,674.00	
Co-Curricular	400.00	1,000.00	
<b>Wayne School Level</b>	<b>873,706.00</b>	<b>894,132.00</b>	<b>2.34%</b>
<b>Maranacook Middle School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	338,413.00	350,961.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	228,177.00	238,978.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	364,418.00	397,731.00	

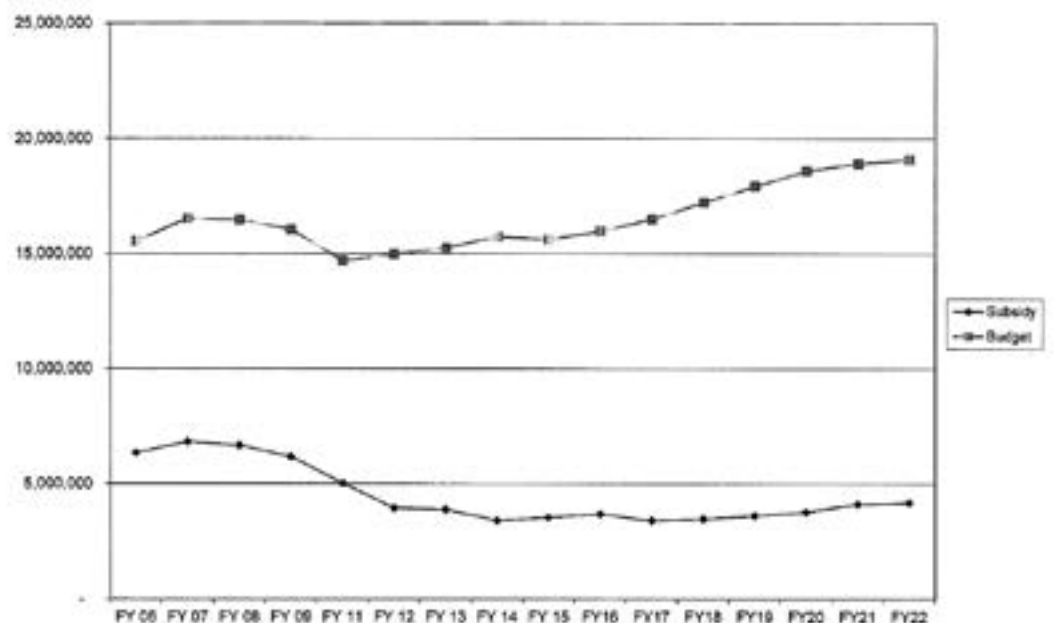
Description	Budget 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022	Percent Change
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	1,791,273.00	1,842,747.00	
Special Education Instruction	458,834.00	524,376.00	
Gifted & Talented	64,865.00	55,888.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	128,616.00	130,970.00	
<b>Middle School-School Level</b>	<b>3,374,596.00</b>	<b>3,541,651.00</b>	<b>4.95%</b>
<b>Maranacook High School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	394,280.00	383,483.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	367,336.00	377,274.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	571,962.00	575,746.00	
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	2,346,190.00	2,387,060.00	
CATC Tuition & Coop Education	--	--	
Special Education Instruction	599,424.00	531,079.00	
ESL/ELLS	3,699.00	3,868.00	
Gifted & Talented	22,532.00	19,664.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	335,317.00	341,228.00	
<b>High School - School Level</b>	<b>4,640,740.00</b>	<b>4,619,402.00</b>	<b>-0.46%</b>
<b>RSU #38 School Level</b>	<b>14,110,264.00</b>	<b>14,353,869.00</b>	<b>1.73%</b>
<b>Grade Level K-8 Budget</b>			
Support Services	19,778.00	20,280.00	
Improvement of Instruction	33,265.00	32,850.00	
Special Education	634,159.00	969,492.00	
ESL/ELLS	15,994.00	16,271.00	
Summer Reading	7,328.00	7,332.00	
Gifted & Talented	5,150.00	10,765.00	
<b>RSU #38 Grade K-8 Budget</b>	<b>715,674.00</b>	<b>1,056,990.00</b>	<b>47.69%</b>
<b>District Level Budget</b>			
Health Services	75,863.00	73,063.00	
Curriculum	178,224.00	209,500.00	
Instructional Technology	244,307.00	280,764.00	
Assessment	47,909.00	61,620.00	
School Board & Supt Office	678,548.00	721,601.00	
District Maintenance	921,354.00	826,886.00	
District Transportation	1,089,759.00	1,089,314.00	
Reimbursable Transportation	9,159.00	9,287.00	
Local Support/Food Service	105,000.00	105,000.00	
Debt Service	541,743.00	102,635.00	
Special Education Admin	195,015.00	197,804.00	
<b>RSU #38 District Budget</b>	<b>4,086,881.00</b>	<b>3,677,474.00</b>	<b>-10.02%</b>
<b>RSU #38 Total Gen Fund Budget</b>	<b>18,912,819.00</b>	<b>19,088,333.00</b>	<b>0.93%</b>

