



**2018-19 BUDGET INSERT INSIDE**

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# Link-22

RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444 May 2018

## RSU 22 Budget Meeting set for June 7 at HA gym; Referendum June 12

The RSU 22 School Board unanimously approved the school district's FY19 budget on May 16 following public comment and discussion.

The RSU 22 Budget Committee presented a line item budget with a gross increase of 3.11% and a 9.8% increase in the local share—the amount the district has to assess the communities of Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport, and Frankfort.

Overall, the state share of funding for RSU 22 is declining by 1.7%—from 68.69% in FY18 to 67.54% in FY19.

A major reason for this is that state mill rate—the amount school districts have to raise locally in order to receive general aid to education funds from the state—is increasing this year from 8.19 mills to 8.51 mills. For RSU 22, that's an increase in the local share of \$632,855.

RSU 22 voters will vote on the budget at the District Budget Meeting, which will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7, at the Hampden Academy Gym. The budget that is approved on June 7 will be voted on again in the District Budget Referendum on Tuesday, June 12. The polls will be open on from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hampden Municipal Building, Newburgh Elementary School, Wagner Middle School, and Frankfort Town Office.

Prior to the Budget Meeting, there will be a Public Forum on the budget on Monday, June 4, at the Hampden Academy Library, starting at 6 p.m.

An open letter to town leadership and community members can be found on page 7 of this newspaper. A summary of *(Please turn to page 2)*

## Custodian, GT teacher start weekly chess club at Weatherbee

Custodian Dave Bishop and gifted and talented teacher Tricia Richardson started a weekly Chess Club at Weatherbee School in January that is now providing a weekly chess experience on Friday mornings.

Ms. Richardson said she had taught many students how to play when they were in 3rd grade, and they had been asking her for help in forming a club.

"I knew there was a need, but I didn't realize how much of a need there was," Ms. Richardson said. "Every Friday from 7:30-8:30 a.m., we have anywhere from 30 to 50 students in grades 3 to 5 who show up to play chess in the library."

Mr. Lobo, the Spanish teacher for Weatherbee, comes in to play, as does Ms. Richardson's dad, David Richardson, a retired middle school teacher from Hermon and former chess team coach.

In March, Mr. Bishop took nine students to their first competitive tournament at the University of Maine, where they played against students from other



Students enjoy Friday morning chess at Weatherbee School.

schools and really learned how a tournament works.

"I'm sure we will send an even bigger team next year," Ms. Richardson said.

## Wagner, Reeds Brook earn NEASC re-accreditation

Samuel L. Wagner Middle School and Reeds Brook Middle School were recently re-accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). This honor marks both schools as two of only a handful of middle schools in the state to be accredited by NEASC.

The goal of NEASC accreditation is to challenge school staff to develop a plan focused on continual school improvement. Both schools developed improvement plans aligned to the goals identified through a year-long school self-assessment. School self-assessments were reviewed by an appointed NEASC collaborative conference visiting team.

At Wagner and Reeds Brook the staff and administrators are to be commended for the tire-

less efforts they are demonstrating to ensure our schools provide a safe and caring environment that is focused on all aspects of students' growth.

The visiting committee noted that the efforts that have already been demonstrated by the staff of the Samuel L. Wagner Middle School have demonstrated that ongoing efforts will continue to provide the best programming for the students of Winterport and Frankfort.

At Reeds Brook the visiting team commended the staff for providing a strong, supportive, and challenging educational program for students.

A ten-year continual school improvement action steps and a timeline were identified for both schools. Full reports can be reviewed on the school websites.



Smith School Principal Dawn Moore (standing at right) talks to students after being presented with the Elementary Principal of the Year Award by MPA Executive Director Dick Durost (far right).

## Smith School's Dawn Moore named Elementary Principal of the Year

Dawn Moore, Principal of Smith School since 2011, has been named Elementary Principal of the Year by the Maine Principals Association.

The award was presented to Mrs. Moore at an assembly in the school gym on April 6 by Dick Durost, Executive Director of the MPA, who

introduced her as "the best of the best in the entire state."

When the students and others in the audience responded with a standing ovation, Mr. Durost said, "Based on that reaction, I'm assuming you agree with me."

Mrs. Moore was also honored at

the MPA Spring Conference at the Samoset Resort on April 26. She will represent Maine at the 2018 National Distinguished Principals' Program in Washington, DC, next fall.

Mr. Durost said the purpose of the award is to recognize the best school principals in Maine "so we

can use them as examples for other principals to aspire to."

In accepting the award, Mrs. Moore said she was very honored and proud.

"I'm so proud . . . of all of us, because it takes a team effort to earn *(Please turn to page 2)*



# Smith School's Dawn Moore named Elementary Principal of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

this award," she said. "It's not just about me, it's about every single staff member at this school, and it's about every single student sitting on this floor [in the gym]. I didn't only win this award—we all won this award."

## Remarks by Dick Durost, Executive Director, Maine Principals Association

We have about 850 principals and assistant principals that we work with. We spend a lot of time looking for the very best of those principals and assistant principals, so that we can recognize them and use them as examples for other principals and assistant principals to aspire to. . . .

I took a tour of the building, and I saw the story in the *Bangor Daily News* about the mirrors on the wall [with positive messages for children who see their reflections in the mirror]. It's such a great idea—I commend all the staff and students for that.

I was thinking this morning about the best way to make the announcement that I'm going to make . . . and I'm going to tell you what you see—you are looking at the State of Maine's Elementary Principal of the Year—the best of the best in the entire state. [applause—standing ovation]. Based on that reaction, I'm going to assume that you agree with me.

## Remarks by Dawn Moore, Principal, Smith School and Maine Elementary Principal of the Year

Good morning, boys and girls.

I'm so excited that you were able to come and join us today for this announcement. I am very honored to receive this, and I want to thank the MPA for offering this award. When I was first nominated, I was excited.

And right now, I'm so proud. I'm proud of

all of us, because this takes a team effort to earn this award—it's not just about me, it's about every single staff member at this school, it's about every single student sitting on this floor [in the gym]. I didn't only win this award, we all won this award. Let's give everybody in this room a nice big hand. [Applause]

I also want to thank the behind-the-scenes people, like the district administrators. Do you know who the district administrators are? They're the people who do all the hard work behind the scenes—they get us our materials to learn, they decide on hiring teachers, and they work behind the scenes to make this school the special place that it is. Let's give them a hand, too. [Applause]

Today, when you have a minute, thank your teachers for everything they do every day—and they're probably going to thank you, too, for being who you are—because that's what makes this school such a great place to come every day. What we happen to have in here—and I'm proud to be a principal here, and I will keep working together to make this school the best school it can be. [Applause]

## Remarks by Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, RSU 22

On behalf of our entire RSU 22 education community and the



Dawn Moore, Maine Elementary Principal of the Year.

Board of Directors, we want to congratulate Mrs. Moore.

Mrs. Moore actually stole my speech, because I think the key thing she accentuated is "team." I'd like to express our appreciation to the faculty, staff, and student body at Smith Elementary School. Mrs. Moore is exactly right—without your dedication, sincerity, and positive attitude, Mrs. Moore would not be our Principal of the Year. So congratulations to Mrs. Moore. With any team, you have to have a team leader, and Mrs. Moore is our team leader, and we recognize her

as Maine's 2018 Elementary Principal of the Year.

## Remarks by Regan Nickels, Assistant Superintendent, RSU 22

I happen to know Mrs. Moore a little differently than other folks know her, because she and I were principals together for many years.

What I'd like to tell you about Mrs. Moore is that when everyone's gone home at night and we're sitting around just chatting about what we're going to do the next day or the next month or even the next year—is that your principal is always thinking about what you would like to have happen, and she's always wondering if there's something that would make school more interesting, more fun—or is there something that would help our staff to be able to bring you what you really love. I want you to know that your principal always has your best interests at heart.

Did you notice that when you look in the mirrors that you are able to see and read all the special things that she and your teachers feel about you? It's a perfect example.

Congratulations to you, and so well deserved, and aren't you all lucky?

## RSU 22 Budget Meeting set for June 7 at HA gym; Referendum June 12

(Continued from page 1)

the Budget, a copy of the warrant articles, and a sample ballot for the June 12 referendum can be found on pages 8-10.



Team Maine, which will be going to the Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle July 1-6.

## Cailynn Goss, Zachary Ewing, Madison Mooers, Caitlyn Gunn, Andrea and Brian Lee join Team Maine for 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle

Special Olympics Maine will send a delegation of 43 athletes and coaches to the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle.

The USA Games, which are held every four years, will be held July 1-6. More than 4,000 athletes and coaches from all 50 states and the District of Columbia will descend on the region.

Team Maine will be represented by teams competing in aquatics, athletics, soccer, golf, bocce and bowling. Athletes, partners, and coaches with RSU 22 connections are:

- Cailynn Goss, Hampden, swimming. Cailynn graduated from HA in 2008 and went to the World Summer Games in Greece in 2011, where she won a gold medal in the butterfly. She also attended the National Summer Games in Iowa in 2006.
- Zachary Ewing, Hampden, swimming. Zachary graduated from HA last year. This is his first National Summer Games. He was Mr. Hampden Academy.
- Madison Mooers, Hampden,

bowling. Madison is a 10th grader at Hampden Academy. She went to the National Summer Games in New Jersey in 2014 for bowling.

• Caitlyn Gunn, Bangor, bocce. Caitlyn graduated from HA in 2004 and went to World Winter Games in Alaska in 2001 for speed skating and again in 2009 to Boise, Idaho, for speed skating. She also went to the Nationals in New Jersey in 2014 for bocce, and serves as a Global Messenger for Special Olympics.

• Andrea Lee, Bangor, unified partner, bocce. Andrea teaches Adaptive Physical Education and Physical Education at Reeds Brook Middle School and is the RSU 22 Special Olympics Head of Delegation.

• Brian Lee, Bangor, coach, golf. Brian is Andrea Lee's husband.

In addition, Special Olympics Maine lists three other athletes from Hampden on the Team Maine roster. They are Dennis Plourde, bowling, and Josh Costain and Harold Flood, soccer.



# Link-22

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## RSU 22 Kindergarten and Pre-K Registration

RSU#22 Pre K and Kindergarten programs are accepting registrations for the 2018-19 school year.

### Kindergarten:

**Hampden/Newburgh**—Please contact McGraw School at 862-3830 or visit <http://mcgraw.rsu22.us/>

**Winterport/Frankfort**—Please contact Smith School at 223-4282 or visit <http://smith.rsu22.us/>

### Pre K:

**All RSU#22 locations**—Please contact Dawn Moore at 223-4282 or visit <http://www.rsu22.us/our-schools/pre-k/>

# Curriculum Office Update

## Comprehensive Needs Assessment

All RSU 22 schools have established leadership teams for the purpose of conducting a year-long Comprehensive Needs Assessment planning process. Each school, and the district as a whole, has reviewed student and staff data. We have inspected attendance, behavior, and academic statistics from our district. Teachers, administrators, school board members and parents/community members have met several times during the year to thoroughly analyze each school's information.



Mary Giard

Our Comprehensive Needs Assessment process has yielded some areas of strength for our

school district. Although each school is a bit different, some common categories have been recognized: school climate is generally strong, our English Language Arts scores are relatively strong, we have well trained staff, educators collaborate well together, we offer many educational opportunities for students, and our administrators, faculties and staff members are dedicated to our students.

