

# Maranacook Area Schools

Manchester • Mt. Vernon • Readfield • Wayne

A caring school community dedicated to excellence.

www.maranacook.org

## RSU 38 Board addresses district achievements in a changing world

Gary Carr, Ph.D., RSU Board Chair

I am honored to serve as board chair for RSU 38, representing the towns of Manchester, Mount Vernon, Readfield, and Wayne. Working closely with Vice Chair Wendy Brotherlin, Superintendent Jay Charette, and the Administrative Team enabled RSU 38 to accomplish many goals this year. Meeting those goals have enhanced our school buildings and local public education.

The summer was busy with work done at all district locations. Shaun Drinkwater, Facilities and Transportation Director, oversaw all the projects funded by the maintenance bond approved last year. Under Drinkwater's supervision, savings were achieved on several projects and corrections were made on the spot. Manchester Elementary installed a new heating system and LED lights. Wayne Elementary replaced boiler and septic systems. At Maranacook Middle School the water storage tank was removed and replaced and new heating system controllers installed. Millard Harrison Drive was reconstructed and paved as well as Readfield Elementary, Mt. Vernon Elementary and Wayne Elementary parking lots. Through the bond, Maranacook High School was able to replace bleachers with modern, accessible ones and the entire district

had the univentilators replaced in all buildings.

Not only have these improvements ensured the continued academic success of all students, but by changing to LED lighting and propane boilers, our district is seeing a reduction in power bills and fuel costs. The high school roof



will be finished this summer and is the last original bond item that needs to be completed. Again, my thanks go out to the hard working citizens of RSU 38 for supporting the

maintenance bond last year. It has truly made a difference for everyone in our community and will continue to do so for years to come.

Another milestone this year was the implementation of a snow day remote-learning exercise. Superintendent Charette received permission from the Maine Department of Education to conduct a remote learning day, which would take place in lieu of a snow day during the 2019-2020 school year. The idea behind this was simple, have high and middle school students learn at home using

Google Classroom and for elementary school children to use specially prepared packets, rather than take a snow day. The first remote learning day was on Thursday, February 27 and was quite a success. Very fortunate, given that no one could have predicted the new challenges to education that soon arose due to the coronavirus.

Thanks to the leadership of Superintendent Charette and the hard work of the Administrative Team, teachers, and support staff, RSU 38 began remote learning on Monday, March 30, 2020. Nothing is simple or easy right now, and every one of us worries about what kind of toll the coronavirus will take on us as a community throughout this spring and beyond. It is more important than ever that we use online communication as a teaching tool in order to keep our young minds active while we shelter in place and practice social distancing. This is not a perfect solution, but it is a way to keep our students learning as we wait for this danger to pass.

Due to the economic shut down, we will have to grapple with the concern that many jobs may not return to our area and many in our communities will need our help. This situation has happened many times in America—World War II, the Korean War, the 2008 financial collapse, 9/11, and now

COVID-19. In order to help, we are striving to keep next year's school budget as close to zero growth as possible. This is a challenge for our school district since teacher salaries have risen due to state mandates and health insurance premiums may rise as well. All of our school board members are passionate about education and are well aware of our communities' needs. Through the budget process, the Administrative Team will present their ideas from teachers and staff members, while the board will balance their desires with the ability of taxpayers to afford any increase. It is the board's objective to provide the highest quality education possible for all our students, district-wide, while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

It has been a privilege to be involved on the RSU 38 School Board for the past six years and as Board Chair for the last two years. As a school board, we continue to make decisions based on the benefits to students, staff, and teachers, while balancing the needs of the taxpayers. And as always, we will continue to strive for excellence for our community.

## RSU 38 focus unchanged by historic events

Superintendent James Charette

The 2019 - 2020 school year has been filled with historic and unprecedented events. Most people's attention has been on COVID-19 and the impact it has had on the larger society. Our school district is no different in managing the impact of the disruption on our daily routines concerning teaching and learning. We responded quickly to a rapidly changing and evolving stream of information that led to the extended school closure. Although our focus during the extended school closure has been on remote learning, which we were able to thoughtfully and strategically roll out, I also want to touch upon some of the other district events.

With the approval and support of our communities we were able to pass a school facilities improvement bond. Much needed work has been completed in all of our district buildings and will be continuing during the coming summer months. The response to all of the projects from the students, staff, and communities has been overwhelmingly positive. The board recognizes the financial commitment that was made and is working to be thoughtful and strategic with future

facility maintenance projects.

