



**Sheepscoot Valley RSU 12
April 2022
Superintendent's Report
Information, Recognitions, and Celebrations**

Superintendent Report

RSU 12 DRAFT BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2023

The RSU 12 school district budget is currently in development for the school year 2022-2023. The Finance Committee and the Superintendent held budget meetings to present draft budgets and collect questions and input about the budget. These meetings were held at town Selectboard meetings according to the following schedule below. Thank you to all the public who attended to find out more about the budget.

Westport Island - 3/7 @ 7 pm (in person)

Whitefield - 3/15 @ 6 pm (in person)

Somerville - 3/16 @ 6 pm (in person)

Chelsea - 3/23 @ 6:30 pm (in person @ Chelsea School Cafeteria)

Windsor - 3/29 @ 6 pm (in person)

Alna - 3/30 @ 6 pm (in person & Zoom)

Palermo - 4/7 @ 5:30 pm (in person & Zoom)

Budget Presentations and Discussion also take place at the RSU 12 Board of Director's Meeting 2/10, 3/10, and 4/14 on the RSU 12 Youtube Channel.

Finalized Budget Documents will be posted on the website the last week of April.

A video presentation about the budget will be available on our website after the Board has recommended a final budget and warrant articles for the District Budget meeting have been approved.

The proposed budget is an average increase of 2.5% locally. This increase varies slightly in each town depending on student count, state subsidy per town, and the district cost-sharing method.

Please attend the District Budget Meeting on May 25th at 6:30 pm at Chelsea Elementary School to learn more and to participate in the district budget process.

Curriculum and Technology Report

There was a workshop day for teachers on March 25. During this day, teachers chose from a variety of learning experiences related to Response to Intervention, Math instruction, Reading assessment and instruction, and Wellness. Feedback from teachers about the day was overwhelmingly positive. In particular, teachers appreciated the time to focus on identified areas of concern and the opportunity to choose what was most relevant to them.

The Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) of the State of Maine is continuing into the 2022-23 year, and RSU 12 has been able to secure chromebooks for an additional grade level as a result. This will put new chromebooks in the hands of our 6th graders and permit us to distribute other devices to students in younger grades. The MLTI program no longer supports network infrastructure in the schools, so the district continues to work to upgrade these systems to support our 1:1 environment.

Westport Island Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD										1		1		2
9-12 Lincoln Academy										3	4	2	2	11
9-12 RSU 01										1		2		3
9-12 Waynflete School										1		1		2
9-12 Wiscasset School Department										4	1	2	1	8
Chelsea Elementary School			1											1
K-8 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD						1	1	2	1					5
K-8 Center for Teaching and Learning			2		1	1	2							6
K-8 Chewonki Semester School				3	1	1		1						6
K-8 Edgcomb School Department	2	2	2											6
K-8 Great Salt Bay CSD					1				1					2
K-8 RSU 01					1			1						2
K-8 Sheepscot Valley Children's House		1												1
K-8 Wiscasset School Department		2	1		2	1		1	1					8
Grand Total	2	5	6	3	6	4	3	5	3	10	5	8	3	63

Alna Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD											2	2			4
9-12 Brunswick School Department													1		1
9-12 Five Town CSD												1			1

9-12 Gould Academy												1				1
9-12 Lincoln Academy												6	2	1	6	15
9-12 Maine Coast Waldorf School													1			1
9-12 RSU 40/MSAD 40													1			1
9-12 Waynflete School														1		1
9-12 Wiscasset School Department												1	4	4	1	10
K-8 Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD								1		1						2
K-8 Brunswick School Department													1			1
K-8 Center for Teaching and Learning		2	1	4	4	2	3	2	3	1						22
K-8 Chewonki Semester School			1		1		1	1		1						5
K-8 Damariscotta Montessori School		2		1	1	1	2	1								8
K-8 Edgecomb School Department	4	1	3	2	3	1		3								17
K-8 Great Salt Bay CSD		1		2	1	2	1	2	2	2						13
K-8 Wiscasset School Department			1			1	1	1	3	1			1			9
Grand Total	4	6	6	9	10	7	8	11	8	6	10	13	7	7	112	

Somerville Student Count Information

	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Grand Total
9-12 Augusta Public Schools													1		1
9-12 Erskine Academy											7	4	3	6	20
9-12 Lincoln Academy												1			1
9-12 RSU 40/MSAD 40												1	2	1	4
Chelsea Elementary School		1													1
K-8 RSU 40/MSAD 40		1													1
Palermo Consolidated School			1												1
Somerville Elementary School	1														1
Whitefield Elementary School								1							1
Windsor Elementary School	1	7	8	4	4	2	3	5	5	3					42
Grand Total	2	9	9	4	4	2	3	6	5	3	7	6	6	7	73

Chelsea Elementary School Report

As we head into spring break here at Chelsea Elementary we continue to focus on Kindness and how we can show that to others. Mrs. Rosie has made a display in the Hallway for staff and students to be the “I” in KIND. As students have come down for their learning

commons classes they have had their picture taken and soon we'll have a display with our staff and students pictures "being kind".

