

# Maranacook Area Schools

Manchester • Mt. Vernon • Readfield • Wayne

A caring school community dedicated to excellence.

www.maranacook.org

## Maranacook Schools among Maine's best, deserve our support

Terri Watson, RSU 38 Board Chair

While preparing to write this annual report to all residents of Readfield, Manchester, Wayne, and Mt. Vernon, I reviewed what I had written last year. I'd like to send the same message this year. This school district is one of the best in the state. We are guided by a talented and knowledgeable superintendent who has put together an administrative team that is among the best. We have dedicated and caring teachers.

I do want to address another issue, though, because as I write this we have just received a threat from a staff member of the Maine Education Association on behalf of the Maranacook Area Schools Association (the teachers' union). She stated that the Manchester Elementary School

"needs to be closed until the district can unequivocally declare and prove that every inch is safe for occupancy." She said, "If the district refuses to find alternative educational facilities for the Manchester staff and students after spring break, the Association on behalf of the staff will inform the community of the seriousness of the situation."

I was stunned and appalled, really, at the tone and intent of the message. I asked myself, "What does she know that we don't know?" And I know the answer. Nothing. Every health and safety issue that has arisen at the school has been investigated and fixed. Parents now receive all the technical information we have available on conditions at the school. We follow the advice of experts. There are no secrets. There is no cover-up. There is no compromise when

it comes to the health and safety of our students and staff. The ramifications of calling Manchester Elementary School a "sick" building are not inconsequential. The school has had a good reputation and is one reason that families move to Manchester. To suggest otherwise can affect property values. It could affect Manchester's valuation. It could also affect enrollment. This, in turn, would bring up the cost of education in the other three towns of the district. All of this due to fear based on rumor and innuendo, while ignoring the opinions of experts based on science.

We ask a lot of our teachers and change is always difficult. More and more is required of teachers and for this they need our support. Threatening to create a public relations problem for the district is not in the best interest of the teachers or the

students. It is not in the best interest of the residents of Manchester or the other three towns in the district.

I have no way of knowing today how this will all play out in the forum of public opinion. Please be assured that the RSU 38 school board has the best interest of the students, the teachers, the staff, and the residents of our four towns as our mission and responsibility. I ask you to read the annual report, appreciate the work done all year in this district, and come to Annual Meeting and offer your support.



## State government decisions complicate budget process but student successes make us proud to be part of the Maranacook Areas Schools

Superintendent Donna Wolfrom

I am extremely proud of the staff and administrators who do so much to make RSU 38 "a caring school community dedicated to excellence."

We have had many successes this year. Maranacook students Hannah Woodford, Ryan Worcester and Tyler Dunn qualified for the National Speech and Debate Association tournament in Birmingham, Ala., this summer. Our girls and boys Nordic skiing teams won the Class B State Championship with Zack Holman and Laura Parent each winning the Classic Nordic event. Nathan Delmar won the Class B State Alpine Slalom Championship competition. Caitlin Logan was accepted into the ACLU Summer Advocacy Institute at Georgetown University. Junior Maddie Taylor and Social Studies teacher, Shane Gower, were chosen as one of 15 teams nationally to participate in the Normandy Sacrifice for Freedom Institute. Fifty-one students are signed up for the summer intensive dual enrollment course at Thomas College, and one, Leah Pouliot, will graduate with an Associate Degree the week before she receives her Maranacook diploma.

Learning opportunities for students, supported by tremendous effort by staff and administration, have resulted in a continual increase in our high school graduation rate: 91.09% in 2015 up from 82.11% in 2014 and 80.58% in 2013. I am proud to announce that the graduation rate for 2016 was 91.96%.

*We recently received news that the district was ranked by niche.com in the top ten (9th) of the 2017 Best School Districts in Maine. Rankings are based on data from the U.S. Census and the U.S. Department of Education utilizing "state test scores, college readiness, graduation rates, SAT/ACT scores, teacher quality, public school district ratings, and more." You can learn more at the niche.com website: <https://www.niche.com/k12/rankings/public-school-districts/best-overall/s/maine/>*

As we celebrate our successes we must also deal with budget challenges, many out of our control. We are fortunate to live in a beautiful area with many lakes providing recreational opportunities. However, lakes drive up property valuations, one of two major factors in deciding state subsidies. As our valuations go up and our enrollment declines slightly (4 students this year), our state subsidy for education is reduced. In addition, the Governor's proposed budget has shifted systems administration (central office staff and services, including legal fees and school board costs, etc.) to the local taxpayer. Currently, our state subsidy for FY18 has been reduced by \$228,268.21. We hope the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs will support the Education Committee recommendation to return system administration to the

K-12 portion of the state budget, which should result in an increase in our state subsidy.