Teams also determined areas of need and have begun to create strategies to address those areas. Some needs that have been pinpointed include: raising math achievement at all grade levels, improve attendance and tardy statistics, continue to improve communication, offer more dual enrollment courses, and improve scheduling to maximize our resources.

We receive federal funds that fortify our district obligations. We receive Title I money.

By Mary Giard, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, RSU 22

The funding formula for Title I programming is based on socioeconomic status, student achievement, and need. In RSU 22, that money is allocated for literacy-teacher positions at Smith, after-school programs at Leroy Smith and Samuel Wagner schools, a math tutor at Wagner school, and the summer program held in Winterport. We also receive Title IIA funds that are dedicated to professional development and growth. Funds support projects in technology, new teacher mentoring and training, National Board certification work, curriculum and assessment work, and educator effectiveness initiatives. We are the recipients of a new federal fund as well. By the end of school, we will identify how those monies will be dedicated.

The Title I application will be worked on through the summer. A copy will be available for review in the RSU 22 superintendent's office.

## Maine State Assessments

Maine state assessments are winding down. The Department of Education has stated that results should be returned to districts sooner

than they have been over the past few years. Once the data are provided to the district, individual results will be reviewed and sent on to

parents. Overall district results will be shared with all four communities through the RSU 22 website and the fall edition of LINK-22.

## 6 RSU 22 teams compete at State DI, 3 qualify for DI Globals in Tennessee

By Nicole Philbrook  
RSU 22 was strongly represented at the State Destination Imagination Competition on March 24th. We had six teams out of nearly 50 showing off their talents, creativity and leadership, and three of those won their challenges and were invited to the DI Global Finals in Tennessee.

The RSU 22 teams included three from Smith School, one from Weatherbee, and two from Wagner.

The 3 teams that placed 1st in their challenges, "Say Cheese!", "The iLLAMAnati Tribe", and "Culture Recovery", earned the right to compete in Destination Imagination's Global Finals 2018, the world's largest celebration of student creativity, courage and curiosity, which is being held at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville from May 23 to May 26.

"The iLLAMAnati Tribe" (Wagner 7th grade), and "Culture Recovery" (Wagner 8th grade) are scheduled to attend Globals and will be housed with teams from Washington State, the Cayman Islands, and India.

"Say Cheese" (Smith 3rd grade) decided not to attend.

With a hefty cost of close to \$1,000 per person to attend Globals and only weeks to raise this money, the 7th and 8th grade teams been fundraising for the past weeks and are near our goal! "We are extremely grateful for the support we've received from our schools, local businesses, community, friends, and family," said Nicole Philbrook.

\* \* \*

The RSU 22 teams at the state DI competition and their results were:

- **Smith School 3rd graders "Say Cheese!"**—1st place in Unlikely Attraction (Scientific Challenge). Team members: Lily Philbrook, Caroline Gerry, Zoelle Raymond, Lydia Adamo, and Italy Schreckengost, coached by Nicolle Philbrook

- **Wagner Middle School 7th graders "The iLLAMAnati Tribe"**— 1st place in Unlikely Attraction challenge and winner of the Renaissance Award. Team members:



"Say Cheese"—Italy, Lily P., Zoelle R., Lydia A., Caroline G.



"The iLLAMAnati Tribe"



"Culture Recovery"—Elizabeth Burgess, Carly & JoHannah Philbrook

Abby Adamo, Maggie Demarch, Hanna McVeigh, Rachel Palmer, and Emma Roy. Coached by Sarah McVeigh.

- **Wagner Middle School 8th graders "Culture Recovery"**—1st place Improv. Attending Global Finals '18. Team members: Carly and JoHannah Philbrook and Elizabeth Burgess, coached by Julie Burgess.

- **Smith School 4th graders and homeschooler "Captured Creatures"**— 3rd place in the Change of Tune challenge, coached by Sharon Rowley.

- **Weatherbee 4th graders "Electric Cupcake Rainbow Fish"**—4th place in the Unlikely Attraction challenge. Coached by Lester French.

- **Smith School Rising Stars "Sir Shhh A Lot"**—Coached by Cathy Adamo.

Nicole Philbrook and Cassy Palmer are the District Coordinators for DI.

## RSU 22 ADULT EDUCATION SPRING and SUMMER 2018 [www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com](http://www.riversideadulthoodpartnership.com)

### High School Diploma & HiSET Certification

For adults looking to earn a high school diploma, a HiSET Certification or to improve basic literacy and ESL skills, we offer year-round opportunities for advancement. If you are interested in earning your Adult Education High School Diploma, you should get a copy of your high school transcript and schedule a meeting with one of our staff. You may be closer to earning a diploma than you think. In January 2014, the HiSET replaced the GED and became Maine's State High School Equivalency Diploma. Since then, our program has helped many of our residents earn this life-changing credential. Again, just contact our office at any time if you have questions about or interest in the HiSET.

### Distance Learning Courses

We continue to offer, through a partnership with Education to Go, nearly 500 interactive personal enrichment online courses to residents of RSU 22 and neighboring communities. All classes are instructor-led, fit into convenient six-week formats and are affordably priced. Some of the more popular course titles include:

Creating Web Pages	Introduction to QuickBooks
Discover Sign Language	Blogging & Podcasting for Beginners
Genealogy Basics	Introduction to Java Script
A to Z Grant Writing	Introduction to Oracle
Intro to Natural Health & Healing	Adobe / Acrobat Photoshop
PC Troubleshooting	Lose Weight and Keep it Off
Introduction to Statistics	Introduction to Digital Scrapbooking
Start a Pet Sitting Business	Introduction to Interior Design
Teaching with SMART Boards	Computer Skills for the Workplace
Start an Online Business	Introduction to Interior Design
QuickBooks	Getting Started in Game Development
Accounting Principles	Math & Grammar Refresher
Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint	Effective Business Writing

To view a complete catalog of distance learning courses, visit our page:

[www.ed2go.com/rsu22](http://www.ed2go.com/rsu22)

### Free Online Courses and Trainings

Through a partnership with Atomic Learning, we are excited to offer to our residents free access to over 300 complete online courses and over 10,000 tutorials and individual trainings. Some of the more popular courses are listed below. To receive a password and login information to these free online-based courses, just email us at: [mtardie@rsu22.us](mailto:mtardie@rsu22.us).

Career Skills	Edmodo Training	Pinterest
College Success	Windows Applications	Using Outlook
Computer Literacy Basics	CS5 Training	Flickr
Kid Pix Training	Building a Blog	Illustrator CS6
Photoshop	iBooks Author Training	iTunes U Training
Instagram	SharePoint 2013	Java for Beginners
FileMaker Pro	Minecraft in the Classroom	Using Office 365
Office for iPad	Using Google Forms	Classroom Management
Acrobat Pro	Google Apps for Education	Google Sketch Up
GarageBand	Moodle for Teachers	Using SMART Boards

### Health Occupations Courses

In 10 to 20 weeks, you can become nationally certified in these profitable, high demand healthcare jobs through our partnership with the Academy of Medical Professionals. Students who complete their program also receive assistance with job searching and resume writing. Some of these courses are: Dental Assisting, Medical Transcription, Medical Coding and Billing, Pharmacy Technician, Medical Office Specialist, and Hospital Coding and Billing.

We also provide residents an opportunity to take other health occupations throughout the year such as CNA, CNA-Med Tech and CRMA trainings. Contact our office to find out when these courses are scheduled to be offered.

### Getting Ready for the Fall Semester

Many people have been contacting us with ideas for courses that they would either like to take or teach. We are always looking for new courses and instructors. Some of the best ideas for new courses come from our residents. We generally start planning for our fall semester in late June or early July. We value your input and want to hear from you. As always, you can contact the RSU #22 Adult Education office at 862-6422 or email us at [mtardie@rsu22.us](mailto:mtardie@rsu22.us). Our Learning Center is located in Hampden Academy.



## HATT production of 'Disaster!' to bring toe-tapping '70s music to PAC stage for 4 shows July 12-15

*Disaster!*, a full-length Broadway musical with really great toe-tapping music from the Seventies, will be the next theatrical challenge for the Hampden Area Theatre Troupe (HATT).

The show, a mash-up of the classic 1970s disaster movies, put together as a giant comedy, will be on stage at the Hampden Academy Performing Arts Center Thursday through Sunday, July 12-15.

The Thursday, Friday, and Saturday performances will be in the evening, starting at 6:30 p.m. The Sunday performance will be a matinee, starting at 2 p.m.

Rob Kissinger, who will direct the show, says *Disaster!* has a very wide-ranging cast which will provide a lot of opportunities for kids to display their talents on stage. The cast includes Alex Ross, Jack Burrige, Josey Lawrence, Sydnie Phillips, Emi Verhar, Grayson Koelbl, Sarah Gass, Mikayla Patel, Denali Eyles, Lilly Keeley, Yosmauri Guzman, Anji Gulliver, Ellie Prescott, and Miranda LaHaye.

Mr. Kissinger noted that this summer's HATT musical will have four performances, one more than

in previous years. All three performances of last summer's HATT production of *Beauty and the Beast* were sold out.

### HAMPDEN ACADEMY



“HATT has built up a pretty good reputation over the years, and we regretted not being able to schedule that fourth show last year,” he said. “After Saturday night’s performance, the feeling was that we

could have done one more show—and that we should have done one more show. So we decided to add a fourth show this year.”

Tickets for the show will be available at the Performing Arts Center box office, or you can get ticket information at the HATT Facebook page.



Audience members join *Nick Tickle* in casting a spell to break the witch’s curse!



Emily Gonthier, Aidan Babbitt, Jack Burrige, and Mikayla Patel perform a scene from “*Nick Tickle, Fairy Tale Detective*.”

## Youthful audience helps *Nick Tickle* find disappearing fairy tale props in HA Drama Club’s spring play

The Hampden Academy Drama Club performed *Nick Tickle, Fairy Tale Detective*, on May 3, 4, and 5 in the Performing Arts Center.

Juniors Aidan Babbitt and Chloe Lawrence had the lead roles of Nick Tickle and Goldilocks.

Other cast members included seniors Jack Burrige (Father/Funny Little Man/Father Bear), Emily Gonthier (Woody the Oak Tree/Baby Bear), Mikayla Patel (Old Granny Possum/Mother Bear), Sydnie Phillips (Felicity/Witch Thornberry), and Alex Ross (Hansel/Bob the Wolf); sophomores Garrett Donovan (Stage Manager) and Denali Eyles (Gretel); and freshmen Maggie Collins (Mother/Gingerbread Child) and Jacob Smith (Jack).

Junior Eleanor Prescott was the student director and sound designer and operator. Junior Andrew Tilley designed and operated the lights, and junior Isaac Anderson designed and operated the sound. Rob Kissinger and sophomore Gracie

Demchak built the set pieces.

The play, a spoof on film noir, involves the mysterious disappearance of props required for fairy tales. Nick Tickle is called in, and with the help of the audience, he is able to recover the missing props so the fairy tales can go on.

Drama Club advisor and director Jenn Guare said the cast had a lot of fun rehearsing for and performing *Nick Tickle, Fairy Tale Detective*.

“Putting on a children’s play means dealing with a different kind of audience, one with a lot of spontaneity,” Ms. Guare said. “The cast has to know how to interact with the audience, especially since the audience has to help Nick recover the missing props.”

She added that the characters in a children’s play are usually a little simpler, while the challenge is “how do we make it fun, and how do we prepare for the unexpected.”



HA senior Emily Gonthier (as Baby Bear) interacts with students in the audience.