A detailed budget is available upon request from the Superintendent's Office.

## RSU 38 Budget 2021-2022



## RSU #38 / UNION #42 BUDGET/SUBSIDY HISTORY



# Warrant for the Annual Meeting

**Article 1:** To choose a moderator to preside at the said meeting.

**Article 2:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction, including Alternative Education, ELLs (English Language Learners) Instruction, and Gifted & Talented Education.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$8,022,007.00.

*This article includes negotiated salaries and benefits for regular education instructional staff, supplies, professional development, contracted services, and copier maintenance costs.*

**Article 3:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,929,750.00

*This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for special education administration and instructional staff, special education legal costs, tuition costs for out of district placements. Special Education provides services as required by law.*

**Article 4:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education, Coop/Pathways Program and Capital Area Technical Center (CATC) Tuition.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$0

*The State of Maine has changed funding and expense for CATC, so we no longer need to budget this tuition.*

**Article 5:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction (co-curricular, extra-curricular, and regular education summer instruction).

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$483,330.00

*This article includes activities in the middle school and high school such as sports, plays, math team, speech and debate, student senate. The expenses in this article are for coaching salaries, officials' services, supplies, equipment, dues & fees. This article also includes salaries and benefits for summer regular education instructional programs.*

**Article 6:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Student Support (guidance, health, technology) and Staff Support (improvement of instruction and staff training, curricular, library, assessment).

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,949,854.00

*This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for staff and directors in the above mentioned departments, district wide professional development, and other assessment testing, and supplies.*

**Article 7:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for System Administration (School Board and Superintendent's Office).

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$721,601.00

*This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for central office staff, school board stipends, contracted services for legal and audit, legal liability insurance, supplies for school board and central office.*

## RSU 38 Mission Statement

"A caring school community dedicated to excellence"

### Vision Statement

Maranacook Schools will be safe, dynamic learning communities where people of all ages will think, aspire, and participate as responsible citizens in an ever-changing global society.

### Guiding Principles

We Believe:

- Teachers, staff members, parents, and students are life-long learners with a dedication to excellence and an expectation of high achievement for all
- All learners need a safe, respectful, positive environment to achieve
- Students need an evidence based, rigorous curriculum that
  - focuses on state standards
  - promotes engagement
  - provides a challenging range of courses, experiences, and extra-curricular activities
  - recognizes the needs, interests, and abilities of all learners
  - blends the changing needs of society with the needs of individual learners
  - integrates technological advances and collaboration
- Parents and community members are a vital part of our schools
- The instruction and assessment process measures growth for all learners through feedback, collaboration, and problem solving
- The supervision and evaluation process encourages and supports staff growth and development that is designed to promote our mission and vision

*Approved by RSU #38 Board of Directors, March 6, 2019.*

**Article 8:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for School Administration (principals' offices).

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,171,917.00

*This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for principals and secretaries, principal professional development, accreditation costs, supplies, dues, and fees.*

**Article 9:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,089,314.00

*This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for transportation administration, mechanic and bus drivers, mandated physicals and drug testing, repairs, vehicle insurance, fuel, supplies, and lease purchase payments.*

**Article 10:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,503,638.00

*This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for maintenance administration and custodians, utilities (electricity, oil/propane, telephone), contracted services for snowplowing, heating systems and roof monitoring, building repairs and projects, painting, and supplies. It also includes the facilities repair bond principal and interest payment.*

**Article 11:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$102,635.00

*This article includes bond payments on school construction projects for the high school addition and renovations.*

**Article 12:** To see what sum the RSU will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures (Food Services, Reimbursable Transportation).

