

**WARRANT FOR THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
DRESDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Hanover, New Hampshire

Norwich, Vermont

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING WARRANT ARTICLES APPLY TO THE OPERATION OF THE DRESDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHICH INCLUDES THE OPERATION OF THE FRANCES C. RICHMOND SCHOOL AND HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL, GRADES 7-12, AND SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS FROM HANOVER WHO ARE TUITIONED TO THE FRANCES C. RICHMOND SCHOOL BY THE HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT.

The legal voters of the Norwich (Vermont) Town School District and the legal voters of the Hanover (New Hampshire) School District are hereby notified and warned that the two phases of the Annual School District Meeting will be held as follows:

DISCUSSION PHASE: Thursday, February 28, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., at the Hanover High School Auditorium, Hanover, New Hampshire.

VOTING PHASE: Tuesday, March 5, 2019, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the Hanover High School Gymnasium in Hanover, New Hampshire (for Hanover voters) and in Tracy Hall in Norwich, Vermont (for Norwich voters).

During the discussion phase, the voters shall have the opportunity to discuss the following Warrant Articles and to transact any non-substantive business that may legally be acted on during the discussion phase under Article 7.

All voting on Warrant Articles 1 through 6 shall be conducted by secret written ballot during the voting phase, as provided in the Dresden School District Procedures for Australian Ballot.

ARTICLE 1: To elect by written ballot for one-year terms a Moderator, a Clerk, a Treasurer; an auditor for a three-year term, an auditor for a two-year term, and an auditor for a one-year term.

Informational Notes: : *The positions noted above are voted upon annually. Information on each position is available at the Superintendent's Office.*

ARTICLE 2: Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000) for the design, construction and repair of the drainage system which runs beneath the Hanover High School turf field, replacement of the 13 year old turf-field carpet and update the surrounding athletic area? And to authorize the issuance of not more than \$900,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the NH-VT Interstate School Compact (Article VII) as well as the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1) and to authorize the school Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon.

The School Board recommends this article.

NOTE 1. No payment will be due in the 2019-20 school year. All future payments will be

structured to continue an even stream of debt payments as other present debt payments retire. Payoff will be structured over 6 years.

Informational Notes: *After continued monitoring of a sinkhole at the far end of the sports field and ongoing investigations of the condition of a 48-inch drainage pipe beneath the Hanover High School (HHS) turf field, the Dresden School District (District) has embarked on a project with help from Town of Hanover (Town) that will abandon and replace the pipe. The project coincides with the need to replace the 13 year old, heavily degraded turf material on the field, which is near the end of its functional life. The current HHS turf field drainage project began in late 2018 with Town personnel assisting with replacement pipe design and construction, the first phase of which was installed along the eastern edge of the turf field. Remaining project elements include connections to the existing system in the north to re-route existing drainage pipes into the new pipe and in the south to connect the new pipe to the existing outlet south of the turf field. The project will also include pressure grouting existing pipes to be abandoned under the turf field. The approach the Town and District are taking seeks to abandon existing pipes that are many feet (30 +/-) below the surface of the turf field, which would be far more expensive to excavate than the re-routing & replacement. The debt payments will be structured over six years and amounts will be similar to the amounts of maturing debt scheduled to end. For more information on the payment schedule please visit the SAU70.org website and visit the Budget section.*

ARTICLE 3: Shall the District determine and fix the salaries of School District officers as follows: School Board members \$700 per member with an additional \$300 for the School Board Chair; School District Treasurer \$2,516; School District Clerk \$200; and School District Moderator \$200 in accordance with Article V-A of the NH/VT Interstate School Compact, and further raise and appropriate the amount of Eleven Thousand, Six Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$11,616) to fund these salaries?

The School Board recommends this article.

Informational Notes: *This article requests \$700 for the salary for School Board members, the same stipend as the last several years and an additional \$300 for the Board Chair. The salaries of the School District Clerk and Moderator are unchanged; there is a small increase for the Treasurer. This article's effect on the tax rate is negligible.*

ARTICLE 4: Shall the District vote to approve the cost items in the three (3) year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Dresden School Board and the Hanover Education Association, NEA-NH, which calls for the following increases in teacher salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimate Increase over status quo budget
2019-2020	\$101,814
2020-2021	\$285,069
2021-2022	\$285,528

and further, shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred One Thousand, Eight Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$101,814), such sum representing the estimated increase in teacher salaries and benefits for the 2019-2020 fiscal year brought about by this collective bargaining agreement?

The School Board recommends this article.

NOTE 1. The sum necessary to pay the so-called status quo salaries and benefits for teachers if this article is defeated is included in the operating budget in Article 6.