## All 11 HA music groups to perform at annual Prism concert June 1

Hampden Academy will celebrate the musical talents of its students with the annual Prism concert at the Performing Arts Center at 6:30 p.m. on June 1.

The Prism concert will feature all 11 music performance groups at HA, including Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Choir, Treble Choir, Chamber Singers, Jazz Band, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Combo, R&B Project, Ascension Show Choir, and Voices Unlimited.

The concert will culminate with all 185 students performing a medley of Bee Gees tunes arranged especially for Hampden Academy.



Voices Unlimited (photo by Mike’s Photography, Millinocket).



The Ascension Show Choir (photo by Mike’s Photography, Millinocket).

## HA jazz groups, show choirs spend spring vacation at Festival Disney

The Hampden Academy Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Band, Ascension Show Choir, and Voices Unlimited Show Choir spent most of their April vacation at Walt Disney World in Florida, participating in Festival Disney.

Both of the show choirs received Superior ratings, indicating a score between 90 and 100. The Jazz Ensemble received an Excellent rating (between 80 and 89) and Best-in-Show recognition.

The Jazz Band didn’t compete, but they did a very successful workshop, in which they recorded the soundtrack for a video trailer for the Disney movie, *The Little Mermaid*.

The groups left Hampden on April 18 and returned April 23. When not performing, the students were in the park enjoying rides, attractions, and each other’s company.

\* \* \*

The Jazz Ensemble earned a

Silver award at the State Jazz Festival, which was held March 17 at Nokomis Regional High in Newport.

Voices Unlimited and Ascension received Gold awards at the Vocal Jazz and Show Choir Festival at Stearns High School in Millinocket on April 6. Voices Unlimited placed 2nd, and Ascension placed 3rd.

Abigail Thompson received an Outstanding Musicianship award for her solo with Voices Unlimited.

# HAMPDEN ACADEMY CLASS OF 2018 HONOR PARTS



**VALEDICTORIAN**—Nicholas Parker, son of Sonja and Niles Parker of Hampden, will deliver the valedictory address. In his time at Hampden Academy, Nicholas has participated in soccer and tennis, as well as many other clubs and activities. These include Drama Club, Junior Classical League, Leadership Club, the Writing Center, Tri-M Music Honors Society, and National Honor Society. He has also enjoyed participating in music, taking part in Wind Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Jazz Ensemble, R&B Project, and Voices Unlimited. Nicholas is planning on attending Wesleyan University next year, to study music composition.



**SALUTATORIAN**—Alexandra Buzzini, daughter of Peter and Cynthia Buzzini of Hampden, will deliver the salutatory address. While at Hampden Academy, she has been actively involved in the music department by singing in Chamber Choir, Voices Unlimited, and R&B Band, and playing piano and saxophone in Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Combo, and Pep Band. She is a member of Drama Club, National Honor Society, Leadership Club, Student Council, and the Writing Center. She serves as the president for Tri-M Music Honor Society and fundraising chair for Junior Classical League. Outside of school, she enjoys summer theatre, tutoring, songwriting, volunteering and fundraising with her family, and playing in a community big band. She will attend Princeton University in the fall with an undecided major in the humanities and a certificate in Music Theatre.



**HONOR ESSAY**—Danielle Barrett, daughter of Dave and Amy Barrett, will give the Honor Essay. While at Hampden Academy, Danielle participated in band and chorus, the Drama Club, NHS, and Tri-M music honor society. Outside of school, Danielle dances, acts, and sings. She has performed professionally in both theatre and dance, in Bangor and NYC respectively. During the year, she teaches four dance classes in Dexter, and she tutors in math. Next year she will be going to Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA, and currently is planning to double major in Dance and Psychology.

## HAMPDEN ACADEMY RETIREMENTS

### Sue Simms, 25 years at HA, 30 years in teaching

Sue Simms, who has taught math at Hampden Academy for 25 years, has decided to resign at the end of the school year with the intent of retiring when she reaches the age of 62.

A graduate of Hampden Academy, Class of 1979, she went to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and survived basic training, and then transferred to the University of Maine.



Sue Simms

At Maine, she initially majored in engineering, switched to math and chemistry, and then took extra classes so she could get her B.S. degree in Secondary Education.

Mrs. Simms taught in the Washington, DC, area for four years and in New Hampshire for one year before coming to Hampden Academy.

In the DC area, she taught math and chemistry at Maret School, a private high school, for two years, and then taught math at Francis C. Hammond High School in Alexandria, VA, also for two years.

In New Hampshire, she taught math at Nashua Senior High School for one year.

Mrs. Simms says her family considered Hampden as home. Her father was in the Air Force for 21 years, including his last four years at Loring Air Force Base in Limestone. When he retired, the family moved to Hampden.

Mrs. Simms says her retirement plans include doing more gardening, cooking, and family activities.

She also says she may volunteer at Acadia Hospital as a math tutor.

“When students go to Acadia, there’s no math program,” she says. “I’d like to fill that gap so when they return to school, they’re not behind. That’s something I definitely want to do, because I’ll miss teaching.”

### Dick Balentine, 41 years in RSU 22, 38 years coaching

Dick Balentine, who has taught and coached in RSU 22 for the last 41 years, will be retiring in June.

He said he wants to spend more time with his family, including his wife, Robin, who taught 4th grade at Weatherbee for 38 years before retiring in 2014; two daughters, Leah Smith, a former teacher at McGraw who is now a stay-at-home mom with two daughters, ages 4 and 1, in Hampden, and Molly Paul, a healthcare administrator in Chicago.



Dick Balentine

Mr. Balentine’s first assignment in RSU 22 came in 1977, when he student taught 7th grade life science at Weatherbee School, which at the time included grades 4-8.

When his mentor went on medical leave that spring, Mr. Balentine was hired as a long-term sub. That summer, an 8th grade position opened up, and he came back to Weatherbee as the 8th grade science teacher.

“I taught my first class of students for a year and a half—half a year as 7th graders and then a full year as 8th graders,” Mr. Balentine says. “Lately, I’ve been teaching the children of those students.”

He taught middle school science at Weatherbee for nine years, but as a biology major at the University of Maine, he wanted to teach biology at the high school level, so he transferred to Hampden Academy when a position opened up in 1986. In 1995, the advanced biology teacher at HA retired, and Mr. Balentine took over the advanced class and converted it into an Advanced Placement course. He’s been teaching AP biology, college prep biology, and general biology ever since.

For 38 of his 41 years in RSU 22, Mr. Balentine coached cross country at Hampden Academy. He also served as an assistant coach for the indoor and outdoor

track teams, and for one year, 2003-4, he was head coach of all three teams.

“I didn’t really want to coach all three teams, but the track coach retired, and my youngest daughter Molly was a senior, so I did it,” he said.

That turned out to be a special year. In the fall of 2003, the girls cross country team, with Molly as captain, won the state title. Then, in the spring of 2004, Molly won the Class B state championship in the mile.

Both Leah and Molly ran cross country for four years and had their father as their biology teacher.

Mr. Balentine says he and Robin will probably do some traveling.

“At some point, we would like to go to Europe,” he said, “We’ll also visit some of the national parks in the United States that we haven’t gone to. We went to a number of them in years past, so we’ll have to figure out which ones we want to see next.”

## RSU 22 Summer Enrichment STEAM Day Camp

**Where:** Smith School in Winterport, ME

**When:** June 25 - June 29, 2018; 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Who:** Students currently in Grades K-5 (enrolling in Grades 1-6 next fall)

**Price:** \$150 for all 5 days or \$35 a day for RSU 22 residents; \$180 for non-residents with no daily option.

**Each day will have a different STEAM focus!**

**Free Breakfast and Lunch everyday.**

Students will be involved in hands on learning ALL DAY LONG! Some of the exciting things we have planned: learn to code (or extend your learning), dissect an owl pellet, create a marble rollercoaster, tie dye your camp shirt, enter our robotics lab to try your hand at the Lego Boost, MBot, Sphero, Dash and Dot.

Students currently in grades 6-8 are welcome to attend as a Junior Counselor. As a Junior Counselor, you will have the opportunity to lead a daily small group activity, oversee the robotics lab, and assist in outdoor recreation. Junior Counselors will participate in their own programming in the afternoons with Dr. Lyons. Price: \$75 for all 5 days (there is no daily option for Jr. Counselors)

**To register:** Please visit: <http://tiny.cc/rsu22summer>



## 'Maine Day' for RB 8th graders is June 8; Riverkeepers trips set for May 31, June 1

Eighth graders at Reeds Brook Middle School will cap their middle school careers with a pair of Maine-related activities on Thursday-Friday, May 31-June 1, and Friday, June 8.

On May 31 and June 1, the 8th graders will split up for two half-day trips in 28-foot war canoes with the Penobscot Riverkeepers. Half of the class will go on Thursday morning; the other half will go on Friday morning.

On Friday, June 8, the class will celebrate Maine Day, starting with a visit by the Maine Forest Service helicopter at 10 a.m., followed by a series of presentations and workshops in the afternoon and a classic Maine supper of bean-hole beans, red snapper hot dogs, and blueberry cobbler.

After supper, the students will listen to a Maine storyteller, Clyde Folsom, followed by Standing 8, a rock band that covers songs from the Eighties and Nineties.

Both activities are being organized by 8th grade social studies teacher David Haggan, with help from Reeds Brook faculty, staff, and parents, along with community members.

\* \* \*

The Riverkeepers trips will start at 7:45 a.m. on both May 31 and June 1. The 8th graders will be bused to the Eddington Salmon Club on the east bank of the Penobscot River in Brewer, where they will board a dozen 28-foot canoes and paddle up to the waterworks and former dam site in Veazie and down to Kenduskeag Stream under the guidance of the Riverkeepers.

In the course of their canoe trip, the 8th graders will visit five stations where scientists will provide lessons about the Penobscot River watershed related to their respective scientific disciplines. The Riverkeepers will also provide lessons the history of the Penobscot River, Native Americans in Maine, and Lumbering in Maine.

Mr. Haggan said parents are welcome to accompany the students on the canoe trip as chaperones.

"If any moms and dads want to join us on the river, we'd love to have them," he said. "They're very welcome."

\* \* \*

The Maine Day celebration will feature presentations on Penobscot Nation culture and traditions by Barry Dana, former chief of the Penobscot Nation, and Native American drumming and story telling by Chris Sockalexis, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Penobscot Nation, including a demonstration of a traditional Penobscot Nation round dance.

In addition, the program will include a variety of workshops, which will run from 20 minutes to an hour each, on such topics as the State Police CSI lab, martial arts, dog mushers, gold panning in Reeds Brook, fly tying, basketmaking, and many others.

Most of the Maine Day program will take place after lunch. The Maine Forest Service helicopter will arrive at 10 a.m. because it's less likely to be needed to fight wildfires in the morning.



A class at Reeds Brook watches the naturalization ceremony.

### Señora Smith, RB Spanish teacher, becomes U.S. citizen after naturalization ceremony May 11 in Portland

On Friday, May 11th at Lyman Moore Middle School in Portland, Señora Smith had her naturalization ceremony and became an American citizen.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalized 39 candidates for citizenship that day. They were from 26 countries—Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, People's Republic of China, Congo Kinshasa, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Republic of China-Taiwan, Russia, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam.

Señora Smith is originally from Mexico, and had been in this country for 14 years. She is very proud to be an American citizen.

Some classes at RBMS had the opportunity to watch the ceremony, which was live streamed from Portland, and to show their pride and excitement at this great occasion.



Señora Smith after her naturalization ceremony in Portland.



REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

### RB language teachers raise Spanish awareness on 'Cinco de Mayo'

The two Spanish teachers at Reeds Brook Middle School took advantage of Cinco de Mayo (May 5th) to raise awareness of the Spanish language and the cultural traditions of our Spanish-speaking neighbors in Mexico.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla, in which a small, poorly equipped Mexican Army under General Zaragoza defeated a much larger French invasion force on May 5, 1862. Today this holiday is more important in the United States than in Mexico and is a celebration of Mexican heritage.

Spanish teachers Francisca Smith and Susan McCallum organized several whole-school activities, including a scavenger hunt, contests to win a piñata filled with candy, and a contest to guess how many chilis were in the chili jar.

Cinco de Mayo was on Saturday this year, but on Thursday, May 3, the Spanish Department invited Luis Ruzzo, a professional dance instructor, to provide instructions in



A Cinco de Mayo activity at Reeds Brook.



Salsa dancing with the instructor.

salsa dancing. More than 70 people participated in the gym to practice their salsa skills.

On Friday, May 4, the Reeds Brook kitchen added a number of Mexican food items to the menu. In addition,

two Mexican musicians, Valeria Blanco Mota and Garardo Pérez Vargas, performed at a school assembly in the afternoon, providing interpretations of Mexican songs on their violins.

### Max Cleaves, Amelia Plant represent RB at 2018 Scholar Leader Dinner

Eighth graders Max Cleaves and Ameila Plant were selected to represent Reeds Brook Middle School at the 2018 Scholar Leader Dinner May 10 at the Augusta Civic Center.

The Scholar Leader Awards are sponsored by the New England League of Middle Schools (NELMS). The criteria for selection include having an excellent attitude towards learning, providing service to classmates and school, serving as a positive role model for peers, and taking responsibility for his or her own behavior and learning.

The students were allowed to invite one of their teachers to the awards ceremony. Amelia invited Kelsey Stoyanova, 8th grade English teacher, while Max invited Karyn Field, also an 8th grade English teacher. Mrs. Field also serves on the NELMS Board of Directors.



Mrs. Field and Max and Amelia and Mrs. Stoyanova at the NELMS Scholar Leader Dinner.



# Link-22

RSU 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport • Frankfort 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

## RSU 22 - 2018 School District Budget Process

### BUDGET PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

Monday, June 4, 2018 – 6:00 p.m., Hampden Academy Library

### DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING

Thursday, June 7, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. Hampden Academy Gymnasium

### DISTRICT BUDGET REFERENDUM

Tuesday, June 12, 2018 – 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Hampden Municipal Building Newburgh Elementary School Samuel L Wagner Middle School Frankfort Town Office

## Open Letter to the Citizens of RSU 22

Dear Citizens of RSU 22,

The RSU 22 budget process this year included seven public review meetings, all of which are available for viewing on the [rsu22.us](http://rsu22.us) website. We began our April 3<sup>rd</sup> Budget Committee meeting with an overview of several factors influencing this year's budget including but not limited to: enrollment, real estate valuation, changes to the State funding formula and State mil rate. Our first draft of the 2018-19 budget began with a 3.9% overall change from 2017-18. The 2018-19 budget recently approved by the Board of Directors in the amount of \$31,936,061.13 represents only a 3.1% increase.

*A summary of the budget workshop process and resulting 2018-19 budget by warrant articles can be seen and downloaded at [www.rsu22.us](http://www.rsu22.us).*

#### Budget Workshops

The RSU #22 Budget Committee hosted five public “workshop” style meetings this year where members were presented with budget development details, discussed items, and adjusted budget expectations for the following 11 cost centers. These cost centers will be voted upon as corresponding “warrant articles” during the upcoming District Budget Meeting at Hampden Academy on Thursday, June 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Topics discussed at each of the five workshop meetings were as follows:

- **Workshop #1:** April 10, 2018 – Article 8 “Transportation”, Article 10 “Debt Service”, Article 11 “Other Expenses”, Article 4 “Other Instruction”

- **Workshop #2:** April 24, 2018 – Article 9 “Facilities”

- **Workshop #3:** May 1, 2018 – Article 1

“Regular Instruction”, Article 2 “Special Education”

- **Workshop #4:** May 8, 2018 – Article 5 “Student/Staff Support”, Article 6 “System Administration”, Article 7 “School Administration,” Article 17 “Adult Education”

- **Workshop #5:** May 15, 2018 – Article 1-11 review, final adjustments, recommend full BOD support.

- **Special Board of Director’s meeting/ Budget Adoption:** May 16, 2018

*Note regarding Article 3 “Career and Technical Education (CTE)”:* This article, formerly carried within the RSU 22 2017-18 budget and reimbursed by the State through the funding formula, will now be paid directly by the State of Maine to United Technologies Center. Article 3 carried a value of \$392,000 in the 2017-18 budget. \$50,000 of CTE transportation costs will now be included in the budget under Article 8 “Transportation”.

#### Revenue Factors influencing the budget

The amount the state is required to pay in support of school programs is determined through the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) funding formula.

The EPS formula resulted in a significant and required local increase of \$632,855.00. The reason for this increased expectation is due to the state mil rate increase and an increase in the state valuation of property within RSU 22.

In the 2018-19 budget there has been close attention paid to balancing the needs of student health and welfare programs and services and recruitment and retention of faculty. In this regard, an increase to nursing and social work services has been prioritized. Teacher salaries have been identified as an area for increase. Regarding recruitment and retention of new teachers, a part-time “teacher of teachers” called an Instructional Coach will continue in the district by being brought into the budget from previous federal funding support. Other cost factors, both increases and reductions, are identified in the individual warrant article explanations.

In addition, deferred maintenance of district facilities has also been incorporated in the 2018-19 budget. However, rather than being fully addressed

in the budget, the voters will be asked to endorse Article 18 Capital Reserve Account funding that will be utilized to address immediate capital maintenance needs and future projects.

The 2018-19 budget includes the increased required local funding expectation of \$632,855.00 and minimal increase from the state of \$203,415.00. In addition, RSU 22 has incurred the loss of one-time revenues from 2017-18 totaling \$287,379.00. Examples include the loss of Veazie School Department contracted business services at \$63,500.00, Honeywell energy rebate funds of \$139,705.00 and one-time donations for public Pre-K programming at \$60,000.00. The district is working aggressively to increase revenue flow. Increased tuition student enrollments, MaineCare reimbursement, signage campaign efforts, benefactor contracting and facilities rental including the Performing Arts Center and turf field are all areas being actively pursued. RSU 22 also enjoys fiscal stability through the appropriate utilization of designated fund balance. For the 2018-19 budget, \$440,000 will be dedicated to offset local taxation.

RSU #22 is pleased to announce its alliance with the Southern Penobscot Regional Partnership in responding to the state invitation to regionalize services. Our joint application was recently approved and therefore RSU #22 is the recipient of state incentive funds of \$72,978.25. This amount is incorporated in the state subsidy increase of \$203,415.00.

The overall RSU 22 budget increase is 3.11%. The local increase of 9.83% is primarily a product of the state’s required funding shift to the local towns based on the increased state valuation and state mil rate. If there were no change to the current town and county budgets, the approximate taxation impact of the school budget increase is projected below. Of course, it is likely that state and county budgets will also face adjustments as we move into next year.

## State and Local assessment impact per \$100k valuation, by Town

Town	2019 valuation	2019 local EPS commitment	2018 local EPS commitment	Local EPS commitment change 2018-2019	Other local assessment change 2018-2019	Total local assessment change 2018-2019	State and Local FY19 PROJECTED assessment increase per \$100K valuation
Frankfort	\$83,725,000.00	\$712,499.75	\$650,422.50	\$62,077.25	\$40,288.29	\$102,365.54	\$122
Hampden	\$623,850,000.00	\$5,308,963.50	\$4,983,205.50	\$325,758.00	\$243,964.17	\$569,722.17	\$91
Newburgh	\$103,600,000.00	\$881,636.00	\$831,831.00	\$49,805.00	\$42,244.72	\$92,049.72	\$89
Winterport	\$266,025,000.00	\$2,263,872.75	\$2,068,657.50	\$195,215.25	\$112,730.70	\$307,945.95	\$116
	<b>\$1,077,200,000.00</b>	<b>\$9,166,972.00</b>	<b>\$8,534,116.50</b>	<b>\$632,855.50</b>	<b>\$439,227.88</b>	<b>\$1,072,083.38</b>	



**ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11 AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER CATEGORIES**  
(Explanations of variances are noted below each article.)

**Article 1:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **REGULAR INSTRUCTION** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$11,354,647.85**

*Explanation: The Regular Instruction account includes expenses related to classroom teaching and learning, such as salaries for teachers, substitutes, and paraprofessionals, and classroom instructional materials and supplies. Also included are expenses related to Alternative Education, English Language Learners (ELL), and Gifted & Talented Programs.*

	<b>Budget 2017-18</b>	<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>Variance</b>
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<b>Article 1 – Regular Instruction</b>	<b>\$10,941,074.79</b>	<b>\$11,354,647.85</b>	<b>\$413,573.06</b>
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<b>Regular Instruction Programs</b>	<b>\$8,115,183.77</b>	<b>\$8,502,570.95</b>	<b>\$387,387.18</b>
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- \* Increase in all salary lines in Article 1
- \* Increase in all benefits lines in Article 1
- \* Increase in cost of Waldo CAP Pre-K agreement
- \* Copier Lease PreK-8 reduction
- \* Copier Lease 9-12 reduction
- \* Course reimbursement funding adjustments
- \* Instructional supplies funding adjustments
- \* Field Trips, PreK – 2 funding additions
- \* Copier Paper increase
- \* Books & Periodicals funding adjustments
- \* Dues & Fees, PreK – 8 reductions New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- \* Dues & Fees, 9 – 12 increase for NEASC accreditation 2019 visit

<b>PreK-2 Instruction Programs</b>	<b>\$2,468,539.16</b>	<b>\$2,507,448.54</b>	<b>\$38,909.38</b>
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<b>Other Instruction Programs</b>	<b>\$357,351.86</b>	<b>\$344,628.36</b>	<b>(\$12,723.50)</b>
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<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b><u>\$413,573.06</u></b>
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**Article 2:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$5,990,097.15**

*Explanation: The Special Education Instruction account includes expenses for direct support of Special Education Programs.*

	<b>Budget 2017-18</b>	<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>Variance</b>
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<b>Article 2 – Special Education Instruction</b>	<b>\$5,478,931.04</b>	<b>\$5,990,097.15</b>	<b>\$511,116.11</b>
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<b>Special Education Programs</b>	<b>\$4,999,251.32</b>	<b>\$5,501,385.10</b>	<b>\$502,133.78</b>
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The costs to educate our special education students PreK to grade 12.

