

Maranacook Area Schools

Manchester • Mt. Vernon • Readfield • Wayne

A caring school community dedicated to excellence.

www.maranacook.org

Maranacook community support helps our schools to get it right

Terri Watson, RSU 38 Board Chair

Watching and reading about happenings nationally leading to the November presidential election, I am struck by how many people feel disconnected from government. There is little agreement on issues and many people are angry and frustrated with politicians and the policies that may affect their daily lives. I find myself with alternating feelings of disbelief, anger, joy, frustration, hope and apprehension. I sometimes wonder why anyone would want to hold elective office.

Fortunately, that is not the case while serving on the school board of RSU 38. We, as a board, are very aware of the implications of recommending a budget to the communities of Wayne, Mt. Vernon, Manchester and Readfield. We understand the hardship that property taxes cause many residents. We worry about the decreased funds available from the state, the effect of valuation on our allocation from the state

and enrollment trends. We understand the mandates from the state affect what we do and how we do it.

We know that there is a disproportional reliance on property tax to pay for education. We know there is little we can do to change the equation. We know that every recommendation we make for the annual budget has consequences. We have done our best to be fiscally responsible.

Commitment to our Children

The good news is that the Maranacook area schools are a good investment in the future of our children. The really good news is that all four communities have been consistently supportive of the schools.

Over the last two years I have had the opportunity to work with the superintendent, administrators, staff and many of the teachers in the system and I have been struck by their extraordinary level of commitment to excellence in our schools. In particular, there has been increased empha-

Although the district goal is ultimately for every student to achieve a defined set of learning standards, how and when they get there can be different. That is what I have been most excited about.

sis on every student as an individual with different strengths and different needs.

Student progress is evaluated and learning goals are designed so the student can “catch up” or move forward. Although the district goal is ultimately for every student to achieve a defined set of learning standards, how and when they get there can be different. That is what I have been most excited about.

As you read through the Annual Report about what is happening in all of the schools, I think you will appreciate the innovative approach to teaching and learning

throughout the system and you will feel confident that the schools make our four communities – Wayne, Mt. Vernon, Manchester and Read-



field – wonderful places to raise our children. And for those of us who are older, supporting our schools is a meaningful way we can participate in the social contract that has endured for generations. This is government at its best.

When the high school student who lives across the street says he wakes up excited about going to school, I know we are doing this right.

Guided by Strategic Plan we see higher test scores, graduation rates

Superintendent Donna Wolfrom

Wonderful things have been happening in RSU 38 this year! We have made great strides toward our mission of being “a caring school community dedicated to excellence.”

Recently the entire district and many community members participated in the School Spirit Challenge, collecting more than 90,000 pounds of food for the Good Shepherd Food Bank. All schools participated by holding dances, sporting events, eating events and contests to raise money for food. These efforts demonstrated the strength, caring and excellence of our community.

Graduation Rate on the Rise

Another cause to celebrate is the continued increase in our graduation rate. The 2015 rate was 91.09 percent up from 82.11 percent in 2014 and 80.58 percent in 2013. This increase is due to the combined efforts of all staff and administrators in RSU 38 as we work to meet the needs of students, continuing to fine-tune our instructional strategies, increase the rigor of our curriculum and promote student engagement.

We also celebrate the work of our teachers, led by Nancy Harriman, director of Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment, Sarah Caban, math coach, and Barbara

Bourgoine, literacy coach, in the development of a cohesive and consistent preK through grade 12 curriculum in the areas of math, literacy and science. This curriculum is posted on the district web site. In addition, pacing guides, resources and assessments are now posted for teacher reference in our First Class system. Work in other content areas is underway.

Our students have excelled in extra and co-curricular activities this year. Jacob Ide and John Parent were named as state champion debaters and will compete in the nationals and Luca DeAngelis was named Nordic Ski State Champion. We are fortunate to be able to offer our students the opportunity to participate in so many co and extra-curricular experiences.

Test Scores Climbing

Our test scores are climbing. We administer the Northwest Evaluation Association assessment (NWEA) in grades K-10, excluding grades 2 and 5, who are assessed using iReady. In grade 9 reading the percentage of students who scored average or above climbed from 70 percent in winter 2015 to 77 percent in winter 2016 and from 83 percent to 88 percent in math over the same period. Middle school scores are climbing as well with winter scores in both math and reading increasing. Grade 8 math scores climbed from 69 percent

in 2015 to 81 percent in 2016 and in reading from 84 percent in 2015 to 95 percent in 2016.

This year we have continued to work toward the state required

standards-based proficiency system. Grade levels and content areas have been identifying priority standards, creating assessments to certify achievement of the standards and fine-tuning instructional strategies in order to move students toward proficiency in those standards. Teachers and administrators have been working hard to comply with state timelines, yet at the same time developing a comprehensive system that works for our students.

