

**Amherst School District
Annual Meeting Warrant
February 6, 2023 and March 14, 2023
Amherst, New Hampshire**

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

You are hereby notified of the following Annual School District Meeting schedule:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative)

You are hereby notified to meet at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Post Rd., Amherst, NH in said District on the 6th day of February 2023 at 6:00 p.m. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of warrant articles numbered 12 through 19. 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. An amendment that changes the dollar amount of an appropriation in a warrant article shall not be deemed to be eliminating the subject matter of the article.

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

You are hereby notified to meet on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to vote by official ballot on warrant articles numbered 11 through 19.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON WARRANT ARTICLE NUMBERS: To avoid confusion caused by warrant articles with the same number; Souhegan Cooperative School District warrant articles are numbered one (1) through ten (10), Amherst School District warrant articles are numbered eleven (11) through nineteen (19), and Town of Amherst warrant articles are numbered twenty-one (21) and above.

Article 11. Election of Officers (voting by official ballot March 14, 2023)

To the following school district offices:

- a. To choose two (2) School Board Members for the ensuing three (3) years;
- b. To choose one (1) School District Moderator for the ensuing three (3) years;
- c. To choose one (1) School District Clerk for the ensuing three (3) years; and,
- d. To choose one (1) School District Treasurer for the ensuing three (3) years.

Article 12. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty four million two hundred and fifty thousand one hundred seventy nine dollars **(\$54,250,179)** (gross budget) to finance the major addition, reconstruction and renovation project for the Clark /Wilkins Elementary School, located at 14 Foundry Street, Amherst, NH and 80 Boston Post Road, Amherst, NH and to authorize the issuance of not more than **\$54,250,179** of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended; to authorize the School Board to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; 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 and other terms thereof; and to authorize the School Board to take any action or to pass any other vote relative thereto, and further to raise and appropriate an additional sum of one million three hundred fifty six thousand two hundred fifty five dollars **(\$1,356,255)** for the first year's interest payment on the bond. **3/5 ballot vote required.**

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Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Not Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (1-6)

Estimated tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.57 per thousand.

Article 13. Shall the Amherst School 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 thirty two million three hundred ninety nine thousand four hundred eighty six dollars **(\$32,399,486)**? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be thirty one million nine hundred ninety six thousand six hundred thirty three dollars **(\$31,996,633)** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Amherst School 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 a revised operating budget only? **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Not Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (0-7)

Estimated tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.37 per thousand.

Estimated tax impact of not passing this article is: \$0.20 per thousand.

**NOTE: Warrant Article 13 (operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed in any other warrant articles.*

Article 14. Shall the Amherst School District approve all cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Amherst School Board and Amherst Education Association (AEA) which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2024	\$691,834
2025	\$648,309
2026	\$640,399

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$691,834 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, 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 the current staffing levels? **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Not Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (3-4)

Estimated tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.29 per thousand.

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Article 15. Shall the Amherst School District, if Article 14 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 14 cost items only? **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (4-3)

Article 16. Shall the Amherst School District approve all cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Amherst School Board and the Amherst Support Staff Association (ASSA) which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2024	\$108,214
2025	\$68,769
2026	\$68,879

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$108,214 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, 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.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (7-0)

Estimated tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.05 per thousand.

Article 17. Shall the Amherst School District, if Article 16 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 16 cost items only? **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Not Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (2-5)

Article 18. Shall the Amherst School District raise and appropriate the sum of up to six hundred and five thousand dollars (\$605,000) to be added to the Amherst School District Capital Facilities Repair, Maintenance and Improvement Expendable Trust Fund for repairing, maintaining, and improving capital facilities, previously established in March 2003? This sum to come from the June 30, 2023 year-end unassigned fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, 2023. No amount to be raised from new taxation. **Majority vote required.**

Recommended by the Amherst School Board (5-0)

Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (7-0)

Estimated new tax impact of passing this article is: \$0.00 per thousand.

Estimated new tax impact of not passing this article is: -\$0.26 per thousand.

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Article 19.

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than the lesser of (a) 2% (two percent); or (b) the annual percentage increase in the U.S. Consumer Price Index-All Urban Consumers for the Northeast, published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of the month of December of the immediately-preceding year? **3/5 Majority vote required.**

Not Recommended by the Amherst School Board (0-5)

Not Recommended by the Amherst School District Ways & Means Committee (1-6)

Given under our hands as said Amherst, New Hampshire, on the day 23 of January 2023.

Tom Gauthier

Tom Gauthier, Chair

Victoria Parisi

Victoria Parisi, Vice Chair

Jason White

Jason White, Secretary

Terri Behm

Terri Behm

Josh Conklin

Joshua Conklin

Signature Certificate

Reference number: JX2FR-PTPEW-NMGWS-QTJBQ

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Tom Gauthier Email: tgauthier@sau39.org Sent: 23 Jan 2023 18:19:55 UTC Viewed: 23 Jan 2023 18:51:40 UTC Signed: 23 Jan 2023 18:51:55 UTC Recipient Verification: ✓ Email verified 23 Jan 2023 18:51:40 UTC		
Terri Behm Email: tbehm@sau39.org Sent: 23 Jan 2023 18:19:55 UTC Viewed: 23 Jan 2023 21:06:22 UTC Signed: 23 Jan 2023 21:07:49 UTC Recipient Verification: ✓ Email verified 23 Jan 2023 21:06:22 UTC		
Victoria Parisi Email: vparisi@sau39.org Sent: 23 Jan 2023 18:19:55 UTC Viewed: 24 Jan 2023 15:00:31 UTC Signed: 24 Jan 2023 15:00:51 UTC Recipient Verification: ✓ Email verified 24 Jan 2023 15:00:31 UTC		

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