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$114,287.00

*This article includes local dollar support of the food service program and reimbursable transportation provided for RSU #38 towns and recreation programs.*

**Article 13:** To see what sum the RSU will appropriate 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 to see what sum the RSU will raise and assess as each municipality'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 in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ amounts set forth below

Total appropriated (by municipality)		Total raised (School Unit assessments by municipality)	
Manchester	\$3,813,608.00	Manchester	\$2,594,228.00
Mount Vernon	\$2,702,186.00	Mount Vernon	\$1,981,715.00
Readfield	\$4,358,764.00	Readfield	\$2,151,170.00
Wayne	\$1,543,574.00	Wayne	\$1,543,574.00
<b>School Unit</b>		<b>School Unit</b>	
<b>Total Appropriated</b>	<b>\$12,418,132.00</b>	<b>Total Raised</b>	<b>\$8,270,687.00</b>

State-Mandated Explanation: RSU #38'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 RSU #38 must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars. *In other words, this article gives the minimum amount that each town will pay based on the ED 279 (state subsidy report) and that RSU #38 must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

**Article 14:** To see what sum the RSU will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body 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 RSU's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$102,635.00

State-Mandated Explanation: Non-state funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on RSU #38'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 voters. *This long term debt is for the High School addition and renovations project.*



# g of Regional School Unit No. 38

**Article 15:** To see what sum the RSU will raise and appropriate in additional local dollars in support of the food service program.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$105,000.00

*This money helps fund the schools' food service program and equipment replacement.*

## WRITTEN BALLOT REQUIRED

**Article 16:** To see what sum the RSU will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (Recommend \$4,507,352.00), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (Recommend \$4,507,352.00), as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board recommends \$4,507,352.00 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$4,507,352.00.

The \$4,507,352.00 that exceeds the 100% EPS funding level is needed to continue programs and services presently offered by the RSU which are not covered, or not fully covered, by EPS such as: contingency - \$71,000.00, co-curricular program (athletics, theater, math team, debate, etc.) - \$394,000.00, operations and maintenance - \$1,061,000.00, transportation - \$223,000.00, special education - \$696,000.00, system administration - \$563,000.00, regular education instruction - \$1,499,000.00. The funding from the state (\$4,147,445.00) is 33.40% of the total Essential Programs and Services (EPS) allocation. This allocation covers only a portion of the above noted programs. This article describes the additional funds that RSU #38 needs to raise to achieve the RSU #38 school district budget.

State Mandated Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above RSU #38'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 RSU 38 budget for educational programs.

**Article 17:** To see what sum the RSU will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 from the RSU'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, 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.

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$19,088,333.00

*This article authorizes the School Board to spend the recommended budget in Fiscal Year 2022. The School Board cannot spend an amount above the authorized budget.*

**Article 18:** In the event that the RSU receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Board be authorized to use all 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?

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ OUGHT TO PASS

*This article authorizes the School Board to use the entire additional State subsidy to reduce local assessments.*

**Article 19:** Shall the RSU appropriate (Recommend \$213,000.00) for Adult Education and raise (Recommend \$65,000.00) 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?

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ OUGHT TO PASS

*This article covers academic as well as enrichment programs offered through the adult education program.*

**Article 20:** Shall the School Board be authorized to expend other revenue from State, Federal, local and private sources for the support of the schools?

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ OUGHT TO PASS

*This article allows the School Board to pursue and use funds that may be received through unexpected grants or donations, and grant applications that are made by members of the Regional School Unit staff or community. We do not include a specific amount due to the unpredictability of the receipt of the funds and because most are dedicated to a specific project or purpose. Examples of some of the funding we received in 2020-2021 are: Title IA \$182,800.00; Title IIA \$45,000.00; Title IV \$20,000.00; Title V-Rural Low Income \$10,900.00; Local Entitlement \$364,000.00; and other miscellaneous grants \$50,000.00. Also, in 2020-2021, we received two federal allocations tied to COVID19:ESSERF \$825,513.00; and CRF \$1,843,226.00. The estimated income for the upcoming year is \$672,700.00.*

**Article 21:** Shall the School Board be authorized to enter into a five-year contract with the Fayette School Department to allow Fayette resident students in grades 6-12 to attend RSU 38 Schools?

**School Board Recommends:** \_\_\_\_\_ OUGHT TO PASS

*This article renews the contract for school privileges between the RSU #38 Board and the Fayette School Department to accept tuition students, grades 6-12. This is a renewal of an agreement that began in 2011. Current year revenue is \$650,000.*

## Budget Validation Referendum Questions

Voters in Manchester, Mount Vernon, Readfield and Wayne will be asked, "Do you favor approving the Regional School Unit No. 38 budget, for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest Regional School Unit No. 38 budget meeting?"