An additional challenge in FY18 is an anticipated 17% increase in district costs for Maine PERS (retirement). This represents an added \$57,000 to the FY18 budget.

Next year's freshmen will be the first class that must meet new state mandated graduation requirements. Students will be required to demonstrate proficiency in the Maine Learning Result standards and the Guiding Principles. To support our students in meeting these requirements we are developing a cohesive and consistent standards-based PreK-12 curriculum and instructional model, requiring the addition of several new staff positions, such as a middle school World Language teacher and math interventionist positions.

The School Board began this budget season with a goal statement, "Promoting student success in all areas as we strive for academic excellence while maintaining fiscal responsibility." Administrators and staff worked hard to develop a budget that meets this goal as we struggle with state-driven challenges.

Please be sure to attend the Annual Meeting on May 17, and vote on the district referendum on June 13.



**RSU#38  
Maranacook Area Schools  
Eighth Annual Report  
May 2017**

### Annual Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, May 17, 2017  
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](mailto:kristen_levesque@maranacook.org) or 685-4923 x1040.

### Budget Validation Referendum

Tuesday, June 13, 2017  
Town polling locations

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## Staff collaborates to offer a rigorous, standards-based curriculum that engages, prepares students

Nancy Harriman, Director, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment



The administrative team and staff in RSU 38 continue to respond to new laws and changes in requirements with one priority in mind, the quality of education we provide our students. Taking a positive, long-term view, we evaluate various options for programming by analyzing data and considering research proven strategies and practical constraints like time, cost and student engagement.

### Curriculum Development & Implementation

We continue to work toward the strategic plan goal of developing new standards-based curriculum that is rigorous and engaging for students. For example, in science we collaboratively developed and

### As of graduation 2021, all students must meet proficiency on standards to earn a diploma.

piloted a second strand of units for K-5 in earth and space science. Teachers and students have enjoyed learning about topics like how objects in space move (why do we have seasons?), patterns of weather, erosion and other changes in landforms. Each unit in the new science curriculum has a project in which students apply principles of engineering and design. (examples: kindergarten – design something to protect

you from the heat of the sun; grade 3 – design something to solve a problem using magnets). A K-12 committee of teachers helps coordinate science in different grade spans as does a K-12 writing committee.

### Proficiency-based Education

At the high school level, teachers have a sense of urgency because the new standards-based curriculum and assessments will document student proficiency on state standards. As of spring 2021, all students must meet proficiency on standards to earn a diploma. Three evening sessions to include community members and parents in developing Maranacook's system for tracking student proficiency were held in 2015-16. In February, April and earlier this month, we shared information on proficiency-based diplomas with families of eighth graders, the first students who will graduate under the new standards. Proficiency-based learning experiences encourage critical thinking, supporting opinions with evidence, writing for a purpose, reflecting on technique, and becoming an independent learner!

## Adult & Community Education continues diploma support this summer, CDL course helps many land jobs, and over 1,000 attend enrichment courses

Steve Vose, Adult Education Director

Another school year flies by, offering my staff and me a chance to reflect on the exciting happenings of the previous year.

During 2016-2017, our dedicated enrichment instructors offered over 120 classes and workshops including fitness activities, arts and crafts, trips, and family and youth events. These activities provided something exciting to learn for almost every interest area and worked to help enhance skills, improve wellness and provide a fun way to meet others with similar interests.

Over 1,000 people from our four communities attended our enrichment activities, where they were provided the opportunity to obtain valuable skills and access health and fitness opportunities. These offerings are especially critical to rural communities, such as ours, where the opportunity to access services can be limited.

### Diploma support in summer

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. By providing adults with these skills, we hope to help

inspire students to become valuable and active members of their local communities.

This summer, our educational staff, composed of our new English language arts hire Jodie Bennett and mathematics instructor Scott Harmon, will continue providing educational programming and HiSET/Accuplacer testing services, as we uphold our mission to provide adults in our region with the educational opportu-

### For help with a diploma, preparing for college or a job, call 685-4923 (x1065) for an appointment.

nities needed to succeed in their roles as workers, family and community members. If you are looking to get your High School Equivalency Diploma (HiSET), prepare for college or further your workforce education, please call 685-4923 (x1065) to arrange an appointment to discuss your lifelong learning plan.

### CDL career growth continues

This year, we continued to see a sizeable increase in enrollment in our Commercial Driving License (CDL) program. As the fastest growing career field in the United

## Special Education ready to help incoming freshmen meet new proficiency-based diploma requirements

Ryan Meserve, Special Ed Director

Throughout the district, we focus on helping students meet grade-level standards, while also individualizing their needs. In special education this is especially prevalent because when students become eligible for services an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed to facilitate progress toward those standards.

