

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 on March 13, 2018. Please note that any language amendments made at Deliberative Session are indicated by bold print.

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 Ellis School Support Staff (AFT – Local #6223) which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staff level:

Fiscal year	Estimated Increase
2018-2019	\$27,708
2019-2020	\$27,940
2020-2021	\$23,731

And further to raise and appropriate \$27,708 for the 2018-2019 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 5-0-0
Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 5-2-0 (1 absent)
Tax impact is \$0.07

Highlights of this contract include: Para-Educator II designation added, workday increased from 6.5 to 6.67 hours, health insurance plans aligned with teacher plans (higher deductibles and copays; lower premium cost to District), clarified language related to bereavement and personal leave.

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 \$12,405,605? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$12,762,313 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 5-0-0
Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 5-2-0 (1 absent)

This budget represents an approximately \$210,000 reduction from the FY18 budget, despite health insurance increases, Sanborn HS tuition increase (4.14% GMR), year two of the teacher's contract increase and the bus contract increase.

Warrant Article 5

Shall the Fremont School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$50,000 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, 2018 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2018. No amount to be raised from **additional** taxation.

Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5-0-0
Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 6-1-0 (1 absent)
No new taxes to be raised

This article allows the Board to deposit up to \$50,000 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 has funded unanticipated maintenance issues which have arose such as asbestos abatement, roof snow removal and electrical repairs. It can also be used for major repairs which we need to "save towards" over a periods of time, such as the air handler and boiler units. 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 \$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, 2018 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2018. No amount to be raised from **additional** taxation.

Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5-0-0
Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 6-1-0 (1 absent)
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 three years ago to provide a buffer that is no longer in the operating budget for unexpected expenses for high school tuition (ie: more students enrolling than predicted). Having the safeguard of these funds also allows us to budget more conservatively (below the GMR) so as not to raise and appropriate excess money should the high school budget be approved at a lower rate, thus making our cost per pupil less than the GMR provided.

Warrant Article 7

To see if the Fremont School District will vote to establish a Special Education Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 198:20-c, V for the purpose of providing funds for special education costs, and to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$100,000 to be placed in the fund, said sum to come from the June 30, 2018 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2018, **with no amount to be raised by additional taxation.**

Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5-0-0
Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 6-1-0 (1 absent)
No new taxes to be raised

This article allows the Board to create a Special Education Expendable Trust Fund and to deposit up to \$100,000 into it from this year's budget if funds remain at the end of the year. Special education costs can be difficult to anticipate due to students' needs changing during a school year, resulting in new/different/additional services required. At any time a new student may arrive in Fremont with services already legally required that we must provide. Rather than requesting in the operating budget for "possible" extras, we plan to create this trust to be used only for unanticipated special education needs.

Warrant Article 8

To see if the Fremont School District will vote to establish a Technology Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 198:20-c, V for the purpose of providing funds for the maintenance and improvement of technology infrastructure and equipment, and to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the fund, said sum to come from the June 30, 2018 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2018. No amount to be raised from **additional** taxation.

Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5-0-0
Not Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 2-5-0 (1 absent)
No new taxes to be raised

This article allows the Board to create a Technology Trust Fund and to deposit up to \$25,000 into it from this year's budget if funds remain at the end of the year. As we expand the use of technology for staff and students, it is important to create a fund which will provide for the long term maintenance and upgrades of the infrastructure system to support technology needs. Possible costs could include, but are not limited to: replacement/upgrade of the servers, system switches, enhanced wireless systems and a Chromebook replacement plan.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our Superintendent, Mrs. Allyn Hutton, at 603 895 6903. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Fremont School Board