We have received many questions about why there is a need for this third step in the budget approval process. RSU 38 approves its budget as follows:

**Step 1:** The RSU No. 38 School Board approves the school budget and schedules a District Budget Meeting.

**Step 2:** An RSU No. 38 District Budget Meeting is held with a moderator and each article on the School Budget is approved, rejected, or modified. Once the voting is complete (some of which is voted on by secret ballot), the total budget is approved and is scheduled for a secret ballot election in each town. This is the Budget Validation Referendum.

**Step 3:** A secret ballot vote is taken in each community on the same day in June to "validate" the budget that was approved by those gathered at the District Budget Meeting. It is the composite vote of the four towns that decides whether the budget is approved or rejected (only two choices).

If the "YES" votes from our four towns are greater than the "NO" votes from our four towns, the 2021-2022 budget is approved.

If the "NO" votes from our four towns are greater than the "YES" votes from our four towns, the 2021-2022 budget is not approved and the Board and Administration will have to meet to consider changes to this budget. It will then be brought back to a District Budget Meeting and another Budget Validation Referendum. This process continues until a budget is finally approved through the Budget Validation Referendum process.

Every third year, the ballot contains the following question, "Do you wish to continue the budget validation referendum process in the Regional School Unit No. 38 for an additional three years?"

### Explanation:

A Yes vote will require Regional School Unit No. 38 to continue to conduct a referendum to validate its annual school budget for the next three years.

A No vote will discontinue the budget validation referendum for at least three years and provide instead that the annual school budget shall be finally adopted at a meeting of the voters.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Superintendent's Office for clarification and answers. Thank you.

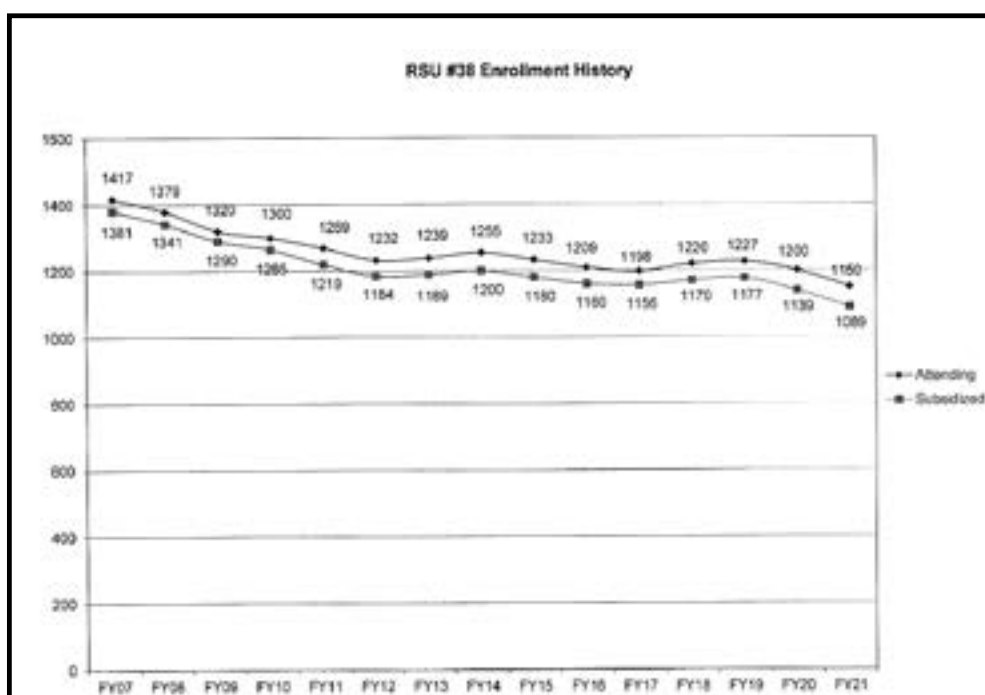
**To be voted on at the polls in each town on June 8, 2021**