Earlier this year we rolled out our very own Maranacook App, along with an improved dynamic website. This has greatly enhanced our digital presence, improved communication, and streamlined our alert system. Each of our schools has been able to provide more information about the learning taking place in our classrooms and special events, as well as recognizing the excellence within our district. We encourage everyone to get the app and visit maranacook.org to see all our schools offer.

It is with great sadness that I report on the sudden passing in February of our Food Service Director, Jeffrey Bridges. Jeff was our director for over 15 years and worked tirelessly to create a strong food service team while serving nutritious meals to all of our students. In addition, Jeff championed wellness through the district and was instrumental in several key initiatives that improved nutrition, health and wellness in our district. He will be greatly missed. Our deepest condolences go out to Jeff's family.

As we put forth our budget for the school year 2020 - 2021 please know that we have worked extremely hard to meet our goal of promoting student success in all areas.

Even as we strive for academic excellence, we work to maintain fiscal responsibility.

We are working to keep our budget increases as minimal as possible in an effort to recognize the effects COVID - 19 has had in our communities. We thank the communities



for their support of the facilities bond, while acknowledging the impact taxes will have on our towns and taxpayers moving forward. What you see best represents what is needed to continue to give our students the best possible education that the Maranacook Area schools can provide.

I would like to thank the students and staff in all of our schools for everything they do day in and day out. They are what makes the Maranacook Area Schools an incredible place to grow and learn. Finally, a big thank you to the communities and citizens for your continued support of the students of the Maranacook Area Schools.

### RSU#38 Maranacook Area Schools Eleventh Annual Report June 2020

#### Annual Meeting

7 p.m., Wednesday, June 17, 2020  
Maranacook Middle School  
cafeteria/gymnasium

Please bring this report to the meeting.

Due to COVID-19, and following Governor Mills Restarting Maine's Economy Plan, no children will be allowed in the building. Therefore, no child care will be provided this year.

RSU #38 will be following the guidelines developed by the State of Maine. These guidelines are constantly changing. Please refer to the www.maranacook.org for any updates to the guidelines to be followed for this meeting.

#### Budget Validation Referendum

Tuesday, July 14, 2020  
Town Polling Locations

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## Wayne & Mt. Vernon pilot new math curriculum

Janet Delmar, Principal, Wayne & Mt. Vernon Elementary

It is an honor to be in my sixth year as a principal in RSU 38 at Mt. Vernon and Wayne Elementary Schools. I want to thank the students, families, staff, and district colleagues for their continued support especially during our school closure due to COVID-19. I take great pride in working within such a dedicated and caring school community. I am appreciative of my teaching staffs who collectively work to provide the best for our children.

Teachers in grades K-5 are working on implementing a new pilot math curriculum, Illustrative Mathematics. Staff at all four elementary schools met together along with our district math coach, Abby Shink, during workshop and early release days for professional development conducted by IM consultants. Teachers continue to refine our districts' curriculum with their grade-level colleagues in English/Language Arts, Social Studies and Science.

Both Wayne and Mt. Vernon schools continue to incorporate Learning Labs as part of their professional practice. These Learning Labs 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. In literacy, Jeanette Jacobs, district literacy coach, in consultation with district literacy specialists, helped coordinate a focus on supporting students' reading comprehension and independent reading strategies with professional development for teachers' guided reading instruction. Teachers continue to work together during district early release days on lesson and unit planning, scoring assessments, and to review data focusing on student learning and school improvement.

As we continue to work through this challenging time of school closures, I would like to take this time to recognize and thank all staff for working together to ensure the continuity of learning for students.

In closing, I thank the Mount Vernon and Wayne communities. The best part of my job is working with teachers, parents, and the RSU 38 community. I look forward to your continued enthusiasm and support.



## Special ed staff weaves tech resources into best practices

Ryan Meserve, Special Education Director

During the 2019-2020 school year, the special education department has had many projects and initiatives going. We recently completed the Maine Department of Education (MDOE) School monitoring cycle, which looked at our practices and adherence to federal and state special education guidelines. The MDOE summary report to us was very complimentary of the special education staff's ability to follow both the procedural aspects of special education and, also, of the content and approaches to the student specific plans we write for children.

In addition to the task of completing the state monitoring cycle, the special education staff has worked hard to provide new,

innovative, and individualized ways to teach the students receiving their services. The staff in RSU 38 works tirelessly to stay current with best practices within their specific field in order to support their students. One tool the staff uses is incorporating technology into their lessons.

