

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2016
SCHOOL WARRANT

To the Inhabitants of the Oyster River Cooperative School District of Durham, Lee, and Madbury qualified to vote upon District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Oyster River High School in said district on the 3rd day of February 2016, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening for Session I of the Annual School District Meeting for discussion of Articles 3 through 8 and for any amendments thereto. Warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and no warrant article shall be amended to eliminate the subject matter of the article at Session I.

Official ballot voting for school district officers (articles 1 and 2) and on articles 3-8 will occur at town polling locations on Tuesday, March 8, 2016:

Town of Durham	Oyster River High School	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Town of Lee	Lee Safety Complex	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Town of Madbury	Madbury Town Hall	11:00 am to 7:30 pm

ARTICLE 1: To choose a Moderator for the coming year.

ARTICLE 2: To choose two At-Large School Board members for the ensuing three years.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$1.9 Million for the renovation and construction of athletic fields and a track at Oyster River High School, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1.5 Million of bonds or notes to be paid over a 10 year period in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33), with \$400,000 to come from the June 30, unassigned fund balance available July 1, 2016 and/or Facilities Development Capital Reserve Expendable Trust Fund, and to authorize the School Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes. Furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,419 for the first year's principal and interest payment. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (A three-fifths (3/5) ballot vote required.)*

Explanation: Warrant Article 3 - Asks Oyster River taxpayers to approve a bond of up to \$1.5 Million over a (10) year period to fund the costs for an athletic facility upgrade project at the high school. This project will include an all-weather track, an artificial turf playing field with environmentally friendly fill, and reconfigured baseball and softball fields. The benefits of the project include increased safety, improved drainage and reduced runoff into Beard's Creek, and increased field access reducing the need to rent UNH fields. Assuming the \$1.5 million bond is approved by the voters, \$300,000 for the project which has been previously fundraised, will be used to fund the construction of the all-weather track. The remaining \$400,000 will come from fund balance. The Board anticipates that additional fundraising will make enhancements to the project possible, including field lights and dugouts.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the District vote to approve within the provisions of New Hampshire RSA 273-A:3 the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Oyster River Educational Support Personnel Association and the Oyster River School Board which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

2016-2017	\$ 38,937
2017-2018	\$ 42,332
2018-2019	\$ 45,638

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,937 for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increases in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

ARTICLE 5: Shall the District authorize the School Board to sell the 24.97acre lot on Orchard Drive in Durham, on such terms and conditions as the School Board determines are in the best interests of the District, and further to raise and appropriate up to \$500,000 from the sale of this property to be placed into the Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

Explanation: Warrant Article 5 - Requests voter approval to sell two vacant residential parcels of land, totaling 24.97 acres on Orchard Drive in Durham. This property was given to the School District for future use. The property has been surveyed to determine the viability of using it for future buildings or fields. About 17 acres of the combined area of the parcels are constrained by natural resources, wetlands and watercourses, leaving only 8 acres for potential residential use. As a result of our environmental study, the School Board has determined that these parcels are not suitable for any school purpose. By placing this money in the Facilities Capital Reserve Fund it allows the District to meet capital needs.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$500,000 to be added to the Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund. This sum to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2016. No amount to be raised by taxation. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

Explanation: Warrant Article 6 - Due to unanticipated revenues and unexpended accounts there may be funds remaining at the end of the year. Article 6 allows up to \$500,000 of the remaining funds to be placed in the Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund to help address over \$2.5 million in unmet facility needs.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the District establish a non-lapsing Equipment Revolving Fund in accordance with RSA 194:3-c, to be funded by the sale of unused and outdated equipment for the purpose of providing equipment to students in need. Further to raise and appropriate the sum of one dollar (\$1.00). Withdrawals from the revolving fund will be made at monthly intervals as needed. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

Explanation: Warrant Article 7 – This article asks voters to approve establishing a fund to provide the District with a way to assist students who live at or below poverty level, as defined by the free and reduced price lunch program. It is recognized that there are currently students in our District who are unable to afford the purchase of important technology. Funds from the proceeds of the sale of unused or outdated technology equipment will be utilized to provide this needed technology. The amount in this fund is to be capped at \$2,000.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the District 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 vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$42,303,815. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$40,892,769, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X, and XVI, to take up the issue of the revised operating budget only. *The School Board recommends this appropriation. (Majority vote required)*

Note: Fund 10 = \$40,950,403 (regular operating budget); Fund 21 = \$671,412 (expenditures from food service revenues); Fund 22 = \$621,000 (expenditures from federal/special revenues); Fund 23 = \$61,000 (expenditures from pass through funds)?

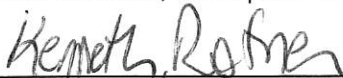
Given under our hands at said Durham NH this 20th day of January 2016:



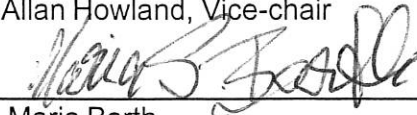
Thomas Newkirk, Chairperson



Allan Howland, Vice-chair



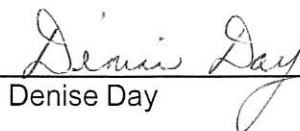
Kenneth Rotner




Maria Barth



Daniel Klein



Denise Day



Sarah Farwell