

TOWN OF GOFFSTOWN



TOWN VOTERS' GUIDE

2021 Official Ballot



SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTERS' GUIDE

2021 Official Ballot

The Goffstown Select Board and Goffstown School Board are pleased to present the 2021 VOTERS' GUIDE. All town and school articles which will appear on the Official Ballots are included with explanations following each article. Both boards strive toward improving communication with the Goffstown community, and we sincerely hope this guide will assist you in making informed voting decisions.

Please remember to exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM at Bartlett Elementary or Goffstown High School.

TOWN BALLOT: If all the appropriation articles which are recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee pass, then the town side of the property tax rate is estimated to be \$8.31, an increase of 7¢ from the previous year.

SCHOOL BALLOT: Article 2 – The Operating Budget for 2021-2022 is \$47,743,102. The Operating Budget includes the General Fund Budget (the portion raised by taxation), the Food Service and the Special Revenue (Grants) Budgets, both of which are self-funded. The Default Budget is calculated to be \$47,633,091, which is \$110,011 less than the proposed Operating Budget (or \$.06 cents less on the tax rate.)

Article 3 – Would deposit \$200,000 into the existing Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) for the replacement of existing school district capital assets. Funding to come from the unassigned fund balance at the end of this current fiscal year. There is no increase to the tax rate should Article 3 pass.

Estimating the school tax rate is highly dependent on state aid and other variables such as the Town's property valuation, and is subject to change. We estimate the local school tax rate to be approximately \$14.50 should Article 3 pass.

(All tax rates estimates are based on projected revenues that include federal, state and local sources and are subject to change.)

Your comments regarding this newsletter are welcome. Please submit comments regarding Town articles to Collis Adams, Select Board Chairman, Collis.Adams@GoffstownNH.gov and comments regarding School District articles to Heather Trzepacz, School Board Chair, Heather.Trzepacz@sau19.org.

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 5, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance Section 3. Allowable Uses, 3.7.2 to read as follows: Single family dwellings. More than one (1) single family dwelling may be located on a single lot only pursuant to Section 13.5 Open Space Development.

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0

EXPLANATION: This housekeeping amendment eliminates inconsistencies in the Zoning Ordinance with respect to two-family dwellings. The Zoning Ordinance includes in the definition of Multi-family, as a group of two or more buildings containing at least two dwelling units per building. Current language in Section 3.7.2 of the Zoning Ordinance incorrectly prohibits this style of multi-family from locating on a single lot unless proposed as an Open Space Development.

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 6, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance -Section 4.3. Table of Dimensional Regulations, by eliminating “zero yards as part of a condominium project, or zero side yards in the Village Commercial district (VC district) with masonry construction”, and adding, “For Multi-Family Dwellings, refer to Section 4.4 for minimum side and rear building setbacks”.

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0

EXPLANATION: This housekeeping amendment eliminates language in footnote 4 in its entirety and replaces it with a reference in Section 4.3, Table of Dimensional Regulations, where the minimum setback requirements for multi-family developments in the Ordinance may be found. This amendment adds a much-needed reference and eliminates language that has no clear intent and makes no sense.

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 7, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance - Section 4.4 Multi-Family Dwellings to read as follows?

4.4.1.1 The maximum building coverage and maximum number of dwelling units per buildable acre as specified in Section 4.3., Table of Dimensional Regulations; and

4.4.1.2 The dimensional standards for minimum lot size, minimum lot frontage, minimum front yard building setbacks, and maximum height; and

4.4.1.3 Unless otherwise specified in Section 4.3., Table of Dimensional Regulations, the side and rear minimum building setbacks for multi-family structures shall be the greater of the underlying setback for that zone or the length of the building side most parallel to that lot line divided by two.

Recommended by the Planning Board 6-1-0

EXPLANATION: This house keeping amendment is intended to create consistency in the use of terms in Section 4.4 Multi-Family Dwellings with terms used in Section 4.3, Table of Dimensional Regulations.

2021 OPERATING BUDGET

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling Twenty-Four Million, Eight Hundred Forty-Four Thousand, Five Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars (\$24,844,592)?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Twenty-Three Million, Seven Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand, Five Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars (\$23,752,598), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Goffstown, or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. NOTE: This article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0

and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0

OPERATING BUDGET EXPLANATION:

The Town Operating Budget consists of two funds – The General Fund and the Sewer Enterprise Fund. Prior to 2017, the Operating Budget also included the EMS Special Revenue Fund. At the request of the Department of Revenue Administration, the EMS Special Revenue Fund appropriation has been moved to a separate Article 10. If Article 10 fails, EMS operations will be funded by the General Fund. The Proposed Operating Budget is \$24,844,592.

The General Fund Budget has an increase of \$1,075,572 over last year's budget. The General Fund Revenue is anticipated to decrease \$389,859, which is largely due to a reduction of one-time State aid in the State's previous biennial budget (FY20-21).

70% of the \$1 Million increase to the General Fund Budget is primarily caused by two items.