Given the current state of our educational landscape, we are lucky that RSU 38 technology and virtual teaching tools have been used for many years. Our 6-12 technology initiative of 1:1 student laptop use, Google Classroom in use at the middle school and high school, and the many ways used with individualized and adapting software are only some of the existing supports for students in achieving their learning goals.

This doesn't make the new

distance learning approach easy, but it does help support our ability to still provide quality instructional materials individualized to the students served. The staff is a amazingly resourceful in their approach, research and implementation of these digital resources. We are thankful to be in a school system that supported and instructed students, families and staff in embracing technology in the past. We can now turn those practices into a support for continued learning even while dealing with the current disruptions.



## High school has year of successes

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

It has been a year of incredible successes at the high school. I have never been prouder of our students, staff, or community. The many highlights include the fall musical, *Mama Mia*, produced by students and led by music teacher Dan Gilbert. The awesome show was sold out every night.

We were fortunate to have a new Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) program led by

Sam Smith. Mr. Smith has done an amazing job recruiting students and building the program. JMG increases high school graduation rates, college retention, and degree attainment.

Despite only two sports seasons so far, our sports teams had an incredible year. The fall started off with great seasons in football, golf, soccer and cross country. During the winter Carter McPhedran brought home three individual state championships in Nordic skiing. Boys and Girls Alpine brought home two state championships. In basketball both the boys and girls made the playoffs with the boys' team representing Maranacook in an incredible state final.

The advisor program is the bedrock of our school and we have all made an effort to recommit to the basics of this program. A Back to Basics training was held in February during an early release day. This helped all advisors develop a com-

mon understanding of what it means to be an advisor at the high school. Over the course of the next year our goal is to strengthen the advisor program and increase the support they offer students.

Maybe our greatest success is seen through the resilience everyone has shown in the current situation. How our community banded together to support each other, and especially our students, really is what sets Maranacook apart. It's especially heartwarming to see the herculean efforts of all staff to supply our community food pantry.

There's no doubt that the best is yet to come for our community high school.



## Readfield staff continues to build collaborative culture

Jeffrey Boston, Principal, Readfield Elementary School

It is an honor and privilege to be in my seventh year as principal of Readfield Elementary School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff, district leadership team, school board, and our Readfield community for their continued support especially during our school closure due to COVID-19.

My priorities this year continue to include building trusting relationships, supporting the RSU 38 mission, vision, and guiding principles, working with staff to improve student achievement and teacher instruction, and developing a collaborative culture, in which we learn together and from each other.

This year, teachers in grades

K-5 have implemented a new pilot math curriculum called Illustrative Mathematics. Elementary teachers, our district math coach, and math interventionists, collaborated and received continuous professional development conducted by IM coaches. In literacy, our literacy specialists and district literacy coach organized and facilitated ongoing professional development for our teachers with a focus on reading strategies and reading comprehension for our students.

We would like to thank REPA (Readfield Elementary



Parent Association) for their support and fundraising efforts to bring enrichment opportunities to our students. Due to their help, our school had financial resources to attend field trips and cultural events. As an old proverb states, "It takes a village to raise a child." We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents.

At the end of the school year, Pam Mitchell and Barbara Godfrey will be retiring. Pam has been with the district for eighteen years and Barbara for thirty-five years. We have long appreciated their leadership, continued efforts, and dedication to their students. We wish them both well in their future endeavors. Students, staff, and parents will certainly miss both of them.

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

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The audit for Regional School Unit No. 38 was conducted in September 2018 by R.H.R. Smith and Company and is available on the District's web site (see above).