Strategic Planning Continues

We continue to work to meet the goals of our strategic plan: success for all, the development of a consistent, rigorous curriculum resulting in high levels of student performance, schools as welcoming community centers and accountability for all. We have used the RSU 38 Strategic Plan to guide our work over the last several years and will continue to assess our progress toward meeting our goals.



RSU#38
Maranacook Area Schools
Seventh Annual Report
May 2016

Annual Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, May 18, 2016
High School gymnasium
Please bring this report to the meeting.

Free child care will be provided by National Honor Society students in High School room 130 during the annual meeting from 7-9 p.m. Anyone interested should RSVP to Kristen Levesque at kristen_levesque@maranacook.org or 685-4923 x1040.

Budget Validation Referendum

Tuesday, June 14, 2016
Town polling locations

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Special Education individual learning plans tied to state academic standards ahead of fall mandate

Ryan Meserve, Special Ed Director

Over the past few years there has been a huge push to align Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) to state academic standards. The Maine Department of Education (MDOE) has provided training for schools on this subject, and many RSU 38 staff have participated. Initially MDOE requested that schools start slowly with full implementation by the 2016-2017 school year. I'm happy to say that after much hard work and professional development the special education staff

does not alter the curriculum level expectation being measured or taught," according to the Maine Unified Special Education Regulations. To access the general education curriculum, students requiring specially designed instruction may also need accommodations. In addition to the state-level training,



A standards-based academic IEP goal is one that is aligned with State standards and chosen to help the student progress toward the achievement of those standards. IEP teams look for how students can access grade-level curriculum as much as possible, often by accommodating individual needs.

are consistently implementing this practice into their IEPs ahead of the MDOE timeline.

A standards-based academic IEP goal is one that is aligned with State standards and chosen to help the student progress toward the achievement of those standards. There are many considerations that go into this process, though in doing so the IEP teams are constantly looking for how students can access their own grade-level curriculum as much as possible. Often this means accommodating students and their individual needs. "Accommodations mean changes in the manner in which instruction and assessment is delivered that

we have provided our own in-district special education workshops on this topic. Special education staff also has had the benefit of participating with colleagues throughout RSU 38. For example, special educators are taking part in grade level curriculum meetings, and many have also participated in professional development work focused on linking instructional practices to the district curriculum. Even though we have implemented the practice of writing standards-based IEPs, it is an ongoing process that we are continually working to improve. Our goal is to help provide a well-rounded and high quality education for the students in RSU 38.

New science standards and curriculum ask students to apply their knowledge to practical problems

Nancy Harriman, Director, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

A K-12 Science Curriculum Committee made up of teachers from each grade has been hard at work for more than two years learning about science standards, approaches to teaching science and about progressions of learning within science and technology.



Next Gen Science Standards Focus on Student Performance

- Can students DO science?
- Can students provide evidence to explain what occurs?
- Can students apply concepts in science to practical problems?
- Will they have the science and technology background to be college and/or career ready when they graduate from high school?

This committee of seven dedicated teachers has developed vertically aligned curriculum guides for K-12 science units, led professional development sessions and collaborated with colleagues to develop and pilot units in physical science this year at all levels.

After discussion and study, the Committee recommended basing our curriculum on the Next Generation Science Standards (see box inset).

The shift in the science standards from knowing and recalling to understanding, reasoning and making a logical argument is consistent with what's emphasized in current literacy and mathematics standards.

Teachers report that students particularly enjoy the emphasis on "engineering tasks" that we have included in many units. These are often multi-step problem solving tasks that require students to apply their knowledge of mathematics or technology. For example, third graders were asked to create something using magnets that could make their lives easier, then carried out "fair tests" to improve one aspect of their project.

The RSU 38 School Board approved the new science curriculum in February. Teachers are still completing the physical science units they developed and piloted this year. After April vacation, Science Committee members will look at samples of student work, evaluate the continuity in that curriculum strand and start drafting units for the Earth and Space Sciences Strand to pilot K-12 next year.

Next year we plan to form a K-12 Social Studies Committee to lead a review and update of our social studies curriculum.

Enrichment offerings widen, commercial driving certificates up, while diploma support remains central to Adult & Community Education mission

Steve Vose, Adult Education Director

The 2015-2016 school year has been an exciting time for the Adult and Community Education program here at RSU 38. An important component of any adult and community education program is enrichment classes.

These offerings are especially critical to those living in rural communities, where the opportunity to access these services might be limited. Enrichment activities offer participants a chance to obtain valuable skills and access health and fitness opportunities where their lives are not only enriched by learning but also by social interaction.

In an effort to improve upon our programming opportunities, this fall we are expanding our enrichment offerings by almost 20 new classes!

