ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND ELECTION
LITCHFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SAMPLE BALLOT
MARCH 13, 2018

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES

SCHOOL BOARD	**3 Year Term** ***(vote for two)***	**2 Year Term** ***(vote for one)***
	ELIZABETH VAUGHN	TARA HERSHBERGER
	ELIZABETH MACDONALD	CECILE BONVOULOIR
	ROBERT G. MEYERS III	

ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 ***(as amended at Deliberative Session 2-10-18)***

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to 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 the vote at the first session of the annual school district meeting, for the purposes set forth herein, totaling Twenty-Two Million, Three Hundred Forty-Two Thousand, Six Hundred Thirteen Dollars ($22,342,613)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Twenty-Two Million, Eight Hundred Six Thousand, Ninety-Eight Dollars ($22,806,098) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Litchfield School District or by law; or the School Board 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.

Estimated Tax Impact: ***Operating Budget $0.63*** ***Default Budget: $1.15***

Recommended by the School Board *Vote 5-0-0* *Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote 7-0-0*

Article Explanation: This represents the proposed operating, food service and grants fund budgets as recommended by the Budget Committee and the default budget recommended by the School Board and reviewed by the Budget Committee. The increase of the FY19 operating budget over the FY18 operating budget is due to cost increases associated with the LEA and LSSA Collective Bargaining Agreements, health insurance rate increase, Special Education required support services, transportation contract increase and technology purchases. Detailed information on the proposed operating budget and default budget can be found at http://www.litchfieldsd.org/DistrictInformation.aspx Please note that though the food service and grants fund budgets are included in the gross appropriation, the food service and grants are funded through federal, state and other local sources, not taxation.

ARTICLE 2 ***(as amended at Deliberative Session 2-10-18)***

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand, Two Hundred Forty-Two Dollars ($774,242) for the purpose of funding the costs associated with the expansion of the Kindergarten program at Griffin Memorial School from half day to full day? It is anticipated that this appropriation will be offset by $430,650 to come from state and local revenues.

Estimated Tax Impact: ***$0.38***

Recommended by the School Board Vote 5-0-0 *Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote 7-0-0*

Article Explanation:
Article Explanation: This represents the gross appropriation amount needed to expand the kindergarten program at Griffin Memorial School from a half day to full day program. Included in this amount is the infrastructure, setup, outfitting of classrooms, and staffing of the full day program. This appropriation is anticipated to be offset by additional funding from the State of New Hampshire.

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-Two Thousand, Eight Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars ($92,885) to be added to the operating budget for the purpose of funding salary and benefits for a full time Special Services Coordinator position to support the Special Services Director and Special Services Department? ***Estimated Tax Impact:*** ***$0.10***

Recommended by the School Board *Vote 4-0-0* *Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote 6-0-0*

Article Explanation: There is a significant number of identified students with special needs in the district. This position would be a certified special education administrator that will provide coordination of compliance, provide representation at meetings, coordinate staff, handle issues that may occur and assist the special services director and department. The approval of this article will enable school administrators to focus on evaluating eachers, growing the curriculum, interacting with students and parents, handling discipline and attendance issues, attending nighttime events and developing teacher best practices of enrichment.

ARTICLE 4

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate up to Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) to be added to the Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund established in 2004 with this sum to come from the June 30 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1 of this year? This is a special warrant article.

Estimated Tax Impact: ***$0***

Recommended by the School Board Vote 4-0-0 *Recommended by the Budget Committee Vote 6-0-0*

Article Explanation: Facility systems and equipment failure are often unanticipated. Facility systems in the school buildings are maintained, but some are very old and can fail at any time. This reserve fund was established to address critical failure of building systems and equipment and the related costs that are not included in the proposed operating budget.

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