

TOWN OF GOFFSTOWN



TOWN VOTERS' GUIDE 2020 Official Ballot



SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTERS' GUIDE 2020 Official Ballot

The Goffstown Select Board and Goffstown School Board are pleased to present the 2020 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 10, 2020 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 \$8.58, an increase of 44¢ from the previous year. The Select Board has also recommended continued support of the Main Street Program, Inc., which would increase the tax rate an additional 1¢.

SCHOOL BALLOT: Should all school warrant articles pass, the School District estimates the local school tax rate to be in the range of \$14.00 - \$14.15 per thousand.

(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 Peter Georgantas, Select Board Chairman, Peter.Georgantas@GoffstownNH.gov and comments regarding school articles to Steve Dutton, School Board Chair, Steven.Dutton@sau19.org.

2020 TOWN ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SELECT BOARD

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One

Peter Georgantas
Write-In _____

BUDGET COMMITTEE

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Four

Gregg T. Flegal
Bill Kordas
Fred Plett
Write-In _____
Write-In _____
Write-In _____
Write-In _____

BUDGET COMMITTEE

For 2 Years Vote for not more than One

Schuyler Mark Sund
Write-In _____

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One

Linda Reynolds Naughton
Write-In _____

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Three

Kathleen "Kathy" Coughlin
Samantha Homan
Aimee Huntemann

Write-In _____
Write-In _____
Write-In _____

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

For 1 Year Vote for not more than Two

Write-In _____
Write-In _____

PLANNING BOARD

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Two

Phil D'Avanza
James Raymond
Write-In _____
Write-In _____

SEWER COMMISSION

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One

David Pierce
Will Singleton
Write-In _____

SUPERVISOR OF CHECKLIST

For 6 Years Vote for not more than One

Denise Lemay
Write-In _____

TOWN CLERK

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One

Cathleen "Cathy" Ball
Write-In _____

TOWN MODERATOR

For 2 Years Vote for not more than One

Rodney L. Stark
Write-In _____

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

For 3 Years Vote for not more than One

Richard Manzo
Write-In _____

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

For 3 Years Vote for not more than Two

Leonard "Len" Stuart
Alan Yeaton
Write-In _____
Write-In _____

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

For 1 Year Vote for not more than One

Sandra J. Parker
Write-In _____

ARTICLE 2

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 1, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance – Glossary, by removing the current definition of Recreational Vehicle in its entirety, and replacing it with the following definition: "Recreational Vehicle shall mean a self-propelled or towed vehicle that is equipped to serve as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel purposes"?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This amendment is intended to create a more appropriate definition for Recreational Vehicles.

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 2, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance – Section 7.7, Parking and Storage of Recreational Vehicles by removing the current paragraph in its entirety, which states, "No Recreational Vehicle shall be parked or stored in a residential district, except in a carport or enclosed building, or in the rear yard area. No such equipment shall be used for living, sleeping, or housekeeping purposes," and replacing 7.7 to read, "No Recreational Vehicle shall be parked or stored on a public way. Parking shall not create a safety hazard. Recreational Vehicles shall not be used for sleeping and housekeeping purposes"?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This amendment is intended to eliminate the existing parking restrictions placed on Recreational Vehicles.

ARTICLE 4

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 3, as proposed by the Goffstown Planning Board, by amending the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance – Section 13.2 Flood Hazard (FH) District, by replacing portions of Section 13.2., and inserting sections of FEMA's Updated Model Ordinance and by correcting the date of the Floodway Map under Section 2.4.2.1 of the Zoning Ordinance to reflect the most recent map update of September 25, 2009?

Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This proposed amendment as well as amendments to existing definitions and insertion of new definitions are recommended by the NH Office of Strategic Initiatives.

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Town adopt Amendment No. 4, as proposed by petition by registered voters of the Town of Goffstown, to amend the Goffstown Zoning Ordinance, by changing the zoning of the following property identified as: Tax Map 38 Lot 117, from Residential 1 (R-1) to Village Commercial (VC)? The property address of this lot is 21 Elm Street, Goffstown, NH 03045.

Submitted by Petition.

Recommended by the Planning Board 5-2-0.

EXPLANATION: This amendment was submitted by petition.

**2020 OPERATING BUDGET
ARTICLE 6**

Shall the Town of Goffstown 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-Three Million, Seven Hundred Fourteen Thousand, Nine Hundred Forty-One Dollars (\$23,714,941)?

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Twenty-Two Million, Eight Hundred Four Thousand, Two Hundred Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$22,804,287), 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
the Budget Committee 12-0-0.*