1. The first item is the Road Plan. The 2020 Town Meeting approved a Special Article to fund an additional \$500,000 from fund balance to the Road Plan. That Special Article included language directing the Select Board to include that increase in the 2021 Default and Operating Budget. That increase is contained within the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) portion of the Operating Budget, which has an increase of \$621,555 over 2020.
2. The second item is the increase to the Employer Contribution Rates for NH Retirement System. Effective July 1st, 2021, the employer rates for NH Retirement System are increasing, because the System's assumed rate of return on investments was lowered last fall. Based on budgeted wages, the increase to NH Retirement System is a \$198,019 increase in 2021.

continues on next page

2021 TOWN BUDGET SUMMARY - OPERATING BUDGET			
	2020		2021
	Adopted	YTD + Encumbrances (unaudited)	Select Board & Budget Com
TOWN HALL BUDGET			
Administration	386,775	370,488	407,013
Town Clerk	218,774	211,448	226,222
Election	63,535	82,954	27,888
Finance	688,451	637,859	722,246
Tax Collection	82,432	81,848	90,214
Information Technology	364,755	356,547	372,135
Revaluation of Property	180,355	160,662	179,852
Planning, Zoning & Econ	314,579	288,519	304,865
Other General Governmen	46,330	19,773	40,330
Building/Health Inspect	120,678	115,339	124,472
Human Services	45,803	21,346	40,162
TOWN HALL TOTAL	2,512,467	2,346,785	2,535,399
INSURANCE BUDGET			
Health/Den, Property, Liability & WC	2,659,275	2,216,559	2,744,899
INSURANCE TOTAL	2,659,275	2,216,559	2,744,899
POLICE BUDGET			
Police Operations	3,527,128	3,304,277	3,644,113
Police Communications	851,307	800,270	859,546
POLICE TOTAL	4,378,435	4,104,547	4,503,659
FIRE BUDGET			
Fire Operations	2,607,110	2,528,583	2,774,727
Emergency Management	5,290	96,162	13,540
FIRE TOTAL	2,612,400	2,624,745	2,788,267
PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET			
Cemetery Operations	145,630	113,838	150,433
Public Works-Highway	3,092,408	2,650,046	3,000,517
Fleet	549,486	464,957	567,296
Solid Waste Operations	1,189,109	1,327,017	1,276,781
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	4,976,633	4,555,860	4,995,027
PARKS AND REC BUDGET			
Parks & Rec Operations	437,737	353,698	446,091
PARKS AND REC TOTAL	437,737	353,698	446,091
LIBRARY BUDGET			
Library Operations	721,144	695,571	749,288
LIBRARY TOTAL	721,144	695,571	749,288
DEBT SERVICE BUDGET			
Principal-Long Trm Bond	110,000	110,000	105,000
DS-ST INTEREST	1	0	1
LVDP WATER MAIN	53,244	53,244	53,244
Debt Serv-Long Term Bon	65,839	65,839	60,317
DEBT SERVICE TOTAL	229,084	229,083	218,562
CIP BUDGET			
MACH, VEH & EQUIP TOTAL	674,466	703,590	652,221
BUILDINGS TOTAL	0	0	0
IMP OTHER THN BLDG TOTAL	1,552,000	1,516,251	2,195,800
CIP TOTAL	2,226,466	2,219,841	2,848,021
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	20,753,641	19,346,688	21,829,213
EMS SRF			
EMS	599,408	491,222	534,764
EMS CIP	35,000	5,464	300,000
EMS SRF TOTAL	634,408	496,686	834,764
SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND			
Sewer Administration	274,362	144,358	158,165
Sewer Operations	1,554,728	1,203,882	1,528,298
Sewer Pump Stations	497,802	98,520	494,152
SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND TOTAL	2,326,892	1,446,760	2,180,615
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET:	23,714,941	21,290,133	24,844,592

* IF ARTICLE 10 PASSES EMS WILL BE REMOVED FROM OPERATING BUDGET.

OPERATING BUDGET EXPLANATION (cont.):

Other changes affecting department operating budgets from the previous year:

- The budget includes contractual increases for two (2) union contracts approved at past year Town Meeting; Firefighters and DPW Teamsters.
- The budget includes a 2.0% wage matrix adjustment for non-union employees, as well as step increases for eligible non-union employees.
- Health insurance premiums increased 12.3% in 2021. There were no increases to Dental, Disability, Life, or Unemployment insurance, and modest adjustments to the property, liability, and worker's compensation insurances. These increases amount to a 3.2% increase to the insurance line.
- Contract pricing for gasoline, diesel, heating oil, propane, and electricity have moderate increases.

If the article fails, the default budget shall be \$23,752,598.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Eight Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars (\$834,764) for the purpose of funding EMS operations, said funds to come from the Emergency Medical Services Special Revenue Fund as previously established in 2001. This appropriation is offset by the revenue from the ambulance insurance payments and there will be no funds raised from general taxation.

(Passage of this article will reduce the operating budget in Article 9 by \$834,764)

*Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0*

EXPLANATION: The EMS Special Revenue Fund was established in 2001, and 100% of all revenues collected from EMS operations is deposited into the fund. Traditionally, the EMS Special Revenue Fund Budget has been included as part of the overall Operating Budget appropriation article.

- In 2017, the Dept of Revenue Administration issued guidance that all appropriations for Special Revenue Funds should be made in separate warrant articles because they require an affirmative annual vote by the legislative body.
- This article asks voters to fund 2021 EMS operations from the EMS Special Revenue Fund, with no funds to be raised by taxation.
- The EMS Special Revenue Fund has an available balance of \$644,284 as of 12/31/20.
- The proposed 2021 EMS budget is \$834,764 which is an increase from \$634,408 in 2020. This increase is due to the purchase of an ambulance scheduled in 2021.
- If Article 10 passes, Article 9 (the operating budget) will be reduced by the amount of the EMS operations. If Article 10 fails, EMS operations will be funded through taxation, which is estimated to increase the tax rate by 48¢.

ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Select Board and the New England Benevolent Police Association representing Local #24 consisting of the Patrolmen which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2021	\$84,141
2022	\$119,053
2023	\$68,106

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Four Thousand, One-Hundred Forty-One Dollars (\$84,141) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 9)*

***Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0***

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Select Board and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Council 93, Local 3657, consisting of the Dispatchers and Clerks, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2021	\$31,879
2022	\$41,965
2023	\$21,115

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-One Thousand, Eight-Hundred Seventy-Nine Dollars (\$31,879) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 9)*

***Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0***

EXPLANATION

The Select Board negotiated this 3-year contract with an eye to improving recruitment of new officer candidates and retaining our current officers. In Southern New Hampshire, the market for police officers is very competitive, with some municipalities offering higher starting wages and sign-on bonuses. The Town estimates that it costs Fifty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$54,000) to train a new officer. Over the last four (4) years, ten (10) officers from the Police Department have left; five (5) of those officers have left for other Police Agencies.

- TERM: 3-year contract for Patrolmen I, II, and III; covers 21 patrolman positions at the Police Department.
- WAGES: A 15-Step Wage Matrix, with placement based on years of service. The starting pay for a new officer will increase to \$24.70/hr, which is based upon Market Analysis for Southern NH Patrolman Wages.
- BENEFITS: The CBA language modifies the Employer/Employee share of the High Deductible Plan, to make this more attractive to this young workforce. Also, reduced the impact of those employees that opt-out of the Town's insurance by changing to a flat rate.
- Changes to language throughout the contract to clarify process and procedure of existing policies and benefits.
- The tax rate impact of this increase in 2021 is estimated at \$0.05.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and the Budget Committee.

SUMMARY CBA COST IMPACT			
	2021	2022	2023
Wages (21 positions)	65,261	87,973	50,326
NHRS	946	1,275	730
Medicare	22,110	29,805	17,050
Savings - Change to Insurance Opt Out	(4,176)	0	0
Warrant Article:	\$84,141	\$119,053	\$68,106

EXPLANATION

The Select Board negotiated a 3-year contract with a focus on maintaining competitive wages. The Town's Dispatch Center currently dispatches for 6 outside agencies. It generates over \$150,000 in revenue to the General Fund Annually.

- TERM: Three year contract for Dispatchers (I, II, & III), Clerks, and Legal Clerk. This contract covers 12 positions at the Police Department.
- WAGES: A Dispatcher starting pay in this agreement will be \$20.00/hr in 2021, based upon Market Analysis of Southern NH dispatch centers. Clerk starting pay will be \$18.00/hr in 2021.
- BENEFITS: This contract eliminates the most expensive Health Insurance Plan in the previous contract. Also, reduced the impact of those employees that opt-out of the Town's insurance by changing to a flat rate.
- The Town negotiated changes to language throughout the contract to clarify process and procedure of existing policies and benefits.
- The tax rate impact of this increase in 2021 is estimated at \$0.02.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

SUMMARY CBA COST IMPACT			
	2021	2022	2023
Wages (12 positions)	26,967	35,254	17,349
FICA	1,672	2,186	1,076
NHRS	3,792	4,957	2,439
Medicare	391	511	251
Savings - Change to Insurance Opt Out	(943)	(943)	0
Warrant Article:	31,879	41,965	21,115

ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety Thousand, Two-Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$90,233) for the purpose of hiring four (4) full-time Firefighter / EMTs to cover shifts currently staffed by part-time or overtime personnel and to authorize the Select Board to contract for, accept and expend Federal Homeland Security – Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant in the amount of Ninety Thousand, Two-Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars (\$90,233) to be applied against said appropriation? The SAFER Grant obligation is 36-months, and the estimated amounts over the next four years are as follows:

Year	Gross Appropriation	Town Share	SAFER Grant
2021	\$90,233	\$ 0	\$90,233
2022	\$360,893	\$ 0	\$360,893
2023	\$360,893	\$ 0	\$360,893
2024	\$270,670	\$ 0	\$270,670

When, and if, the Town receives the contemplated grant, the Town will be obligated by the terms of the grant and failure to adhere to the terms of the grant could result in returning the grant funding to the federal government. If this article passes, the Town will include the costs of these four additional full-time positions in future operating and default budgets. If this article fails, it is expressly intended not to impair the traditional authority of the Select Board to control staffing levels of the fire personnel within the limits of the operating budget appropriation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation for a period of three years (RSA 32:7).

(This appropriation is in addition to Article 9)

***Recommended by the Select Board 4-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0***

EXPLANATION: This article is a non-lapsing appropriation for a period of four years. This article would appropriate funds to hire four (4) full-time Firefighter/EMTs to cover shifts currently staffed by part-time or overtime personnel and, is contingent upon approval for a Federal Homeland Security – Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant.

- The SAFER grant program provides financial assistance to help fire departments increase their team of frontline firefighters. If awarded, Goffstown would be able to hire (4) full-time firefighters/EMTs to cover shifts currently staffed by part-time or overtime personnel.
- This grant is 100% funded through grant proceeds that will be received from FEMA.
- Firefighter positions created under program must be retained by the community for the duration of the grant period, which is 36 months.
- This expenditure is contingent upon the award of the SAFER grant.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) to be added to the Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2008. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation.

***Recommended by the Select Board 4-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0***

EXPLANATION: The Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2008 for the purpose of helping defray the single year impact of the replacement cost of modern fire apparatus, which can run between \$750,000 and \$1.5 Million. This Capital Reserve Fund helps to spread that cost over multiple years to avoid spikes in the tax rate.

- This fund can also provide the Town leverage, in the form of a local match, when seeking grants to replace apparatus. This was the case in 2010 when the Fire Department was able to accept an Assistance to Firefighters Grant to replace the town's obsolete ladder trucks with one Tower/Ladder. In that instance, the required match dollars came from this fund.
- The current balance (12/31/20) of the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund is \$644,276.
- Over the years this fund has also been used to replace a Pumper/Tanker, Command SUV, and a rescue boat.
- This article is to be funded from the unassigned fund balance, with no additional monies to be raised by taxation.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town raise and appropriate One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Grasmere Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2005. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation.

