

## 2017 School District Voter Guide

### From the School Board....

The Fremont School Board would like to inform all our taxpayers about some of the school district warrant articles that will appear on the ballot in March.

#### *Warrant Article 2*

Shall the Fremont School District 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 increases in salaries and benefits at the current staff level over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

Fiscal year	Estimated Increase
2017-2018	\$23,323
2018-2019	\$81,796

And further to raise and appropriate \$23,323 for the 2017-2018 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.

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board (5-0))  
(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee (7-1-0))  
*Tax impact is less than \$0.06.*

Highlights of this contract include 3% more working hours over the two year contract achieved through: adding 5 additional minutes of teaching time to each day, adding two days to the teaching year (one for parent conference and one professional development) and adding 5 additional meetings in 17/18 and up to 15 additional meetings beginning in 18/19. A pay schedule increase will help attract and retain teachers and better align with Sanborn, and compensate teachers for a longer day, additional meetings and longer school year. This contract allows us to move to a lower cost health insurance plan which will yield \$109,923 in savings.

#### *Warrant Article 3*

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

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board (5-0-0))  
(Not Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee (4-4-0))  
*No tax impact.*

#### *Warrant Article 4*

Shall the Fremont School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount 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 \$12,572,927? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$12,554,143 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.

*NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant articles.*

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board (4-1-0))  
(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee (7-1-0))

This budget represents an approximately \$50,000 reduction from the FY17 budget, despite health insurance increases, NH Retirement increases and increase in Sanborn HS tuition (2.57% GMR).

***Warrant Article 5***

Shall the Fremont School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the previously established expendable trust fund, known as the Ellis School Building and Grounds Maintenance Fund. This sum is to come from the June 30, 2017 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2017. No amount to be raised by taxation.

**(Recommended by the Fremont School Board (5-0-0))**  
**(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee (8-0-0))**  
***No new taxes to be raised.***

This article allows the Board to deposit up to \$20,000 in the Ellis Building Trust Fund from this year's budget if funds remain at the end of the year. This trust fund has existed for many years and funds occasional unbudgeted maintenance. In FY17 it will absorb some of the expense to replace the rooftop A/C unit. Additionally, in FY17 we encountered well problems and also an oil tank inspection failure. This trust fund helps to offset these costly expenses in an aging building.

***Warrant Article 6***

To see if the Fremont School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the previously established expendable trust fund, known as Tuition Trust Fund. This sum is to come from the June 30, 2017 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2017. No amount to be raised by taxation.

**(Recommended by the Fremont School Board (5-0-0))**  
**(Not Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee (3-5-0))**  
***No new taxes to be raised.***

This article allows the Board to deposit up to \$100,000 in the Tuition Trust Fund from this year's budget if funds remain at the end of the year. The Tuition Trust Fund was started two years ago to provide a buffer that is no longer in the operating budget for unexpected expenses for Sanborn Tuition (more students enrolling than predicted) and for any unbudgeted out-of-district special education placements. At any time, an existing student may require such a placement, or a new student to the district may come with an IEP requiring such a placement.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our Superintendent, Dr. Betsey Cox-Buteau at 603-895-6903. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fremont School Board