- \* Increase in all salary lines
- \* Increase in all benefit lines

<b>Special Education Administration</b>	<b>\$479,679.72</b>	<b>\$488,712.05</b>	<b>\$9,032.33</b>
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<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b><u>\$511,116.11</u></b>
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**Article 3:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$0**

*Explanation: The Career and Technical Education account includes all expenses directly related to the Career and Cooperative Education Programs.*

	<b>Budget 2017-18</b>	<b>Proposed 2018-19</b>	<b>Variance</b>
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<b>Article 3 – Career and Technical Education</b>	<b>\$392,018.55</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$392,018.55)</b>
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<b>Career and Technical Education</b>	<b>\$392,018.55</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$392,018.55)</b>
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<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b><u>(\$392,018.55)</u></b>
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**Article 4:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **OTHER INSTRUCTION** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$809,674.19**

*Explanation: The Other Instruction account includes expenses for Co-Curricular, Extra-Curricular, and Summer School Programs.*

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed 2017-18</b>	<b>Variance 2018-19</b>
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<b>Article 4 – Other Instruction</b>	<b>\$780,410.97</b>	<b>\$809,674.19</b>	<b>\$29,263.22</b>
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<b>Summer School</b>	<b>\$3,179.10</b>	<b>\$3,203.10</b>	<b>\$24.00</b>
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<b>Co-Curricular</b>	<b>\$158,220.24</b>	<b>\$166,171.73</b>	<b>\$7,951.49</b>
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<b>Extra-Curricular</b>	<b>\$619,011.63</b>	<b>\$640,299.36</b>	<b>\$21,287.73</b>
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- \* Stipend Increases
- \* Benefit Increases
- \* Athletic Supplies

<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b><u>\$29,263.22</u></b>
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**Article 5:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **STUDENT AND STAFF SUPPORT** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$2,576,283.38**

*Explanation: The Student and Staff Support account includes expenses for student support services (intervention, guidance, health, library services and instructional technology) as well as staff support services (improvement of instruction, instructional staff training and student assessment).*

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed 2017-18</b>	<b>Variance 2018-19</b>
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<b>Article 5 – Student and Staff Support</b>	<b>\$2,404,535.09</b>	<b>\$2,576,283.38</b>	<b>\$171,748.29</b>
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<b>Guidance Services</b>	<b>\$614,316.19</b>	<b>\$644,624.61</b>	<b>\$30,308.42</b>
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<b>Health Services</b>	<b>\$397,624.74</b>	<b>\$428,535.92</b>	<b>\$30,911.18</b>
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<b>Other Student Support Services</b>	<b>\$99,832.89</b>	<b>\$118,484.79</b>	<b>\$18,651.90</b>
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<b>Improvement of Instruction</b>	<b>\$170,429.65</b>	<b>\$232,887.62</b>	<b>\$62,457.97</b>
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<b>Instructional Staff Training</b>	<b>\$70,348.74</b>	<b>\$55,497.18</b>	<b>(\$14,851.56)</b>
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<b>Library Services</b>	<b>\$319,204.31</b>	<b>\$323,350.97</b>	<b>\$4,146.66</b>
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<b>Instructional - Related Technology</b>	<b>\$632,701.10</b>	<b>\$668,740.31</b>	<b>\$36,039.21</b>
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<b>Assessment</b>	<b>\$100,077.47</b>	<b>\$104,161.98</b>	<b>\$4,084.51</b>
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- \* Increase in nursing services at Reeds Brook Middle School (.2FTE)
- \* Addition of 1.0 FTE Social Work Services (Winterport schools)
- \* .5 Instructional Coach services district-wide
- \* Salary and benefit increases
- \* Dues and fees increases (Penobscot Regional Educational Partnership, Technology, Guidance)
- \* Decrease in Technology Lease

<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b><u>\$171,748.29</u></b>
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**Article 6:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$841,537.21**

*Explanation: The System Administration account includes expenses for the Board of Directors, the Office of the Superintendent, and Business Office functions.*

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed 2017-18</b>	<b>Variance 2018-19</b>
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<b>Article 6 – System Administration</b>	<b>\$854,848.89</b>	<b>\$841,537.21</b>	<b>(\$13,311.68)</b>
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<b>System Administration</b>	<b>\$854,848.89</b>	<b>\$841,537.21</b>	<b>(\$13,311.68)</b>
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District leadership and associated costs.

- \* Reduced board stipends and benefits to reflect 12 meetings per year
- \* Reduced contracted services for the board
- \* Reduced audit service cost
- \* Reduction in Legal Services (staff negotiations)
- \* Increase in travel for PD - Central Office staff

- \* Increase in Professional Development - Business Office staff
- \* Increase in salaries - Business Office
- \* Increase in benefits Business Office

<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b><u>(\$13,311.68)</u></b>
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**Article 7:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$1,436,933.57**

*Explanation: The School Administration account includes expenses for the direction and management of individual schools.*

	<u>Budget 2017-18</u>	<u>Proposed 2018-19</u>	Variance
<b>Article 7 – School Administration</b>	<b>\$1,378,854.45</b>	<b>\$1,436,933.57</b>	<b>\$58,097.12</b>
School Administration	\$1,378,854.45	\$1,436,933.57	\$58,097.12
School leadership (Office of the Principal) and associated costs.			
* Increase in salaries Principals			
* Reduction in benefits Principals			
* Increase in benefits Principal’s administrative assistants			
<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b>\$58,097.12</b>

**Article 8:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **TRANSPORTATION AND BUSES** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$1,382,785.53**

*Explanation: The Transportation account includes expenses for the transportation contract, fuel, and special education transportation services.*

	<u>Budget 2017-18</u>	<u>Proposed 2018-19</u>	Variance
<b>Article 8 – Transportation and Buses</b>	<b>\$1,247,778.77</b>	<b>\$1,382,785.53</b>	<b>\$135,006.76</b>
Transportation	\$1,247,778.77	\$1,382,785.53	\$135,006.76
The costs to transport students to and from school each day.			
* Increase in cost of Cyr Bus contract and transportation costs related to tuition students			
* Projected diesel increase in price per gallon			
* UTC transportation - previously assessed in Article 3			
<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b>\$135,006.76</b>

**Article 9:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **FACILITIES MAINTENANCE** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$3,766,378.10**

*Explanation: The Facilities Maintenance account includes maintenance of physical plant and grounds, minor capital construction projects, insurance, utilities, equipment, and supplies.*

	<u>Budget 2017-18</u>	<u>Proposed 2018-19</u>	Variance
<b>Article 9 – Facilities Maintenance</b>	<b>\$3,487,850.06</b>	<b>\$3,766,378.10</b>	<b>\$278,528.04</b>
Facilities Maintenance	\$3,487,850.06	\$3,766,378.10	\$278,528.04
The costs to maintain and care for the district buildings			
* Decrease in electricity costs			
* Decrease in fuel costs			
* Decrease in custodial/maintenance salaries due to transitions in positions			
* Decrease in associated custodial benefits due to transitions			
* Transition budgeting for custodial/maintenance services/personnel			
* Increase in Contracted Services, Maintenance			
* Increase in Repair & Maintenance Services			
* *NEW* Repair & Maintenance, Vehicles (previously budgeted in Repair & Maintenance services)			
* *NEW* Capital Repair & Maintenance Services			
* Principal Payment, Repair Bond reduction			
* Interest Payments on turf project			
<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b>\$278,528.04</b>

**Article 10:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **DEBT SERVICE AND OTHER COMMITMENTS** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$3,777,724.15**

*Explanation: The Debt Service account includes expenses for state approved capital debt obligations.*

	<u>Budget 2017-18</u>	<u>Proposed 2018-19</u>	Variance
<b>Article 10 – Debt Service and Other Commitments</b>	<b>\$3,973,638.91</b>	<b>\$3,777,724.15</b>	<b>(\$195,914.76)</b>

**Debt Service Payments** **\$3,973,638.91** **\$3,777,724.15** **(\$195,914.76)**

Principal and Interest for FY14 building repairs, new Hampden Academy and Frankfort debt service flow-through.

- \* Includes Frankfort Debt Service
- \* Includes new Hampden Academy

**Total Variance:** **(\$195,914.76)**

**Article 11:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for **ALL OTHER EXPENDITURES** for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board of Directors recommends **\$0**

*Explanation: The All Other Expenditures account includes expenses for the food service operations.*

	<u>Budget 2017-18</u>	<u>Proposed 2018-19</u>	Variance
<b>Article 11 – All Other Expenditures</b>	<b>\$33,000.00</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$33,000.00)</b>
Food Service Transfer	\$33,000.00	\$0	(\$33,000.00)
Food service transfer of funds			
* Support of School Nutrition Program			
<b>Total Variance:</b>			<b>(\$33,000.00)</b>

**ARTICLES 12, 13, AND 14 RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

**Article 12: State/Local Essential Programs and Services (EPS) Funding Allocation.** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from PreKindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and to see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and assess as each municipality’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreKindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

**Recommended amounts set forth below:**

**Total appropriated (by municipality):**

Town of Hampden: .....	\$15,609,554.69
Town of Newburgh: .....	\$3,145,381.88
Town of Winterport:.....	\$7,267,829.05
Town of Frankfort:.....	\$1,994,899.32
<b>RSU Total Appropriated (sum of above).....</b>	<b>\$28,017,664.94</b>

**Total raised (and Regional School Unit assessments by municipality):**

Town of Hampden: .....	\$5,308,963.50
Town of Newburgh: .....	\$881,636.00
Town of Winterport:.....	\$2,263,872.75
Town of Frankfort.....	\$712,499.75
<b>RSU Total Raised (sum of above):.....</b>	<b>\$9,166,972.00</b>

*Explanation: The Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the Regional School Unit must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

**Article 13: Appropriation for Non-state-funded Debt Service Allocation.**

To see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the Regional School Unit voters for non-state-funded school construction projects and non-state-funded portions of school construction projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreKindergarten to grade 12.

Board of Directors recommends: **\$487,239.92**

*Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the Regional School Unit’s long-term debt for major capital school construction projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the Regional School Unit voters.*

**Article 14: Appropriation of Additional Local Funds (Written Ballot Required).** To see what sum Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (**Recommend \$2,321,809.18**), which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (**Recommend \$2,321,809.18**) as required to fund the budget recommended by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors recommends \$2,321,809.18 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$2,321,809.18: EPS does not fully support all of the necessary costs of a comprehensive PreK-12 educational program, such as (1) athletics/co-curricular program costs; (2) transportation for the athletics/co-curricular program; (3) special education costs and (4) system administration.

*Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Regional School Unit’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Regional School Unit budget for educational programs.*

**ARTICLE 15 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

**Article 15: Total School Budget Summary.** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the Regional School Unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from PreKindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

The Board of Directors Recommends: **\$31,936,061.13**

**ARTICLE 16 AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE**

**Article 16:** To see if Regional School Unit No. 22 will appropriate **\$72,000.00** for adult education and raise **\$36,000.00** as the local share; with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program.

The costs associated with serving the Adult population through the shared partnership with RSU #22/RSU #34/RSU #26 and UTC

- \* Increase in benefits - clerical
- \* Reduction in contracted services
- \* Assessment to UTC

Board of Directors recommends an appropriation of **\$72,000.00** with a local share of **\$36,000.00**

**ARTICLE 17 AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURE OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS**

**Article 17:** In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the Board of Directors be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

Board of Directors recommends a “YES” vote.

**ARTICLE 18 AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURE FROM THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CAPITAL PROJECT RESERVE FUND**

**Article 18:** In addition to amounts authorized under Articles 1 through 17, shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to **\$275,000.00** from unallocated fund balances and/or unanticipated revenues to the RSU’s previously established Capital Reserve Fund and shall the School Board be further authorized to expend up to **\$275,000.00** from this Capital Reserve Fund to fund capital projects in the RSU including the following: (i) flooring replacements and refurbishments at Leroy Smith School, Samuel Wagner Middle School and Reeds Brook Middle School; (ii) entrance upgrades (door, hardware, ADA compliance) at Leroy Smith School, Reeds Brook Middle School and central office; (iii) Hampden campus electrical utility system upgrades; and (iv) various drainage projects, safety and security upgrades; various paving and speed bump repair projects; building surface waterproofing; and window and door replacements/repair at various schools?

