

Timberlane Regional School District

Voter Guide



Guide to the First and Second Sessions of the 2024 Timberlane Regional School District Annual Meetings

First Session (Deliberative)

February 8, 2024

Timberlane Regional School District
Performing Arts Center (PAC)
7:00 PM

Second Session (Voting)

March 12, 2024

Atkinson Community Center from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Danville Community Center from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Plaistow Fish and Game Club from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sandown Town Hall from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

The following information has been created to assist you in making informed decisions at the first and second sessions of the 2024 Timberlane Regional School District Annual Meetings. The information presented in this guide is to provide you with an understanding of the warrant articles. Please note that the final language of the warrant articles will be determined at the Deliberative Session I.

Additional information regarding the FY2025 Proposed Budget and Warrant Articles may be obtained by calling the SAU office at 603-382-6119, or by visiting the district website at www.timberlane.net.

Article 1 – Election of Officers

| SCHOOL BOARD | 3-YEAR TERM |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Don Woodworth | Atkinson |
| Katie Knutsen | Plaistow |
| Paul LeCain | Sandown |

| BUDGET COMMITTEE | 3-YEAR TERM |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Kathryn Consalvo | Atkinson |
| Lauren Schlerf | Plaistow |
| Karen White | Sandown |

Article 2 – Operating Budget

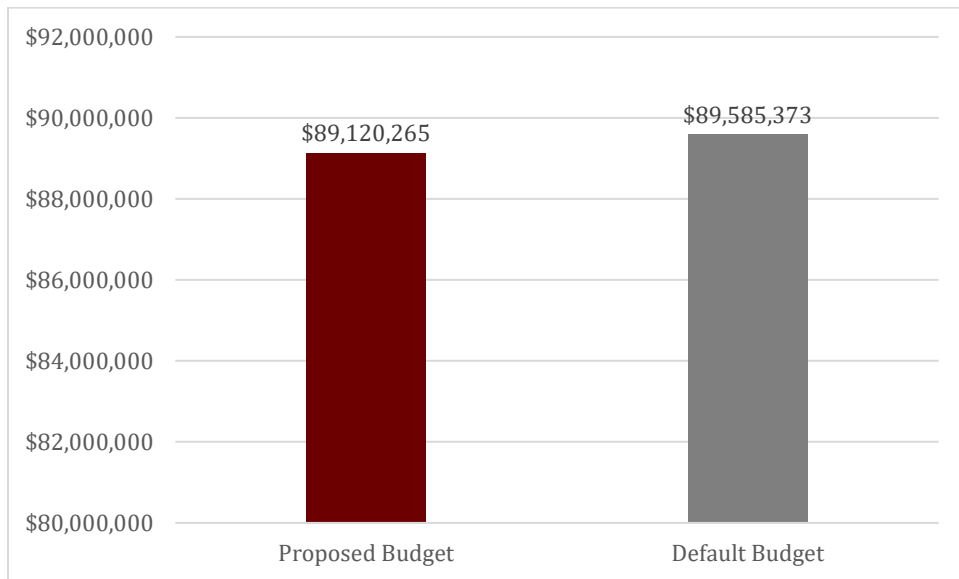
Shall the voters of the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$89,120,265**? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$89,585,373**, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Timberlane Regional School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: Warrant Article 2 (the operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant articles. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0