The IEP Team is charged with ensuring that students with IEPs can also access grade-level instruction and content to the maximum extent possible. As a result, there is a great deal of collaboration

### Some students require specially designed instruction to meet grade-level standards.

and coordination among staff, parents and other providers. This can occur through either accommodations or direct services. Some students require specially designed instruction outside the traditional classroom to facilitate progress toward grade-level standards.

At the high school we are focused on meeting individual student needs and how best to support students who will be required to graduate with a proficiency based diploma. Incoming eighth graders, the class of 2021, will be the first students re-

quired to demonstrate proficiency to graduate. Maine Department of Education guidelines apply the same standards to students with IEPs. The IEP teams can accommodate and plan for various ways to demonstrate proficiency, or to get to the 'end' standards, but the standards remain the same for all students and cannot be modified.

As one can imagine, this is a major focus of transition planning meetings for soon-to-be ninth grade students. The high school staff is diligently preparing for the standards-based diploma requirements and for how to ensure success for all students. For students with disabilities, this takes a team-based approach that includes being able to access rigorous, yet appropriate, educational opportunities, while also making sure to meet the instructional needs of each student.

Through district and statewide efforts, IEPs are already standards-based in RSU 38. The next step is to facilitate pathways for students to reach graduation standards, when appropriate. At the high school level, this explicit discussion happens at least yearly when the IEPs are reviewed throughout the year. A major component of grade 9-12 IEPs is the transition planning process. This starts in the student's ninth grade year and is centered on developing learning and course progression for students and families to reach their post-secondary goals. The plan is reviewed regularly, and is a focal point of IEPs at the high school.



States, many people are seeing the value of gaining behind the wheel skills and classroom experience needed to 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.

### Call, stop in, visit our web site

Susan Simons and Nicole Cushing are the friendly faces who greet you 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.maineadulted.org>, email [adulted@maranacook.org](mailto:adulted@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 2016 by R.H.R. Smith and Company and is available on the District's web site (see above).

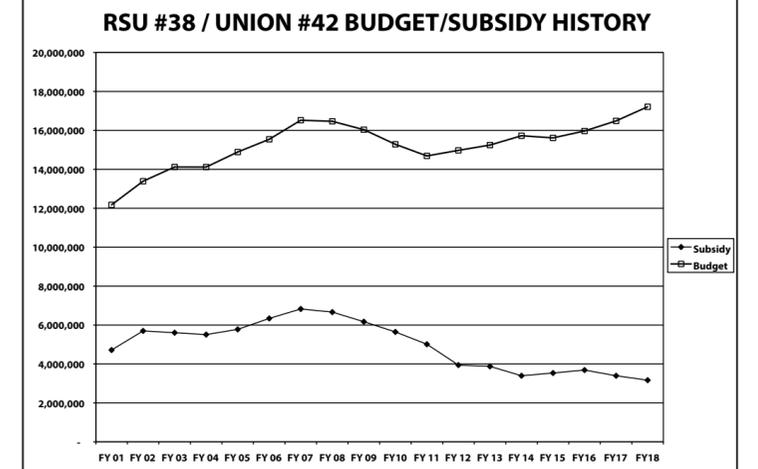
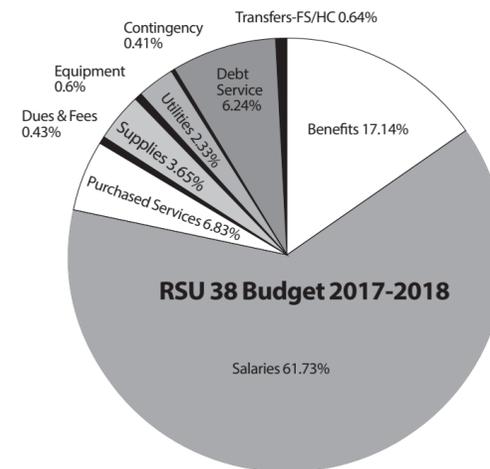
## 2017-2018 District Budget