| 2020 TOWN BUDGET SUMMARY - OPERATING BUDGET | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | 2019 | | 2020 |
| | Adopted | YTD (unaudited) | Select Board & Budget Com |
| TOWN HALL BUDGET | | | |
| Administration | 375,277 | 356,686 | 386,775 |
| Town Clerk | 209,868 | 193,067 | 218,774 |
| Election | 23,244 | 26,577 | 63,535 |
| Finance | 322,702 | 332,392 | 364,755 |
| Tax Collection | 78,358 | 76,491 | 82,432 |
| Information Technology | 649,759 | 602,318 | 688,451 |
| Revaluation of Property | 177,420 | 166,768 | 180,355 |
| Planning, Zoning & Econ | 301,948 | 279,937 | 314,579 |
| Other General Governmen | 46,330 | 29,327 | 46,330 |
| Building/Health Inspect | 113,915 | 111,989 | 120,678 |
| Human Services | 74,341 | 28,141 | 45,803 |
| TOWN HALL TOTAL | 2,373,162 | 2,203,692 | 2,512,467 |
| INSURANCE BUDGET | | | |
| Health/Den, Property, Liability & WC | 2,543,235 | 2,180,826 | 2,659,275 |
| INSURANCE TOTAL | 2,543,235 | 2,180,826 | 2,659,275 |
| POLICE BUDGET | | | |
| Police Operations | 3,498,766 | 3,313,784 | 3,527,128 |
| Police Communications | 840,678 | 804,704 | 851,307 |
| POLICE TOTAL | 4,339,444 | 4,118,488 | 4,378,435 |
| FIRE BUDGET | | | |
| Fire Operations | 2,289,689 | 2,024,013 | 2,607,110 |
| Emergency Management | 11,885 | 3,014 | 5,290 |
| FIRE TOTAL | 2,301,574 | 2,027,028 | 2,612,400 |
| PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET | | | |
| Cemetery Operations | 154,546 | 148,105 | 145,630 |
| Public Works-Highway | 2,852,225 | 2,728,632 | 3,092,408 |
| Fleet | 516,424 | 500,505 | 549,486 |
| Solid Waste Operations | 1,189,193 | 1,091,599 | 1,189,109 |
| PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL | 4,712,387 | 4,468,843 | 4,976,633 |
| PARKS AND REC BUDGET | | | |
| Parks & Rec Operations | 427,571 | 412,585 | 437,737 |
| PARKS AND REC TOTAL | 427,571 | 412,585 | 437,737 |
| LIBRARY BUDGET | | | |
| Library Operations | 680,356 | 667,384 | 721,144 |
| LIBRARY TOTAL | 680,356 | 667,384 | 721,144 |
| DEBT SERVICE BUDGET | | | |
| Principal-Long Trm Bond | 110,000 | 110,000 | 110,000 |
| DS-ST INTEREST | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| LVDP WATER MAIN | 53,244 | 53,244 | 53,244 |
| Debt Serv-Long Term Bon | 71,361 | 71,361 | 65,839 |
| DEBT SERVICE TOTAL | 234,606 | 234,605 | 229,084 |
| CIP BUDGET | | | |
| MACH, VEH & EQUIP TOTAL | 693,470 | 457,851 | 674,466 |
| BUILDINGS TOTAL | 35,000 | 0 | 0 |
| IMP OTHER THN BLDG TOTAL | 1,127,000 | 833,369 | 1,552,000 |
| CIP TOTAL | 1,855,470 | 1,291,219 | 2,226,466 |
| GENERAL FUND TOTAL | 19,467,806 | 17,604,670 | 20,753,641 |
| EMS SRF | | | |
| EMS | 578,959 | 445,559 | 599,408 |
| EMS CIP | 35,000 | 34,497 | 35,000 |
| *EMS SRF TOTAL* | 613,959 | 480,056 | 634,408 |
| SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND | | | |
| Sewer Administration | 272,930 | 611,325 | 274,362 |
| Sewer Operations | 1,338,211 | 606,454 | 1,554,728 |
| Sewer Pump Stations | 428,102 | 35,120 | 497,802 |
| SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND TOTAL | 2,039,243 | 1,252,899 | 2,326,892 |
| TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET: | 22,121,008 | 19,337,626 | 23,714,941 |

* IF ARTICLE 7 PASSES EMS WILL BE REMOVED FROM OPERATING BUDGET.

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 7. If Article 7 fails, EMS operations will be funded by the General Fund. The Proposed Operating Budget is \$23,714,941.

The General Fund Budget is up \$1,285,835 over last year’s budget, and the General Fund Revenue is up \$90,818, resulting in an increase in the town’s tax rate.

This is a large increase in the General Fund Budget and it can be broken down into 3 categories:

1. Items approved at past Town Meetings.
 - The Town has 4 Collective Bargaining Agreements that have contractual wage increases in 2020.
 - The 2019 Town Meeting approved hiring 4 new Firefighters with offsetting FEMA Grant Revenue.
 - Additional Road Plan Funds.

2. Items unique in 2020.
 - The Town has a 53rd payroll week in 2020.
 - The Town has 4 elections this year.
3. Other increases in the budget.
 - Town Insurance benefits have a 4.0% increase in 2020. This is based on the Town’s claims experience.
 - Non-union wage increases. Eligible non-union employees would receive a 2.5% step increase effective July 1st. The budget includes a matrix adjustment for Library employees, which follows the matrix adjustment approved for the Town’s non-union employees in 2019.
 - There are increases in the Town’s Capital Improvements Program (CIP) portion of the Operating Budget. There is an increase of \$370,996 over 2019. Last year the Select Board proposed many special articles to fund one-time capital projects with the use of unassigned fund balance. In the Select Board decided to either maintain these capital expenditures in the CIP portion of the Operating Budget or to cut them from the budget.

If the article fails, the default budget shall be \$22,804,287.

If the Operating Budget passes, the Town’s portion of the tax rate is estimated to increase by 43¢ per thousand. If the Operating Budget fails, the Default Budget is estimated to increase the Town’s portion of the tax rate by 20¢ per thousand.

