

**TOWN OF HOPE
SPECIAL SCHOOL BUDGET TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

Knox County, ss.

State of Maine

TO: Adrian Humphries, a resident of the Town of Hope, County of Knox, State of Maine:
You are hereby required in the name of the State of Maine to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hope qualified to vote in Town affairs, of the Special School Budget Town Meeting described in this Warrant.

TO THE VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF HOPE:

You are hereby notified that a Special School Budget Town Meeting will be held at Hope Fire Station, 475 Camden Road, in the Town of Hope on July 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM for the purpose of determining the school budget articles set forth below.

ARTICLE 1A: To elect by written ballot a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

**ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11 AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST
CENTER CATEGORIES**

ARTICLE 1: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$1,482,412** for Regular Instruction?

School Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed

Budget Committee Vote: 0 in favor, 4 opposed

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$796,554** for Special Education?

School Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed

Budget Committee Vote: 0 in favor, 4 opposed

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$0.00** for Career and Technical Education?

School Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

Budget Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$31,612** for Other Instruction?

School Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

Budget Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$356,068** for Student and Staff Support?

School Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed

Budget Committee Vote: 0 in favor, 4 opposed

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$146,750** for System Administration?

School Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed

Budget Committee Vote: 0 in favor, 4 opposed

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$226,281** for School Administration?

School Committee Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed

Budget Committee Vote: 0 in favor, 4 opposed

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$157,690** for Transportation and Buses?

School Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

Budget Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$285,517** for Facilities Maintenance?

School Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

Budget Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$0.00** for Debt Service and Other Commitments?

School Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

Budget Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town of Hope be authorized to expend **\$0.00** for All Other Expenditures?

School Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

Budget Committee Vote: 4-0 in favor

**ARTICLES 12 AND 13 RAISE FUNDS FOR THE
PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town of Hope appropriate **\$2,249,081** for the total cost of funding public education from PreK to grade 8 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and shall the Town of Hope raise **\$1,098,624** as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreK to grade 8 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688?

School Committee Recommends: Appropriating \$2,249,081 and Raising \$1,098,624

Budget Committee Recommends: Appropriating \$2,249,081 and Raising \$1,098,624

Explanation: The Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreK to grade 8 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 a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

ARTICLE 13: (Written ballot required) Shall the Town of Hope raise and appropriate **\$1,086,583** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$1,086,583**?

School Committee Recommends: Raising and appropriating \$1,086,583 in Additional Local Funds, which exceeds EPS by \$1,086,583

Budget Committee Recommends: Raising and appropriating \$1,069,947 in Additional Local Funds, which exceeds EPS by \$1,069,947

The School Committee gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$1,086,583**: The essential programs and services funding model does not recognize all educational costs, such as Special Education, extra-curricular and co-curricular costs.

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreK to grade 8 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Town budget for educational programs.

ARTICLE 14 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town of Hope authorize the school committee to expend **\$3,482,883** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreK to grade 8 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.

School Committee Recommends: Yes
Budget Committee Recommends: No

ARTICLE 15 AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURE OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

ARTICLE 15: In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the school committee be authorized to expend sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

School Committee Recommends a Yes Vote.
Budget Committee Recommends a Yes Vote.

ARTICLE 16 ESTABLISHES A FACILITIES RESERVE FUND

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town of Hope authorize the School Committee to establish a Hope Elementary School Facilities Reserve Fund for maintenance and upkeep of Hope Elementary School?

School Committee Recommends a Yes Vote.
Budget Committee Recommends a No Vote.

ARTICLE 17 ADDRESSES EXPENDITURE DISCREPANCIES IN THE '21-'22 BUDGET

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town authorize the Hope School Committee to transfer amounts greater than 5% between budgetary cost centers in the FY2021-2022 HES budget, and appropriate \$35,483 from the unassigned fund balance to cover the FY 2021-2022 overdraft in the Facilities Maintenance Cost Center.

Explanation: The overdraft(s) were due to unforeseen expenses in the following cost centers: special education, support services, system administration, transportation, and facility maintenance. By transferring >5% amounts between cost centers, the School Committee reduced the number of cost centers affected which also require voter approval pursuant to 20-A M.R.S. §1485 (4). Approval of this article will not cause any additional impact to the FY2024 taxes.

*School Committee Recommends a Yes Vote.
Budget Committee Recommends a Yes Vote.*

Given under our hand this day, July 13, 2023, at Hope, Maine.

Sarah Ann Smith *[Signature]*
[Signature] _____
[Signature]

A majority of the municipal officers of the Town of Hope.

A true copy of the Warrant, attest:

Pam Smith
Pam Smith, Town Clerk
Town of Hope