## 2021-2022 Revenue Areas

Voted by School Board 4/14/2021

Revenue Area	2020-21	Inc/(Dec)	2021-22	Description
<b>State EPS Allocation</b>	4,084,867	62,578	4,147,445	<b>Preliminary ED279</b>
State Educational Service Center Adjustment	34,662	(948)	33,714	Educational Service Center Member Allocation Adjustment
State National Teacher Funding	9,000	(2,500)	6,500	State of Maine provides additional funds for nationally certified teachers. The amount funded per teacher changes each year.
<b>Other Revenues</b>				
Tuition Revenue	600,000	125,000	725,000	Tuition revenue from the Town of Fayette for students in grades 6-12.
Transportation Revenue	40,000	--	40,000	Revenue for field trips paid by outside sources and bus repairs on Fayette buses.
Fiscal Services/Admin Fees	20,000	(20,000)	--	Fees for services provided to other school districts with RSU #38 personnel.
Curricular Gate Receipts & Club Sports Reimbursements	25,000	--	25,000	Gate receipts from basketball games and play productions and reimbursements from Club Sports for officials & trainers.
Miscellaneous	105,000	(55,000)	50,000	These revenues are for State Agency reimbursement for foster children within our district that need special ed educational programming, interest income, rental income (Wayne Town Office), e-rate reimbursement, insurance proceeds, sale of equipment, and other miscellaneous revenues.
<b>Additional Balance Forward</b>	92,283	(17,283)	75,000	State of Maine FY21 audit adjustment for superintendent agreements for students accepted from other school districts. This adjustment is made in the spring of each year.
<b>Balance Forward</b>	800,000	200,000	1,000,000	This is the amount that will be carried forward due to unexpended expenditures, after adjusting for summer salaries which are accrued per our auditors, and unanticipated revenues.
<b>Property Tax Revenue</b>				
Required Local Dollar Match	8,438,624	(167,937)	8,270,687	Amount required to be raised by towns based on valuation within each town and required mills for education (these amounts change each year).
Local Only Debt	681,742	(579,107)	102,635	Local debt for construction projects & major repairs approved at referendum in each town for high school renovations.
Additional Local Dollars	3,981,641	630,711	4,612,352	Additional local funds needed to fund the expenditure budget once all other revenue areas have been taken into consideration. This amount includes payments for the 2019 repair bond which was approved at referendum in each town.
<b>Sub-Total Property Tax Revenue</b>	<b>13,102,007</b>	<b>(116,333)</b>	<b>12,985,674</b>	Total local funds to be raised by our four towns.
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>18,912,819</b>	<b>175,514</b>	<b>19,088,333</b>	Total revenue budget, which matches total expenditure budget

## RSU 38 Enrollment History



## RSU 38 Enrollment by Town

Grade	Manchester	Mt. Vernon	Readfield	Wayne	Totals
Pre-K	13	7	10	3	33
K	17	11	25	10	63
1	25	15	27	10	77
2	19	9	34	10	72
3	31	15	30	11	87
4	34	16	22	10	82
5	14	18	27	11	70
6	29	26	23	10	88
7	24	20	30	8	82
8	21	20	29	10	80
9	29	18	23	11	81
10	15	20	24	10	69
11	32	16	26	5	79
12	21	17	31	6	75
<b>Totals</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1038</b>
Superintendent Agreements Total					51
Subsidized Total					1089
Tuition Total					61
Attending Total					1150