NOTE 2. A favorable vote on this article shall be considered the approval of the cost items in all three years of the proposed collective bargaining agreement.

Informational Notes: *In December, the Board and Hanover Education Association (HEA) reached a tentative agreement for the next three-year period (2020-2022). The HEA agreed to a new health plan with increased deductibles and premium costs about 20.8% less than the current plans. The base pay increases are 2.0% per year on scale; premium copays are 7%, 8% and 9%; and the early retirement benefit has new age parameters with a limited number of spots available per year. There were many language updates through out the agreement. A complete overview can be reviewed on the sau70.org website under the budget section.*

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District vote to approve the cost items in the three (3) year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Dresden School Board and the Hanover Support Staff, NEA-NH, which calls for the following increases in support-staff salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimated Increase over status quo budget
2019-2020	\$23,221
2020-2021	\$45,230
2021-2022	\$38,398

and further, shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-three Thousand, Two Hundred Twenty-One Dollars (\$23,221), such sum representing the estimated increase in support staff salaries and benefits for the 2019-2020 fiscal year brought about by this collective bargaining agreement?

The School Board recommends this article.

NOTE 1. The sum necessary to pay the so-called status quo salaries and benefits for support staff if this article is defeated is included in the operating budget in Article 6.

NOTE 2. A favorable vote on this article shall be considered the approval of the cost items in all three years of the proposed collective bargaining agreement.

Informational Notes: *In December, the Board and Hanover Support Staff Association (HSSA) reached a tentative agreement for the next three-year period (2020-2022). The HSSA agreed to a new health plan with increased deductibles and premium costs about 20.8% less than the current plans. The base pay increases are 2.0% per year on scale and added a step 12; premium copays are 5%, 5% and 6%; grandfathering on life insurance at 17.5 hours was removed; sick leave accruals limited to 90 days down from 120; longevity beginning in year 11 was increase by \$250 per tier. There were many language updates through out the agreement. A complete overview can be reviewed on the sau70.org website under the budget section.*

ARTICLE 6: Shall the District raise and appropriate the amount of Twenty-Six Million, Eight Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Three Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$26,817,372) for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the teachers and other school employees, school district officials, and agents, and for the payment of the statutory obligations of the District for the 2019-2020 fiscal year? This sum does not include the sums appropriated in any of the other articles.

The School Board recommends this article.

Informational Notes: *As currently built including money for the officer salaries (Article 3), the Dresden School District Budget will increase \$328,827, or 1.24%. After accounting for a projected increase in 7-12th grade tuition and a decrease in 6th grade tuition as well as a larger projected June 30, 2019 surplus available, the amount to be assessed to the Hanover and Norwich districts for the 2019-20 budget as currently built is estimated to increase by \$313,701 or 1.53%. Since Dresden does not have its own tax rate, the tax rate impact of the Dresden budget is included within the tax rate estimates for the Hanover and Norwich districts and their respective budget documents. At this point, the total Hanover assessment is expected to be \$14,306,814, an increase of \$471,506, which is actually a 3.41% increase as the Average Daily Membership appropriation percentage calculation between the two districts has shifted 1.187% more towards Hanover from the prior year. This shift would result in an approximate, projected tax rate increase of \$0.21. The Norwich assessment is expected to be \$6,487,067, a decrease of (\$157,805) from the adjusted assessment, which would result in a (2.37%) projected decrease over the current rate depending on the state mandated factors.*

While tax estimation is always hazardous, and a "tax rate" cannot be established for the Dresden District separately from the Hanover and Norwich tax rates, the potential tax rate increase for the Dresden portion of Hanover's tax rate is \$0.21, with Special Warrant Articles for agreements it would be projected at \$0.25. The total potential estimated homestead tax rate decrease for Norwich's tax rate including the Dresden Assessment is (\$0.0463), with the Special Warrant Articles for agreements it would decrease by (\$0.0400).

All these amounts are estimates. Actual revenue and assessment information will not be finalized until the state of Vermont sets various budgetary parameters as late as the spring of 2019, and the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration finalizes assessment and tax rates for the districts in October of 2019.

ARTICLE 7: To transact any non-substantive business that may legally come before the discussion phase of this meeting.

Ratified at the Dresden School District School Board Budget Meeting on the 22nd day of January 2019.

Carey Callaghan
Bruce Duncan
Rick Johnson
Kelly McConnell
Lauren Rhim
Dan Rockmore

Tom Candon
Kelley Hersey
Jim Mackall
Neil Odell, Chair
Jona Roberts, Secretary
David Sobel, Vice Chair

DRESDEN SCHOOL BOARD
Deborah McLane Carter, Clerk
Dresden School District