Commercial Driving Career

We continue to see sizable increases, in student enrollment, in our Commercial Driver License (CDL) program. As a fast growing career in the United States, many people are seeing the value of gaining the behind-the-wheel skills and classroom

experience needed to successfully operate a class B vehicle (school bus, oil tanker, dump truck, state plow truck). With many local businesses searching for qualified drivers, our program promises students not only a class B certificate but also a job in the truck driving field following completion.

High School Diploma programs

Another huge part of adult education is the work we do to prepare students for better, richer, fuller lives through our high school diploma programs. Our dedicated educational staff works to provide adults in our region with the educational opportunities needed to succeed in their roles as workers, family and community members. By providing adults with these skills, we hope to help inspire students to become valuable and active members of their local communities.

If you are looking to get your high school diploma, prepare for college or further your workforce education please arrange an appointment to discuss your life long learning plan.

Susan Simons and Nicole Cushing are the friendly faces who greet you



If you are looking to get your high school diploma, prepare for college or further your workforce education please arrange an appointment to discuss your life long learning plan.

upon entering our adult education office. Their extensive knowledge of our programs and services will ensure that you immediately get moving down the right track.

If you have questions or are looking for a listing of our offerings, please visit <http://maranacook.maineadult-ed.org>, email adulded@maranacook.org or call 207-685-4923, ext. 1065.

The Regional School Unit No. 38 Annual Report is published by RSU #38.

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Printed at Alliance Press, Brunswick, Maine.

Regional School Unit No. 38 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, status as a disabled veteran, or veteran of the Vietnam era in its employment practices or in the administration of its educational policies and programs.

The audit for Regional School Unit No. 38 was conducted in September 2015 by R.H.R. Smith and Company and is available on the District's web site (see above).

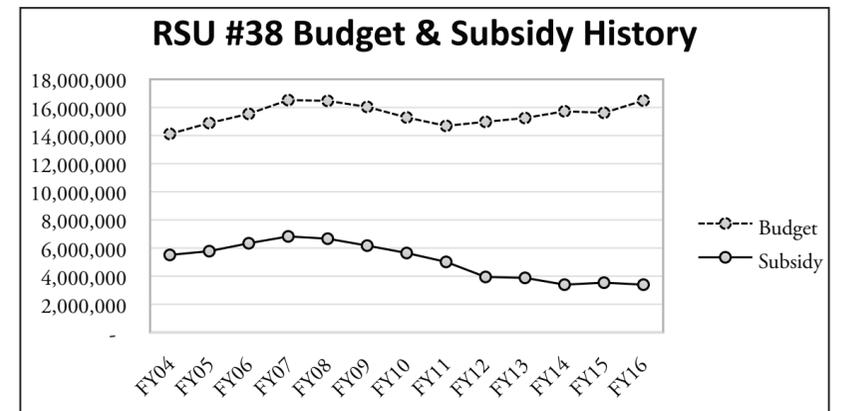
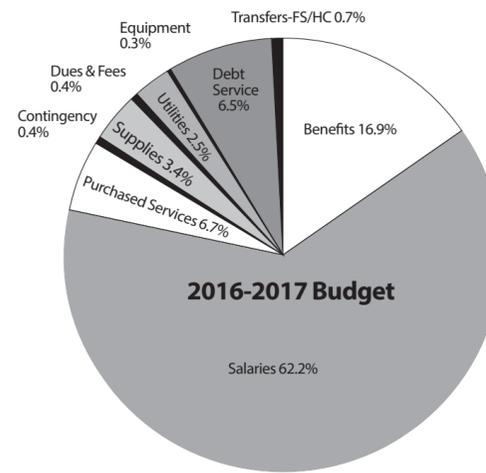
2016-2017 District Budget