Voted by School Board 4/12/2017

Description	Budget 2016-2017	Proposed Budget 2017-2018	Percent Change
<b>General Fund – School Level Budget</b>			
<b>Manchester Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	121,137.00	118,622.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	112,103.00	114,421.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	265,240.00	210,886.00	
Regular Education Instruction	1,058,777.00	1,117,390.00	
Special Education Instruction	216,021.00	228,350.00	
Gifted & Talented	14,944.00	15,635.00	
Co-Curricular	-	900.00	
<b>Manchester School Level</b>	<b>1,788,222.00</b>	<b>1,806,204.00</b>	<b>1.01%</b>
<b>Mt. Vernon Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	85,591.00	98,262.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	93,637.00	97,107.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	128,911.00	166,045.00	
Regular Education Instruction	780,001.00	801,873.00	
Special Education Instruction	59,794.00	77,733.00	
Gifted & Talented	18,380.00	14,500.00	
Co-Curricular	-	400.00	
<b>Mt. Vernon School Level</b>	<b>1,166,314.00</b>	<b>1,255,920.00</b>	<b>7.68%</b>
<b>Readfield Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	110,727.00	121,770.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	124,927.00	128,459.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	369,877.00	228,492.00	
Regular Education Instruction	979,941.00	1,063,496.00	
Special Education Instruction	141,469.00	130,199.00	
Gifted & Talented	14,944.00	15,635.00	
Co-Curricular	-	900.00	
<b>Readfield School Level</b>	<b>1,741,885.00</b>	<b>1,688,951.00</b>	<b>-3.04%</b>
<b>Wayne Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	70,337.00	76,915.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	75,584.00	77,683.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	115,642.00	186,938.00	
Regular Education Instruction	406,722.00	447,906.00	
Special Education Instruction	96,922.00	98,206.00	
Gifted & Talented	12,375.00	9,700.00	
Co-Curricular	-	400.00	
<b>Wayne School Level</b>	<b>777,582.00</b>	<b>897,748.00</b>	<b>15.45%</b>
<b>Maranacook Middle School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	284,774.00	298,779.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	184,954.00	190,499.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	416,678.00	425,748.00	

Description	Budget 2016-2017	Proposed Budget 2017-2018	Percent Change
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	1,509,871.00	1,629,131.00	
Special Education Instruction	397,049.00	404,194.00	
Gifted & Talented	30,993.00	32,616.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	114,657.00	115,345.00	
<b>Middle School-School Level</b>	<b>2,938,976.00</b>	<b>3,096,312.00</b>	<b>5.35%</b>
<b>Maranacook High School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	409,942.00	412,693.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	329,012.00	350,619.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	595,321.00	614,357.00	
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	2,136,892.00	2,215,103.00	
CATC Tuition & Coop Education	-	-	
Special Education Instruction	498,066.00	523,428.00	
ESL/ELLS	8,622.00	8,925.00	
Gifted & Talented	22,961.00	24,483.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	304,507.00	312,479.00	
<b>High School - School Level</b>	<b>4,305,323.00</b>	<b>4,462,087.00</b>	<b>3.64%</b>
<b>RSU #38 School Level</b>	<b>12,718,302.00</b>	<b>13,207,222.00</b>	<b>3.84%</b>
<b>Grade Level K-8 Budget</b>			
Support Services	14,993.00	18,285.00	
Improvement Of Instruction	25,186.00	29,164.00	
Special Education	536,618.00	527,813.00	
ESL/ELLS	35,688.00	36,899.00	
Summer Reading	7,307.00	7,334.00	
Gifted & Talented	21,232.00	20,270.00	
<b>RSU #38 Grade K-8 Budget</b>	<b>641,024.00</b>	<b>639,765.00</b>	<b>-0.20%</b>
<b>District Level Budget</b>			
Health Services	75,863.00	78,163.00	
Curriculum	169,548.00	172,940.00	
Instructional Technology	202,473.00	217,966.00	
Assessment	66,958.00	67,856.00	
School Board & Supt Office	567,089.00	609,435.00	
District Maintenance	274,062.00	435,641.00	
District Transportation	947,642.00	955,374.00	
Reimbursable Transportation	7,063.00	8,033.00	
Local Support/Food Service	80,000.00	80,000.00	
Debt Service	564,733.00	557,687.00	
Special Education Admin	173,563.00	182,826.00	
<b>RSU #38 District Budget</b>	<b>3,128,994.00</b>	<b>3,365,921.00</b>	<b>7.57%</b>
<b>RSU #38 Total Gen Fund Budget</b>	<b>16,488,320.00</b>	<b>17,212,908.00</b>	<b>4.39%</b>

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:** \$7,453,562.00

*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:** \$2,172,749.00

*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:** \$437,758.00

*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:** \$1,711,415.00

*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:** \$609,435.00

*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:** \$958,788.00

*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:** \$955,374.00

*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:** \$2,268,107.00

*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:** \$557,687.00

*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:** \$88,033.00

*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	\$3,768,766.00	Manchester	\$2,564,926.00
Mount Vernon	\$2,274,707.00	Mount Vernon	\$2,048,321.00
Readfield	\$3,915,779.00	Readfield	\$2,178,336.00
Wayne	\$1,437,077.00	Wayne	\$1,437,077.00
<b>School Unit Total Appropriated</b>	<b>\$11,396,329.00</b>	<b>School Unit Total Raised</b>	<b>\$8,228,660.00</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:** \$193,186.00

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 in additional local funds (Recommend \$4,441,393.00), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (Recommend \$4,189,888.00), as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board recommends \$4,441,393.00 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$4,189,888.00.