## 2020-2021 District Budget

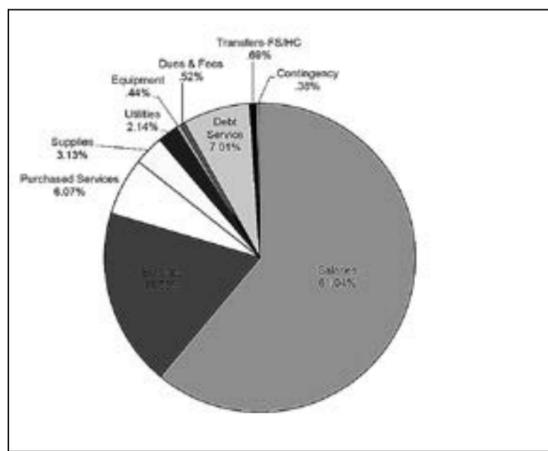
Voted by School Board 5/20/20

Description	Budget 2019-2020	Proposed Budget 2020-2021	Percent Change
<b>General Fund – School Level Budget</b>			
<b>Manchester Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	144,724.00	138,751.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	164,010.00	164,537.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	250,508.00	198,416.00	
Regular Education Instruction	1,151,620.00	1,083,153.00	
Special Education Instruction	336,295.00	304,029.00	
Gifted & Talented	14,259.00	15,214.00	
Co-Curricular	900.00	900.00	
<b>Manchester School Level</b>	<b>2,062,316.00</b>	<b>1,905,000.00</b>	<b>-7.63%</b>
<b>Mt. Vernon Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	134,570.00	122,863.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	115,488.00	117,947.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	136,974.00	144,359.00	
Regular Education Instruction	817,931.00	727,458.00	
Special Education Instruction	202,002.00	203,286.00	
Gifted & Talented	4,710.00	5,021.00	
Co-Curricular	--	500.00	
<b>Mt. Vernon School Level</b>	<b>1,411,675.00</b>	<b>1,321,434.00</b>	<b>-6.39%</b>
<b>Readfield Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	156,443.00	163,042.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	173,936.00	176,636.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	223,301.00	201,652.00	
Regular Education Instruction	1,205,020.00	1,239,184.00	
Special Education Instruction	153,246.00	198,160.00	
Gifted & Talented	14,259.00	15,214.00	
Co-Curricular	900.00	900.00	
<b>Readfield School Level</b>	<b>1,927,105.00</b>	<b>1,994,788.00</b>	<b>3.51%</b>
<b>Wayne Elementary School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	98,503.00	101,405.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	89,660.00	91,444.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	134,930.00	128,720.00	
Regular Education Instruction	419,836.00	472,223.00	
Special Education Instruction	77,718.00	74,091.00	
Gifted & Talented	9,655.00	5,423.00	
Co-Curricular	--	400.00	
<b>Wayne School Level</b>	<b>830,302.00</b>	<b>873,706.00</b>	<b>5.23%</b>
<b>Maranacook Middle School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	372,951.00	338,413.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	223,377.00	228,177.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	470,432.00	364,418.00	

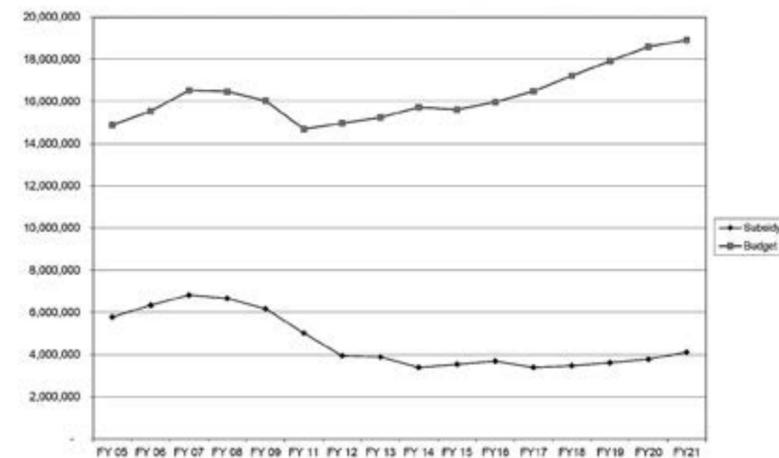
Description	Budget 2019-2020	Proposed Budget 2020-2021	Percent Change
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	1,694,960.00	1,791,273.00	
Special Education Instruction	361,032.00	458,834.00	
Gifted & Talented	49,299.00	64,865.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	127,778.00	128,616.00	
<b>Middle School-School Level</b>	<b>3,299,829.00</b>	<b>3,374,596.00</b>	<b>2.27%</b>
<b>Maranacook High School</b>			
Student & Staff Support	439,338.00	394,280.00	
School Admin/Principal's Office	365,441.00	367,336.00	
Maintenance/Building/Repair	612,063.00	571,962.00	
Regular & Alternative Educ Inst	2,329,315.00	2,346,190.00	
CATC Tuition & Coop Education	--	--	
Special Education Instruction	667,328.00	599,424.00	
ESL/ELLS	7,123.00	3,699.00	
Gifted & Talented	24,961.00	22,532.00	
Co & Extra Curricular	323,003.00	335,317.00	
<b>High School - School Level</b>	<b>4,768,572.00</b>	<b>4,640,740.00</b>	<b>-2.68%</b>
<b>RSU #38 School Level</b>	<b>14,299,799.00</b>	<b>14,110,264.00</b>	<b>-1.33%</b>
<b>Grade Level K-8 Budget</b>			
Support Services	19,487.00	19,778.00	
Improvement Of Instruction	27,752.00	33,265.00	
Special Education	577,534.00	634,159.00	
ESL/ELLS	29,690.00	15,994.00	
Summer Reading	7,328.00	7,328.00	
Gifted & Talented	20,770.00	5,150.00	
<b>RSU #38 Grade K-8 Budget</b>	<b>682,561.00</b>	<b>715,674.00</b>	<b>4.85%</b>
<b>District Level Budget</b>			
Health Services	75,863.00	75,863.00	
Curriculum	193,501.00	178,224.00	
Instructional Technology	239,595.00	244,307.00	
Assessment	72,051.00	47,909.00	
School Board & Supt Office	631,287.00	678,548.00	
District Maintenance	470,432.00	921,354.00	
District Transportation	1,074,969.00	1,089,759.00	
Reimbursable Transportation	9,159.00	9,159.00	
Local Support/Food Service	105,000.00	105,000.00	
Debt Service	547,103.00	541,743.00	
Special Education Admin	190,154.00	195,015.00	
<b>RSU #38 District Budget</b>	<b>3,609,114.00</b>	<b>4,086,881.00</b>	<b>13.24%</b>
<b>RSU #38 Total Gen Fund Budget</b>	<b>18,591,474.00</b>	<b>18,912,819.00</b>	<b>1.73%</b>