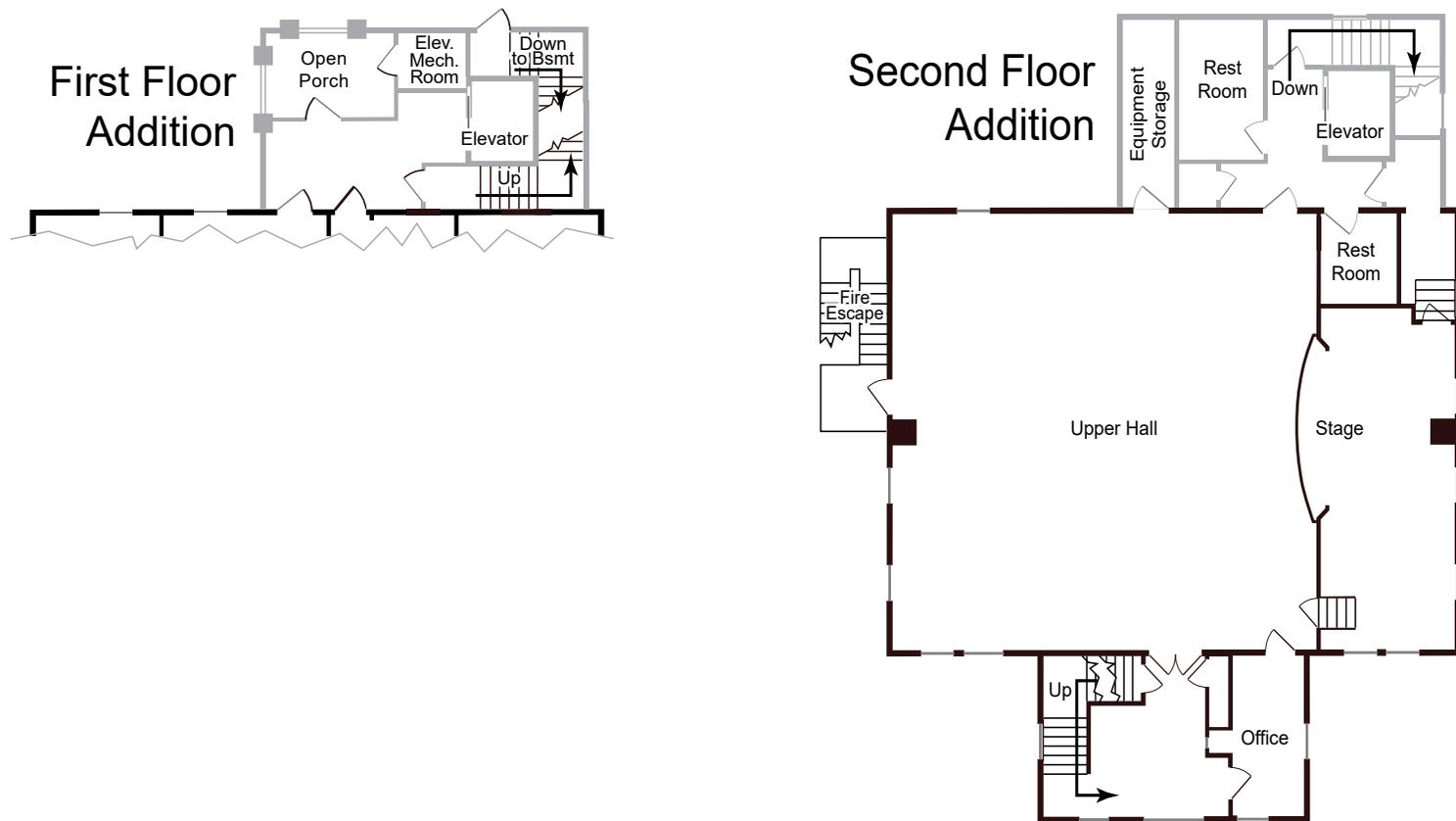
***Recommended by the Select Board 4-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0***

EXPLANATION: This article would deposit \$100,000 into the Grasmere Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund, which was established in 2005.

- The Select Board AND the Historic District Commission are designated as agents to expend and could access this fund any time during the year.
- The current balance (12/31/20) of the Grasmere Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund is \$272,596.
- The 2nd floor of Grasmere Town Hall has been restored through grants, volunteer efforts, and previous uses of this fund. The space is available for residents of Goffstown, but it is only accessed using the front stairwell. The addition will have an elevator to the restored 2nd floor, making the space available to ALL residents of Goffstown.
- In 2018 the architect of record updated the probable construction cost estimate for the addition at \$450,000.
- This is the 3rd and last of 3 planned deposits.
- The Town will explore grant opportunities and other funding sources. This Capital Reserve Fund can be used for any required match for grants.
- This article would be funded by Unassigned Fund Balance, with no additional monies to be raised by taxation.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

GRASMERE TOWN HALL



ARTICLE 16

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000) for the purpose of continuing the planning for a renovation and addition to the current library; this includes hiring a construction manager and fundraiser, and to authorize the Library Trustees to withdraw and expend Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000) from available monies in unrestricted Library Funds. This sum to come from the Library Trustees Unrestricted Funds and no amount to be raised by taxation.