Voted by School Board 4/13/2016

Description	Budget 2015-2016	Proposed Budget 2016-2017	Percent Change
General Fund – School Level Budget			
Manchester Elementary School			
Student & Staff Support	109,004.00	121,137.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	106,791.00	112,103.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	218,215.00	265,240.00	
Regular Education Instruction	998,133.00	1,058,777.00	
Special Education Instruction	182,263.00	216,021.00	
Gifted & Talented	14,455.00	14,944.00	
Co-Curricular	-	-	
Manchester School Level	1,628,861.00	1,788,222.00	9.78%
Mt. Vernon Elementary School			
Student & Staff Support	68,749.00	85,591.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	89,982.00	93,637.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	140,751.00	128,911.00	
Regular Education Instruction	738,757.00	780,001.00	
Special Education Instruction	111,448.00	59,794.00	
Gifted & Talented	17,958.00	18,380.00	
Co-Curricular	-	-	
Mt. Vernon School Level	1,167,645.00	1,166,314.00	-0.11%
Readfield Elementary School			
Student & Staff Support	101,669.00	110,727.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	129,382.00	124,927.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	190,863.00	369,877.00	
Regular Education Instruction	930,336.00	979,941.00	
Special Education Instruction	142,573.00	141,469.00	
Gifted & Talented	14,454.00	14,944.00	
Co-Curricular	-	-	
Readfield School Level	1,509,277.00	1,741,885.00	15.41%
Wayne Elementary School			
Student & Staff Support	67,377.00	70,337.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	72,105.00	75,584.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	125,077.00	115,642.00	
Regular Education Instruction	353,726.00	406,722.00	
Special Education Instruction	127,519.00	96,922.00	
Gifted & Talented	11,972.00	12,375.00	
Co-Curricular	-	-	
Wayne School Level	757,776.00	777,582.00	2.61%
Maranacook Middle School			
Student & Staff Support	270,779.00	284,774.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	174,558.00	184,954.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	427,308.00	416,678.00	

Description	Budget 2015-2016	Proposed Budget 2016-2017	Percent Change
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	1,451,699.00	1,509,871.00	
Special Education Instruction	366,564.00	397,049.00	
Gifted & Talented	22,500.00	30,993.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	109,025.00	114,657.00	
Middle School-School Level	2,822,433.00	2,938,976.00	4.13%
Maranacook High School			
Student & Staff Support	403,598.00	409,942.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	334,226.00	329,012.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	580,317.00	595,321.00	
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	2,109,949.00	2,136,892.00	
CATC Tuition & Coop Education	-	-	
Special Education Instruction	461,977.00	498,066.00	
ESL/ELLS	4,708.00	8,622.00	
Gifted & Talented	26,300.00	22,961.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	300,219.00	304,507.00	
High School - School Level	4,221,294.00	4,305,323.00	1.99%
RSU #38 School Level	12,107,286.00	12,718,302.00	5.05%
Grade Level K-8 Budget			
Support Services	13,343.00	14,993.00	
Improvement Of Instruction	22,749.00	25,186.00	
Special Education	463,288.00	536,618.00	
ESL/ELLS	34,454.00	35,688.00	
Summer Reading	8,990.00	7,307.00	
Gifted & Talented	37,430.00	21,232.00	
RSU #38 Grade K-8 Budget	580,254.00	641,024.00	10.47%
District Level Budget			
Health Services	106,401.00	75,863.00	
Curriculum	172,711.00	169,548.00	
Instructional Technology	184,180.00	202,473.00	
Assessment	54,272.00	66,958.00	
School Board & Supt Office	539,058.00	567,089.00	
District Maintenance	259,201.00	274,062.00	
District Transportation	982,687.00	947,642.00	
Reimbursable Transportation	7,063.00	7,063.00	
Local Support/Food Service	100,000.00	80,000.00	
Debt Service	699,676.00	564,733.00	
Special Education Admin	175,521.00	173,563.00	
RSU #38 District Budget	3,280,770.00	3,128,994.00	-4.63%
RSU #38 Total Gen Fund Budget	15,968,310.00	16,488,320.00	3.26%

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



Warrant for the Annual Meeting of Regional School Unit No. 38

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: \$7,052,343.00

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: \$2,119,502.00

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: \$426,471.00

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: \$1,637,529.00

This article includes negotiated salary and benefits for staff and directors in the above mentioned departments, district wide professional development, NWEA 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: \$567,089.00

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.

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

School Board Recommends: \$920,217.00

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: \$947,642.00

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: \$2,165,731.00

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 lease purchase payments of energy retrofit projects.

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

School Board Recommends: \$564,733.00

This article includes bond payments on school construction projects, including the middle school construction, high school addition and renovations, and additional athletic fields that were approved by referendum.

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

School Board Recommends: \$87,063.00

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	\$3,778,434.00	Manchester	\$2,525,137.00
Mount Vernon	\$2,381,881.00	Mount Vernon	\$2,017,453.00
Readfield	\$3,974,806.00	Readfield	\$2,197,702.00
Wayne	\$1,416,191.00	Wayne	\$1,416,191.00
School Unit Total Appropriated	\$11,551,312.00	School Unit Total Raised	\$8,156,483.00

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: \$200,234.00

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 includes a portion of the Middle School construction project, the High School addition and renovations project, and the athletic fields.*

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: \$80,000.00

This money helps fund the school's food service program.

WRITTEN BALLOT REQUIRED

Article 16: To see what sum the RSU will raise and appropriate (Recommend \$3,628,706.00) in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (Recommend \$3,365,721.00), as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board recommends \$3,628,706.00 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$3,365,721.00.

