

Maranacook Area School District

Regional School Unit No. 38

A Caring School Community Dedicated to Excellence

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RSU #38 Budget Update #5

Re: March 4, 2015 RSU #38 School Board Meeting

“Providing support for students in order to promote academic success”

There are great things happening in RSU #38! For example, through the dedicated work of administration and staff, the dropout rate has decreased steadily from 6.49% in 2010, to 5.19% in 2011, to 3.89% in 2012, to 3.83% in 2013, to 3.53% in 2014. Also, in the last round of the New England Common Assessment (NECAP) state testing, the increase in the average middle school reading scores was statistically significant and every grade taking the NECAP scored higher than state average in reading. Another example of excellence in RSU #38 is that our middle school was just recognized as the only Spotlight School in Maine by the New England League of Middle Schools. Additionally, our boys have been the state soccer champions for the past two years, last year one of our elementary students, T.J. Folsom, took first place in the state Modern Woodmen speaking competition, Abigail Westberry was named State Champion in Extemporaneous Speaking and Original Oratory by the Maine Forensic Association, our boys and girls just won state championships in skiing, and the list of accomplishments of our students goes on and on. When people ask “What are we getting for our local dollars?” we can point to the successes that our students have in our quest for excellence.

The March 4, 2015 RSU #38 School Board meeting provided a forum for a joint meeting between school board members and members of the four town select boards. At this meeting the **General Fund Summary Budget, Version 3** was presented. This summary includes the addition to the FY16 budget of \$24,000 to support the School Based Health Center should the Governor’s budget pass. Also presented was the current **Summary of Budget Increases 03/04/15** and the **Summary of Budget Reductions 02/25/15**.

Diane MacGregor, RSU #38 Director of Technology walked the select boards through the RSU #38 web site and budget links where all of the presented budget documents are linked.

New information, including information that was requested by the RSU #38 School Board at the February 25, meeting, included:

Required Mill Rate History in EPS 03/04/15

Health Center Budget 03/06/15

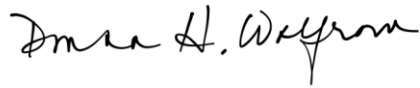
Food Service Budget 03/04/15

Overtime Expenditures, Year to Date 03/04/15

The administrative team along with the RSU #38 School Board continue to work on the FY16 budget. We are still waiting for final figures on health insurance increases and are working on final staffing needs based on current enrollment. The subsidy figures sent by the state were in draft form, so there may be changes in state subsidy based on the Governor's proposed budget. We continue to use the **RSU #38 Strategic Plan** as a guide for budget implications and our budget goal, **"Providing support for students in order to promote academic success"** as a filter for our budget development.

Please visit the Maranacook website at www.maranacook.org/budget/ for all the up-to-date budget information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Donna H. Wolfrom". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'W'.

Donna H. Wolfrom
Superintendent of Schools