Board of Directors recommends a “YES” vote.

**ARTICLE 19 AUTHORIZES A TRANSFER TO AND EXPENDITURE FROM THE SCHOOL ATHLETIC FACILITY CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

**Article 19:** In addition to amounts authorized under Articles 1 through 18, shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to 50% of gate receipts from RSU athletic events during the 2018-2019 fiscal year to the School Athletic Facility Capital Reserve Fund and to expend these funds from said reserve fund for the purpose of maintaining the RSU’s multi-purpose athletic field and maintaining other Regional School Unit athletic facilities?

The Board of Directors recommends a “YES” vote.

**ARTICLE 20 AUTHORIZES THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION BUDGET**

**Article 20:** Shall the United Technologies Center - Maine Vocational Region 4 operating budget as approved by the cooperative board for the year beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 be approved in the amount of \$2,651,076.57?

The Board of Directors recommends a “YES” vote.

**ARTICLE 21 AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET FOR THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL REGION [AND RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE]**

**Article 21:** Shall the United Technologies Center - Maine Vocational Region 4 approve a budget for adult education in the amount of \$323,782.10 for the year beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and well-being of its adult education program, and shall Regional School Unit No. 22 raise \$7,160.25 as its share of the adult education budget for the United Technologies Center - Maine Vocational Region 4?

The Board of Directors recommends a “YES” vote.

**DISTRICT BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM**

**Tuesday, June 12, 2018 – 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Hampden Municipal Building  
Newburgh Elementary School  
Samuel L. Wagner Middle School  
Frankfort Elementary School**

*After the 2018-19 budget is adopted at the June 7 district budget meeting, district citizens will then have the opportunity to vote at the polls on June 12 on the following question:*

*The RSU #22 Board of Directors recommends a “YES” vote.*

*A sample of the June 12 ballot is outlined below:*

**Article 1: Do you favor approving the Regional School Unit No. 22 budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest district budget meeting?**

YES  NO

*Explanation: If the total “YES” vote prevails, the school Budget will have been secured; if the “NO” vote prevails, then the process will revert to another district budget meeting. The process will conclude when the budget has been endorsed in the referendum mode.*

**Article 2: NON-BINDING ADVISORY QUESTION**

The following is a non-binding expression of opinion for the consideration of the School Board.

I find the school budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest RSU budget meeting to be:

Too High   
Acceptable   
Too Low



## Reeds Brook Math Team 2nd overall in Eastern Maine Math League Large School Division

The Reeds Brook Math Team competed in three meets during the school year. The first two meets were held at school sites, with Reeds Brook hosting Wagner in October and Wagner hosting Reeds Brook in February. The third meet was sponsored by the Eastern Maine Math League and held at Eastern Maine Community College on March 28th.

About 90 students from RBMS competed in the first two math meets this year. At the spring meet, Reeds Brook was represented by the top eight students from each grade. Miss Cliff and Mrs. Larrabee are very proud of all the work and skill shown by all students.

Overall results for the 2017-2018 school year:

**Reeds Brook**—second place overall among the Eastern Maine Math League Large School Division

**6th Grade - Team 1**—2nd place: Corina Arimond, Lillian deWildt, Ryan Hafener, and Colin McKay.



The Reeds Brook Math Team, which earned second place overall among the Eastern Maine Math League Large School Division, Not pictured: Beckett O'Reilly, Sophie Kahn and Morgan Ramsay

**Team 2**—7th place: Lauren Leonard, Collin Peckham, Matthew Shayne, and Allayna Tardif.

**Individuals**—Colin McKay, 2nd; Corina Arimond, 7th; Ryan Hafener,

10th; Lillian deWildt, Matthew Shayne, Collin Peckham, Allayna Tardif, and Lauren Leonard.

**7th Grade - Team 1**—1st place: Ellie DeRosby, Sophie Kahn, An-

drew Lyons, and Quincy Rock.

**Team 2**—2nd place: Josie Gilmore, Kaitlyn Libby, Ethan Morin, and Kaden Pattershall.

**Individuals**—Sophie Kahn, 1st; Quincy Rock, 3rd; Kaden Pattershall, 5th; Ethan Morin, 6th; Kaitlyn Libby, Josie Gilmore, Ellie DeRosby, and Andrew Lyons.

**8th Grade - Team 1**—2nd place: William Airey, Jonathan Fenders, Amelia Plant, and Abbott Valentine.

**Team 2**—3rd place: Tate Clough, Beckett O'Reilly, Morgan Ramsay, and Olivia Rand.

**Individuals**—Amelia Plant, 2nd; William Airey, 6th; Morgan Ramsay, 7th; Tate Clough, 8th; Abbott Valentine, 9th; Jonathan Fenders, 10th; Beckett O'Reilly, and Olivia Rand.



The Reeds Brook Middle School Jazz Ensemble.



The Reeds Brook Middle School Show Choir.

## Reeds Brook Jazz Ensemble, Show Choir earn Gold Awards at spring festivals

Music groups at Reeds Brook have had a very good spring.

The Jazz Ensemble earned a Gold Award at the state middle school jazz festival March 24 at Stearns High School in Millinocket, and Anthony Cote won an outstanding musicianship award for his performance on baritone saxophone.

Two weeks later, on April 6, the Show Choir also earned a Gold Award, taking 2nd place in the show choir competition behind first place winner Wagner Middle School.

Reeds Brook music teacher and Jazz Band director Becky Mallory said the performance of the Jazz Ensemble was especially rewarding because of the way the group responded to a sub-par performance at a concert the Tuesday before they went to the State Festival.

"They didn't play as well as they wanted to," Mrs. Mallory said. "They were disappointed, but they did everything that good musicians should do and turned it around as a team."

She said the Jazz Ensemble musicians encouraged and helped each other as they prepared for the State Festival.

"Their teamwork and camaraderie were incredible," she said. "They were just pumped to do the best they could, and they went on stage at Stearns High School and nailed it. They were transformed. At that point, I had no idea where we placed, but I was more proud of their transformation and their investment."

Mrs. Mallory said Reeds Brook also formed a non-traditional band to provide additional opportunities for students to perform.



The Reeds Brook Middle School Non-Traditional Band works with Terry White on one of the compositions that includes a solo that he wrote especially for the flute players in the RB band.

"We had so many kids in jazz, I wanted to make sure they would be able to play," she said. "If they all

played together, I'd have 50 kids in Jazz Band—it wouldn't be a jazz band, it would be a concert band."

As a result, Mrs. Mallory took half of the group and formed them into a non-traditional jazz band, featuring flute and clarinet players. The new group also features students who have switched over to a second instrument—e.g., brass players who are learning to play saxophone.

Terry White, a music educator, composer, arranger, and band leader from the Portland area, came to Hampden to work with the non-traditional band. He also wrote a flute solo that members of the band will play at the RSU 22 Jazz Night.

"Having a composer write something special for a group of students is very unusual," Mrs. Mallory said. "We're excited to hear it live."

## REEDS BROOK RETIREMENT: Susan McCallum, 40 years in teaching

Susan McCallum, Spanish teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School, is retiring for the second time this June.

She has been teaching for 40 years, with the last three years being half-time.

Mrs. McCallum taught French, Spanish, and English at Brewer Middle School for 28 years before retiring for the first time in 2013.

She enjoyed two years of retire-



Susan McCallum

ment, but then saw an opportunity to teach Spanish every other day at Reeds Brook, which she's been doing for the last three years.

Now she's retiring for good.

"I'm hoping to be a snowbird," she says. "I'm also planning to play pickleball and bridge. Those are my two passions right now."

Mrs. McCallum lives in Hampden with her husband and two dogs. She has a daughter and two grandchildren in Saco. She's living in the home she grew up in. Her mother, 87, now lives in Brewer.

Mrs. McCallum majored in

French at the University of Maine and lived with a family in France during her junior year as a student at the Université de Haute Bretagne (University of Upper Brittany).

She started her teaching career in Wolfeboro, NH, where she taught French, Spanish, and culture for three years in grades 7-12. For the next five years, she taught French and English at Leonard Middle School in Old Town.

She also spent one year, 1984-85, teaching French and Spanish in grades 7-8 at Weatherbee and Smith Schools in RSU 22 (then SAD 22).

## Wagner 8th graders required to do a service learning project, and most say that's a good thing

All 8th graders at Wagner Middle School have to do a service learning project, and for the most part, they seem happy to be doing it.

Jaiden Hanson, one of ten 8th graders who volunteered to talk with *Link-22*, says a service project gives students something to focus on during their final year of middle school.

"Usually, 8th graders are just focused on school," she said. "This [the service learning project] gives us a chance to step up and help out."

The 10 8th graders and their projects were:

- Tyler Shany-Werner—helping students in Mr. Gould's class with math.
- Jaiden Hanson—helping Mr. Gould by organizing papers and supporting 6th grade students in math.
- Ella Carlisle—helping Mr. Smith with his gym class by setting up equipment and encouraging kids to do better.
- Autumn Hobbs—volunteering at the Humane Society in Bangor.
- Anthony Hinkle—making eco-friendly bird houses around the school.
- Christopher Gray—teaching kids about the theories and facts of astronomy.
- Sara Pendergast—helping 6th graders with math.
- Mallory Parks—organizing a bottle drive to benefit the 8th grade Boston trip.
- Hayleigh Harriman—orga-



Wagner 8th graders who talked with *Link-22* about their service learning projects—From left: Tyler Shany-Werner, Jaiden Hanson, Ella Carlisle, Autumn Hobbs, Anthony Hinkle, Christopher Gray, Sara Pendergast, Mallory Parks, Hayleigh Harriman, and Hannah Stillman.

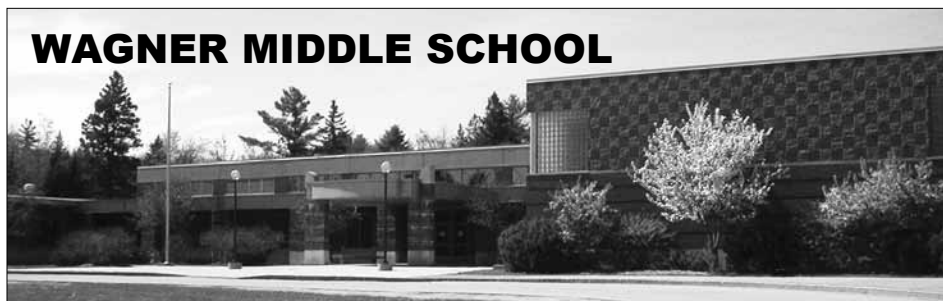
nizing a drive to collect items for the Humane Society, including six boxes of treats and toys.

- Hannah Stillman—raising \$250 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as part of a Leukemia drive.

When *Link-22* asked the 8th graders if they enjoyed doing their projects, the response was a chorus of yeses.

Mallory said she liked the idea that her project not only helps clean up the community, but also raises money for a trip for "so we can have fun."

Tyler said he hoped to influence kids to learn their math a little better, while Hannah wanted to help patients and families deal with



### WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

blood cancers.

"I got to hold kittens," said Autumn. "That was pretty cool."

All 8th graders have an individual project, but students can have other students help them.

However, if you're helping someone with a project, you still have to come up with your own project.

Several of the students offered

some some good advice for next year's 8th graders,

"Don't get as frustrated as some of us have gotten," Tyler said. "Plan ahead. Get it done while you can before the due date. It doesn't have to be a huge project."

Autumn agreed. "Some kids put it off and are just now starting to work on their projects," she said.