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

## RSU 38 Budget 2020-2021



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



# 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:** \$7,812,593.00

*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:** \$2,666,998.00

*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:** \$473,961.00

*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:** \$1,858,100.00

*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:** \$678,548.00

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

## RSU 38 Mission Statement

"A caring school community dedicated to excellence"

### Vision Statement

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

### Guiding Principles

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

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

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

**School Board Recommends:** \$1,146,077.00

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

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

**School Board Recommends:** \$1,089,759.00

*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:** \$2,530,881.00

*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:** \$541,743.00

*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:** \$114,159.00

*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	\$3,760,804.00	Manchester	\$2,652,501.00
Mount Vernon	\$2,644,961.00	Mount Vernon	\$2,034,093.00
Readfield	\$4,497,186.00	Readfield	\$2,166,337.00
Wayne	\$1,620,540.00	Wayne	\$1,585,693.00

School Unit		School Unit	
Total Appropriated	\$12,523,491.00	Total Raised	\$8,438,624.00

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:** \$681,742.00

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:** \$105,000.00

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

## WRITTEN BALLOT REQUIRED

**Article 16:** To see what sum the RSU will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (Recommend \$3,876,641.00), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (Recommend \$3,876,641.00), as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board recommends \$3,876,641.00 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$3,876,641.00.

The \$3,876,641.00 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.) - \$384,000.00, operations and maintenance - \$1,062,000.00, transportation - \$245,000.00, special education - \$723,000.00, system administration - \$514,000.00, regular education instruction - \$877,000.00. The funding from the state (\$4,084,867.00) is 32.62% 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 (\$4,084,867.00) is 32.62% 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, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 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:** \$18,912,819.00

*This article authorizes the School Board to spend the recommended budget in Fiscal Year 2021. The School Board cannot spend an amount above the authorized budget.*

**Article 18:** In the event that the RSU receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Board be authorized to use all of the additional state subsidy to decrease the local cost share expectation, as defined in Title 20-A, section 15671-A(1)(B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Board?

**School Board Recommends:** OUGHT TO PASS

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

**Article 19:** Shall the RSU appropriate (Recommend \$216,000.00) for Adult Education and raise (Recommend \$77,000.00) 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 2019-2020 are: Title IA \$197,900.00; Title IIA \$48,000.00; Title V-Rural Low Income \$27,900; Local Entitlement \$367,700.00; Gear Up \$35,000; and other miscellaneous grants \$10,000.00. The estimated income for the upcoming year is \$686,500.00.*

## Budget Validation Referendum Questions

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

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

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

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

**Step 3:** A secret ballot vote is taken in each community on the same day in June (this year in July) 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 2020-2021 budget is approved.

If the "NO" votes from our four towns are greater than the "YES" votes from our four towns, the 2020-2021 budget is not approved and the Board and Administration will have to meet to consider changes to this budget. It will then be brought back to a District Budget Meeting and another Budget Validation Referendum. This process continues until a budget is finally approved through the Budget Validation Referendum process.