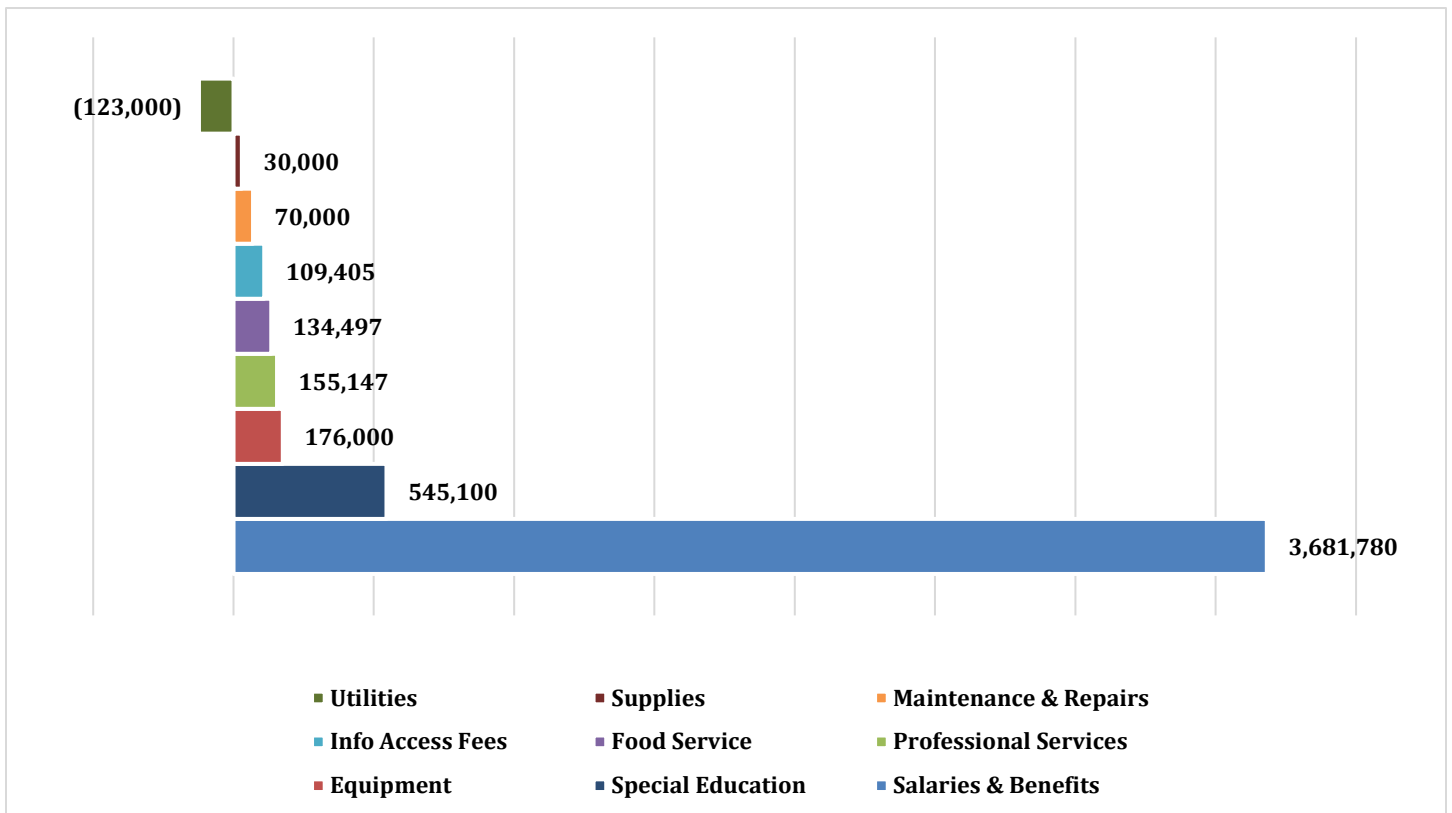
Recommended by the Budget Committee 7-2-0

Article Summary: This article summarizes the forecasting of the required funding for the School District in FY2025. The funding from the operating budget provides significant educational programming as well as perpetual maintenance of our facilities. The operating budget presented in this warrant article (\$89,120,265) reflects the Budget Committee’s approved budget. The default budget presented in this warrant article (\$89,585,373) becomes effective if Article 2 fails. The default budget amount is prescribed by state statute.

FY 2025 Proposed vs. Default Budget



Major Budget Increase Drivers



Article 3 – Three Year Collective Bargaining Agreement (Timberlane Teachers’ Association)

Shall the voters of the School District approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Timberlane Teachers’ Association and the Timberlane Regional School Board, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year:

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Fiscal Year | <u>2024-25</u> | <u>2025-26</u> | <u>2026-27</u> |
| Estimated Increase | \$2,427,107 | \$1,799,324 | \$1,949,771 |
| 3-Year Total | | | \$6,176,202 |

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,427,107** for the 2024-25 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at the current staffing levels? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 7-0-2
Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0

Article Summary: This article focuses on the Collective Bargaining Agreements between the Timberlane Regional School District and the Timberlane Teachers’ Association. Supporting the staff of the Timberlane School District with salary raises provides an increase in cost of living and comparable salaries with other school districts.

