

HOLLIS/BROOKLINE COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WARRANT  
The State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Hollis/Brookline Cooperative School District in the Towns of Hollis and Brookline in the County of Hillsborough, State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in District Affairs.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED TO MEET AT THE HOLLIS BROOKLINE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM IN SAID DISTRICT ON THE **EIGHTH DAY OF MARCH, 2023** AT SIX THIRTY IN THE EVENING TO ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS.

**Article 1.** To see if the School District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,076,806 (gross budget) to finance the acquisition and installation of energy efficient LED lighting and propane boilers with associated costs for oil tank removal for both the Hollis Brookline High School and Middle School; to authorize the issuance of not more than \$3,076,806 in bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); to authorize the School Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$76,920 to pay debt service on such bonds or notes in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. (3/5 ballot vote required). **The school board recommends the appropriation 5-0-1. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-1.**

**Article 2.** To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items for the third year of a four-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board and the Hollis Education Support Staff Association for the 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years, which calls for the following increases in support staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2023-24	\$162,006

and further to raise and appropriate a sum of \$162,006 for the third fiscal year (2023-24 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in support staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-1.**

**Article 3.** To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$26,499,039 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district. This appropriation does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

**Article 4.** Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,140,822 as the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's portion of the SAU budget of \$2,264,374 for the forthcoming fiscal year? This year's adjusted budget of \$2,247,208 with \$1,132,174 assigned to the school budget of this school district will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit. **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

**Article 5.** To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$300,000 to be added to the previously established School Building and Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. The sum to come from the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance, available on July 1, 2023. **The school board recommends this appropriation 5-1-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

**Article 6.** Shall the school district vote to authorize the School Board to continue to retain year-end unassigned general funds in an amount, in any fiscal year, not to exceed 2.5 percent of the current fiscal year's net assessment in accordance with RSA 198:4-b a, II as amended in 2020, which requires the School Board to hold

one public hearing before expending this retained fund balance, and requires the School Board to provide an accounting of the activities of this retained fund balance to the District in its annual report? (Majority vote required).

*(Please note: The School Board is currently authorized to retain up to 1% of the District's net assessment in year-end unassigned general funds as an ongoing contingency fund. However, RSA 198:4-b was amended in 2020; thus, failure to pass Article 7 will cast doubt on the School Board's continued authorization to retain up to 1% under the new version of the law).* **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

**Article 7.** To see if the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of **\$25,000** to come from the June 30, 2023 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2023 to be added to the previously established Special Education Expendable Trust Fund. No amount to be raised from taxation. **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

**Article 8.** To see if the school district will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate up to **\$125,000** to go into the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance available on July 1, 2023, and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 8-0-0.**

**Article 9. Petition Warrant Article.** To see if the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District will vote to amend the Articles of Agreement of the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District by adding the following new Article 12:

Article 12: The approval of a proposed amendment to these Articles of Agreement shall require a two-thirds (2/3) supermajority approval by ballot. The polls shall remain open and ballots shall be accepted by the moderator for a period of not less than one hour following the completion of discussion on the question. If a two-thirds (2/3) supermajority of those voting on the question vote "yes", then the amendment is approved. **The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 7-0-1.**

**Article 10. Petition Warrant Article.** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 5%? **The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 7-0-1.**

**Article 11. Petition Warrant Article.** To prevent taxpayer dollars from funding lobbying against the interests of parents and citizens, shall the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District zero out budget line item "Fees, School Board" 10.2310.810.00.0? **The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 8-0-0.**


**Article 12. Petition Warrant Article.** To reduce the Hollis and Brookline property tax burdens, shall the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District rescind authorization under RSA 198:4-b II so that the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District no longer retains any unassigned general funds under RSA 198:4-b II? **The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 8-0-0.**

**Article 13. Petition Warrant Article.** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5 V-b, requiring that the annual budget and all special warrant articles having a tax impact, as determined by the school board, shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax impact of the article? The determination of the estimated tax impact shall be subject to approval by the governing body. **The school board does not recommend this article 6-0-0. The budget committee does not recommend this article 6-2-0.**

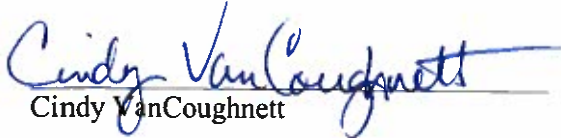
**Article 14.** To transact any other business which may legally come before said meeting.

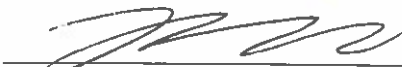
Given under our hands and seals at said Hollis, New Hampshire on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day and on this 20th day of February, 2023.

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:**

  
Holly Deurloo Babcock, Chair


  
Tom Solon

  
Cindy VanCoughnett

  
Beth Williams

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Enright

  
Kate Stoll

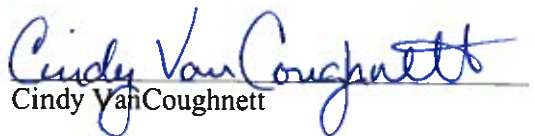
  
Krista Whalen

A true copy of the Warrant attests:

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:**

  
Holly Deurloo Babcock, Chair


  
Tom Solon

  
Cindy VanCoughnett

  
Beth Williams

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Enright

  
Kate Stoll

  
Krista Whalen