The Wagner Middle School Jazz Band.



Morgan Gray.



Rachael Palmer.

## Wagner Show Choir earns Gold Award after Reeds Brook students help move equipment

The Wagner Middle School Show Choir earned a Gold Award and first place in the MMEA State Middle School Vocal Jazz Festival April 6 at Stearns High School in Millinocket. The Superior rating, with

gold distinction, goes to ensembles scoring 95-100 out of 100.

Dana Ross, director of the Wagner Show Choir, said his group got a huge assist from the Reeds Brook students on the day of the festival.

He said the equipment and set trailer had been taken to Millinocket the night before the festival, as the driver had another commitment the day of the festival. It was parked near the Stearns High School gym entrance, where they had performed the year before.

This year, however, Wagner's performance was held in the auditorium, which is on the other side of the high school-middle school complex, about a quarter of a mile away.

"We had no way to move the trailer, so we had to lug all of our equipment from the gym to the auditorium," Mr. Ross said. "The Reeds Brook Show Choir got there about an hour before we did, so a whole squad of Reeds Brook kids came out and helped us move our stuff. It was so awesome!"

The Wagner Show Choir wonder-

fully performed a medley of songs from the musical *Hairspray*. Stephanie Erb designed and taught the show's choreography to the students.

Morgan Gray received an outstanding musicianship award for her solo rendition of "I Know Where I've Been." All of the other soloists from Wagner received superior ratings.

\* \* \*

The Wagner Middle School Jazz Band received a Silver Award at the MMEA State Middle School Jazz Festival March 24, placing them in the upper tier of their division.

Due to several southern Maine schools not able to make the trip to Stearns High School in Millinocket, the host school, Wagner competed in a larger school Division 2, rather than their usual smaller school Division 3.

"We did very well," said Music Director Dana Ross. "The band was just a little over a point from getting a gold medal."

Ensembles that earn an average score of 90-94 out of 100 receive a Superior rating, with a Silver Award Distinction.

Rachel Palmer, 7th grade, received an outstanding musicianship award for her solo and duet on tenor sax.

All of the other Wagner soloists received superior ratings on their solos.

### Paxton Stetson, 6th grade, places 11th in Maine State Geography Bee

Paxton Stetson, a 6th grader at Wagner Middle School, won the school-wide Geography Bee and placed 11th in the Maine State Geography Bee April 6 at the University of Maine at Farmington.

In January, social studies teachers at Wagner held classroom geography bees to find three candidates at each grade level to compete in a school-wide assembly.

Paxton said he studied quite a bit for the geography bee, usually by going on-line at home.



Paxton Stetson

### Wagner Jazz Band, Show Choir plan 'East Coast Tour' for May 31

The Wagner Middle School Jazz Band and Show Choir are planning their East Coast tour for May 31.

The tour will start with a concert at Smith School in Winterport, then continue to Miles Lane School in Bucksport, and Hermon Elementary School.

After the first two concerts, the groups will stop for lunch at the Pizza Hut on Broadway in Bangor. Wagner Music Director Dana Ross says donations to help defray the cost of a coach bus would be welcome.



# Wagner wins Eastern Maine Math League Small Schools Championship for 2nd year

Congratulations to our Wagner Mathletes on winning the Eastern Maine Math League Small Schools Championship for the second year in a row.

On March 28th, 24 Wagner Mathletes completed alongside 500 mathletes from middle schools throughout the region. Along with the small school championship, the following teams were recognized with year-long awards.

- **6th grade Team 1**—placed 2nd.
- **7th grade Team 1**—placed 3rd.
- **8th grade Team 2**—placed 5th.
- **8th grade Team 1**—placed 1st among all teams for the year.

Individuals receiving year-long

awards were:

- **6th graders** Payton Stetson, with a top 10 finish, and Gunnar Bragg finishing in 2nd place for the year.
- **7th grader** Peter VanOverbeke, with a top 10 finish for the year.
- **8th graders** Kayla Danforth, Olivia Saucier, and Sara Pendergast, with top 10 finishes, and Annika Bragg, finishing in 3rd place for the year.

Wagner participants in the 2018 Spring Math Meet were:

**Grade 8**—Annika Bragg, Elizabeth Burgess, Kayla Danforth, Mallory Parks, Sara Pendergast, Carly Philbrook, Olivia Saucier, and Genesis Ugaz.

**Grade 7**—Stacy Berry, Brock Deane, Aaron Donovan, Evan Genever, Ray McKnight, Amy Spencer, Megan Sweeney, and Peter VanOverbeke.



Wagner Middle School Mathletes, who won the Eastern Maine Math League Small Schools Championship for the second year in a row.

**Grade 6**—Gunnar Bragg, Jordan Hardy, Anthony Parks Jr., Isabelle Peters, Alyssa Rainey, Connor Smith,

Paxton Stetson, and Payton Stetson. Congratulations to all Wagner Mathletes on a great season!

## WAGNER RETIREMENT:

### Gail Rowe, 40 years in teaching

Gail Rowe, who started the foreign language program at Wagner Middle School in 1996, will retire for the second time in June after 40-plus years of teaching.

Mrs. Rowe taught both French and Spanish at Wagner for 10 years.

After open-heart surgery, she split the teaching duties with another teacher who taught Spanish, but then decided to retire so that the other teacher could keep her job.

Mrs. Rowe substituted for a couple of years and was called back to fill in for a teaching position at Reeds Brook for a year. She took a career detour into home health care for about four years until 2013, when she accepted a position as the interventionist in a pilot program at Piscataquis Community High School in Guilford.

She stayed at PCHS for four years, returning to Wagner in the fall of 2017 to teach Spanish.

A native of Fort Fairfield, Mrs. Rowe graduated from the University of Maine in 1969 with a double major in French and Spanish and a minor in English. Her first teaching job was in Houlton, where she had done her student teaching with French teacher Mrs. Virginia Lane, who she remembers with great fondness.

Over the next 25 years, she taught in many schools in Maine and Massachusetts. Because she was certified to teach four different disciplines—French, Spanish, English, and social studies—it was relatively easy for her to find a teaching position when her spouse changed jobs in search of better opportunities.

Mrs. Rowe says one of her goals in retirement is to travel, making use of the time shares that she has invested in over the years.

“I’ve had some nice trips, but I couldn’t take full advantage of my time shares because I was limited to school vacations, which is when everyone—both students and parents—want to travel,” she says.

She says she definitely wants to go to Ireland, and she also wants to return to France, Spain, Italy, and England. She may also consider traveling to South America, the Caribbean, Hawaii, and the continental U.S.



Gail Rowe



Amelia on Wacky Wednesday.



Brody and Layton on Farm Day.



Lucy on Wacky Wednesday.

## McGraw Spirit Days!

During various days in March, mostly Fridays, McGraw enjoyed Spirit Days!

The Spirit Days focused on different books that we all know and love! We kicked off the month with *Fox in Socks Day*, during which we wore wacky socks! On the following Friday, we read *Llama, Llama, Red Pajama* and wore our comfy PJs!

We had a Wacky Wednesday and all went a little wacky with



EARL C. MCGRAW SCHOOL

our clothes and hair!

Of course, we couldn’t let Dr. Seuss’ birthday go by without a Green Eggs and Ham Day, when we donned the green!

On Friday, March 23, we enjoyed

a Farm Day and the final Friday in March was McGraw School Spirit Day—with lots of purple and lots of McGraw Paw attire!

These special days bring all of the staff and students closer!



**AUTHORS VISIT MCGRAW SCHOOL**—Two authors visited McGraw School in May. Ellen Potter (left photo) came on May 3 and talked with students in 1st and 2nd grades. Josh Alves (right photo) came on May 8 and met with the PreK and kindergarten classes. Both authors discussed how they craft their books—how they come up with ideas and how many times they have to edit their writing and make revisions. The McGraw PTO donated money to purchase a book by Ms. Potter for all the 1st and 2nd graders and a book by Mr. Alves for all the Pre-K and kindergarten students.



## Read-a-Thon at Smith helps students develop love of reading

Many of us know how much fun it can be to get lost in a great book! At Smith School, students had a chance to do just that during the Annual Read-a-Thon in April. For several weeks, students were challenged to read as many minutes as they could and record this information each day.

Their hard work helped raise a lot of money for Smith School's parent organization (P.I.E) which helps support the school by hosting fun community and school events, funding field trips, purchasing supplies for classrooms, and more. Students collected pledges for all of their great reading. In the end students helped raise over \$3,000 for the school!

In addition to raising money for our school and doing some great reading, students had the opportunity to write their name on a ticket for every ten minutes that they read. These tickets then were entered into a drawing for a chance to win a brand new bicycle for one boy and one girl in each grade. The day of the drawing for the bike winners, students and teachers had



Smith School students don costumes to portray characters from their favorite books.

a chance to dress up as their favorite book character and march in a character parade. This is always a highlight for students and a fun and exciting time for all. I'm sure students and staff are already planning their costumes for next years parade. Smith School staff hope that this event encourages students to read more, but most importantly to develop a love of reading that they can carry with them throughout their lives.



## Civil Rights Team holds 3rd annual Welcome Week at Smith School

Have you ever been in a situation where you did not feel welcome or accepted? Smith School's Civil Rights Team (CRT) works hard to make sure everyone feels safe, welcome and respected at Smith School everyday. Each year the team plans and organizes this special week to help educate students, staff and the community about the importance of respecting differences.

During "Welcome Week," CRT

members read many books related to making others feel welcome. They chose books that dealt with many different types of differences, including race, gender, skin color, etc. CRT members were guest readers in all classrooms throughout the school. While reading in classes, CRT members helped other students understand ways to make everyone feel welcome.

For the week, Team members

also created a banner to hang in the lobby that says: "At Smith School we welcome every race, national origin, skin color, ancestry, religion, disability, gender and family structure." Teachers were then challenged to work with their students to decorate their doors based on one of those differences. In addition to the door decorations, everyone in the school decorated a leaf in a way that represents them, and these leaves were added to the CRT bulletin board with the message: "Our roots may be different but we all grow together!"

Throughout the week Civil Rights Team members read important messages during morning announcements, students participated in fun theme days and attended an assembly highlighting some fun and important messages from the



Some Civil Rights Team members during a meeting.

week. The team is already thinking about fun events and activities to add to Welcome Week for next year! Until then, the team plans to continue educating others and planning activities that help get students thinking and talking about ways to make sure everyone feels welcome regardless of race, skin color, national origin/ancestry, religion, gender, disability, or family structure. At Smith School, we all matter....everyday!

### Free Summer Meals for Kids and Teens

Leroy H. Smith School in Winterport is participating in the Summer Meals Program. There are no income requirements or registration. Anyone age 18 or younger may come to eat a healthy and delicious breakfast and lunch at no charge. We will be featuring some veggies from our school gardens as well as a variety of students favorites!

The cost for adults age 19 and older will be \$4 per meal.

Meals will be provided at the school Monday through Thursday from June 18 through August 16.

Breakfast will be served from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be served from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

A book swap will be held on Mondays and Thursdays during lunch time.

Childcare providers: If you are located in the Winterport area and would be interested in summer meals please contact Kathy Kittridge, School Nutrition Director, RSU 22, at [kkittridge@rsu22.us](mailto:kkittridge@rsu22.us) or 862-3543.

Volunteers are needed to provide activities around the lunch hour.

## Smith School 1st graders learn about maple syrup in Maine with visit to Nutkin Knoll Farm in Newburgh

On March 27, a beautiful spring day, Smith School first graders were excited to experience Maine Maple "Tuesday" at the beautiful Nutkin Knoll Farm in Newburgh. Owners Len and Nancy Price treated us to the entire maple syrup process.