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

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate Six Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand, Four Hundred Eight Dollars (\$634,408) 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 6 by \$634,408.)

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0 and 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 Department 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 2020 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 \$392,245 as of 12/31/19.
- The proposed 2020 EMS budget is \$634,408 which is an increase from \$20,449 in 2019.
- If Article 7 passes, Article 6 (the Operating Budget) will be reduced by the amount of the EMS operations.
- If Article 7 fails, EMS operations will be funded through taxation, which will increase the tax rate by 37¢ per thousand.
- If Article 6 and 7 both fail, the default budget for EMS operations is \$608,456.

EXPLANATION OF UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE

Additional Property Taxes will not be raised by Articles #8 through #10. This is because the purchases and projects identified in these three articles will be funded through the use of unassigned fund balance (UFB).

Q. What is “Unassigned Fund Balance”?

A. This is a difficult term to explain as this term does not exist in the private sector or personal finances. Fund balance, in general, is a balance sheet account that represents the difference between a municipality’s assets and liabilities, as of a certain point in time. Unassigned fund balance (formerly called unreserved fund balance) is a term under GASB 54 (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) referring to the portion of fund balance that has not been assigned and is available for use. UFB is created when a municipality expends less than what was appropriated, or receives more revenue than what was budgeted. For example, sometimes favorable weather conditions allow under expenditures on sand, salt, and overtime. Also, a competitive bid process may lead to more favorable quotes than budgeted. This results in under expenditures of the applicable account lines and adds to the UFB. Typically, revenue projections are very conservative and sometimes we received more revenue than projected. For example, if we receive more than the amount budgeted for motor vehicle registrations, then the additional revenue increases the town’s UFB.

Q. Why are towns authorized to have UFB?

A. Towns are authorized to have an UFB because towns are responsible for collecting property taxes not only for town operations but for school and county operations. Towns have the responsibility to pay out the taxes collected to the other entities – schools and county. The UFB assists the town in managing cash flow. Responsible long term financial planning requires an adequate level of unassigned fund balance for unforeseen expenses such as the 2006 & 2007 floods, to ensure stable tax rates and to attain a favorable bond rating.

Q. What is an “adequate level” for UFB and what is Goffstown’s UFB?

A. The NH Department of Revenue Administration reports that the Government Finance Officers Association recommends a range of 8%-17% of the regular general fund operating expenditures. In NH this is calculated by adding the municipality’s general fund operating appropriations, the education tax amount, the local school net tax commitment, and the county appropriation. Based upon the best available information at the time the tax rate was set in November 2019 the 8%-17% range in Goffstown equated to \$4.0 million – \$8.5 million. **As of the end of 2019, the Town has an estimated UFB of \$5.2 million.**

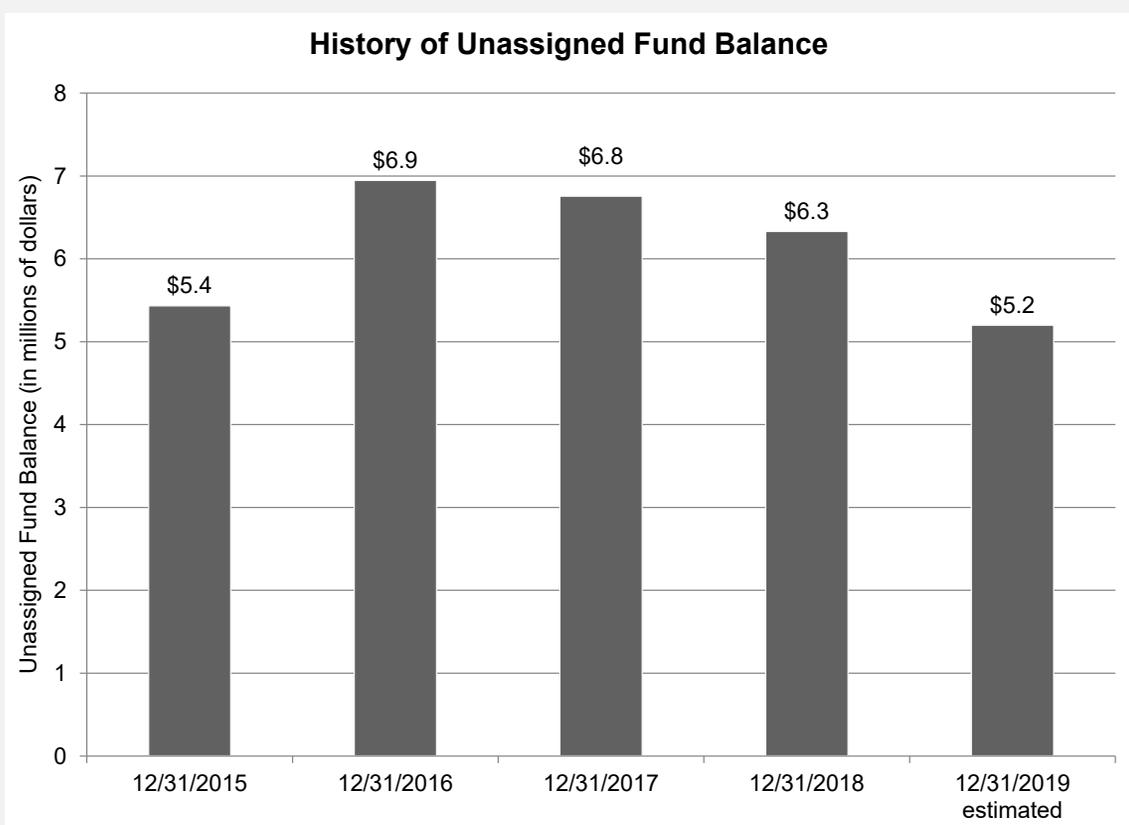
Q. What are the processes to use UFB?

