

**WARRANT TO CALL REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO. 25
BUDGET MEETING
(20-A M.R.S. § 1485)**

TO: Jane Marston, a resident of Regional School Unit No. 25 (the "Regional School Unit") composed of the Towns of Bucksport, Orland, Prospect and Verona Island, State of Maine.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the voters of each of the municipalities within Regional School Unit No. 25, namely, the Towns of Bucksport, Orland, Prospect and Verona Island, that a Regional School Unit Budget Meeting will be held at the Bucksport Performing Arts Center, Bucksport Middle School, 100 Miles Lane, in the Town of Bucksport, Maine at 7:00 p.m. on May 31, 2017 for the purpose of determining the Budget Meeting articles set forth below.

ARTICLE 1A: To elect a moderator to preside at the meeting.

**ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 11 AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST
CENTER CATEGORIES**

ARTICLE 1: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

School Board Recommends \$5,332,766

ARTICLE 2: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

School Board Recommends \$2,621,446

ARTICLE 3: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.

School Board Recommends \$335,620

ARTICLE 4: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction.

School Board Recommends \$449,829

ARTICLE 5: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

School Board Recommends \$1,194,651

ARTICLE 6: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

School Board Recommends \$431,780

ARTICLE 7: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for School Administration.

School Board Recommends \$757,878

ARTICLE 8: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

School Board Recommends \$1,018,570

ARTICLE 9: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

School Board Recommends \$1,493,147

ARTICLE 10: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

School Board Recommends \$713,228

ARTICLE 11: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures.

School Board Recommends \$40,000

**ARTICLES 12 THROUGH 14 RAISE FUNDS FOR THE
PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET**

ARTICLE 12: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten 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 kindergarten 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)		Total Raised (and Regional School Unit assessments by municipality)	
Town of Bucksport	\$ 7,788,205.13	Town of Bucksport	\$ 3,542,040.67
Town of Orland	\$ 2,654,105.15	Town of Orland	\$ 1,835,820.50
Town of Prospect	\$ 1,046,290.75	Town of Prospect	\$ 395,018.50
Town of Verona Island	\$ 500,749.47	Town of Verona Island	\$ 436,883.00
Total Appropriated (sum of above)	\$ 11,989,350.50	Total Raised (sum of above)	\$ 6,209,762.67

Explanation: The Regional School Unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from 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: 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 kindergarten to grade 12.

School Board Recommends \$208,957

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 (Written ballot required): To see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (**Recommend \$1,269,607.50**), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (**Recommend \$988,927.07**) as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$988,927.88: This amount is needed to cover costs of Regional School Unit schools that the state's funding model does not recognize, including the following: (1) costs of special education programming, (2) costs of extra-curricular and co-curricular programs, (3) transportation costs, and (4) food service costs. Also, the State's funding model recognizes costs of larger, more urban school districts to a greater degree than our schools.

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 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: To see what sum the Regional School Unit will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 from the Regional School Unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten 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.

School Board Recommends \$14,388,915

**ARTICLE 16 AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURE OF GRANTS
AND OTHER RECEIPTS**

ARTICLE 16: In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the School Board 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?

**ARTICLE 17 AUTHORIZES THE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM AND
RAISES THE LOCAL SHARE**

ARTICLE 17: To see if Regional School Unit No. 25 will appropriate \$186,590.24 for adult education and raise \$90,000 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.

**ARTICLE 18 AUTHORIZES A TRANSFER TO THE
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

ARTICLE 18: Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to \$200,000 from available fund balances to the School Capital Reserve Fund

**ARTICLE 19 TRANSFERS AVAILABLE FUND BALANCES TO
THE FUEL COST STABILIZATION FUND**

ARTICLE 19: Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer up to \$30,000 to the fuel cost stabilization fund from available fund balances?

Statutory Disclosure Statement relating to Fuel Cost Stabilization Fund:
The fuel cost stabilization fund balance is currently \$0. If this article is approved as written, the fuel cost stabilization fund balance will be \$30,000. The amount used from the fuel cost stabilization fund in the last four years through the date this article was prepared is as follows:

Fiscal year 2012-2013: \$45,000
Fiscal year 2013-2014: \$45,000
Fiscal year 2014-2015 to date: \$0
Fiscal year 2015-2016 to date: \$0

**ARTICLE 20 AUTHORIZES THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS INTO THE
TECHNOLOGY RESERVE ACCOUNT**

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Board be authorized to transfer up to \$25,000 from available fund balances to the Technology Reserve Account?

**ARTICLE 21 AUTHORIZES THE DISPOSITION OF
ANY ADDITIONAL STATE SUBSIDY RECEIVED**

ARTICLE 21: In the event that the Regional School Unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Board be authorized to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Board, increase the allocation of finances in a reserve fund approved by the School Board, and/or decrease the local cost share expectation, as defined in Title 20-A, section 15671A(1)(B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Board?

Given under our hand this day, May 16, 2017 at Bucksport, Maine.

Scott A. Frazier

Dennis M. Burgess

Mark E. Astbury

Thomas Foster

Dan Burger

Melinda K. Steger

Dad Terry

A majority of the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 25

A true copy of the Warrant, attest:

Jane Marston
Jane Marston, Resident
Regional School Unit No. 25