The \$4,189,888.00 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.) - \$359,000.00, operations and maintenance - \$880,000.00, transportation - \$153,000.00, special education - \$502,000.00, system administration - \$609,000.00, regular education instruction - \$1,615,000.00. The funding from the state (\$3,167,669.00) is 27.80% 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 (\$3,167,669.00) is 27.80% 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, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 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:** \$17,212,908.00

*This article authorizes the School Board to spend the recommended budget in Fiscal Year 2018. The School Board cannot spend an amount above the authorized budget.*

**Article 18:** To see if the RSU will reduce the amount raised and assessed 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 to the extent of any unanticipated increase in the adjusted state contribution under the Essential Programs and Services funding model.

**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 \$190,000.00) 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 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 2016-2017 are: Health Center \$36,000.00; Title IA \$211,000.00; Title IIA \$54,000.00; Local Entitlement \$358,000.00; Rural Low Income \$26,000, Gear Up \$50,000; and other miscellaneous grants \$10,000.00. The estimated income for the upcoming year is \$745,000.00.*

## 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.*

## 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. 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 2017-18 budget is approved.

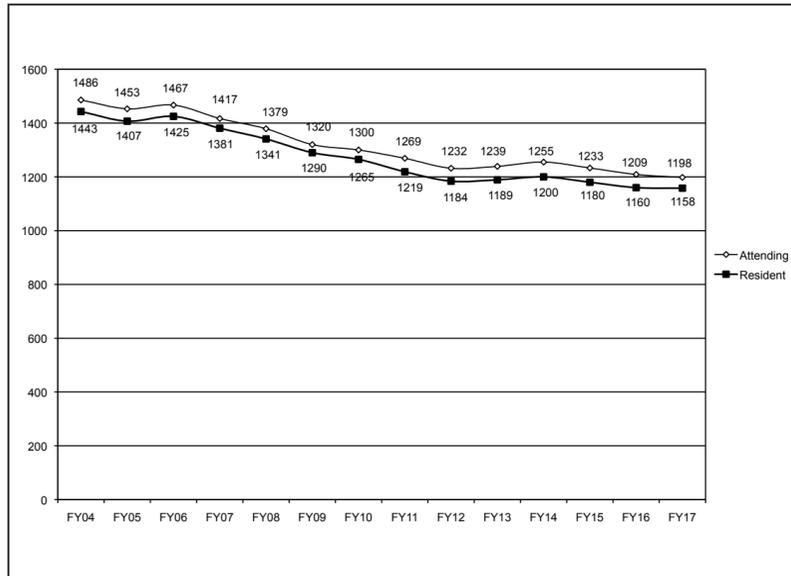
If the "NO" votes from our four towns are greater than the "YES" votes from our four towns, the 2017-18 budget is not approved and the Board and Administration will have to meet to consider changes to this budget. It will then be brought back to a District Budget Meeting and another Budget Validation Referendum. This process continues until a budget is finally approved through the Budget Validation Referendum process.

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 13, 2017**

2017-2018 Revenue Areas				Voted by School Board 4/12/2017
Revenue Area	2016-17	Inc/(Dec)	2017-18	Description
<b>State EPS Allocation</b>	3,394,830	(227,161)	3,167,669	<b>Preliminary ED279 with Estimate – Governor's Proposal (2016-17 subsidy was increased by \$1107 after budget approved)</b>
State National Teacher Funding	15,000	(3,000)	12,000	State of Maine provides additional funds for nationally certified teachers. The amount funded per teacher changes each year.
<b>Other Revenues</b>				
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 Fayette buses.
MeCare Reimbursement	50,000	(50,000)	-	Revenue from the State of Maine for MeCare reimbursement for students attending our Day Treatment Programs. We currently are not billing for MeCare.
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	-	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.
<b>Balance Forward</b>	328,067	171,933	500,000	The audit is done on a full accrual basis. The amount listed takes into consideration that the District has the accrued summer salaries set aside.
<b>Property Tax Revenue</b>				
Required Local Dollar Match	8,156,483	72,177	8,228,660	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	200,234	(7,048)	193,186	Local debt for construction projects approved at referendum in each town (14% of Middle School, High School renovations, new athletic fields).
Additional Local Dollars	3,753,706	767,687	4,521,393	Additional local funds needed to fund the expenditure budget once all other revenue areas have been taken into consideration.
<b>Sub-Total Property Tax Revenue</b>	<b>12,110,423</b>	<b>832,816</b>	<b>12,943,239</b>	Total local funds to be raised by our four towns.
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>16,488,320</b>	<b>724,588</b>	<b>17,212,908</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	22	10	25	0	57
K	34	14	24	9	81
1	28	19	29	12	88
2	28	24	21	12	85
3	21	18	33	11	83
4	27	16	31	11	85
5	30	16	24	12	82
6	24	23	30	9	86
7	35	16	28	6	85
8	21	18	34	18	91
9	22	14	28	15	79
10	28	11	29	15	83
11	27	17	31	14	89
12	35	15	28	6	84
<b>Totals</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>1158</b>