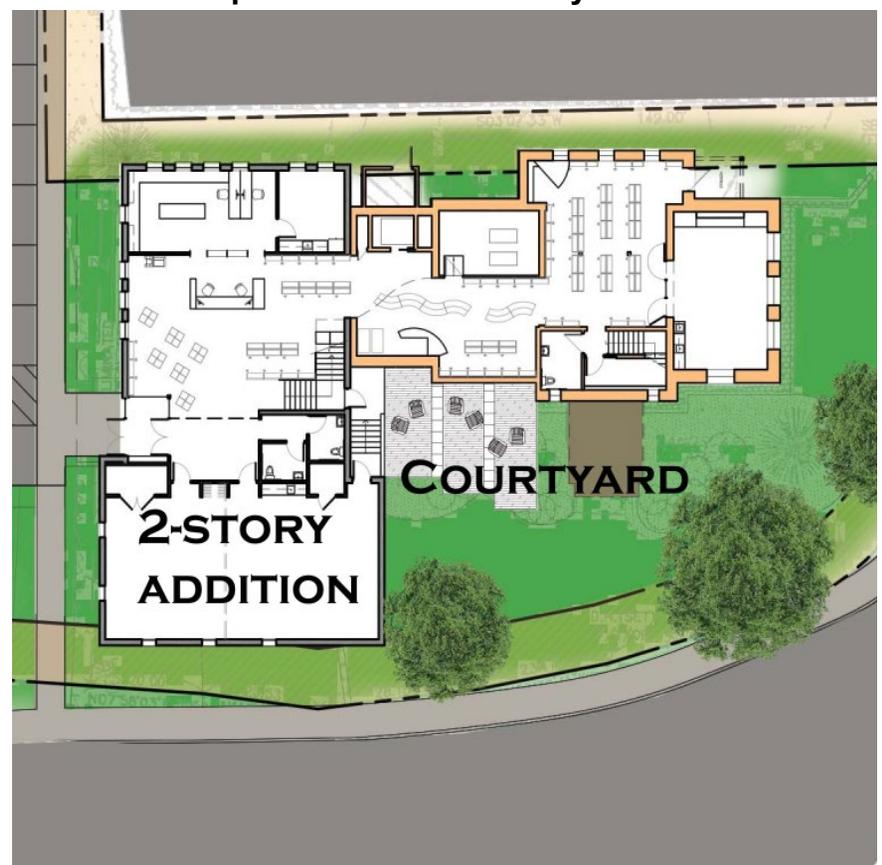
*Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-1-0*

EXPLANATION: This article would appropriate \$95,000 from the Library Trustees Unrestricted Funds for the purpose of hiring industry professionals to help develop a more accurate budget for the Library addition and renovation project, as well as a realistic fundraising goal for a capital campaign.

- The Library Trustees Unrestricted Funds are a result of gifts, bequests, or donations to the Goffstown Library.
- The current balance (12/31/20) of the Library Unrestricted Funds is \$252,386.
- This appropriation includes funds for land surveying and geotechnical studies.
- The Library Trustees will use the information from those professionals to lower costs where they can, to troubleshoot problems before the project begins, and to obtain the most accurate numbers for the Library addition and renovation project.
- An itemization of costs and more information about the addition and renovation can be found on the Goffstown Library's website. www.goffstownlibrary.com
- This article is to be funded by the Library's unrestricted funds, with no monies to be raised by taxation.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

Conceptual Plot Plan - Library Addition



See conceptual design rendering on next page

**GOFFSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
BUILDING ADDITION - CONCEPTUAL DESIGN**



ARTICLE 17

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of helping to support the programs of Goffstown nonprofit Crispin's House Coalition for Youth Inc., a youth drug, alcohol and suicide prevention agency. *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 9)*

*Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 12-0-0*

EXPLANATION: This article would continue taxpayer support of [Crispin's House Coalition for Youth](#).

- Crispin's House has provided services to youth and families of Goffstown for over 30 years, providing a wide range of program opportunities to help kids make positive choices.
- The annual budget of Crispin's House is about \$106,000. The warrant article funds \$20,000 – or 19% – of the total budget. The organization works hard to raise the remaining funds through fund raising activities, community involvement and grants. This article demonstrates strong and continued community support, which helps these efforts.
- Programs include an accredited Juvenile Court Diversion Program, VolunTEENS, Youth Forums, Challenge Day, Mental Health education, Suicide Prevention and Substance Misuse Prevention.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 18

Shall the Town raise and appropriate Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of helping to support the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc. *(This appropriation is in addition to Article 9)*

*Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0
and Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-4-0*

EXPLANATION: This article would continue taxpayer support of the [Goffstown Main Street Program](#).

- Goffstown Main Street Program's mission is to provide support, advice, and promotion to current and potential business owners in the designated Main Street area and cultivate a sense of community for Goffstown residents using the National Main Street Center's 4-Point Approach.
- The 4-Point Approach revolves around principles of effective design, promotion, economic restructuring, and organization as the keys to economic revitalization of the historic downtown.
- Passage of this warrant article would provide \$15,000 towards their 2021 Budget of \$117,912.

This article is recommended by the Select Board and Budget Committee.

2021 SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SCHOOL BOARD

For 3 Years

Virginia "Ginny" McKinnon

Shane Rozamus

Jared Talbot

Daniel Taylor

Ellen Vermokowitz

Write-In _____

Write-In _____

Write-In _____

Vote for not more than Three

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

For 3 Years

JoAnn Duffy

Write-In _____

Vote for not more than One

SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR

For 3 Years

James Raymond

Write-In _____

Vote for not more than One

SCHOOL BOARD

For 2 Years

Spencer Dias

Terance Fisher

Write-In _____

Vote for not more than One

SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER

For 3 Years

Lissa Winrow

Write-In _____

Vote for not more than One

ARTICLE # 2 – SCHOOL BUDGET

Shall the Goffstown School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling FORTY-SEVEN MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY THREE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED TWO DOLLARS (\$47,743,102)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be FORTY SEVEN MILLION, SIX HUNDRED THIRTY THREE THOUSAND, NINETY ONE DOLLARS (\$47,633,091), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Goffstown School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This warrant article (the operating budget article) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles. (Majority vote required).