A. There are three ways to access UFB:

- At tax rate setting time the Select Board can use fund balance to stabilize the town side of the tax rate.
- If an emergency occurs during the year which requires overspending the adopted budget, then there is a legal process involving the Budget Committee and the Department of Revenue Administration to allow the Select Board to use fund balance for an emergency.
- A town can choose to fund purchases with the UFB upon voter approval at the Annual Town Meeting. Our auditors recommend that those purchases be one-time purchases and **not** ongoing operating costs.

Q. How does Goffstown plan to use UFB in 2020 and why?

A. In 2020 the Select Board is only proposing Special Articles to deposit into two Capital Reserve Funds and to add funds to the Road Plan; this amounts to \$825,000 from the unassigned fund balance on Articles #8 through #10. This will result in the Town retaining approximately \$4.4 million in the unassigned fund balance to meet any future risks. This retained amount is well within the recommended range and above the Select Board’s goal of 8%.



ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) 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 5-0-0 and 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 \$650,000 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 Fund currently has approximately \$466,000.
- Over the years this fund has also been used to replace a Pumper/Tanker, Command SUV, UTV, and rescue boat.
- This article is to be funded from unassigned fund balance, with no additional monies to be raised by taxation.

ARTICLE 10

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for Goffstown's Road Improvement Program? Passage of this article will direct the Select Board to include this amount in future operating and default budgets of the Town of Goffstown. *This sum to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation. (This appropriation is in addition to Article 6 which has \$1,100,000 budgeted for reclamation of roads.)*

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

EXPLANATION: This article seeks to increase the Road Plan funding provided in the operating budget, to meet the goals identified in the Capital Improvement Program.

- This article would add an additional \$500,000 to the Road Plan budget in the operating budget, for a total of \$1.6 Million.
- Last year, DPW addressed approximately 6% of the overall road network through reclamation, maintenance overlays, or short term thin shim treatments. The 2020 Road Plan budget will support work on 7.7% of the Town's total road network. This plan was built upon a Town-as-General Contractor method of project delivery, which provides the efficient use of taxpayer dollars and greater flexibility of schedule.
- Passage of this article will direct the Select Board to include this amount in future operating and default budgets of the Town.
- This article is to be funded from unassigned fund balance, with no additional monies to be raised by taxation.

ARTICLE 9

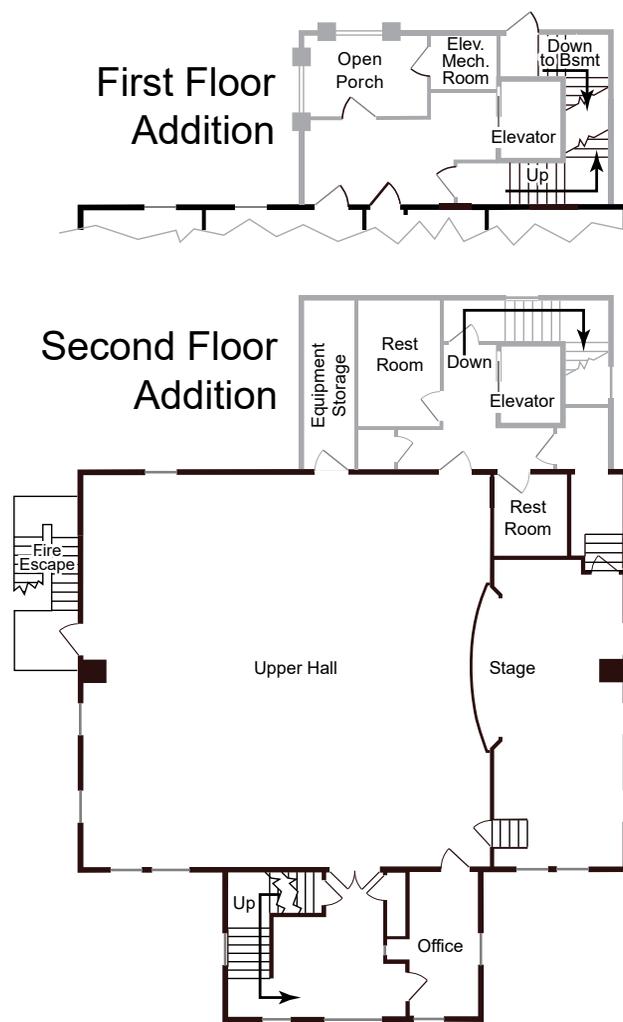
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Grasmere Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund previously established in 2005? *This sum to come from unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised by taxation.*

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

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

- The Select Board and Historic District Commission are designated as agents to expend and could access this fund any time during the year. The Fund currently has a balance of approximately \$171,000. This article would add \$100,000 for construction of a two story addition on the rear of the building.
- The addition will have an elevator to the restored 2nd floor, making the space available to all residents of Goffstown. It will include storage and an additional bathroom for the 2nd floor. In 2018 the architect of record updated the probable construction cost estimate for the addition at \$450,000.
- The Select Board and Historic District Commission 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.