October 1, 2016 (does not include non-resident tuition students)

2017-2018 Local Dollar Calculation						Voted by School Board 4/12/2017
Description	District	Manchester	Mt. Vernon	Readfield	Wayne	
2016 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,023,300,000	316,700,000	255,600,000	262,500,000	188,500,000	
2015 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,003,450,000	310,050,000	245,000,000	260,950,000	187,450,000	
\$ Increase/Decrease in Valuation	19,850,000	6,650,000	10,600,000	1,550,000	1,050,000	
% Increase/Decrease in Valuation	1.98%	2.14%	4.33%	0.59%	0.56%	
<b>2017-2018 Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>8,228,660</b>	<b>2,564,926</b>	<b>2,048,321</b>	<b>2,178,336</b>	<b>1,437,077</b>	
<b>2017-2018 Required Mill Expectation</b>		<b>8.29</b>	<b>8.29</b>	<b>8.29</b>	<b>7.65</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.						
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	
<b>\$ Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>72,177</b>	<b>39,789</b>	<b>30,868</b>	<b>(19,366)</b>	<b>20,886</b>	
<b>% Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>0.88%</b>	<b>1.58%</b>	<b>1.53%</b>	<b>-0.88%</b>	<b>1.47%</b>	
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %	100.00%	32.49%	20.38%	34.71%	12.42%	
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %	100.00%	30.72%	24.53%	26.10%	18.65%	
<b>Net Additional Local \$</b>	<b>4,714,579</b>					
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %</b>		<b>765,883</b>	<b>480,416</b>	<b>818,215</b>	<b>292,775</b>	
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %</b>		<b>724,159</b>	<b>578,243</b>	<b>615,253</b>	<b>439,634</b>	
<b>Total Additional Local \$</b>	<b>4,714,579</b>	<b>1,490,043</b>	<b>1,058,659</b>	<b>1,433,468</b>	<b>732,410</b>	
<b>Local Only Adult Ed. Contribution</b>	<b>63,000</b>					
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %</b>		<b>10,234</b>	<b>6,420</b>	<b>10,934</b>	<b>3,912</b>	
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %</b>		<b>9,677</b>	<b>7,727</b>	<b>8,222</b>	<b>5,875</b>	
<b>2017-2018 Total Local Contribution</b>	<b>13,006,239</b>	<b>4,074,880</b>	<b>3,121,126</b>	<b>3,630,959</b>	<b>2,179,274</b>	
2016-2017 Total Local Contribution	12,173,423	3,781,234	2,916,444	3,442,351	2,033,394	
<b>Local \$ Increase/Decrease for 2017-2018</b>	<b>832,816</b>	<b>293,646</b>	<b>204,682</b>	<b>188,608</b>	<b>145,880</b>	
<b>Local % Increase/Decrease for 2017-2018</b>	<b>6.84%</b>	<b>7.77%</b>	<b>7.02%</b>	<b>5.48%</b>	<b>7.17%</b>	
Local \$ Increase for 2016-17	524,780	165,134	79,411	117,900	162,335	
Local % Increase for 2016-17	4.51%	4.57%	2.80%	3.55%	8.68%	
<b>October 1, 2016 Enrollment by Town</b>	<b>1,158</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>150</b>	
<b>Local \$ Contributed per Student</b>	<b>11,232</b>	<b>10,667</b>	<b>13,511</b>	<b>9,192</b>	<b>14,528</b>	

