

Rollinsford School District Warrant Articles What Do They Mean?

Below is the complete text and **accompanying explanations** of the School District Warrant articles that will be voted on **March 13, 2018**.

Please mark your calendars to vote on these important ballot items. If you are not yet a registered voter, it's easy to register! Contact the Town Clerk for more information: 742-2510.

Articles 1-4 pertain to election of school district officials and therefore are not reprinted here.

Article 5:

To see if the Rollinsford School District will 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 \$5,657,232 (five million, six hundred fifty-seven thousand, two hundred thirty-two dollars).

Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$5,632,300 (five million, six hundred thirty-two thousand, three hundred dollars) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Rollinsford School District or by law: or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with the RSA 40:13, X and XVI to take up the issue of the revised operating budget only.

Recommended by both the Budget Committee and School Board

Background information:

1. The increase is largely due to reduced revenue from the state and increased enrollment in Marshwood schools.
 2. The amount of fixed contractual costs in the budget, including salaries, benefits, and purchased services (e.g., tuition, transportation, SAU costs) makes up 96% of the total budget.
 3. Given these contractual obligations, the default budget would have a dramatic effect on Rollinsford Grade School as the entire \$25K would have to come from the 4% spent on supplies and equipment at RGS.
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Article 6:

To see if the Rollinsford School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) reached between the Rollinsford School Board and Rollinsford Education Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits and a decrease in health insurance premium at the current staffing levels...

| Year 2018-2019 | Increase | | Less: | Total Increase |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | Salary Increase | FICA & Retirement | Health Premium Savings | |
| Teachers | 63,110 | 13,797 | -47,763 | 29,144 |
| Paraprofessionals | 8,528 | 1,410 | 0 | 9,938 |
| Total | 71,638 | 15,207 | -47,763 | 39,082 |

...and furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-nine thousand eighty-two dollars (\$39,082) for the upcoming fiscal year such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries FICA and Retirement benefits and a decrease (savings) in health insurance premium over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.

Recommended by both the Budget Committee and School Board

Background information:

| Year 2018-2019 | Increase | | Less: | Total Increase |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | Salary Increase | FICA & Retirement | Health Premium Savings | |
| Teachers | 63,110 | 13,797 | -47,763 | 29,144 |
| Paraprofessionals | 8,528 | 1,410 | 0 | 9,938 |
| Total | 71,638 | 15,207 | -47,763 | 39,082 |

Teachers agreed to new healthcare plan with premium savings that will continue each year. Projected \$263,921 savings compounded over first 5 years.

Puts all teacher on the proper salary step based on experience. Last step or increase was 2014.

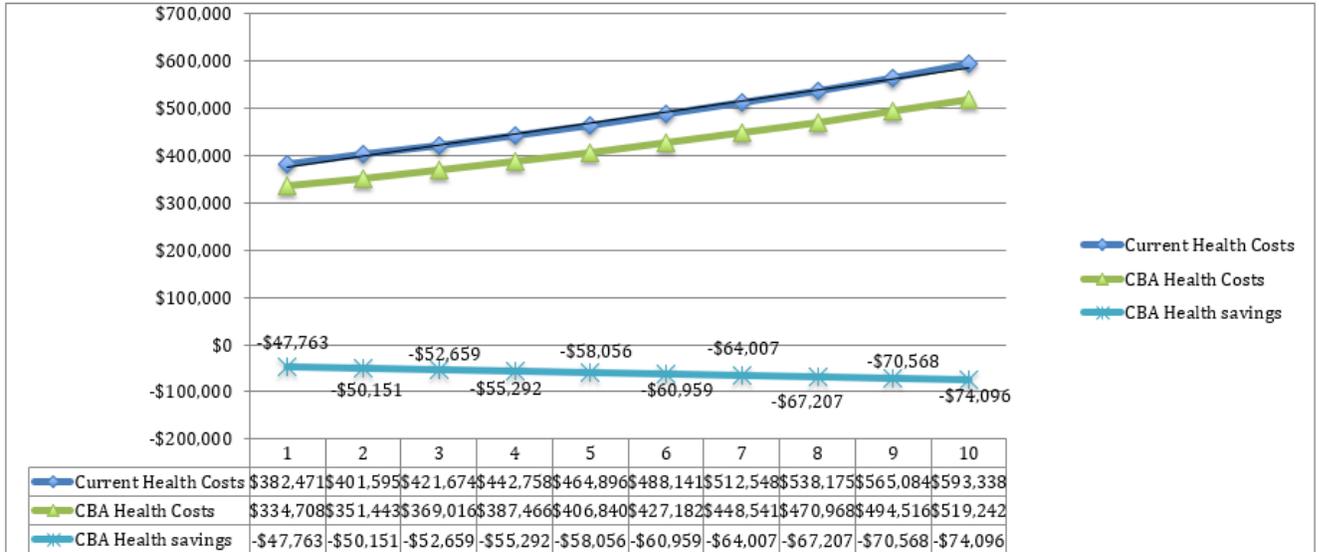
Provides all paras with a \$.50 /hr. increase. Last was in 2014.