GRASMERE TOWN HALL



ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate 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 6.)*

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

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.
- The newest program is the Challenge Day Program. Challenge Days address issues of violence, bullying, conflict management, suicide, peer pressure, alcohol and drugs. Other programs include an accredited Juvenile Court Diversion Program, VolunTEENS, Youth Forums, Suicide Prevention and Substance Misuse Prevention.

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

ARTICLE 13

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:35 I-a, for an optional veterans tax credit of \$2,000 for service connected total and permanent disability on residential property and replace the standard tax credit in its entirety?

Submitted by petition.

Recommended by the Select Board 4-0-0.

EXPLANATION: This article was submitted by petition, in accordance with NH RSA 39:3.

- The Supervisor's of the Checklist certified that 28 registered voters signed this petition.
- The submitted petition was amended at the Town's Deliberative Session. Language above is the language that will appear on the ballot.

The NH Department of Revenue Administration has advised that the amended version appearing on the ballot (shown above) will have no affect on the current optional veteran's tax credit for service connected permanent disability, which is \$2,000.

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town vote to 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 6.)*

Recommended by the Select Board 5-0-0.

Not 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 and residents of the designated Main Street area 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.
- Many of you are familiar with the special events sponsored by Main Street including Old Home Day, Concerts on the Common, Giant Pumpkin Regatta, Uncommon Art on the Common, Friday Night Under the Lights, and Art Showoffs. These events bring business to the Village Area as well as fostering a sense of community.
- Passage of this warrant article would provide \$15,000 towards their 2020 Budget of \$81,900.

This article is recommended by the Select Board.

This article is NOT recommended by the Budget Committee.

ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town urge the New Hampshire General Court, following the 2020 census, to redraw the state's political district maps in a fair manner providing for effective representation of New Hampshire's voters. And, in order to fulfill this obligation, the New Hampshire General Court shall appoint an independent redistricting commission to draw the district maps in a way that does not rely on partisan data favoring political parties of candidates.

Within 30 days after the Town Election, the record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Goffstown Select Board to all Goffstown state legislators and to the Governor of New Hampshire informing them of the results.

Submitted by petition.

EXPLANATION: This article was submitted by petition, in accordance with NH RSA 39:3.

- The Supervisor's of the Checklist certified that 35 registered voters signed this petition.
- The submitted petition was discussed at the Town's Deliberative Session. Minutes for the Deliberative Session are available online at:

www.goffstown.com/vote

- A recommendation on this article is not required and the Select Board decided not to Recommend nor Not Recommend this petition Article.

2020 SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SCHOOL BOARD

For 3 Years

Vote for not more than Three

Jenelle Anne O'Brien

Heather Trzepacz

Zuzana Buzzell

Otis Hendershott

Write-In _____

Write-In _____

Write-In _____

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-FIVE MILLION SIX HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$45,662,226.00). Should this Article be defeated, the Default Budget shall be FORTY-FIVE MILLION TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$45,272,597.00), 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 7-0-0 To Recommend

The Budget Committee Voted 12-0-0 To Recommend

EXPLANATION: The \$45,662,226 Operating Budget is recommended by both the Goffstown School Board (7-0) and the Goffstown Budget Committee (12-0). The proposed budget is \$958,360 or 2.14% higher than the current year's budget which is set at \$44,703,866.

The Operating Budget is comprised of three 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 salary 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 shortage of bus drivers.

