

Fremont School District 2014 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 11, 2014.

The following includes a sample ballot format with brief explanations of the articles including the associated tax impact. This has been prepared as a 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 assists in your understanding of the issues to be voted upon at the 2014 Annual School District Meeting, Second Session.

Ida Keane Andrew Kohlhofer Gregory Fraize Sharon Girardi Tammy Kitt

Fremont School Board

In our fourth year of the SB2 School District Meeting, this Voter's 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 as 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'S GUIDE is prepared to include the changes from Deliberative Session held on Tuesday, February 4th. At that session, 91 registered voters were in attendance and all Articles on the Warrant were reviewed and discussed. This document includes the final text of all material to be voted on at the polls on March 11, 2014.

In this Voter's Guide, the warrant article is written in plain text. For voter information, we have also included the associated tax rate estimates below each article, in *italics*. This information, with all Warrant Articles as amended, will appear on the Official Ballot. The School Board and the Budget Committee recommendations on all Warrant Articles are included.

Voting on the finalized Official Ballot will take place on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at the Laurence Pettengill Hall, Ellis School, 432 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.

In 2013, the School's portion of the tax rate was \$21.26 as a reference. You can also refer to tax rate historical information elsewhere in the 2013 Town Report.

School Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 1:

School Board member - 1 for 3 years
Shannon Bryant

School District Moderator - 1 for 1 year
Victor Sokul

Write in _____

Write in _____

School District Clerk – 1 for 1 year
No candidates declared

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

Write in _____

Write in _____

ARTICLE 2. 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 increases in salaries and benefits at the current staff level:

| Fiscal year | Estimated Increase |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 2014-2015 | \$52,264 |
| 2015-2016 | \$67,377 |
| 2016-2017 | \$68,283 |

And further to raise and appropriate \$52,264 for the current 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 6 - 0)

The estimated tax impact is \$.14.

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)

(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 5-1)

No Tax Impact

ARTICLE 4. 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 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 |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 2014-2015 | \$ 23,479 |
| 2015-2016 | \$ 14,680 |

And further to raise and appropriate \$23,479 for the current 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 6 - 0)

The estimated tax impact is \$.07.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Fremont School District, if Article 4 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 4 cost items only?

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5-0)

(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 4-2)

No Tax Impact

ARTICLE 6. 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 amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purpose therein set forth, totaling \$11,856,986? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$11,939,108 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)

(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 5 - 1)

The estimated tax impact is \$1.42 for proposed, \$1.64 for default.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Fremont School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) 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, 2014 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2014.

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5 - 0)

(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 6 - 0)

No amount to be raised by taxation, funds would come from unassigned fund balance.

ARTICLE 8. Shall the Fremont School District accept the provisions of RSA 198:20-b providing that any School District at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the School Board to apply for, accept and expend, without further action by the School District meeting, unanticipated money from a state, federal, or other governmental unit or a private source which becomes available during the fiscal year?

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5 - 0)

(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 4 - 2)

Please be sure to vote on Election Day Tuesday, March 11, 2014.

Polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

Ellis School

432 Main Street

Fremont, NH

Contact the Town Clerk for absentee ballot information at 895 8693.

Check the Town website for further information and details.

www.Fremont.nh.gov