The \$3,365,721.00 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.) - \$347,000.00, operations and maintenance - \$754,000.00, transportation - \$171,000.00, special education - \$586,000.00, system administration - \$282,000.00, regular education instruction - \$1,150,000.00. The funding from the state (\$3,394,830.00) is 29.39% 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. *The funding from the state (\$3,394,830.00) is 29.39% 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 the school district needs to raise to achieve the RSU #38 school district budget.*

Article 17: To see what sum the RSU will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017 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: \$16,488,320.00

This article authorizes the School Board to spend the recommended budget in Fiscal Year 2017. The School Board cannot spend an amount above the authorized budget.

Article 18: Shall the RSU appropriate (Recommend \$172,000.00) for Adult Education and raise (Recommend \$63,000.00) 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 19: 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 2015-2016 are: Health Center \$36,000.00; Title IA \$195,000.00; Title IIA \$55,000.00; Local Entitlement \$381,000.00; Rural Low Income \$22,000, Gear Up \$50,000; and other miscellaneous grants \$10,000.00. The estimated income for the upcoming year is \$749,000.00.

Budget Validation Referendum Question

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. By law 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 written ballot), the total budget is approved and is scheduled for a referendum in each town. This is the Budget Validation Referendum.

Step 3: A referendum 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 combined 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 2016-17 budget is approved.

If the “NO” votes from our four towns are greater than the “YES” votes from our four towns, the 2016-17 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 contact the Superintendent's Office for clarification and answers. Thank you.

To be voted on at the polls in each town on June 14, 2016

RSU 38 Mission Statement

“A caring school community dedicated to excellence”

Vision Statement

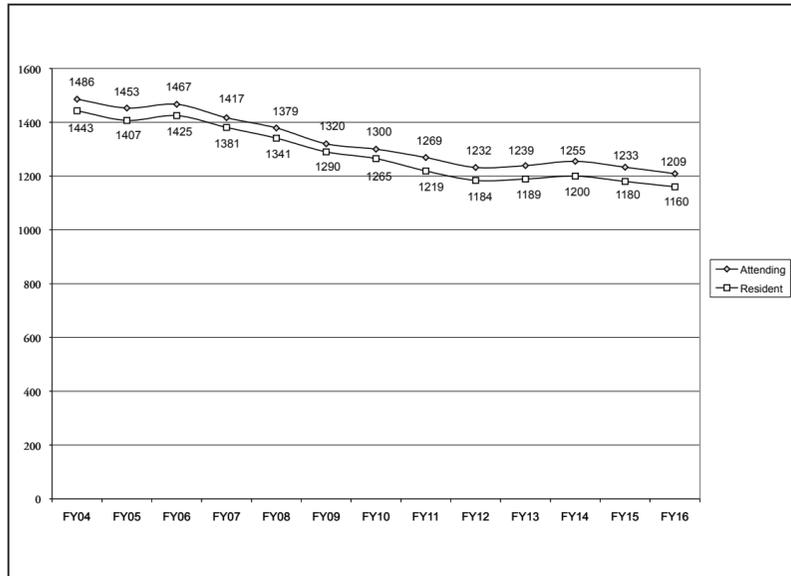
Maranacook Schools will be safe, dynamic learning communities where people of all ages will think, aspire, and participate as responsible citizens in an ever-changing global society.

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 assessment process measures growth and improves the achievement of all learners
 - The supervision and evaluation process encourages and supports staff growth and development with individualized, comprehensive professional development
- Approved by RSU #38 Board of Directors, December 5, 2012.*

2016-2017 Revenue Areas				Voted by School Board 4/13/2016
Revenue Area	2015-16	Inc/(Dec)	2016-17	Description
State EPS Allocation	3,484,167	(89,337)	3,394,830	Preliminary ED279 State Share 29.4%
State National Teacher Funding	13,500	1,500	15,000	State of Maine provides additional funds for nationally certified teachers. The amount funded per teacher changes each year.
Other Revenues				
Tuition Revenue	400,000	-	400,000	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 Winthrop & Fayette buses.
McCare Reimbursement	50,000	-	50,000	Revenue from the State of Maine for McCare reimbursement for students attending our Day Treatment Programs.
Fiscal Services/Admin Fees	20,000	-	20,000	Fees for services provided to other school districts by RSU #38 personnel.
Curricular Participation Fees & Gate Receipts	70,000	-	70,000	Co & extra curricular participation fees paid by students and gate receipts from basketball games and play productions.
Miscellaneous	105,000	-	105,000	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.
Balance Forward	200,000	128,067	328,067	The audit is done on a full accrual basis and the auditors make entries for summer salaries for the professional staff. Because of this, the auditor feels a "Cash Balance" should not be listed and the district should be working toward having the entire summer salaries set aside in a reserve. The FY17 balance is the additional unanticipated subsidy received in FY16 plus additional undesignated funds.
Property Tax Revenue				
Required Local Dollar Match	8,234,496	(78,013)	8,156,483	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	224,685	(24,451)	200,234	Local debt for construction projects approved at referendum in each town (14% of Middle School, High School renovations, new athletic fields).
Additional Local Dollars	3,126,462	582,244	3,708,706	Additional local funds needed to fund the expenditure budget once all other revenue areas have been taken into consideration.
Sub-Total Property Tax Revenue	11,585,643	479,780	12,065,423	Total local funds to be raised by our four towns.
Total Budget	15,968,310	520,010	16,488,320	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	27	8	18	0	53
K	26	23	32	10	91
1	33	26	22	14	95
2	22	15	30	10	77
3	27	17	26	13	83
4	29	19	20	10	78
5	22	20	28	8	78
6	34	16	30	8	88
7	20	19	31	9	79
8	21	15	30	13	79
9	29	11	25	16	81
10	28	17	33	10	88
11	38	16	38	6	98
12	30	15	34	18	97
Totals	386	237	397	145	1165