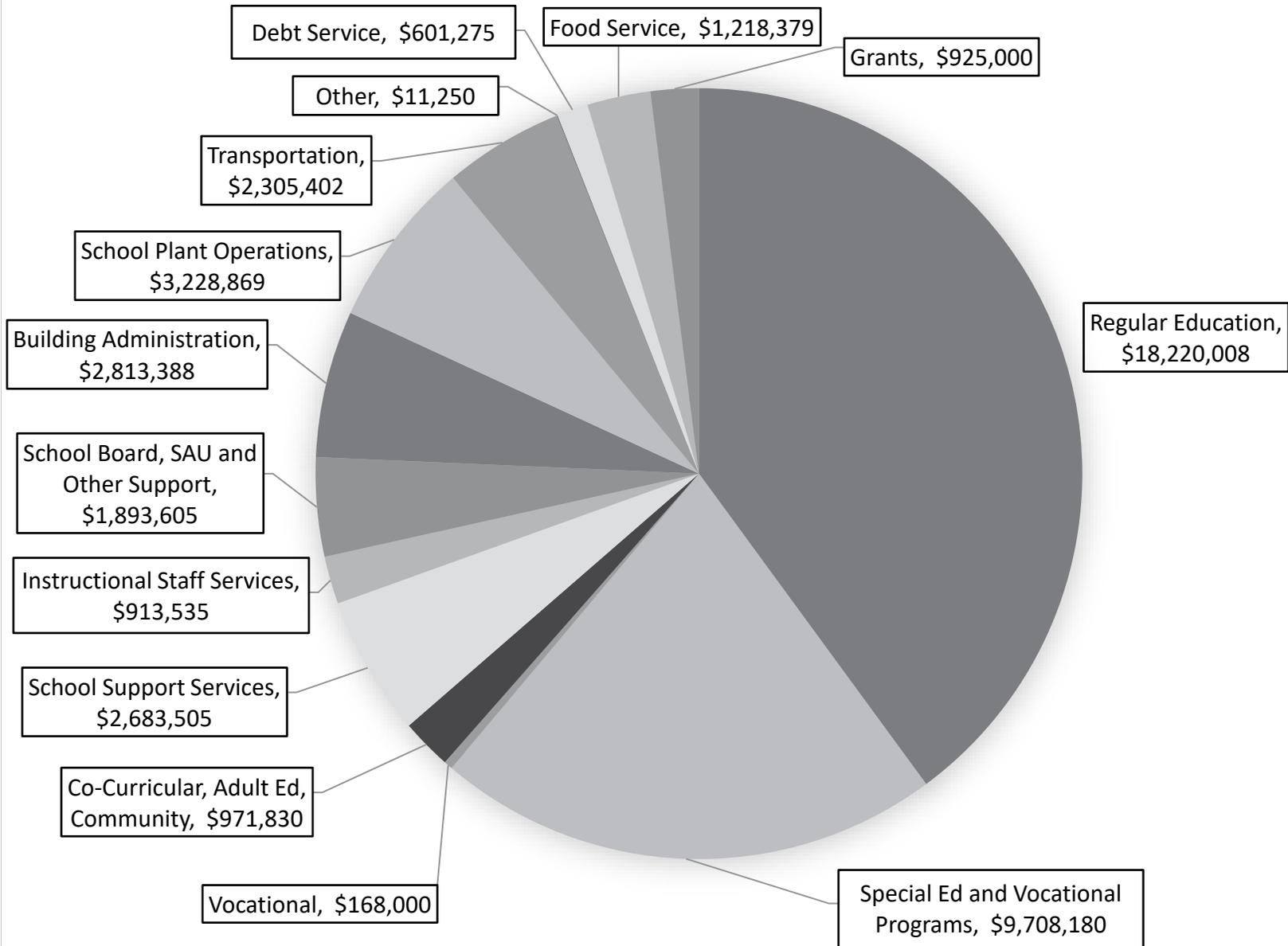
The difference between the proposed budget and the default budget is \$389,629.

It is important to recognize that the Goffstown School District is able to offset over half of its operating budget through other 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 2,857 students (which is down 1.3% from the prior year). 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 the students of the community at a cost much less than the State of New Hampshire's per student average. (Please see next page.)

2020-2021 Goffstown School District Proposed Operating Budget



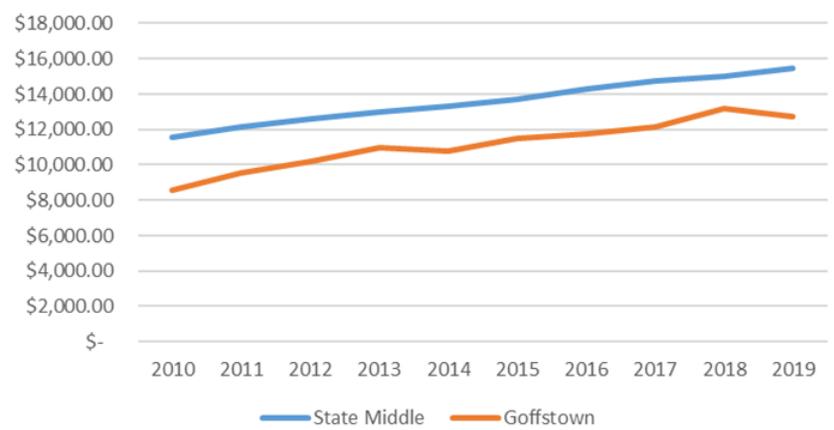
Per Pupil Cost

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| State Elem | \$14,581.48 | \$15,033.57 | \$15,397.60 | \$15,981.46 | \$16,519.77 |
| New Boston | \$11,665.34 | \$12,486.85 | \$11,919.21 | \$12,079.65 | \$12,585.21 |
| Goffstown | \$13,679.23 | \$13,561.56 | \$13,965.91 | \$13,667.07 | \$13,723.95 |

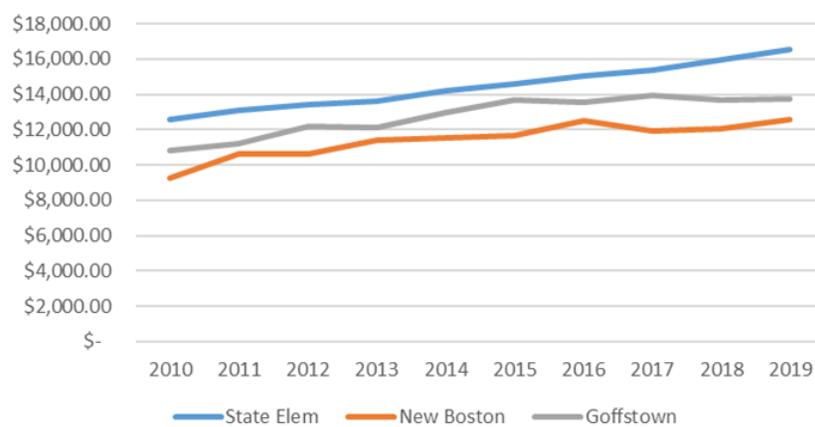
| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| State Middle | \$13,698.36 | \$14,295.37 | \$14,740.66 | \$15,021.13 | \$15,489.74 |
| Goffstown | \$11,522.93 | \$11,749.71 | \$12,134.35 | \$13,156.55 | \$12,747.57 |

