The State of New Hampshire Town of Hinsdale School District Warrant

To the inhabitants of the Town of Hinsdale qualified to vote in School District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Hinsdale Millstream Community Center on Tuesday the 11th day of March 2025, at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following subjects:

ELECTION WARRANT:

Ballot: To cast your ballot for all necessary school district officers.

2,303 Registered voters; 402 votes cast; 17.45% turnout

School Board for three years. Vote for one:

April Anderson 350 votes **Declared Elected**

Write In Candidate(s):

William Hodgman 1 vote Scott Dalton 1 vote Sean Leary 1 vote Christine Bates 1 vote Crystal Gaffney 1 vote Robin Hodgman 1 vote Pele Wiele 1 vote Ken Howe 1 vote Wayne Dingman 1 vote

School District Moderator for three years. Vote for one:

Matthew Bickford 342 votes Declared Elected

Write In Candidate(s):

Edwin 0. Smith 1 vote Smokey Smith 1 vote Devin Parker 1 vote Christine Bates 1 vote Kelly Gilmartin 1 vote

School District Clerk for three years. Vote for one:

Melissa Lowe 348 votes **Declared Elected**

Write In Candidate(s):

Christine Bates 1 vote Whitney Reid 1 vote

School District Treasurer for three years. Vote for one:

Kelly Savory 368 votes **Declared Elected**

Write In Candidate(s):

Christine Bates 1 vote

The following part of the School District Meeting shall be adjourned until Saturday, March 15, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

The Town Checklist was available for use throughout the meeting. Present in addition to the School District Moderator, Edwin Smith, and School District Clerk, Melissa Lowe, was the Supervisor of the Checklist, Kelly Savory, the Deputy Town Clerk, Kim Mitchell, and the Ballot Clerks, Mary Winslow and Nancy Clem.

Also present were School Board Members: April Anderson, Wayne Dingman, Marc Sprague, Kendra Gardner, and Kaylah Hemlow.

The administrators present were Dr. David Ryan, Superintendent, Jane Fortson, Business Administrator.

Moderator Edwin Smith opened the meeting at 9:03 AM. Moderator Smith thanked everyone for coming out to take part in the meeting.

Moderator Smith led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Smith stated the rules of the meeting. Moderator Smith asked for any objection for staff members of the school who are not registered to vote to speak. No objection was made.

Moderator Smith introduced the School Board and Administrators present.

April Anderson recognized the following retirees: Diane Steeves, who was not present for 11 years of service as the Computer and Information Technology teacher at Hinsdale Middle High School. Laura Kelsey, for 12 years of service, as a Para Educator at the Hinsdale Middle/High School. The Board also recognized Steve Fecto, physical education teacher at the Hinsdale Elementary School, will be retiring at the end of this school year, after 27 years of service. The board wanted to Thank Edwin Smith for his time as moderator for the school board. Moderator Smith introduced Matthew Bickford who will now be the town moderator.

ARTICLE ONE: OPERATING BUDGET

Moderator Smith then read Article One:

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the school board's recommended amount of \$16,178,585 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the district. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. The School Board recommends this appropriation by a vote of 5-0. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation by a vote of 7-1. (Majority vote required).

A motion was made and seconded to accept Article One as printed.

Question was asked about the school administration not receiving raises, while the union members are receiving raises. Administration includes not only the superintendent and principles, but the administrative assistants. How did the school board come to that decision.

April Anderson, school board chair, stated the school board's understanding was that it was voluntary on the administration to not receive raises.

Moderator Smith asked if there were any other questions or discussions. No other questions/discussion were raised. The motion was made and seconded to call the question.

By voice vote, it was declared in the affirmative. Article One passes.

ARTICLE TWO: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT TEACHERS

Moderator Smith then read Article Two:

Shall the District vote to approve the cost items included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (2025-2028) reached between the Hinsdale School Board and the Hinsdale Federation of Teachers (HFT), which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year 25-26: \$189,432 (4.46%) Fiscal Year 26-27: \$181,597 (4.10%) Fiscal Year 27-28: \$182,231 (3.95%)

And further, to raise and appropriate the operating budget adopted in Article 1 for the upcoming fiscal year 2025-2026 by \$189,432 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 in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement. The costs for the two years of the agreement beyond the upcoming 2025-2026 fiscal year will be included in the operating budget proposal each of those years. School Board recommends this appropriation (Vote: 4-1) Budget Committee recommends this appropriation (Vote: 8-0) (Majority Vote Required)

Moderator smith asked if there were any questions or comments.

No discussion followed.

Moderator Smith called for the question.

By voice vote, it was declared in the affirmative. Article Two passes.

ARTICLE THREE: OTHER BUSINESS

Moderator Smith then read Article Three:

To transact any other business as may lawfully come before the meeting.

Moderator smith asked if there were any questions or comments.

Discussion followed. Statements from the public were received and questions were answered.

Statements were made about how quickly the budget and teacher raises passed with no one raising any concerns. It was stated people should come up and ask questions about the budget.

Question was raised about the exact details of the budget and how someone can find the information.

A question was asked about the status of the Winchester merger.

Dr. Ryan stated all financial information, commentary, detail about increases and decreases from the budget is available on the school district website. Any questions or comments are to be directed to the SAU office. The final draft agreement for the Winchester Tuition agreement is finished and in legal review. There is an open forum on April 9, 2025, in the Hinsdale Middle/High School Gymnasium to discuss the Winchester Tuition Agreement.

Budget committee stated all minutes from meetings are posted online at the town website.

Motion was made to move the question.

By voice vote, it was declared in the affirmative. Article Three passes.

ARTICLE FOUR: REPORTS

Moderator Smith then read Article Four:

Shall the Hinsdale School District receive the reports of its agents, auditors, committees and officers?

The motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written.

Moderator Smith asked if there were any questions.

By voice vote, it was declared in the affirmative. Article four passes.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 AM.

By voice vote, it was declared in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Me lissa Lowe

Melissa Lowe

School District Clerk