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

### Explanation:

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

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

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

**To be voted on at the polls in each town on July 14, 2020**

## 2020-2021 Revenue Areas

Voted by School Board 5/20/2020

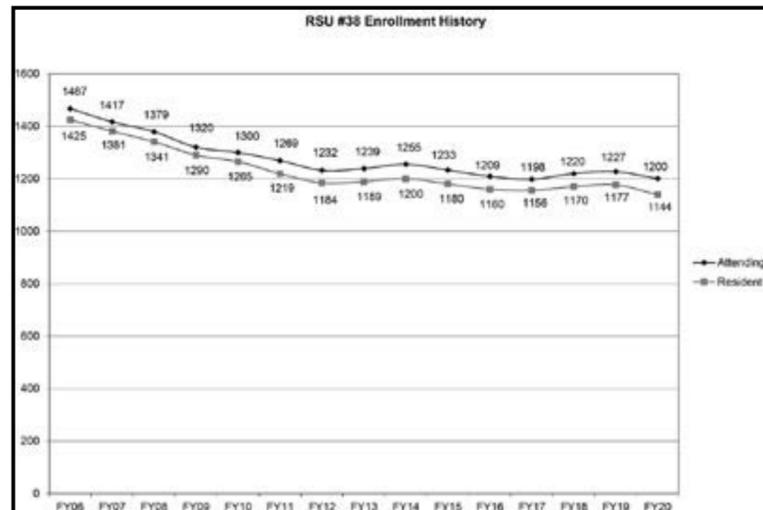
Revenue Area	2019-20	Inc/(Dec)	2020-21	Description
<b>State EPS Allocation</b>	3,740,614	344,253	4,084,867	<b>Preliminary ED279</b>
State Educational Service Center Adjustment	34,047	615	34,662	Educational Service Center Member Allocation Adjustment
State National Teacher Funding	9,000	--	9,000	State of Maine provides additional funds for nationally certified teachers. The amount funded per teacher changes each year.
<b>Other Revenues</b>				
Tuition Revenue	550,000	50,000	600,000	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	--	--	--	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>Additional Balance Forward</b>	--	92,283	92,283	State of Maine FY20 audit adjustment for superintendent agreements for students accepted from other school districts. This adjustment is made in the spring of each year.
<b>Balance Forward</b>	600,000	200,000	800,000	This is the amount that will be carried forward due to unexpended expenditures, after adjusting for summer salaries which are accrued per our auditors, and unanticipated revenues.
<b>Property Tax Revenue</b>				
Required Local Dollar Match	8,404,478	34,146	8,438,624	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	182,602	499,140	681,742	Local debt for construction projects & major repairs approved at referendum in each town (14% of Middle School, High School renovations, new athletic fields, 2019 repair bond).
Additional Local Dollars	4,880,733	(899,092)	3,981,641	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>13,467,813</b>	<b>(365,806)</b>	<b>13,102,007</b>	Total local funds to be raised by our four towns.
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>18,591,474</b>	<b>321,345</b>	<b>18,912,819</b>	Total revenue budget, which matches total expenditure budget

