

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS
2024 LITCHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
As Amended at Deliberative Session 2/10/2024

To the inhabitants of the School District of the Town of Litchfield in the County of Hillsborough and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote upon district affairs:

FIRST SESSION OF ANNUAL MEETING (DELIBERATIVE)

You are hereby notified that the first session of the annual meeting of the School District of the Town of Litchfield will be held at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, in said Litchfield on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. for explanation, discussion, and debate of warrant articles number 1 through number 9. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended, (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended, and (c) no warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article.

SECOND SESSION OF ANNUAL MEETING (OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTING)

You are hereby notified that the second session of the annual meeting of the School District of the Town of Litchfield will be held at Campbell High School, 1 Highlander Court, in said Litchfield on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, for the choice of School District Officers elected by official ballot, to vote on questions required by law to be inserted on the official ballot, and to vote on all Warrant Articles from the first session on official ballot per RSA 40:13, VII. The polls for the election of School District Officers and other action required to be inserted on said ballot will open on said date at 7:00 a.m. and will not close earlier than 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE A

To elect by ballot the following School District Officers (2 seats, 3 year term each):

Heidi Ames, 3-Year Term - 1468 votes

Matt Shoemaker, 3-Year Term - 1459 Votes

Write in Candidates - 83 Votes

ARTICLE 1

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,290,000 to fund the design, construction, original equipping and related costs of a new Litchfield Elementary School on school district land near the current Griffin Memorial School; with \$38,617,870 of such sum to be raised by the issuance of bonds or notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended, with such bonds or notes to be issued in phases over multiple years in amounts to be determined by the school board, which amounts shall not in the aggregate exceed \$38,617,870; and with \$5,672,130 of such sum to come from state building aid; to authorize the school board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity or other terms thereof; to authorize

the school board to apply for, obtain, accept and expend Federal or State aid, including state building aid, or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project; to authorize the school board to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto; and finally to raise and appropriate the additional sum of \$53,950 for the first year's payment on the bond? This article is contingent on the award of state building aid and if such aid is not awarded to the district, this article will be null and void. *3/5ths ballot vote required to approve this article.*

Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): \$0.04

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 5-4-0*

Article 1 Failed - 1164 Yes (43.9%) to 1487 No

ARTICLE 2 (as amended at Deliberative Session 2/10/2024)

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 for the purposes set forth herein, totaling **\$26,348,126**? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$26,032,315** 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. Majority Vote Required.

Operating Budget: Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): Reduction of -\$0.10

Default Budget: Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): Reduction of -\$0.36

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 5-3-0*

Article 2 Passed - 1359 Yes (51.9%) to 1258 No

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Litchfield School District and the Litchfield Education Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level over those paid in the prior fiscal year:

Year	Estimated Increase
2024 - 2025	\$679,707
2025 - 2026	\$634,719

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$679,707** for fiscal year 2025, 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. Majority Vote Required.

Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): \$0.56

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 8-1-0*

Article 3 Passed - 1488 Yes (57.1%) to 1120 No

ARTICLE 4

Shall the Litchfield School District, if Article 3 is defeated, authorize the Litchfield School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 3 cost items only? Majority Vote Required.

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 4-1-0*

**Article 4 Passed - 1360 Yes (52.8%) to 1214 No
This article is moot since article 3 passed**

ARTICLE 5

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to approve the cost items included in an agreement to modify the 2022-25 collective bargaining agreement reached between the Litchfield School District and the Litchfield Support Staff Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels over the amount that would be paid under the existing contract:

Year	Estimated Increase
2023 - 2024 (appropriation already in the FY 23-24 budget)	\$170,951
2024 - 2025	\$279,103

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$279,103** for fiscal year 2024-25, 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. Majority Vote Required.

Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): \$0.23

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 5-3-1*

Article 5 Passed - 1342 Yes (51.7%) to 1253 No

ARTICLE 6

Shall the Litchfield School District, if Article 5 is defeated, authorize the Litchfield School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 5 cost items only? Majority Vote Required.

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 4-1-0*

**Article 6 Passed - 1317 Yes (51.5%) to 1238 No
This article is moot since article 5 passed**

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$178,756** to be added to the Employee Benefits Non-Capital Reserve Fund established in 2022 for the purpose of funding the payment of negotiated employee benefits including but not limited to: health insurance reimbursements, changes in coverage or policies chosen by employees, severance benefits and such other benefits as are from time to time negotiated and become contractual obligations of the district? This sum to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, of this year with no additional amount to be raised from taxation. Majority Vote Required.

Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): \$0.00

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 9-0-0*

Article 7 Passed - 1861 Yes (71.7%) to 736 No

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate 50% of the fund balance remaining after Article 7 is funded, up to a sum of \$125,000, to be added to the Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund established in 2005 for the purpose of funding school capital improvements, building maintenance and repairs in the Litchfield School District, with said funds to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1 of this year with no additional amount to be raised from taxation? Majority Vote Required.

Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): \$0.00

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 9-0-0*

Article 8 Passed - 1893 Yes (73.1%) to 695 No

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Litchfield School District vote to raise and appropriate 50% of the fund balance remaining after Article 7 is funded, up to a sum of \$125,000, to be added to the Capital Improvements Expendable Trust Fund established in 2020 for the purpose of funding the study, planning and cost of new construction or renovation of existing facilities in the Litchfield School District with said funds to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1 of this year with no additional amount to be raised from taxation? *This amount is consistent with the Capital Plan adopted by the Town of Litchfield in September 2020.* Majority Vote Required.

Estimated Tax Impact (per \$1000): \$0.00

*Recommended by the School Board
Vote 5-0-0*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee
Vote 6-3-0*

Article 9 Passed - 1577 Yes (60.7%) to 1023 No

There were 2,642 total ballots cast in the election. This is a true report of the 2024 Litchfield School District election results, attest:



Theresa L. Briand, School District Clerk
March 13, 2024