## 2021-2022 Local Dollar Calculation

Voted by School Board 4/14/2021

Description	District	Manchester	Mt. Vernon	Readfield	Wayne
2020 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,074,650,000	329,900,000	254,050,000	282,500,000	208,200,000
2019 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,054,050,000	328,600,000	251,700,000	274,950,000	198,800,000
\$ Increase/Decrease in Valuation	20,600,000	1,300,000	2,350,000	7,550,000	9,400,000
% Increase/Decrease in Valuation	1.95%	0.40%	0.93%	2.75%	4.73%
<b>2021-2022 Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>8,270,687</b>	<b>2,594,228</b>	<b>1,981,715</b>	<b>2,151,170</b>	<b>1,543,574</b>
<b>2021-2022 Required Mill Expectation</b>		<b>7.90</b>	<b>7.90</b>	<b>7.90</b>	<b>7.72</b>
Amount required by the State of Maine to be raised by towns based on valuation within each town and required mills for education (these amounts change each year). If the required amount is not raised by the towns, the State EPS Allocation will be reduced.					
2020-2021 Required Local Contribution	8,438,624	2,652,501	2,034,093	2,166,337	1,585,693
2020-2021 Required Mill Expectation		8.18	8.18	8.18	8.18
<b>\$ Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>(167,937)</b>	<b>(58,273)</b>	<b>(52,378)</b>	<b>(15,167)</b>	<b>(42,119)</b>
<b>% Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>-1.99%</b>	<b>-2.20%</b>	<b>-2.58%</b>	<b>-0.70%</b>	<b>-2.66%</b>
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %	100.00%	30.34%	21.29%	36.29%	12.08%
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %	100.00%	31.23%	23.86%	25.90%	19.01%
<b>Net Additional Local \$</b>	<b>4,714,987</b>				
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %</b>		<b>715,264</b>	<b>501,910</b>	<b>855,534</b>	<b>284,785</b>
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %</b>		<b>736,245</b>	<b>562,498</b>	<b>610,591</b>	<b>448,160</b>
<b>Total Additional Local \$</b>	<b>4,714,987</b>	<b>1,451,509</b>	<b>1,064,408</b>	<b>1,466,125</b>	<b>732,945</b>
<b>Local Only Adult Ed. Contribution</b>	<b>65,000</b>				
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %</b>		<b>9,860</b>	<b>6,919</b>	<b>11,794</b>	<b>3,926</b>
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %</b>		<b>10,150</b>	<b>7,755</b>	<b>8,418</b>	<b>6,178</b>
<b>2021-2022 Total Local Contribution</b>	<b>13,050,674</b>	<b>4,065,747</b>	<b>3,060,797</b>	<b>3,637,507</b>	<b>2,286,623</b>
2020-2021 Total Local Contribution	13,179,007	4,118,701	3,103,049	3,634,908	2,322,349
<b>Local \$ Increase/Decrease for 2021-2022</b>	<b>(128,333)</b>	<b>(52,954)</b>	<b>(42,252)</b>	<b>2,599</b>	<b>(35,726)</b>
<b>Local % Increase/Decrease for 2021-2022</b>	<b>-0.97%</b>	<b>-1.29%</b>	<b>-1.36%</b>	<b>0.07%</b>	<b>-1.54%</b>
Local \$ Increase for 2020-2021	(365,806)	(152,075)	(97,545)	(75,486)	(40,700)
Local % Increase for 2020-2021	-2.70%	-3.56%	-3.05%	-2.03%	-1.72%
<b>October 1, 2020 Enrollment by Town</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Local \$ Contributed per Student</b>	<b>12,573</b>	<b>12,549</b>	<b>13,425</b>	<b>10,076</b>	<b>18,293</b>

## Maranacook Community High School 2020 Top Ten Scholars



Lily Cannell, Readfield,  
Valedictorian



Thomas Trafton, Hallowell,  
Salutatorian



Cashman McClure, Readfield



Michael Tamborini, Readfield



Bradley Russell, Readfield



Paige Rice, Mount Vernon



Katherine Gasper, Mount  
Vernon



Eljas Bergdahl, Manchester



Marie Brosey, Wayne



Thomas Poling, Readfield

## Online learning options expand Adult Ed offerings

Steve Vose, Adult Education Director

This past year has certainly been filled with unprecedented challenges.

While it is easy to become overwhelmed and disheartened by the adversity we have all faced, at the same time, adversity offers an opportunity to reflect, adapt, and grow stronger. Maranacook Adult and Community Education met these challenges by embracing the use of online learning technologies, such as Google Classroom, BrightSpace, and Zoom, significantly expanding our selection of educational and enrichment classes.

For many, online teaching and learning is an exciting new endeavor, while others might see it as a difficult prospect to embrace. To assist those students and instructors who struggled, we offered free professional development classes to our educational and enrichment instructors on how to effectively teach online. We



also provided free and heavily discounted enrichment classes to our students. By doing so, we sought to create an online learning environment that is not only of high quality but also available at a price point that easily fit into everyone's budget.

Online teaching and learning will never replace the hands-on instruction that is required in many of our most popular enrichment classes such as welding, ceramics, upholstery or stained glass making. However, it does have a critical and important place in the future of our program. Several online enrichment programs were attended by new participants who had never previously attended a face-to-face enrichment class. We enjoyed seeing students join our classes from 6 different states and counting. This is, of course, incredibly exciting.

Though the pandemic forced us to momentarily suspend our face-to-face instruction, it also provided us with an opportunity to expand our audience through online opportunities. While the future is uncertain, what is certain is that online educational and enrichment programs at Maranacook Adult and Community Education are here to stay.