## 2020-2021 Local Dollar Calculation

Voted by School Board 5/20/2020

Description	District	Manchester	Mt. Vernon	Readfield	Wayne
2019 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,054,050,000	328,600,000	251,700,000	274,950,000	198,800,000
2018 Property Revenue Services Valuation	1,025,550,000	326,650,000	246,800,000	259,450,000	192,650,000
\$ Increase/Decrease in Valuation	28,500,000	1,950,000	4,900,000	15,500,000	6,150,000
% Increase/Decrease in Valuation	2.78%	.60%	1.99%	5.97%	3.19%
<b>2020-2021 Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>8,438,624</b>	<b>2,652,501</b>	<b>2,034,093</b>	<b>2,166,337</b>	<b>1,585,693</b>
<b>2020-2021 Required Mill Expectation</b>		<b>8.18</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>8.18</b>	<b>8.18</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.					
2019-2020 Required Local Contribution	8,404,478	2,652,084	2,043,504	2,148,246	1,560,644
2019-2020 Required Mill Expectation		8.28	8.28	8.28	8.20
<b>\$ Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>34,146</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>(9,411)</b>	<b>18,091</b>	<b>25,049</b>
<b>% Increase/Decrease in Required Local Contribution</b>	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>0.02%</b>	<b>-0.46%</b>	<b>0.84%</b>	<b>1.61%</b>
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %	100.00%	30.43%	21.00%	36.28%	12.29%
Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %	100.00%	31.43%	24.10%	25.68%	18.79%
<b>Net Additional Local \$</b>	<b>4,663,383</b>				
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %</b>		<b>709,533</b>	<b>489,655</b>	<b>845,938</b>	<b>286,565</b>
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %</b>		<b>732,851</b>	<b>561,938</b>	<b>598,778</b>	<b>438,125</b>
<b>Total Additional Local \$</b>	<b>4,663,383</b>	<b>1,442,384</b>	<b>1,051,593</b>	<b>1,444,716</b>	<b>724,690</b>
<b>Local Only Adult Ed. Contribution</b>	<b>77,000</b>				
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Enrollment Average %</b>		<b>11,715</b>	<b>8,084</b>	<b>13,986</b>	<b>4,732</b>
<b>Additional Local x 50% @ 3 yr Valuation Average %</b>		<b>12,101</b>	<b>9,279</b>	<b>9,887</b>	<b>7,234</b>
<b>2020-2021 Total Local Contribution</b>	<b>13,179,007</b>	<b>4,118,701</b>	<b>3,103,049</b>	<b>3,634,908</b>	<b>2,322,349</b>
2019-2020 Total Local Contribution	13,544,813	4,270,776	3,200,594	3,710,394	2,363,049
<b>Local \$ Increase/Decrease for 2020-2021</b>	<b>(365,806)</b>	<b>(152,075)</b>	<b>(97,545)</b>	<b>(75,486)</b>	<b>(40,700)</b>
<b>Local % Increase/Decrease for 2020-2021</b>	<b>-2.70%</b>	<b>-3.56%</b>	<b>-3.05%</b>	<b>-2.03%</b>	<b>-1.72%</b>
Local \$ Increase for 2019-2020	525,355	164,599	63,270	153,434	144,052
Local % Increase for 2019-2020	4.04%	4.01%	2.02%	4.31%	6.49%
<b>October 1, 2019 Enrollment by Town</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Local \$ Contributed per Student</b>	<b>11,520</b>	<b>12,258</b>	<b>12,717</b>	<b>8,533</b>	<b>16,829</b>

### RSU 38 Enrollment History



### RSU 38 Enrollment by Town

Grade	Manchester	Mt. Vernon	Readfield	Wayne	Totals
Pre-K	11	10	32	0	53
K	30	19	29	11	89
1	20	11	38	11	80
2	25	11	38	10	84
3	35	14	22	13	84
4	19	21	31	11	82
5	28	25	24	10	87
6	25	16	29	12	82
7	21	23	35	9	88
8	33	18	31	12	94
9	20	26	27	10	83
10	34	19	28	7	88
11	22	15	32	7	76
12	13	16	30	15	74
<b>Totals</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>1144</b>

October 1, 2019 (does not include non-resident tuition students)

## Maranacook Community High School 2020 Top Ten Scholars



Emma Hagenaars, Manchester, Valedictorian



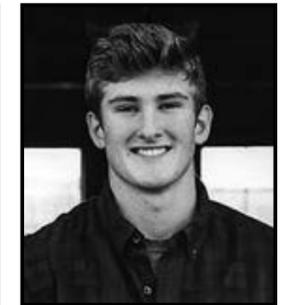
Nina Gyorgy, Wayne, Salutatorian



John McLaughlin, Manchester



Carter McPhedran, Readfield



Robbie McKee, Wayne



Ashley Cray, Readfield



Amanda Goucher, Wayne



Wyatt Cannell, Readfield



Allyse Bonenfant, Mt. Vernon



Sydney Birtwell, Wayne

## Learning connections stay strong

Abbie Hartford, Principal,  
Manchester Elementary

The summer of 2019 can best be defined as the summer of the heating system renovation. Work began immediately at the close of school and was completed the final week of summer. Our custodial staff worked tirelessly to clean the building during and after completion of the work.

Teachers, typically so diligent about preparing rooms in August were asked to be patient until the very end of August. Miraculously it all came together in time to open the school doors on August 28th. The greatest news of all is that we have a new, working heating system that is efficient and will be dependable for years to come.

New to the staff was third grade teacher Linda Pare and school nurse Erin Foth. Both quickly became supportive team members.

Our dedicated team of teachers and ed techs plan lessons with a clear focus on the district curriculum as well as the social and emotional growth targets for all students. Student growth in academic and social skills areas are celebrated each Wednesday with Shout Outs that acknowledge individual students.

We are piloting a math program, Illustrative Math, in grades K-5 as are all the district elementary schools. Profes-

sional development occurred for two days prior to the start of the school year and has been on-going during workshop days, early releases and in grade level meetings.

At Manchester Elementary we are very appreciative of our supportive PTCO. Events funded by the PTCO include a presentation by Chewonki Foundation science educators and a visit from the Planetarium. Parent volunteers are invaluable to us as they help with academic skill practice for students, chaperone field trips, and organize and run the annual Scholastic Book Fair.