The School Board Voted 9-0 To Recommend

The Budget Committee Voted 12-0 To Recommend

EXPLANATION: The \$47,743,102 Operating Budget is recommended by both the Goffstown School Board (9-0) and the Goffstown Budget Committee (12-0). The proposed budget is an increase of \$1,768,202 or 4% higher than the current year's budget.

The Operating Budget is comprised of three major funds: 1) General Fund, 2) Food Service Fund, 3) Special Revenue (Grants) Fund. The Food Service and Special Revenue Funds are not raised through taxation.

The Operating Budget increase is driven primarily by contractual obligations related to salaries and benefits previously approved by the voters, increased special education services mandated by law, and an increase in the cost of student transportation as a result of state mandated kindergarten transportation. The largest cost increase in the FY 22 General Fund budget is in salaries and benefit costs (\$1,460,343) that were previously approved by voters. Unfortunately, increases in the employer share of NH Retirement System contributions accounted for over \$736,000 of the aforementioned increase or 1.6% of the 4% increase in the general fund budget.

The difference between the proposed budget and the default budget is \$110,011.

It is important to recognize that the Goffstown School District is able to offset over half of its operating budget

through revenues from local, state and federal sources. Local revenues are derived mostly from tuition received from New Boston for their students at MVMS and GHS, as well as, food service revenues. State revenue sources are driven largely by the State Adequacy Grant and the State Education Tax. Finally, federal revenues are grants that Goffstown receives for special education, child nutrition programs, Title I- IV, and modest Medicaid reimbursements.

The total enrollment in the district is approximately 2,780 students (which is down about 50 students from the prior year and attributed to COVID-19). The Operating Budget continues to focus on the programs that allow the District to meet the needs of each child in a cost effective and appropriate manner in addition to maintaining current programming, teaching and learning, safety, special education and facilities projects. The Budget supports the operations at each of the district's five schools.

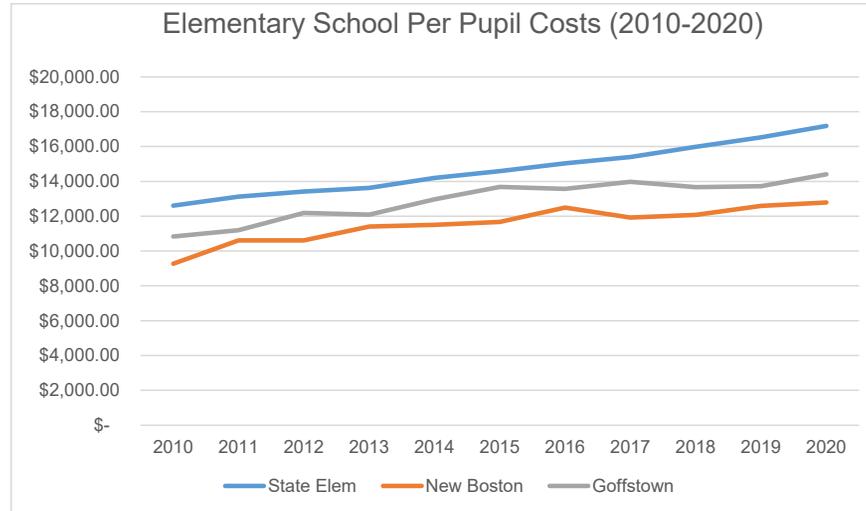
The Goffstown School District continues to provide a high quality education to our students at a cost that is thousands of dollars less than the State of New Hampshire's per student average. (Please see next page.)

A majority vote is required.

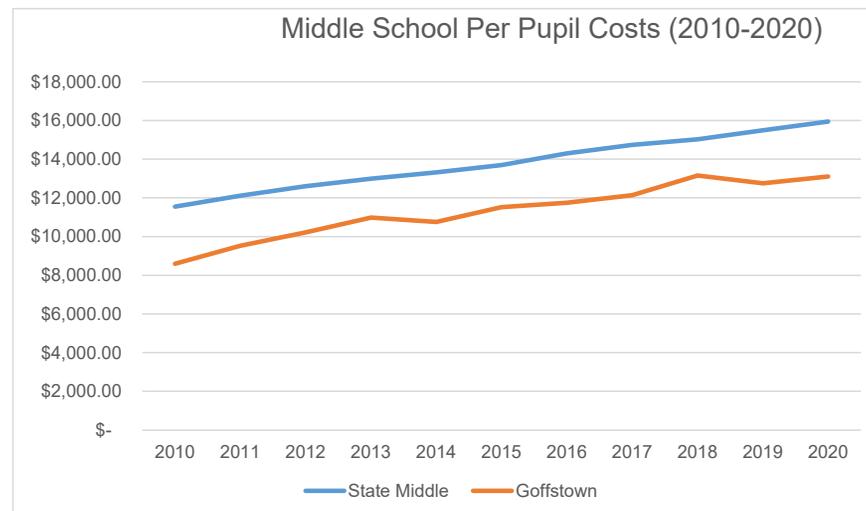
The School Board recommends this article 9-0

