

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

Town of \_\_\_\_\_

**Tuesday, June 12, 2007**

Robert W. Hill, Chair  
Board of Directors

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

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

**ARTICLES**

<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE II: ACADEMICS ACCOUNT.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$13,657,305 for the Academics Account (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE III: ACADEMIC SERVICES ACCOUNT.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$9,468,391 for the Academic Services Account (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE IV: SUPPORT SERVICES ACCOUNT.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$8,980,444 for the Support Services Account (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE V: STUDENT ACTIVITIES ACCOUNT.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$635,270 for the Student Activities Account (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE VI: DEBT SERVICE ACCOUNT.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$2,570,190 for the Debt Service Account (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE VII: MAINE VOCATIONAL REGION TEN BUDGET.</b> Shall the Maine Vocational Region Ten budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for fiscal year 2007-2008 be approved in the amount of \$1,907,730 (SAD No. 75 share is \$735,272.); and shall the District raise \$735,272 as the local share (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>)?</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE VIII: MAINE VOCATIONAL REGION TEN ADULT VOCATIONAL BUDGET.</b> Shall the Maine Vocational Region Ten Adult Vocational Education budget as approved by the Cooperative Board for fiscal year 2007-2008 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 (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>)?</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE IX: ADULT EDUCATION.</b> Shall the Adult Education budget be approved in the amount of \$462,793 (SAD No. 75 share is \$116,613.); and shall the District raise \$116,613 as the local share (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>) with authorization to expend any additional grants or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and well-being of the Adult Education Program?</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE X: CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$250,000 for the Contingency Account (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>).</p>												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE XI: CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOTAL COST OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.</b> 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: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Total appropriated (by municipality)</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Total raised (District assessments by municipality)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Bowdoin                                 \$ 5,335,173.38</td> <td style="border: none;">Bowdoin                                 \$ 1,332,876.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Bowdoinham                             \$ 4,743,382.78</td> <td style="border: none;">Bowdoinham                           \$ 1,394,256.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Harpowell                               \$ 5,380,463.48</td> <td style="border: none;">Harpowell                             \$ 5,380,463.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Topsham                                 \$ 14,734,378.10</td> <td style="border: none;">Topsham                               \$ 5,508,204.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">District Total Appropriated         \$ 30,193,397.74</td> <td style="border: none;">District Total Raised               \$13,615,799.48</td> </tr> </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. (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>)</p>	Total appropriated (by municipality)	Total raised (District assessments by municipality)	Bowdoin                                 \$ 5,335,173.38	Bowdoin                                 \$ 1,332,876.00	Bowdoinham                             \$ 4,743,382.78	Bowdoinham                           \$ 1,394,256.00	Harpowell                               \$ 5,380,463.48	Harpowell                             \$ 5,380,463.48	Topsham                                 \$ 14,734,378.10	Topsham                               \$ 5,508,204.00	District Total Appropriated         \$ 30,193,397.74	District Total Raised               \$13,615,799.48
Total appropriated (by municipality)	Total raised (District assessments by municipality)												
Bowdoin                                 \$ 5,335,173.38	Bowdoin                                 \$ 1,332,876.00												
Bowdoinham                             \$ 4,743,382.78	Bowdoinham                           \$ 1,394,256.00												
Harpowell                               \$ 5,380,463.48	Harpowell                             \$ 5,380,463.48												
Topsham                                 \$ 14,734,378.10	Topsham                               \$ 5,508,204.00												
District Total Appropriated         \$ 30,193,397.74	District Total Raised               \$13,615,799.48												
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE XII: LOCALLY-FUNDED DEBT SERVICE ALLOCATION.</b> Shall the District raise and appropriate \$351,775 for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the District voters 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?</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 District voters. (<b>Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.</b>)</p>												

**ARTICLES CONTINUED**

<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE XIII: ADDITIONAL LOCAL FUNDS.</b> Shall the District raise and appropriate \$4,612,471.26 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$3,554,835.01? <b>The Board of School Directors recommends \$4,612,471.26</b> for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model:</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 continued inclusion of 4.5 Literacy Teachers in the budget beyond the Board policy, results in instructional staff not included in the state funding model. These differences account for \$1,115,930 of the total amount above the state model.</p> <p>2) The state formula does not recognize extracurricular (athletic) programs and recognizes only a very small portion of the cost of co-curricular activities as essential. Co-curricular and extracurricular (athletic) activities account for \$471,596 of the total amount above the state model.</p> <p>3) Funding for the District’s K-12 Gifted and Talented program is based on the District’s 2005-2006 actual costs and exceeds the model’s cost calculation by 19.2% or \$33,816.</p> <p>4) The District’s costs for student transportation exceed the funding model amount by 20.1% or \$366,306 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 7.0% or \$48,347 more than that amount.</p> <p>6) The cost of District Special Education programs exceeds the state funding model amount by 17.6% or \$921,192. The Board provides a level of special education programming for its 673 identified students with special needs that is not fully recognized by the state funding model. This includes in-District programs to support the needs of students with severe disabilities and to provide extended school-year programs in the summer.</p> <p>7) The cost of District operations and maintenance exceeds the state funding model by 14.0% or \$428,998 as a result of the rapid increase in energy and facility maintenance costs that are not adequately recognized in the annual adjustments to the state 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 \$81,351 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 \$36 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.  <b>(Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.)</b></p>
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE XIV: TOTAL BUDGET.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to expend \$36,424,407.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008 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 <b>(Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.)</b>.</p>
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE XV: ADJUSTMENT OF MUNICIPAL CONTRIBUTIONS.</b> To see if the District will authorize the Board of School Directors to adjust the amounts for total costs by municipality and the amount of municipal local contributions in accordance with any changes to the State of Maine’s support of funding for the District which may be enacted by the Legislature of the State of Maine for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.</p> <p>Explanation: The warrant for this District Budget Referendum was prepared in accordance with the Department of Education’s budget proposed to the Maine Legislature. However, the Legislature could enact legislation which changes the State funding provisions incorporated in the warrant for this District Referendum. Should further changes in the State funding requirements for the 2007-2008 fiscal year be enacted by the Legislature, this article would authorize the Board of School Directors to make the necessary adjustments to apply any additional State funding toward lowering the total local contributions without the need for another District referendum.  <b>(Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.)</b></p>
<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<p><b>ARTICLE XVI: BOND ISSUE FOR MINOR CAPITAL COSTS.</b> 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 \$362,500 for the purpose of funding various capital improvements at District facilities, and shall the District raise and appropriate \$76,578 for the first year annual payment on this non-state-funded debt service <b>(Board of School Directors recommends a YES vote.)?</b></p>