

FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2015 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 10, 2015.

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.

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 2015 Annual School District Meeting, Second Session.

Ida Keane Andrew Kohlhofer Gregory Fraize Tammy Kitt Shannon Bryant
Fremont School Board

In our fifth 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 Saturday, January 31, 2015. At that session, sixty-three 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 10, 2015.

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 10, 2015 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 x 16.

In 2014, the School's portion of the tax rate was \$21.38 as a reference. You can also refer to tax rate historical information elsewhere in the 2014 Town Report.

School Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 1:

School Board member - 2 for 3 years

Ida Keane
Jennifer Brown
Greg Fraize
Sharon Girardi

Write in _____

School District Moderator - 1 for 1 year

Victor Sokul

Write in _____

School District Clerk – 1 for 1 year

Patricia Coulombe

Write in _____

School District Treasurer – 1 for 1 year

Elizabeth J. Stanley

Write in _____

ARTICLE 2. To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Fremont School District and the Fremont Education Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal year	Estimated Increase
2016	\$71,063
2017	\$44,734

and further to raise and appropriate \$71,063 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 \$0.19.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Fremont School District, if Warrant Article 2 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article 2 cost items only?

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board, 4-1)

(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee, 5-1)

No Tax Impact

ARTICLE 4. To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Fremont School District 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
2016	\$ 25,182
2017	\$ 24,757
2018	\$ 24,964

and further to raise and appropriate \$25,182 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 \$0.07.

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

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board, 5-0)
(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee, 5-1)

No Tax Impact

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Fremont School District will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee’s recommended amount of \$11,701,213 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for statutory obligations of the district. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$11,717,436 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.

(Recommended by the Fremont School Board 5 - 0)
(Recommended by the Fremont Budget Committee 7 - 1)

The estimated tax impact will not be calculable until the State Adequacy Funding is determined, but the FY15 operating budget is down by \$155,773 from the FY14 operating budget.

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 Ellis School Building and Grounds Maintenance Fund. An expendable trust fund previously established. This sum is to come from the June 30, 2015 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2015. No amount to be raised by taxation.

(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. To see if the school district will vote to establish an Out of District Tuition Fund, an Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 198:20-c, for the purpose of providing funds for unanticipated out-of-district tuition expenses and to vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) from the Fiscal Year 2015 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2015 to be placed in the fund; further to name the school board as agents to expend from the fund. No amount to be raised by taxation.

(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.

Please be sure to vote on Election Day Tuesday, March 10, 2015.

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 x 16.

Check the Town website for further information and details.

www.Fremont.nh.gov