October 1, 2015 (does not include non-resident tuition students)

2016-2017 Local Dollar Calculation						Voted by School Board 4/13/2016
Description	District	Manchester	Mt. Vernon	Readfield	Wayne	
2015 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,003,450,000	310,050,000	245,000,000	260,950,000	187,450,000	
2014 Property Revenue Services Valuation	994,550,000	301,450,000	240,650,000	264,850,000	187,600,000	
\$ Increase/Decrease in Valuation	8,900,000	8,600,000	4,350,000	(3,900,000)	(150,000)	
% Increase/Decrease in Valuation	0.89%	2.85%	1.81%	-1.47%	-0.08%	
2016-2017 Required Local Contribution	8,156,483	2,525,137	2,017,453	2,197,702	1,416,191	
2016-2017 Required Mill Expectation		8.30	8.30	8.30	7.47	
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.						
2015-2016 Required Local Contribution*	8,234,496	2,556,861	2,071,240	2,259,920	1,346,475	
2015-2016 Required Mill Expectation*		8.48	8.48	8.48	6.94	
\$ Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution	(78,013)	(31,724)	(53,787)	(62,218)	69,716	
% Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution	-0.95%	-1.24%	-2.60%	-2.75%	5.18%	
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %	100.00%	32.17%	20.49%	35.54%	11.80%	
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %	100.00%	30.37%	24.27%	26.43%	18.93%	
Net Additional Local \$	3,908,940					
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %		628,753	400,471	694,619	230,627	
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %		593,573	474,350	516,566	369,981	
Total Additional Local \$	3,908,940	1,222,326	874,821	1,211,185	600,608	
Local Only Adult Ed. Contribution	63,000					
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %		10,134	6,454	11,195	3,717	
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %		9,567	7,645	8,325	5,963	
2016-2017 Total Local Contribution	12,128,423	3,767,163	2,906,373	3,428,408	2,026,479	
2015-2016 Total Local Contribution	11,648,643	3,616,100	2,837,033	3,324,451	1,871,059	
Local \$ Increase/Decrease for 2016-2017	479,780	151,063	69,340	103,957	155,420	
Local % Increase/Decrease for 2016-2017	4.12%	4.18%	2.44%	3.13%	8.31%	
Local \$ Increase for 2015-16	554,653	169,231	128,107	160,910	96,405	
Local % Increase for 2015-16	5.00%	4.91%	4.73%	5.09%	5.43%	
October 1, 2015 Enrollment by Town	1,165	386	237	397	145	
Local \$ Contributed per Student	10,411	9,759	12,263	8,636	13,976	