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| State High School | \$14,466.37 | \$15,068.46 | \$15,537.80 | \$16,214.73 | \$16,599.80 |
| Goffstown | \$12,195.18 | \$12,408.24 | \$12,923.70 | \$13,784.12 | \$14,158.37 |

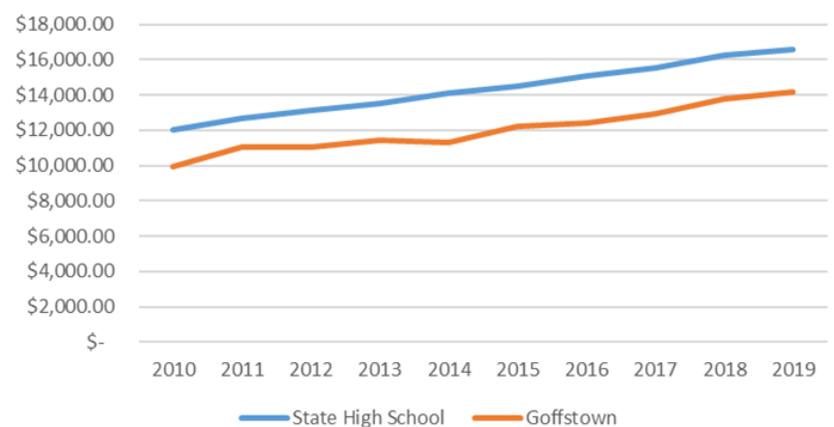
Middle Per Pupil Costs 10 Years (2010-2019)



Elementary Per Pupil Costs 10 years (2010-2019)



High School Per Pupil Cost 10 years (2010-2019)



ARTICLE # 3 SUPPORT STAFF CONTRACT

Shall the Goffstown School District vote to approve the cost items included in the 3-year Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Goffstown School Board and the Goffstown Educational Support Staff Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

| Year | Estimated Increase |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 2020-2021 | \$226,951 |
| 2021-2022 | \$226,728 |
| 2022-2023 | \$203,916 |

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE DOLLARS (\$226,951) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year; this amount to be offset by TWELVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS (\$12,390) from the Food Service Revenues and SEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-NINE DOLLARS (\$7,499) from the Special Federal Revenue Fund with the remaining amount of TWO HUNDRED SEVEN THOUSAND SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$207,062) to be raised by taxation for the purpose of funding 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 Warrant Article #2 the Operating Budget. (Majority vote required)

The School Board Voted 7-0-0 To Recommend

The Budget Committee Voted 12-0-0 To Recommend

EXPLANATION: This article asks voters to approve the cost items associated with the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Goffstown Educational Support Staff (GESS) and the Goffstown School Board.

The GESS bargaining unit is comprised of 161.75 full time equivalent employees within the Goffstown School District and includes: paraprofessionals, administrative assistants, food service, and facilities employees.

Major highlights of the agreement are as follows:

- The agreement provides for salary increases during the three-year agreement. The salary grid will be adjusted by 2% in year one, 2% in year two and 2% in year three.
- The pay rate for Certified Paraprofessionals in year one and two is increased by \$0.50 per hour in addition to the 2% grid adjustment (above)
- An "On-Call" rotation schedule and weekly stipend of \$125 was added for maintenance and custodial employees who are on call to address building related issues outside of normal school hours, during their assigned week.
- Retirement stipends are being increased by \$2,000 for members of this bargaining unit when they retire from service with the District. Please note that the majority of members in the GESS (over 65%) are not eligible for a pension with the NH Retirement System due to the number of hours they work.

Both the GESS and the Goffstown School Board ratified this three-year agreement. It calls for an estimated increase in salary and benefits of \$226,951 in 2020-2021 (of which \$207,062 is raised through taxation and the balance of \$19,889 will come from revenues in the Food Service and Special Revenue (Grants) Fund.

ARTICLE # 4 GLEN LAKE SCHOOL MODULAR CLASSROOM ADDITION

To see if the Goffstown School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$900,000) for the purpose of purchasing a four classroom modular unit for the Glen Lake Kindergarten School, along with the associated site work, engineering, and utility connections, and for costs incidental and related to the foregoing purposes. Funding for this article to come from additional, one-time New Hampshire Fiscal Capacity Disparity Aid with no direct tax impact. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the kindergarten modular unit is completed or by June 30, 2022, whichever is sooner. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required.)

The School Board Voted 7-0-0 Recommend

The Budget Committee Voted 12-0-0 to Recommend

EXPLANATION:

The purpose of the Glen Lake Modular Classroom project is to relieve current space needs due to increased student enrollments. The challenge of limited space has put undue stress on students and staff while creating an inadequate learning environment. The funding for this project will come from a one-time NH State Fiscal Capacity Disparity Aid of \$1.35M that the Goffstown School District is receiving from the State to address capital improvement needs. The Goffstown School Board unanimously recommends this warrant article (7-0) as does the Budget Committee (12-0).

