FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2011 VOTER'S GUIDE

This is a guide for the upcoming Annual Meeting Session II. It has been prepared to provide you additional information for your voting decisions, prior to entering into the voting booth on Tuesday, March 8, 2011.

Attached is a sample ballot format with brief explanations on the articles. This has been prepared in follow-up to the Deliberative Session and includes changes made at that meeting.

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact the SAU #83 Administrative office at 895-6903.

We hope this information is helpful for your understanding of the issues to be voted upon at the 2011 Annual School District Meeting, Second Session.

Jeffrey Rowell Deborah Genthner Eric Abney Ida Keane

Fremont School Board

In our first year of the SB2 School District Meeting, this Voter Guide has been prepared to provide additional information to assist voters in making informed decisions about the many challenges facing the Town. The process is different with regard to activity on this warrant. The Official Warrants remains one document. It is reviewed and discussed at the Deliberative Session. Following any changes at that session, a final format of the questions is created, called the Official Ballot. Thus SB2 is called the Official Ballot law. Following the Deliberative Session, this VOTER GUIDE is prepared to include the changes from Deliberative Session on Saturday, February 5th. At that session, 138 registered voters were in attendance and all Articles on the Warrant were reviewed and discussed. Warrant Article 3 was changed. This document includes the final text of all material to be voted on at the polls March 8, 2011.

In this Voter Guide, the warrant article is written in plain text and the narrative information is below each article, in *italics*. This information, with all Warrant Articles as amended, will appear on the Official Ballot.

Voting on the finalized Official Ballot will take place on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at the Fremont Safety Complex, 425 Main Street, Fremont, NH. Polls are open hours from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. You can also request an absentee ballot for this session by contacting the Fremont Town Clerk for information at 895-8693.

The School Board and the Budget Committee recommendations on all Warrant Articles are included. For voter information, in the narrative position of this guide, we have also included tax rate estimates, and other information pertinent to voter consideration of each article. The type of vote required appears in parentheses at the end of each article as well, such as majority or 2/3 vote requirements.

In 2010, the School's portion of the tax rate was \$19.42 as a reference. You can also refer to tax rate historical information elsewhere in the 2010 Town Report.

School Election Warrant

School Board member - 1 for 3 years Laurie Trostle-Pitkin Eric Abney Sharon Girardi Write in _____

School Board member - 1 for 2 years Andrew P. Kohlofer Laurence Dobson Tammy Kitt Write in School District Moderator - 1 for 1 year Keith J. Stanton Michael J. Rydeen Write in _____

School District Treasurer – 1 for 1 year Elizabeth J. Stanley Write in

School District Clerk – 1 for 1 year No candidates declared Write in

School Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Fremont School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Fremont School Board and The Fremont Education Association which calls for the following changes in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary and Benefits (excluding Health Insurance) Increase over prior year	Estimated Health Insurance decrease over prior year	Net Increase/ Decrease
2011-2012	\$46,339	-\$100,095	-\$53,756
2012-2013	\$39,105 to \$78,209	\$ 0	\$39,105 to \$78,209

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Zero dollars (\$0.00) for the 2011-2012 fiscal year, such sum representing the net costs for teacher salaries and health insurance expenses compared with what the District would pay at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement, with such changes in net costs in health insurance expenses due to a change in the District's health plan?

(Not recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee, 5-1) (Recommended by the Fremont School Board, 4-0) The estimated tax impact is zero (\$0.00).

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Fremont School District, if Article 1 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 1 cost items only?

(Not recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee, 5-1) (Recommended by the Fremont School Board, 4-0)

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Fremont 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 \$10,846,317. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$11,115,398, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Fremont 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).

(Not Recommended By the Fremont Budget Committee, 5-1) (Recommended by the Fremont School Board, 3-2)

Now that SB2 is in place, this master budget article includes only the number recommended by the Budget Committee of \$10,250,518. Their recommendation was increased to \$10,846,317 at the Deliberative Session. The School Board recommended \$11,242,332 for the operating budget.

The estimated tax impact would be \$1.27 per thousand (\$2.02 per thousand for the Default).

In our haste to prepare for Deliberative Session, the tax rate impact sheet that was made available was incorrect. The wrong assessed value was used in the calculation. We apologize for this error.

ARTICLE 4: Received by Petition: "Shall the Fremont School District vote to rescind the authority of the Fremont School Board (RSA 198:20-b, approved in 2008) to spend "unanticipated money" received from a State, Federal or other governmental unit without the approval of the District voters?"

(Recommended By the Fremont Budget Committee, 4-2) (Not recommended by the Fremont School Board, 4-1)

Please be sure to vote on Election Day Tuesday, March 8, 2011. Polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Fremont Safety Complex, 425 Main Street, Fremont NH Contact the Town Clerk for absentee ballot information at 895-8693. Check the Town website for further information and details at <u>www.Fremont.nh.gov</u>.