RSU 38 Summary of Budget Changes 2016-2017

Budget Increases		Budget Decreases	
Salary & Benefits - Current Staff	238,026	Health Center Additional Local Support (set aside FY16 Funds)	24,000
New Positions		Food Service Local Support	20,000
Elementary Literacy Interventionist .5 FTE	25,000	Building/Maintenance Projects - Roof, Flooring, Painting, Sidewalks, etc. 2015-16	124,116
Elementary Nurse .5 FTE	16,500	Electricity, Heating Oil, Diesel, Propane	75,190
Pre-K Ed Techs .8 FTE (MTV a.m. / RES p.m.)	19,100	High School MLTI Computer Lease - based on student count	6,300
MTV Behavior Intervention Ed Tech III 1.0 FTE	32,000	High School General Instructional Supplies	2,500
Middle School Office Coordinator to Year Round	5,250	Special Education Out of District Placement	15,000
High School Interventionist 1.0 FTE	50,000	Special Education Legal	5,000
Readiness Skills Ed Tech III 1.0 FTE	32,000	Supt's Office Computer Purchases (FY16 purchased new server)	3,000
Special Education Nurse .5 FTE	25,000	Debt Service Interest - Original Scheduled Reduction in Interest	62,200
Special Education Speech Assistant (10 hrs)	10,000	Debt Service Interest - Bond Bank Renegotiated Interest Savings	72,825
Custodial/Maintenance .5 FTE	22,000	Total of Budget Decreases	410,131
Repair & Maintenance		Summary of Budget Changes	520,010
Building/Maintenance Projects - Roof, Flooring, Painting, Tennis Courts, etc.	344,950	New Requests/Increases Eliminated or Reduced	
Supplies & Books		Salary & Benefits	
Elementary Curriculum Needs, Supplies, Books	56,200	Health Insurance Premium increase reduced from 10% to 7%	57,500
Maintenance Supplies	2,016	Special Education Nurse .5 FTE 3/7/16	25,000
Equipment		Middle School Wellness Center Administrative Assistant increase - eliminated 3/2/16	4,300
Intra Office Network Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)	2,000	Buildings	
Elementary Wireless Computer Access Points	2,275	Repair & Maintenance projects for 2016-2017 (see project list for details)	46,350
Elementary Teacher Laptops (MLTI 4 Year Lease)	20,424	Supplies & Books	
Elementary Smart Boards (2)	3,400	High School Tech Ed Software - eliminated 3/2/16	3,500
School Buses - 1	24,000	Equipment	
Total of Budget Increases	930,141	One School Bus (not approved by State)	24,000
(data continues in top of column to right)			
		Elementary Access Points (50% purchased current year at reduced rate)	8,125
		Middle School Ice Machine (purchased current year)	1,950
		2 Elementary Smart Boards - reduced to 2 on 3/2/16	3,400
		High School CNC Router - eliminated 3/2/16	17,500
		Co & Extra Curricular - eliminated 3/2/16	
		Middle Sch. afterschool -robotics, archery, volleyball	7,000
		Total of New Request/Increases Eliminated or Reduced	198,625

High School graduation rate rises, dual enrollment classes cut college costs to Maranacook students

Dwayne Conway, Principal
High School

This was a year of achievement and focus at the high school. We have many things to be proud of including dramatically increased test scores, a graduation rate that has risen to 91 percent from 83 percent in 2013 and being a leader among New England schools for providing innovation and opportunity to students. Nothing typifies this more than our dual enrollment courses and associate degree pathway program with Thomas College.

Dual Enrollment is the ability to earn college and high school credit for the same course taken at the high school. Many of our teachers have met the requirements

Dual Enrollment is the ability to earn college and high school credit for the same course taken at the high school.

to become adjunct professors with our partner colleges and teach dual enrollment classes. They deserve our thanks. Next year, we will offer 26 dual enrollment courses. We currently partner with Thomas College, University of Maine at Augusta, Kennebec Valley Community College and Saint Joseph's College of Maine in offering dual enrollment classes. This year, our students collectively saved over \$320,000 in college costs. Next year, we expect the savings to exceed \$400,000.

In October, NEASC accredited the Thomas College and Maranacook Community High School Pathways Program, which gives accepted students the opportunity to graduate from Maranacook with an associate degree in Liberal Arts from Thomas College. We are the first public

high school program in New England to offer this. Two Maranacook students will graduate next month with an associate degree from Thomas College, with

many more students to follow in the years to come, each saving over \$52,000 in college costs. This is an incredible opportunity for our students and we are so fortunate to have a strong relationship with Thomas College.



Maranacook offers a variety of dual enrollment programs: two one-week intensive courses at Thomas College in June for eligible freshmen, sophomores and juniors; a certificate program in French, under the direction of John Hirsch and issued through the University of Maine at Augusta; and a course in sustainable agriculture taught to our alternative school students by Michael Dennett in cooperation with Kennebec Valley Community College. Teacher Justin Fecteau is pursuing a dual enrollment opportunity for a course in German. No matter what our students are interested in, or what their background is, we believe every student has the ability to be successful. We want our students to be not just college ready when they graduate, but also college experienced!

Collaboration with staff specialists facilitates academic growth of Readfield and Wayne students

Jeffrey Boston, Principal,
Readfield & Wayne Elementary
Schools

It is an honor and privilege to be in my third year as principal of Readfield and Wayne Elementary Schools. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff, district leadership team, school board and our two communities for their continued support.

At Readfield Elementary School, our teachers have been collaborating with our literacy specialist and math interventionist in providing support for students struggling with the curriculum. These focused meetings occur every six weeks to develop a plan for a student using data to identify the area of difficulty, listing specific interventions/ frequency per week, and progress monitoring. Using our collective knowledge, resources, and efforts, we have observed an improvement in academic growth.

