

SPECIMEN BALLOT
M.S.A.D. No. 75 BUDGET REFERENDUM

Town of _____

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

Joanne M. Rogers, Chair
Board of Directors

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the LEFT of your choices like this: ●

<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE II: ACADEMICS ACCOUNT. To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$13,178,739 for the Academics Account (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE III: ACADEMIC SERVICES ACCOUNT. To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$9,089,564 for the Academic Services Account (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE IV: SUPPORT SERVICES ACCOUNT. To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$8,798,739 for the Support Services Account (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE V: STUDENT ACTIVITIES ACCOUNT. To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$639,465 for the Student Activities Account (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE VI: DEBT SERVICE ACCOUNT. To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$2,682,489 for the Debt Service Account (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE VII: MAINE VOCATIONAL REGION TEN BUDGET. Shall the Maine Vocational Region Ten budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for fiscal year 2006-2007 be approved in the amount of \$1,833,552 (SAD No. 75 share is \$715,380), and shall the District raise \$715,380 as the local share? (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE VIII: MAINE VOCATIONAL REGION TEN ADULT VOCATIONAL BUDGET. Shall the Maine Vocational Region Ten Adult Vocational Education budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for fiscal year 2006-2007 be approved in the amount of \$51,000 (SAD No. 75 share is \$10,922), and shall the District raise \$10,922 as the local share? (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE IX: ADULT EDUCATION. To see if the District will appropriate \$433,529 for adult education (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote), and to see if the District will raise \$114,326 as the local share (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote), with authorization to expend any additional, incidental or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and well-being of the adult education program.</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE X: CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT. To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$250,000 for the Contingency Account (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE XI: CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOTAL COST OF PUBLIC EDUCATION. To see what sum the District will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and to see what sum the District will raise and assess as each municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688. (Recommend amount set forth below):</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Total appropriated (by municipality)</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Total raised (District assessments by municipality)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bowdoin \$ 5,034,654.33</td> <td>Bowdoin \$ 1,114,920.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bowdoinham \$ 4,340,219.25</td> <td>Bowdoinham \$ 1,209,160.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Harpswell \$ 5,134,265.92</td> <td>Harpswell \$ 4,836,503.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Topsham \$ 13,951,314.59</td> <td>Topsham \$ 4,833,980.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>District Total Appropriated \$ 28,460,454.09</td> <td>District Total Raised \$11,994,563.20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Explanation: The school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the District must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars. (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>	Total appropriated (by municipality)	Total raised (District assessments by municipality)	Bowdoin \$ 5,034,654.33	Bowdoin \$ 1,114,920.00	Bowdoinham \$ 4,340,219.25	Bowdoinham \$ 1,209,160.00	Harpswell \$ 5,134,265.92	Harpswell \$ 4,836,503.20	Topsham \$ 13,951,314.59	Topsham \$ 4,833,980.00	District Total Appropriated \$ 28,460,454.09	District Total Raised \$11,994,563.20
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District Total Appropriated \$ 28,460,454.09	District Total Raised \$11,994,563.20												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE XII: LOCALLY-FUNDED DEBT SERVICE ALLOCATION. To see what sum the District will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12. Board of School Directors recommends \$348,796.</p> <p>Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the District long-term debt for major capital school construction projects or minor capital renovation projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters or other legislative body. (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>												

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<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE XIII: ADDITIONAL LOCAL FUNDS. Shall MSAD No. 75 raise and appropriate \$5,388,400.91 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$3,255,600.86? The Board of School Directors recommends \$5,388,400.91 for the following reasons:</p> <p>1) District costs for advanced placement courses at the high school are not included in the state funding model. The Board of Directors policy for student-teacher ratios, plus the addition of 4.5 Literacy Teachers to the budget beyond the Board policy, results in instructional staff not included in the state funding model. These differences account for \$317,058 of the total amount above the state model.</p> <p>2) The state formula does not recognize extra-curricular (athletic) programs and recognizes only a very small portion of the cost of co-curricular activities as essential. Co-curricular and extra-curricular (athletic) activities account for \$475,574 of the total amount above the state model.</p> <p>3) The District’s Gifted and Talented program was expanded in 2005-2006 and continues at that same level for 2006-2007 to meet the state requirement for a K-12 program. The funding model is based on the District’s 2004-2005 actual costs and, therefore, exceeds the model’s cost calculation by 74% or \$83,476.</p> <p>4) The District’s costs for student transportation exceed the funding model amount by 37.2% or \$580,703 because of the excessive distances that the District’s buses must travel, late buses to accommodate student participation in school activities, and summer school transportation for special education students.</p> <p>5) The state funding model establishes a funding level for the District for vocational education. The proposed Maine Vocational Region 10 budget expects the district to raise 14.9% or \$92,917 more than that amount.</p> <p>6) The cost of District Special Education programs exceeds the state funding model amount by 25.6% or \$1,207,354. This reflects the District’s legal obligation to provide special education and supportive services to the District’s 677 identified students with special needs.</p> <p>7) The cost of District operations & maintenance exceeds the state funding model by 10.6% or \$327,037 as a result of the rapid increase in energy costs that are not adequately recognized in the funding formula.</p> <p>8) The amounts that exceed the total state model in the areas cited in items 1 through 7 above are offset in the area of district administration where the District is proposing to spend \$78,518 less than the state funding model amount.</p> <p>9) In its funding model, the state does not address the need for a contingency account. The District has included in its budget a contingency account of \$250,000. This amount is viewed by the Board to be a very conservative amount to have available to meet emergent operational and education requirements in a budget that exceeds \$35 million.</p> <p>Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally-raised funds over and above the school administrative unit’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual debt service payment on non-state-funded school construction projects or the non-state-funded portion of a school construction project that will help achieve the District’s budget for educational programs. (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE XIV: TOTAL BUDGET. To see what sum the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007 from the District’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools. Board of School Directors recommends \$ 35,479,624.</p>
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p>ARTICLE XV: BOND ISSUE FOR MINOR CAPITAL COSTS. Shall the Board of Directors of School Administrative District No. 75 be authorized to issue bonds or notes in the name of this district for minor capital projects in an amount not to exceed \$450,000 for the purpose of funding various capital improvements at District facilities, and shall the District raise and appropriate \$114,750 for the first year annual payment on this non-state-funded debt service? (Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote).</p>