## Through adversity comes great growth

Dwayne Conway, Ed.D., Principal, Maranacook Community High School

Through times of great adversity comes great growth. We all grew a lot this year. It was a year of change, resiliency, and innovation at Maranacook High School. Our students, staff, and community rose to the occasion, supported each other, and kept moving forward with grace and kindness.

This year we added Zoom to our repertoire, along with full usage of Google Classroom to assign and collect work. We all became experts in navigating multiple technology platforms including EdPuzzle, Jamboard, Desmos, and Peardeck. We were nimble moving in and out of cohorts and to and from in-person, hybrid, or fully remote situations. Even though we lost out on some class time we gained skills that will serve us well in the years to come.

This year, more than ever, we focused on meeting students' emotional needs as we provided challenging, personalized learning experiences. Despite the challenges, we offered all of the courses in our program of studies as well as adding new dual enrollment and AP courses. Not all schools can say they did that this year. A few of our students' amazing

accomplishments included five students accepted to the All-State Music Festival. The Student Senate was more active than ever working to support school and community by holding a month long Make A Difference Week to support local food pantries. The Interact Club planted a yellow tulip Hope Garden at the entrance to our campus to build awareness and diminish the stigma around mental illness. We have a lot to be proud of and are filled with great optimism for the coming school year.

Difficult times have a way of highlighting someone's character traits. Our community's trait of being a Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence has shone through more than ever.



## Student centered initiatives support gain in learning

Kristen Levesque, Ed.D., Principal, Maranacook Community Middle School

This has been a year of change, learning, and identifying the silver linings of the world we live in. I am grateful for working in a school with amazing students, staff, and families that care so deeply about one another. We appreciate the community support that helps us support our students.

The collaboration and dynamic thinking of our staff, combined with student and family support, during these times is indicative of how amazing our community is. Staff and students have innovated within the parameters of the Covid-19 restrictions. This allowed our students to make great gains in their learning throughout this year, which was critically important considering the sudden change to remote learning last spring.

This year we worked on several initiatives to help our school grow. Staff at all levels participated in two professional learning communities based on curriculum and other district or school initiatives. We also held Restorative Practice Professional Learning Groups which we use as the backbone of our disciplinary procedures. In addition, staff participated in a book study using the book, "Innovate Inside the Box," by George Couros and Katie

Novak. As a result, our students directly benefited from the professional development and strategies that staff took back to their classrooms.

MCMS prides itself in being student-centered. This is evident with the delivery of instruction that this year meant students spent time in small groups of thirteen or less in their classes. Extracurricular activities are equally student driven. We were able to open up athletics this winter after being on hold in the fall. For the winter and the spring, all students have been invited to participate in our athletic programming for basketball, Nordic skiing, track and field, lacrosse, softball, and baseball. We added many new clubs for students to participate in from the Civil Rights Team, to a horse club, to a baking club. Finally, our student government continued to grow and provide unique opportunities for all students.



## Revised student learning plan procedures meet all scenarios

Ryan Meserve, Special Education Director

School year 2020-2021 has been one like no other, and that was no exception for the special education department in RSU 38. Initially when we went into closure for the Covid-19 pandemic, we were in limbo. We didn't yet know how to shift our focus and support within the context of not always being 'in-person'.

I can remember being on Zoom calls for hours on end in March, April, May, and June in order to be up to date with the state and national guidance on how to pivot and adjust our special education supports services for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). That work didn't slow down during the summer, or into the fall of 2020. However, it became increasingly clear that we needed to be ready for anything. Based on the best practice guidance from the Maine Department of Education, and other national organizations, we started in the spring of 2020 implementing student IEP driven Individualized Remote Learning Plans (IRLPs).

The IRLPs are extension documents of the student's original IEP that help communicate with families, students and staff on what will happen given

any one of the various scenarios we may face. That could include us being open for in-person services, having a hybrid

model, being closed short-term, or being closed for a longer period. We started with the IRLPs in the spring of 2020 and in the fall of 2020, we fine-tuned and revised each student's IRLP to make sure all areas of need and service were covered for the 20-21 school year. As one can imagine this took hours of planning, communication, and implementation on the staff's part. However, we have made it through this year with students having appropriate services and supports in place for their in-person time, as well as for any times we have needed to be closed. It is truly a year we will never forget, but we are already looking forward to next year.