The Budget Committee recommends this article 12-0

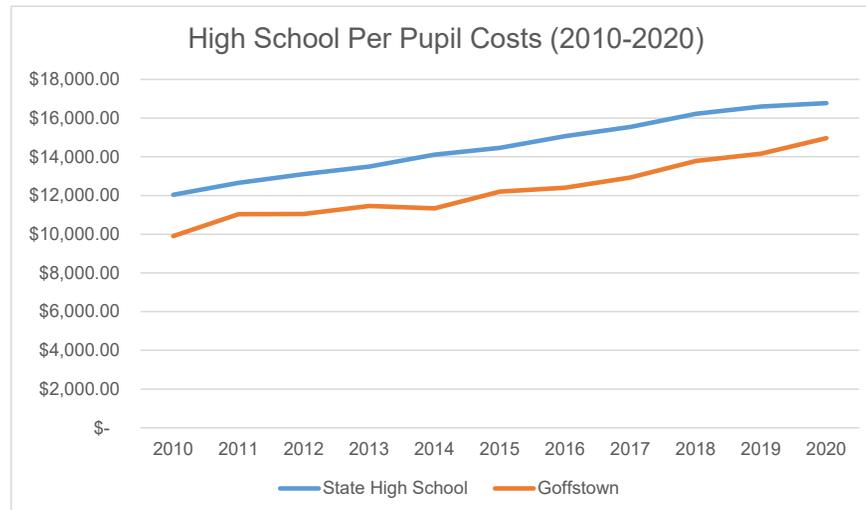
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
State Elem	\$15,033.57	\$15,397.60	\$15,981.46	\$16,519.77	\$17,188.49
New Boston	\$12,486.85	\$11,919.21	\$12,079.65	\$12,585.21	\$12,791.44
Goffstown	\$13,561.56	\$13,965.91	\$13,667.07	\$13,723.95	\$14,399.37
Dollar Delta Goffstown vs State	\$1,472.01	\$1,431.69	\$2,314.39	\$2,795.82	\$2,789.12
% Delta Goffstown vs State	10%	9%	14%	17%	16%



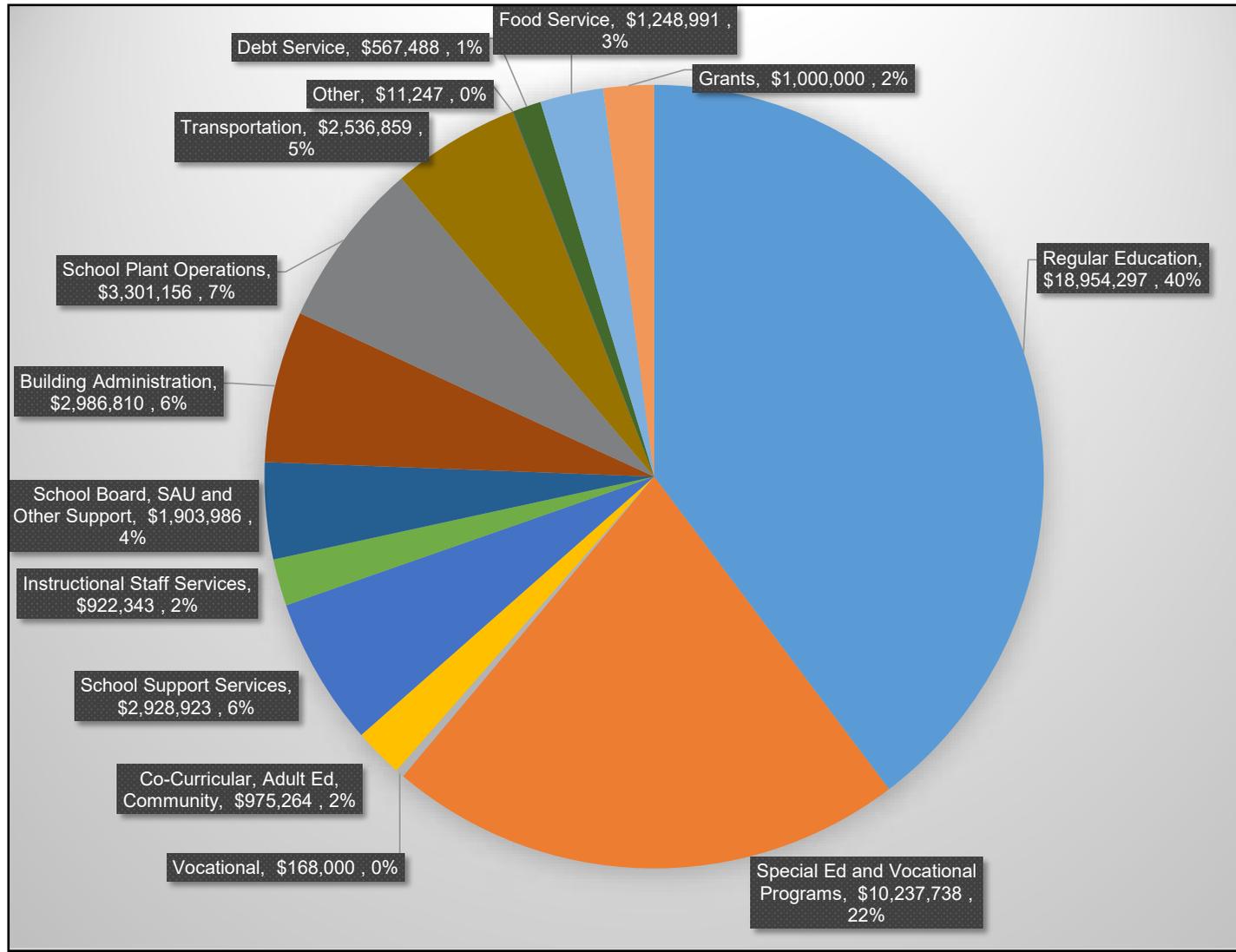
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
State Middle	\$14,295.37	\$14,740.66	\$15,021.13	\$15,489.74	\$15,938.20
Goffstown	\$11,749.71	\$12,134.35	\$13,156.55	\$12,747.57	\$13,104.24
Dollar Delta Goffstown vs State	\$2,545.66	\$2,606.31	\$1,864.58	\$2,742.17	\$2,833.96
% Delta Goffstown vs State	18%	18%	12%	18%	18%