Upon arriving we were quickly divided into 3 groups where we would be able to venture off with our leaders to get an up close look at the farm.

Before heading into the woods we had the opportunity to feed the Price's horse, Patches, and see their sheep. If we had headed back to school after this, the kiddos would have been thrilled. There is nothing quite like farm animals to bring joy to a first grader.

After walking a short distance into the woods, students were able to see the lines that the sap flowed through until reaching the holding tank that stored the sap until it was time to pump it to the sap house. There, they were able to ask another first grade student, Henry Walters, (who

has spent a lot of time on the farm with his dad) questions they had about this part of the process.

From there they saw Mr. Price tap a tree with a hand drill. We learned that he uses a battery operated drill to tap his trees each spring as they tap over 1,000 trees. Students also had the chance to try sap straight from the tree! It was surprisingly a big hit (they hadn't tried the REAL maple syrup at that point!).

Once back to the sap house we saw the steam rolling off the evaporator slowly turning the sap into a delicious amber colored maple syrup. Did you know it takes 40 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of syrup?

Before leaving students enjoyed a treat of vanilla ice cream with fresh Nutkin Knoll maple syrup. It was a wonderful trip that we look forward to becoming an annual tradition with Smith School first graders! Many thanks to Nutkin Knoll and Smith School PIE group for paying for the buses to get us to Newburgh and back!



Mrs. Moore installed mirrors in the hallways at Smith School with inspirational messages for students. This mirror told the onlooker, "I am strong."



## PE team at Weatherbee lead project to tap maple trees around the school

For the third year in a row, Andrew Plaisted and Randi Kaplan, physical education teachers at Weatherbee School, have tapped maple trees around the school.

This year, Andy, Randi, and their PE students were joined by several teachers, and together they made three collections in March and early April.

The result was about 120 gallons of sap, which they boiled down to 2½ gallons of syrup, much of which was poured on pancakes when the lunchroom served breakfast for lunch on April 13, the Friday before vacation.

Mr. Plaisted said he wanted to get the staff involved, in order to make the maple syrup project more school-wide.

“I wanted to open up an avenue for teachers to see some of the opportunities that the project offers for graphing, map exercises,



Andrew Plaisted and 4th grade teacher Kacey Falcon tap a maple tree near Weatherbee School.

science, and other areas of the curriculum,” he said.

He said the goal for next year



GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

is for Weatherbee to host its own Maine Maple Sunday celebration. He says he’s trying to get a new evaporator for his house in Hampden, where he has 225 taps that yielded about 800 gallons of sap and 20 gallons of syrup this year.

If he’s able to get a new evaporator on line at home, Mr. Plaisted says he’d donate his existing evaporator to the school.

Ideally, he’d like to see maple syrup become a school-wide project,

or even a district- and community-wide project.

In addition to tapping trees and making syrup, he’d like to include developing a label and signage for the Weatherbee syrup, learning forestry techniques to help with the wood supply, and learning how to keep the trees healthy.

A focus on the science of maple syrup could lead to the development of a reverse osmosis machine to increase the sugar content of the sap.



After reading their biographies, Weatherbee 3rd graders dressed up in costumes of famous Americans and portrayed them in a classroom Wax Museum.

## 3rd graders read biographies of famous Americans, then portray them in ‘Wax Museum’

During the month of February, 3rd graders at Weatherbee School learned about the genre of biography. As part of that unit, they read short biographies about famous Americans and then choose a subject they would like to learn more about.

The students studied the lives of these famous Americans, and when their research was completed, they

wrote speeches that their subjects might give to introduce themselves.

The 3rd graders practiced their speeches, and on March 9th, they dressed up like their subjects and participated in a Wax Museum to showcase the famous Americans they had researched.

Complete with costumes and memorized speeches or speech

cards, they stood at the ready, frozen like a wax statue, waiting for someone to press a button on their desk to bring them to life.

Third grade teacher Dawn Hussey said parents enjoyed visiting the wax museum and experiencing the many different famous Americans their children had learned so much about.

Angela Pratt, who also teaches 3rd grade at Weatherbee, said the students did a good job researching their famous Americans.

“They found quite a bit of information about the characters they portrayed,” she said. “Some of them were a little surprised at how much information they were able to find.”

## 24 ‘Girls on the Run’ preparing for 5K in June

Twenty-four 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade girls from Weatherbee School have been running on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school in preparation for the Girls on the Run 5K event on June 3 at the Cumberland County Fairgrounds in Portland.

The girls are: Ariana Albert, Tracy Alsbrook, Fiona Alter, Amelia Brickel, Maya Carver, Aishwarya Casavant, Addison Dowling, Lyra Dupuis, Isabella Fagone, Abigail Gregor, Zoe Higgins, Emily Kneser, Madison Lyons, Mya Madden, Nina Mitchell, Kyra Qualey, Addison Schall, Lillie Schmeltz, Kiersten Shayne, Mallory Walker, Amelia Wicklow, Lucy Withee, Addisan Worster, and Elise Worster.

Girls on the Run is a guidance-based program that teaches girls in grades 3-5 skills related to positive body image, how to handle bullying, friendship, inner beauty, how to advocate for themselves, while training for an actual 5K road race.

The 10-week program, which started in February, is led by gifted



Weatherbee School Girls on the Run.

and talented teacher Tricia Richardson.

The girls meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 3:30 to 5 p.m. They recently completed a practice 5K on the Hampden Academy track on Wednesday, May 16.

“We tried to set it up like a real road race,” Ms. Richardson said. “Most of our girls have never participated in a 5K event before and we want to give them a real sense of

how long that distance actually is.”

Ms. Richardson coached a Girls on the Run team in Virginia Beach before coming to Weatherbee. When she started teaching in Weatherbee, she was able to get it started here as well.

“Girls on the Run is the BEST thing I do in RSU22,” she said. “I am truly inspired by these girls—their joy, their determination, and their enthusiasm. I am a better teacher, better coach, and a better person because of this program.”

The 5K road race on June 3 at the Cumberland Fairground is the culminating activity for Girls on the Run. More than 900 girls from throughout Maine are expected to participate in the event.



MAINE DAY—For the past nine years, students at George B. Weatherbee School have learned a lot about Maine on “Maine Day,” which celebrates Maine’s birthday, which was March 15 this year. Students were able to attend five 45-minute workshops out of a total of 32 workshops that were offered. The workshops covered a wide range of topics, including: stone and bone tools that have been used throughout the last 12,000 years in Maine apple cider making, building your own lighthouse, cribbage, fiddle and dance steps, fly tying, and knot tying.



## 2nd annual "Keep It Local" Community Expo a Success; exhibitors, visitors up 25%



The Foundation held its second "Keep It Local" Business & Community Expo in late March. Due to the increase in size, the event was moved from the Skehan Center to Hampden Academy in both the Gymnasium and the Dining Commons. Over 50 vendors from various industries exhibited from 10 am - 4 pm, and the Expo was free to the general public. Ample parking and being able to feature the beautiful building to the public also helped in selecting this venue. A special THANKS goes out to the administration and especially the custodial staff of Hampden Academy for hosting us!

The event was well attended with about 25% growth in both exhibitors and visitors walking the fair. WABI interviewed board member Jon Henry for "Saturday Morning Maine" and



# RSU #22 Education Foundation

Community Partners for Inspired Education

featured the expo on the evening news. Many food choices, a rented ATM, and the ever friendly (if not slightly persistent) Girl Scouts made it a fun day while the Foundation's Mini-Grant fund was replenished thanks to exhibitor's fees and sponsorship support from the following organizations: Changing Seasons Federal Credit Union, Katahdin Trust Company, Taylor Rental, Citizens of Maine, EverGreen Home & Hearth,

Bangor Savings Bank, Hampden Family Dentistry, Coastal Power Sports, Wings for Children & Families, and the *Bangor Daily News*.

Check out the pictures on this page and if you are curious about the event or have a small business you think might benefit from being featured next year, it is not too early to let us know. Please contact the Foundation directly at 852-2138 or [rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:rsu22educationfoundation@gmail.com).



## Foundation With A New Look: New website designed in collaboration with Husson University

The RSU22 Education Foundation is proud to present its new website platform, a new domain name, new navigation, and new content. After many years using a solution and receiving great support from local Hampden business Links Web Design (owned by Hampden Academy alumni Ken Kimball), it was time for something new. The Foundation has entered into a collaboration with Husson's NESCOM (New England School of Communications) which has

brought a great win-win: the Foundation became a client of NESCOM and students learning the complete web design process provided a full analysis, developed various creative and technical ideas, and ultimately designed it all (and provided great customer service!). A more up-to-date website is the reality, including an embedded link to the Foundation's Facebook page, and the website is mobile-ready of course. All that without any charges to the Foundation or



school budget. Please check out our new domain name: [www.rsu22foundation.org](http://www.rsu22foundation.org) (note: the old link will still

get you there as well).

Stay tuned for more changes in the coming weeks and bear with us while construction on the site continues. New features will include: a donation platform as well as new pages featuring the various ways your donations have been effective in the community, e.g., reporting on the various Mini-Grants provided to teachers and other staff members.

## Bids accepted for turf field upgrade, work to begin June 1

Bids have been accepted for upgrading the turf field at Hampden Academy and installing new lights, and work on the project is scheduled to begin June 1.

The turf field will be installed by NET Sports Group of Saco, which submitted a bid of \$573,514.

The lights will be installed by Moulison Electric of Biddeford. Moulison's bid of \$359,906 was reduced to \$295,000 after adjustments were made to get the project within budget.

The entire complex will be shut down on June 1, and the lighting equipment is scheduled to arrive on that same day.

The five 50' wooden light poles will be removed, and four 70' metal light poles with LED lighting will be installed in their place.

The switch from conventional to LED lighting will save money, reduce electricity usage, and lower maintenance costs. The LED lighting will also be brighter, and the taller poles will ensure more even lighting of the entire field and fewer dark areas.

The new turf is expected to arrive on June 22. The official project



Designer's rendering of the new turf field for Hampden Academy.

completion date is August 8, seven days before the start of preseason, but NET Sports is confident that the it won't take that long.

Assistant Principal Nick Raymond says site preparation is not expected to be a major issue.

"The surface underneath the existing turf is pretty good," he said. "It may have to be laser graded a little bit, but Sargent Corporation did a good job when the turf was originally installed 14 years ago.

However, some site preparation work will be needed because the new turf will be extended all the way to the retaining wall on the east side (near McGraw School and the baseball field) and to the fence line on the west side (near Hampden Academy).

Currently, the field has crushed stone and natural grass bordering the turf, which results in significant maintenance problems, as the stone is constantly dragged up onto

the turf and causes problems when the grass is mowed.

Sargent will be a subcontractor to NET Sports Group on the site preparation for the turf field and to Moulison Electric on replacing the light poles.

The new field will have solid purple end zones, alternating lime and olive green colors every five yards on the football field, and a purple Hampden Academy logo with a white outline in the center of the field.

The logo colors will be reversed from the present logo, which is white with a purple outline.

The football field will remain at the standard dimensions of 53 yards wide and 100 yards long (120 yards long including the two 10-yard end zones). The soccer field will retain its current width of 70 yards, but its length will be extended by 10 yards to 120 yards long, so that the soccer end line will be the same as the back of the football end zones.

"That will make it look a little better and cut down on the confusion of multiple lines on the playing field," said Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Fred Lower.