Spring sports have also started here at Chelsea. While we did not have enough students to put together a baseball team again this year, we have an enthusiastic team of young ladies for our softball team. They are finally able to start getting outside on the field this week as long as the weather cooperates! We can't wait to cheer them on as their season progresses.

Also the arrival of spring brought the arrival of our PreK playground equipment. Our kids were so excited to finally have equipment that is safe for them to play on. When it was first installed they had to wait for 3 long days with it roped off to give it time to settle properly. That's a long time for our littles to see something new for them and not be able to test it out! The excitement when they finally got to get on and play is still going strong and we're happy to be able to provide them with a safe spot for their recess. Next up will be the fence that goes around it to finish off the play area.

Palermo Consolidated School Report

There have been a lot of interesting things happening at PCS in the past month and it gives me such pride to see our young learners show excitement when they are learning.



The students in 1st, 3rd and 6th grade worked on coloring and writing notes to the veterans of our country. The students watched a short video of our veterans and the Honor Flight Network. The Honor Flight Network flies veterans to share a day of honor at our capitol's memorials. During their flight, the veterans are given the notes made by the students to show our thanks for their dedication and sacrifice.



In another amazing afternoon, our 8th grade students spent their math time working with the 1st graders. The older students were amazing teachers! They showed kindness, patience, and true joy during this math time. We certainly appreciated their time and expertise in learning to add!



Yes, the picture you see is definitely a chicken! A super friendly chicken! Our 4th graders presented their ed-fair projects to the class. One student brought his chicken, Freed, to school as part of his project on the Rhode Island Red Chicken. Freed came to school while on a leash, walked around the classroom allowing everyone to pet her. The student was very proud of Freed! And we were all very proud of all the students' amazing projects.

Whitefield Elementary School Report

With the coming of spring brings the promise of hope. Spring has arrived and we are seeing a greater return to normalcy in the activities we are approving and the plans that are being made. Our National Junior Honor Society chapter sponsored the first middle school dance we had had in a very long time. The dance was very well attended and went extremely smoothly. Whitefield will field its first softball team in four years and the girls and coaches involved, while

not being terribly experienced, are tremendously excited to be playing on their own school team. Plans are being made for the annual 8th Grade Class Trip, bringing back a tradition that COVID prevented for two school years. Our annual Day of Caring, a longstanding tradition at this school, will revert to its previous iteration this year with a strong refocusing on the practice of giving back to the community that supports us so well. Finally, I met with the 8th grade class last week and we began the process of planning their 8th Grade Celebration. This celebration of their promotion to secondary school, like so many other culminating events during the pandemic, were forced outside of their typical formats due to COVID and we now are able to plan a return to the full family and school event to honor all of our 8th graders.

So...the promise of hope is being enthusiastically embraced here in Whitefield and, I know, across the other schools in RSU #12. It's been a long and arduous path we've had to follow, and no one is completely sure exactly what lies ahead, we choose to focus on the positives we're gaining back with optimism.

Windsor Elementary School Report

Windsor School welcomes April and spring with open arms! We have had a few exciting events sponsored by the Reed Foundation, a trust fund set up for the school. Recently, the trustees agreed to pay half of a new Gaga Ball pit for our playground. (We are always looking for new things for the students to do outside.) They also paid for a puppeteering troupe to visit our school. Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers did two shows of *The Legend of the Banana Kid* for our students. It was wonderful to see the students in an audience enjoying a show, something many of them haven't done for years, if at all.

Speaking of shows, our drama club is putting on its first show in almost three years this week. They are excited to perform *The Mysterious Case of the Mysterious Case* for the school on Thursday afternoon, and for the public on Thursday evening.

Our Student Assistance Team recently surveyed the staff about students they felt could use a mentor. Fifty-five students were nominated, and staff could sign up to be a silent mentor for a student. Thirty-six staff members have signed up so far. Silent Mentoring is a program currently being implemented by many schools who are concerned about students who do not appear to be connected. It's an effort by professional educators to reach out to these students and connect. The students are not told that they have been selected, but are matched with a volunteer educator, one who does not currently have the student in class. Once the educator and student are matched up the educators are expected to make a few reach out efforts a week. This can include morning greetings, asking the student's weekend was, having lunch bunch, etc. It's another way we work to make sure all of our students feel connected and important.

In an effort to motivate our students in reading and writing, our ELA teachers give students opportunities to enter writing contests. Jasai Marable and Olivia Austin, seventh graders, were

recently named two of the eleven nationwide semi-finalists in the Elephant Aid International 2022 Essay Contest. Their essays were posted to the website, and winners will be announced on April 11th. Jasai Marable was also the second place winner of the Maine Native American essay contest, and Kamden Jones and Evan James, also seventh graders, had honorable mention. We also like to recognize students who read consistently. When a student has read a million words in our AR program, we call them “AR Millionaires” and celebrate their accomplishments with a medal. As of today, we have eleven millionaires!