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
State High School	\$15,068.46	\$15,537.80	\$16,214.73	\$16,599.80	\$16,776.10
Goffstown	\$12,408.24	\$12,923.70	\$13,784.12	\$14,158.37	\$14,969.55
Dollar Delta Goffstown vs State	\$2,660.22	\$2,614.10	\$2,430.61	\$2,441.43	\$1,806.55
% Delta Goffstown vs State	18%	17%	15%	15%	11%



2021-2022 Goffstown School District - Proposed Budget



ARTICLE 3 – FACILITIES CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

To see if the Goffstown School District will vote to raise and appropriate TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$200,000) for deposit into the existing Facilities Capital Reserve Fund and to authorize the use of that amount from the June 30, 2021 unassigned fund balance (surplus) available on July 1, 2021. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required.)

*The School Board Voted 8-1 To Recommend
The Budget Committee Voted 10-2 To Recommend*

EXPLANATION: This article asks voters to deposit \$200,000 into the School District's existing Capital Reserve Fund (CRF). This CRF was created by the voters three years ago and serves to provide funds to replace existing capital assets within the School District. The requested \$200,000 comes from unassigned funds (not from taxation) available at the end of this fiscal year on June 30, 2021.

A Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) is a planning and financing tool used by the Town of Goffstown, as well as numerous towns and school districts in New Hampshire. The School Board will continue to use the Town's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process for school-related capital projects and work towards spreading capital projects over a period of time in order to stabilize the tax rate. (Copies of the School CIP matrix is located on the Goffstown School District and Town website.)

The purpose of the CRF is to cover the replacement of existing capital assets such as: roofs, mechanical systems, windows, flooring, parking lots/roadways and other items

that already exist within of our school infrastructure. This fund does not support any new facilities or additions, and is not intended to be used for maintenance related items.

To date, the School District has deposited \$400,000 into the CRF, and has a current balance of approximately \$240,000. Projects already completed and funded by the CRF include: MVMS gym lockers and partition wall replacements, GHS gym bleachers and rear stair replacements, and a 25% match to a District-wide gym lighting energy incentive project through Eversource.

The School District plans to put forth requests for pricing proposals for two projects this spring: 1) the repair/partial replacement of the MVMS fire cistern that provides water to the building's sprinkler system, and 2) replacing the outdated heating controls at both Maple Ave and Bartlett Elementary schools.

A majority vote is required.

The School Board recommends this article 8-1

The Budget Committee recommends this article 10-2



Town of Goffstown
 TOWN OFFICES
 16 Main Street
 Goffstown, NH 03045



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE - VOTER ID LAW (RSA 659:13)
EXPLANATORY DOCUMENT (RSA 652:26)
PROOF OF VOTER IDENTITY INSTRUCTIONS (RSA 658:29-a)

What type of ID will I need to vote?

- Driver's license issued by any state or federal government;
- Non-driver ID card issued by NH DMV or motor vehicle agency of another state;
- Photo ID card for "voting identification only" issued by NH DMV (RSA 260:21);
- United States armed services identification card;
- United States passport or passcard;
- NH student ID card (see more information below);
- A photo ID not mentioned above, but determined to be legitimate by the moderator, supervisors of the checklist, or clerk of a town, ward or city. If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.
- Verification of the voter's identity by a moderator or supervisor of the checklist or clerk of a town, ward or city (not a ballot clerk). If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.

An acceptable photo ID must have an expiration date or date of issuance. The ID will remain valid 5 years beyond the expiration date unless the voter is 65 or older in which case an acceptable photo ID may be used without regard to expiration date. The name on the ID shall substantially conform to the name on the checklist.

More on student ID cards:

Acceptable student photo ID cards must be issued by:

- A college, university, or career school approved or licensed to operate in New Hampshire
- A public high school in New Hampshire
- A non-public high school in New Hampshire accredited by a private school accrediting agency that is recognized by the NH Department of Education
- Dartmouth College
- A college or university operated by the university system of New Hampshire or the community college system of New Hampshire

All student ID cards must have an issuance or expiration date that has not been exceeded by more than 5 years. Each August the Commissioner of the Department of Education will provide to the Secretary of State a list of all approved, licensed, and accredited schools from which a student ID is acceptable.

What if I do not have an approved photo ID?

Any voter who does not present an approved photo ID, or have their identity verified by an election official (as indicated above) will be permitted to vote after executing a challenged voter affidavit.

In addition, the voter shall have their photograph taken by the moderator or assistant moderator, which shall be attached to the challenged voter affidavit. If the voter objects to the photograph requirement because of religious beliefs, the voter may execute an affidavit of religious exemption that will be attached to the challenged voter affidavit instead of the photograph.

A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher from their town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any NH DMV office that issues identification.

Is there any post-election action required by me after I vote without an approved photo ID?

If you filled out a challenged voter affidavit in order to vote on Election Day, you will receive a verification letter from the Secretary of State requesting confirmation that you voted in the election. If you do not respond in writing to the Secretary of State within 30 days of the date it was mailed, the Attorney General will conduct an investigation to determine whether fraudulent voting occurred.

PRSR-STD
 ECRWSS
 US POSTAGE PAID
 GOFFSTOWN NH
 PERMIT No. 44

**Town of Goffstown
 Residential Customers**