Presently we are faced with school closure due to COVID-19 but we continue to provide practice opportunities for prior learning and on-going connections with our students. More than ever, we are eager to return to ordinary days. We truly miss the children and everyday school routines.



## Adult Ed offers both training and enrichment opportunities

Steve Vose, Adult Education Director

The Adult and Community Education Program at RSU 38 continues to expand the delivery of its educational instruction to meet the training demands of the modern-day workforce. Our high school diploma and college transition programs prepare students for better, richer, fuller lives, by building the skills needed to succeed in the workplace and earn a livable wage.

For adults not planning on attending college or technical schools, our class B Commercial Driving Licensure program allows them to obtain the behind the wheel skills and experience needed to successfully operate a class B vehicle (school bus, oil tanker, dump truck, state plow truck) in just a few short months. As the fastest growing career field in the United States and with many local businesses desperately searching for qualified drivers, our program promises students not only a class B certificate but a job in the truck driving field immediately following completion.

Maranacook adult education continues to offer well over 100 enrichment classes and workshops, including fit-

ness activities, arts and crafts, trips and family and youth events. These activities provide something exciting to learn for almost every interest level and can enhance an individual's skills, improve wellness, and provide a fun way to meet others who share similar interests.



Susan Simons and Phyllis French 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.

## A year of change, learning, and finding beauty

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

This has been a year of change, learning, and finding beauty in the small things. I am grateful to work in a community that cares so deeply about each other.

The collaboration and efforts of our students, families and staff during these changing times is indicative of how truly amazing our community is. Throughout this time, and over the course of the year, I have been impressed by staff dedication and family support.



This year we worked on several different initiatives to further improve our school. Academic Learning Labs are active even during these remote times. Labs allow educators to collaborate and revise curriculum which support student growth. Our Interventionists adjust methods in order to better meet the needs of students. With the direct intervention support of two interventionists and one ed-tech, the school consistently serves approximately seventy students in need of math, reading

and writing intervention. Across the school, the education being provided is reviewed and analyzed as we look for constant growth and best practices for students.

MCMS prides itself in being student-centered. This is evident with teaching standards designed through the lens of student interests and through extracurricular activities. Athletic teams were opened to all and additional teams added to meet the number of students who wanted to play. New clubs were added, including the Manga Club and Robotics Club, and others, like Tech Exploration and Geography Club, were expanded. The Geography Club participated in the National Geographic "Geo-Challenge," a country-wide competition. Our student government has grown and a new school store added.

Restorative Practices continues to help our students learn and grow from behaviors. This presumes people will make positive changes when those in positions of authority do things with them rather than to or for them. In addition, we focused on kindness as a school-wide theme throughout the year and celebrated World Kindness Day together.

## A year rich in enrichment and learning opportunities for staff and students

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

What an interesting year it's been in the realm of curriculum, instruction, and assessment at RSU 38. Some of the highlights are the continued enrichment opportunities for those identified as gifted and talented through the GT Academic Team such as acceleration in math and world languages in grades 6-12. For those K-12 identified as GT in music or art students received mentoring and enrichment led by the district's talented music and arts faculty.

Staff saw increased opportunity for job-embedded professional development and instructional leadership with a K-12 Mathematics and a K-12 Literacy Coach. The coaches work with staff to watch out for the needs of our at-risk students and contribute to innovative thinking on how to effectively support learning.

RSU 38 began planning the implementation of a first Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day to allow a storm day to count as a day of school. The first one took place in late February. I admit I was skeptical when first asked to participate. I have worked remotely and taught University courses online, but to give up snow days and help students continue their learning without in-person instruction seemed daunting. However, the K-12 Committee members and faculty came up with a workable plan and we did it. How visionary

and fortuitous this was once we were faced with the demands of COVID-19.

We began this initiative knowing the role of brick and mortar schools is likely to change in the future. Our K-12 students need to experience studying independently, learning through technology tools, and adapting to changes in learning routines so they are prepared for further education and jobs after high school. All students can benefit from responding to open ended questions and tasks, self-paced learning opportunities to reach a goal versus to earn a grade, and learning through intentionally planned experiences that are not explicitly scaffolded by adults.

Meanwhile, we adults in the community need to consider the purpose of education for students who will graduate between 2025 and 2050, including how to ensure equitable access for all the young people coming of age in the greater Maranacook community. If this challenge is meaningful to you then please sign up for the Portrait of a Graduate project convening soon.