### RSU 38 Summary of Budget Changes 2017-2018

Budget Increases		
Salary & Benefits - Current Staff (Health Ins. budgeted at 0% inc.)		292,034
MePERS Increase (18% increase for 2017-2018)		53,000
Instructional Substitute Budget Increase		30,500
New Positions		
Elementary Math Interventionist .5 FTE (MTV)		25,000
Pre-K Ed Tech .4 FTE (RES)		13,083
World Language Teacher 1.0 FTE (MMS)		50,000
RTI Ed Tech III 1.0 FTE (MMS)		32,000
Regular Ed Ed Tech III .5 FTE (WES)		22,000
Custodial/Maintenance .5 FTE		11,692
Purchased Services		
Architect		60,000
Legal (Gen'l Consultation/Bonding Referendum Process)		20,000
Repair & Maintenance		
Expanded HVAC Maintenance Contract		26,000
Supplies & Books		
Instructional Classroom Furniture		14,475
Equipment & Equipment Lease Purchases		
Maintenance Equipment		34,369
Pediatric Audiometer		2,300
HS Instructional Equipment		18,750
Elementary Computer Labs (4 year lease purchase)/Teacher Computer Adjust.		23,446
MS/HS Year 2 MLTI Refresh Increase		11,584
One School Bus		23,000
<b>Total of Budget Increases</b>		<b>763,233</b>

(data continues in top of column to right)

Budget Decreases		
Utilities (Electric, Propane, Heating Oil, Diesel, Telephone)		10,900
Bond Payment Interest		7,046
Building Projects (Contracted & Supplies for Projects)		20,700
<b>Total of Budget Decreases</b>		<b>38,646</b>
<b>Summary of Budget Changes</b>		<b>724,587</b>
<b>New Requests/Increases Eliminated or Reduced</b>		
Salary & Benefits		
Health Insurance Premium increase reduced from 10% to 0%		188,938
Elementary Librarian .2 FTE		14,000
Art Teacher WES .05 FTE		1,750
7th Grade Boys & Girls Soccer		4,900
Wellness Center Admin Asst Increase		4,000
K-8 Technology Integrationist .8 FTE		40,000
Buildings		
Repair & Maintenance projects		328,450
Conference & Dues/Fees		
Instructional Conferences & Principal Office Dues		2,000
Supplies & Books		
All Departments		14,694
Equipment		
One School Bus		23,000
Two Elementary Smart Boards (MTV & WES)		3,400
Reduction - Elementary Computer Labs		6,012
<b>Total of New Request/Increases Eliminated or Reduced</b>		<b>631,144</b>

## High School continues focus on instructional practices, curriculum standards with collaboration

Dwayne Conway, Principal  
High School

At the high school we continue to work to improve instructional practices and collaborate on curriculum. We have implemented the Next Generation Science Standards and the Maine Learning Results, including the Common Core. We have spent much time identifying outcomes and supporting standards, creating common pre- and post-assessments, creating curriculum guides and maps, reviewing data and identifying goals. With greater specificity than ever, we can identify the strengths and areas of support our students need. To keep pace with an ever-changing world, we must constantly reflect, refine and improve.

The math department continues to offer a wide range of courses based on increasing levels of complexity. Care is taken to place students in the class best suited to their skill level. For the past several years, the department has spent most of its common planning time preparing for implementation of proficiency-based education for the Class of 2021, as required by state law. Priority standards have been identified. Common assessment questions for each standard are being vetted and rubrics developed. This has been a time consuming task and a substantial amount of work remains to be done.

This year, five special education students participated in Unified Basketball with Winthrop High School. The students practiced at Winthrop High and had games throughout Central Maine. They work every day to overcome challenges and being on the basketball court was no different. Unified Basketball provided students with

a team sport opportunity that they may not have been able to experience otherwise. Teamwork, cooperation and camaraderie became second nature. All five students earned varsity letters. This spring, students have an opportunity to participate in Unified Track and Field with Maranacook as the hosting school.

Our musicians were well represented at district, state, and national honors festivals. Twelve students were selected to attend the District 3 Honors festival, seven will attend the All-State Honors festival, and senior Abby Despres was selected for the All-Eastern Music Festival. The Maranacook Chamber singers performed at the American Choral Directors Association fall music festival and the Poetry Out Loud state finals at the Waterville Opera House. They were one of two choral groups statewide selected to perform for choir directors at Maine All-State music festivals around the state.

Every year we have the privilege to work with talented and knowledgeable parents and community members willing to organize our school's volunteer efforts. It is difficult to put into words our appreciation for the countless hours volunteers share to make Maranacook the best it can be. Your commitment to the betterment of the community you live in encourages all of us to be the best we can be.



## Readfield & Wayne faculty strengthen literacy teaching; longtime librarian to retire this spring

Jeffrey Boston, Principal,  
Readfield & Wayne Elementary  
Schools

As a building leader, my focus has been to develop a collaborative culture in which we learn together and from one another.