Article 4 – Authorization for Special Meeting on Cost Items

Shall the voters of the School District, if Article 3 is defeated, authorize the Timberlane Regional School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 3 cost items only? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0

Article Summary: If Article 3 is defeated, and if this article passes, then the School Board may call a Special Meeting to vote on the cost items only of the Collective Bargaining Agreement for the Timberlane Teachers’ Association.

Article 5 – Capital Reserve Fund by Surplus

Shall the voters of the School District raise and appropriate up to \$250,000 to be placed in the School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund established in 1996, with such amount to be transferred from those funds in the June 30, 2024 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1 of this year which were apportioned as Capital Expenses in 2023-2024 in accordance with Article 6 of the Timberlane Regional School District Articles of Agreement? No amount to be raised by additional taxation. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0
Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0

Article Summary: There will be no additional taxation if passed. The Capital Reserve Fund was established for the purpose of saving money to finance a specific capital improvement at a future date. The District would be moving money from the unassigned fund balance into the Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement, and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 6 – General Acceptance of Reports

Shall the voters of the School District accept reports of agents, auditors, and committees as written in the 2023 Annual Report? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0

Article Summary: This article is to accept all reports in the 2023 Annual Report.

Article 7 – Amendment to Administrators’ Union CBA

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the amendment to the previously approved 2023-2026 collective bargaining agreement between the Timberlane Regional School Board and Timberlane Administrators’ Union (Teamsters Local Union #633), which calls for the following increases and decreases in salaries and benefits over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year at current staffing levels under the previously approved agreement:

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Fiscal Year | <u>2024-25</u> | <u>2025-26</u> |
| Estimated Increase | \$60,000 | (\$30,000) |
| 2-Year Total | | \$30,000 |

No appropriation necessary in this Article because the funding for these increases is part of the operating budget in Article 2. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0

Article Summary: This article amends the 2023 voter approved Collective Bargaining Agreement for the Timberlane Administrators’ Union by including Article 14: Professional Development and associated costs.

Article 8 – Amendment to CBA for Technology Staff

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the amendment to the previously approved 2023-2026 collective bargaining agreement between the Timberlane Regional School Board and Teamsters Local Union #633 (Administrative Assistants/Secretaries and Skilled Maintenance Employees), which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year at current staffing levels under the previously approved agreement:

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Fiscal Year | <u>2024-25</u> | <u>2025-26</u> |
| Estimated Increase | \$28,471 | \$25,891 |
| 2-Year Total | | \$54,362 |

and further to raise and appropriate **\$28,471** for the 2025 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the amendment to the 2023-2026 collective bargaining agreement over the costs that would be paid at current staffing levels under the previously approved agreement.

[Note: This article concerns the costs associated with the amendment to the previously approved 2023-2026 collective bargaining agreement, which was negotiated because the NH Public Employee Labor Relations Board added IT employees to this bargaining unit.] (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0

Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0

Article Summary: In January 2023, the Public Employee Labor Relations Board modified the bargaining unit by adding certain IT employees (principal technology specialist, senior technology specialists, technology specialists, and network administrator) to the unit. This article covers the costs associated with adding the IT employees to the Administrative Assistants/Secretaries and Skill Maintenance Employees Union.

Article 9 – Authorization for Special Meeting on Cost Items

Shall the voters of the School District, if Article 8 is defeated, authorize the Timberlane Regional School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 8 cost items only? (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Recommended by the School Board 9-0-0

Article Summary: If Article 8 is defeated, and if this article passes, then the School Board may call a Special Meeting to vote on the cost items only of the Collective Bargaining Agreement for the IT employees.

Article 10 - Tax Impact Statement by Petition

To see if the Timberlane Regional School District will vote to accept RSA 32:5 which will allow the inclusion of the estimated tax impact per town as part of the warrant article and to be included on the ballot. (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED)

Article Summary: This article was submitted as a citizen's petition.