Community Challenges:

- Instruction is currently done in locations such as: storage closets, hallways, and open spaces.
- Shared space has created a distracting environment for students, as well as, a lack of privacy.
- A brick and mortar expansion for the Glen Lake School would cost three to four times the cost of a modular classroom addition.

Community Needs:

- Accommodate the demographics of our growing community based on increases in our pre-school and kindergarten enrollments.
- Create an adequate learning space for students of all educational needs.

Community Impact/Solutions:

- Build a 6200 square foot modular addition, which will provide four (4) 1000 square foot classrooms of instructional space to address the current critical need (estimated cost of \$900,000).
- The modular addition will contain bathrooms in each classroom, provide air conditioning for summer programming, and will have a sprinkler system for fire protection.
- An enclosed structure will connect the modular classroom to the main building.
- NH State Fiscal Capacity Disparity Aid will be used for the modular classroom project, which will result in a zero direct tax impact.
- The modular classroom would be in use for the 2020-2021 school year.

Given this one-time NH State Aid (with the intent of improving capital needs), it is important to understand that without this project, the challenges at the Glen Lake School will remain and potentially grow. These challenges can result in a greater tax impact in the future if left unaddressed.

The School Board has established a Building Committee to research future solutions for our community's growing educational needs. To learn more about our Glen Lake School Modular Classroom Project, as well as how the School Board is addressing the capacity needs of our district visit: www.goffstown.k12.nh.us

Also, please view a video about the Glen Lake Modular Classroom Project on the school district website or GTV.

ARTICLE # 5 – 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, 2020 Unassigned fund balance (surplus) available on July 1, 2020. This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article #2, the Operating Budget Article. (Majority vote required.)

***The School Board Voted 7-0-0 To Recommend
The Budget Committee Voted 9-3-0 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 last year 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, 2020.

A Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) is a planning and financing tool used by the Town of Goffstown, as well as numerous towns 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.

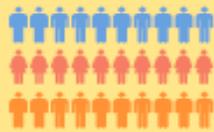
The purpose of this fund is to cover the replacement of existing capital assets such as: roofs, mechanical systems, windows, flooring, parking lots/roadways and other items that already exist in terms of our school infrastructure. This fund does not support any new facilities or additions, and is not intended to be used for maintenance related items.

GLEN LAKE SCHOOL MODULAR CLASSROOM ADDITION

WARRANT ARTICLE # 4

OVER 230 STUDENTS

Over the last five years, the student enrollment at the Glen Lake School has increased from 164 students to over 230.



4 NEW CLASSROOMS



WILL ALLEVIATE OVERCROWDING

Currently our student instruction is conducted in all usable spaces; including storage rooms and hallways.

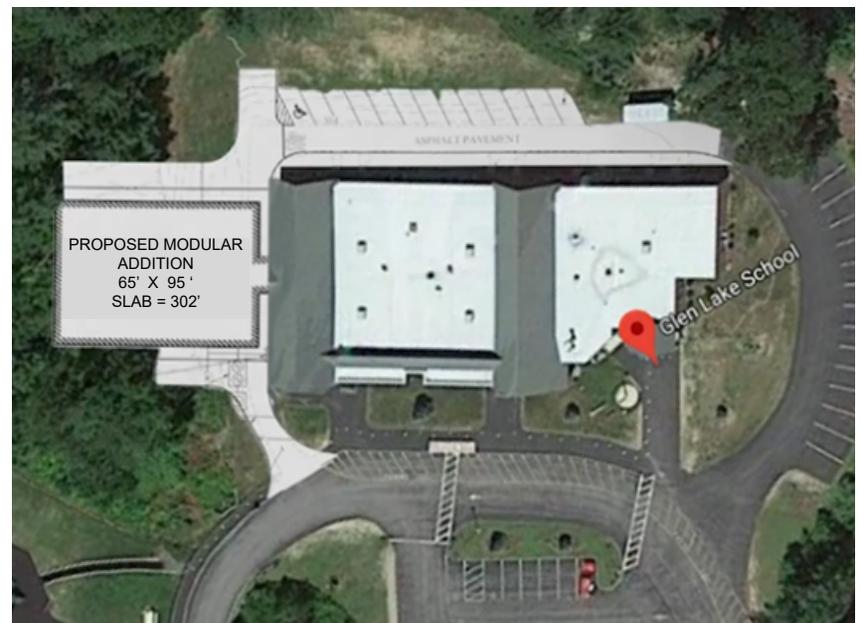
6,200 SQ. FT. NEW SPACE FOR INSTRUCTION

The new classrooms will each have their own bathroom, have both heating and air conditioning, and be fully attached to the main building for a safe and secure environment.

100% FUNDING FROM THE STATE



- \$900,000 Project Cost
- Revenues from NH State Fiscal Disparity Aid
- No Direct Tax Impact
- Project Completion Target: 1st day of school this Fall
- Modular Life Expectancy 25-30 years



SCHOOL AND TOWN VOTING – MARCH 10, 2020

Learn more! Visit gooffstown.k12.nh.us



**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.

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

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

**Town of Goffstown
Residential Customers**