In the first half of the year, faculty worked with Whendy Smith, a Reading Recovery consultant, to strengthen literacy instruction. This provided insights for teaching reading and planning each student's reading progression. We met once a month in grades K-2 and 3-5 groups to focus on specific reading skills and behaviors. In addition, teachers collaborated in Learning Rounds for math, worked with our literacy specialist and math interventionist to support struggling learners, and assisted in the development of a behavioral rubric to guide student behavior.

I thank students, staff, district leadership team, school board and our communities for their continued support. Fundraising by the Readfield Parent Association and the Wayne School and Home Association provides enrichment opportunities such as Mad Science and musical theater at the Waterville Opera House. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents.

At the end of this school year, Janet

Adelberg will retire after 24 years as elementary school librarian. She began in the district in 1993 as an ed tech for two years before becoming a librarian. Janet worked at Wayne Elementary for the first 14 years, added Readfield Elementary in 2009 and began covering all elementary schools in 2010. We have appreciated her leadership, collaborative attitude, and dedication to all students in promoting reading. The Kennebec Valley Book Award celebration, created by Janet and her team, each May marks the pinnacle of our students' reading accomplishments. We wish Janet well in her future endeavors. Students, staff, and parents will certainly miss her.

Thank you for your continued support in each school community. The best part of my job is interacting with students in the classroom and collaborating with teachers to improve instruction.



## Manchester & Mt. Vernon continue work to improve outcomes in language arts, math and science

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

Teachers continued work this year on our curriculum and Common Core standards with grade-level colleagues in English language arts and math and Next Gen Science Standards. Both schools have continued using Instructional Rounds, which allow teachers to observe, question and think critically about current best practices and how to incorporate them in their classrooms. Sarah Caban, district

### Teachers use early release days to collaborate on lesson planning, scoring assessments and data analysis with a focus on student learning and school improvement.

math coach, along with math interventionists, Abby Shink and Erica Boudreau, have focused on National Council of Teachers of Mathematics practices.

In literacy, Rachael Boucher and Sue Lockhart in consultation with Barbara Bourgoine, district literacy coach, have coordinated our Literacy Rounds. As part of their ongoing curriculum work, teachers use early release days to collaborate on les-

son and unit planning, scoring assessments and data analysis with a focus on student learning and school improvement. Our specialist teachers in physical education, art and music continue to enrich student learning in their specific domains and across all content areas.

I would like to recognize and thank staff for working collaboratively to ensure student learning and success, the Manchester and Mount Vernon communities for a wonderful year, and students, families, staff and district colleagues for their continued support. I appreciate the support of the lead teachers Deb Hatt and Sue Lockhart in Mt. Vernon, and Rachael Boucher and Erica Boudreau in Manchester, together with the teaching staff, who work to provide the best for our children.

The best parts of my job have been visiting classrooms, collaborating with teachers, meeting with parents and working with motivated colleagues. I look forward to your continued support and enthusiasm.



## New Middle School principal impressed with support for students & community involvement

Rick Hogan, Principal, Middle School

I want to thank the staff, students, and community for your support and encouragement during my first year in the district. I have found staff and community members to be extremely proud of this school and what has been created here. I have worked in middle level education for 19 years and have never seen a building so anchored in middle school philosophy and designed to support the whole child in terms of the academic, social/emotional, and developmental challenges that all ado-

### I have never seen a school so anchored in middle school philosophy and designed to support the whole child.

lescents experience.

I have watched, listened, and asked questions about how students are learning here at MCMS. I have seen teachers work diligently to design and administer local common assessments that will help us ensure that all students leave with the skills and knowledge they will need in reading, writing and math.

I have observed students immersed in a multitude of learning experiences, themed around concepts like survival, war and conflict, and space, to name a few. I have marveled at how staff design high quality units aligned to learning standards, and

that they are able to do so each trimester based on student input.

I was blown away at a band and chorus concert where our gym was filled to capacity with families watching 160 of our 280 students perform. I have listened as teachers shared what they learned from each other during instructional rounds, where they visit other classrooms and provide feedback.

I have supported a reinvigorated PTO and participated with students in my 8th grade advisee group as they were exposed to colleges, technical schools and career options, while 7th grade groups worked on community service and 6th grade groups focused on team building.

This school has many strengths and, as with all schools, there are always challenges to address. We have begun to plan how to best support students who have difficulty in math to increase their performance. I am thankful for the opportunity to be the learning leader at MCMS and look forward to working with you to provide the best possible educational experience for our students. I truly believe that all students can learn if you meet them where they are, help them find the supports they need, and challenge them to succeed.