At Wayne Elementary, our math interventionist and classroom teachers at the second through fifth grade levels have implemented an effective teaching model for mathematics. As you might be aware, due to staffing, our second and third graders are combined into one classroom as are fourth and fifth grade students. Teaching two

grade levels together can present many challenges for a teacher. To alleviate some of these hurdles, our math interventionist and classroom teachers take time to collaboratively plan and implement instruction and intervention. As a result of the teachers' efforts, they have created smaller learning environments and provided more individualized attention for students by having two teachers (classroom teacher and math interventionist) facilitating the learning with math instruction. In addition, Susan Hogan (grade 4/5 teacher) and Abby Shink (math interventionist) gave a presentation at the Association of Teachers of Mathematics Conference during April in Bangor using this model.

Finally, thank you for your continued support from each school community. As I've said before, the best part of my job is interacting with students in the classroom and working collaboratively with teachers on improving our instruction.



Retiring Middle School principal proud as students surpass goals on NWEA academic assessments

Cathy Jacobs, Principal, Middle School

As I write my final report as principal of the only New England League of Middle Schools Spotlight Middle School in Maine, I can't help but reflect on the many amazing things that have happened at Maranacook Community Middle School this year.

We have been working on continued improvement in student performance in

we have not yet completed our final writing assessment this year, we have seen an incredible amount of growth in student writ-



Students surpassed the math goal with 90 percent improving by at least one proficiency level from pre- to post-assessment on each math unit.

mathematics, reading and writing, so our leadership team considered that as we set this year's goals.

Our math goal was that 80 percent of MCMS students would show growth of one proficiency level on the rating scale for each priority standard from pre- to post- common assessment on each math unit. Students surpassed that goal with 90% improving by at least one proficiency level on each math unit.

For reading we wanted 70 percent of our students to score in the average or above range on the NWEA tests, up from 64 percent in the previous year. Again, students surpassed that goal with 80 percent scoring average or above in reading.

Our writing goal was that 80 percent of students show improvement of one growth measure on assessments from the beginning of the year to the end. Although

ing since September and are confident that we will reach this goal as well. I am so proud of our students and teachers for their hard work and dedication to these goals.

Also worth noting: The middle school this year had the honor of hosting a naturalization ceremony for 31 people from 19 nations who became U.S. citizens; students participated in a simulated Challenger Mission; grades 7-8 boys participated in a series of workshops offered by Maine Boys to Men; we focused on making our students college and career ready through the GEAR UP grant; and we took part in many community service activities benefiting our local food banks.

It has been an honor and a privilege to work at a school and in a district that truly is a "caring school community dedicated to excellence."

Instructional Rounds help Manchester, Mt. Vernon teachers to improve classroom teaching and learning

Janet Delmar, Principal, Manchester & Mt. Vernon Elementary Schools

I am honored to be in my second year as principal of Manchester and Mt. Vernon Elementary Schools and to work in a dedicated and caring school community with outstanding professionals. I appreciate the leadership support from the lead teachers at both schools. Rachael Boucher

Instructional Rounds provide opportunities that allow teachers to think critically about current best practices and how to incorporate those practices into their classrooms.

and Jennie Galletta (MES) and Deb Hatt and Sue Lockhart (MTV), together with the teaching staffs, have worked collectively to provide the best for our children.

This year teachers have continued to work on our district's curriculum and Common Core standards with their grade-level colleagues in English Language Arts and Math. At MTV Sarah Caban, district math coach, along with Abby Shink, math interventionist, have led our school in Mathematical Instructional Rounds. At MES, Barbara Bourgoine, district literacy coach and literacy specialist Rachael Boucher, helped to lead our Literacy Instructional Rounds.

These Instructional Rounds provide professional development and growth opportunities that allow teachers to observe, question and think critically about current best practices and how to incorporate those

practices into their classrooms. As part of their ongoing curriculum work, teachers continue to collaborate on lesson and unit

planning, on scoring assessments and on the analysis data. Our specialist teachers in physical education, art and music continue to enrich student learning not only in their specific domains but also across all content areas.

As June quickly approaches I would like to take this time to recognize and thank two veteran staff members retiring after years of dedication and service. Karen Toothaker, pre-K teacher (MES) and Brenda Fleury, administrative assistant (MTV). Each leaves knowing that students and staff will miss them and that they have made a positive impact on teaching and learning at RSU 38. We wish them the best in their future endeavors.

In closing, I would like to thank the Mt. Vernon and Manchester schools' staff, students, parents and community members for a wonderful year. I have been honored to visit classrooms, collaborate with teachers, meet with parents and work with motivated colleagues. I look forward to your continued support and enthusiasm as we work together.