Cost to taxpayers to catch up teacher and para pay.

For more information on how teacher compensation with “steps” works, please visit: <https://neanh.org/2018/02/09/gaining-experience-and-proficiency-step-by-step/>

Voting “Yes” brings teachers to their correct salary levels based on experience, provides paraprofessionals with a \$.50 per hour raise, and delivers \$47K in savings on healthcare premiums (compared to the current plan), which continues each year. The cost of the salary increase is offset by the healthcare savings for a total cost of \$39K.

Voting “No” keeps teachers and paraprofessionals on their current salary, keeps 6 teachers well below the salary for their experience level, and prevents the Town from realizing real healthcare cost savings (projected \$263,900 over 5 years when compared to the current healthcare costs - see Health comparison chart below).



Projected Health Cost Savings with approval of the CBA for school year 2018-2019:

- 1st year = \$ 47,763
- 2nd year= \$ 97,914 cumulative savings
- 3rd year= \$150,573 cumulative savings
- 4th year= \$205,865 cumulative savings
- 5th year = \$263,921 cumulative savings

(Example uses 5% health cost increase a year; the higher the % increase, the greater the annual and cumulative savings as compared to the current health plan.)

Article 7:

To see if Rollinsford School District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$93,000 (ninety-three thousand dollars), for Rollinsford Grade School Annex and Kindergarten Roof Replacement.

Recommended by both the Budget Committee and School Board

Background information:

This warrant article is to replace the flat roof of the Kindergarten and Annex. The Annex roof was due to be replaced in 2012, and the Kindergarten is due to be replaced in 2018.

Voting “Yes” to this warrant article would allow both roofs to be replaced in 2018.

Voting “No” does not allow the roofs to be replaced in 2018.

Article 8:

To see if the Rollinsford School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the Rollinsford School Building Improvement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. With up to \$75,000 to come from year-end unassigned fund balance

(surplus) available on June 30, 2018 available for transfer on July 1st, 2018. No amount to be raised from taxation.

Recommended by both the Budget Committee and School Board

Background information:

This warrant article allows the Rollinsford School District to set aside up to \$75K in its Building Reserve Fund **if money is left over** in this year's budget. This helps the Rollinsford School District afford anticipated future expenditures. Some of the expected expenses are boiler replacement, a more secure and accessible school entry, a ventilation system, and the main RGS building window replacement. This money will not be raised by additional taxes. Releasing any funds from this reserve requires a vote by the town.

Voting "Yes" allows the Rollinsford School District **if money is left over** in this year's budget to move up to \$75K into the Building Reserve Fund.

Voting "No" does not allow any left-over money to be placed in the fund this year.

Article 9:

To see if Rollinsford School District will vote to establish a Regular Education Tuition Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 198:20-c,III, for regular education tuition and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1.00 (one dollar), to be placed in the fund and further designate the school board as agents to expend from the fund.

Recommended by both the Budget Committee and School Board

Background information:

This warrant article is to allow for the creation of a tuition trust fund. It would be used as a contingency for any additional unbudgeted Rollinsford students enrolling at the Marshwood Middle and High School. Since a few extra students' tuition costs makes an impact on the budget, the account will help when any middle and high school students move into town during the school year. It would only be used for tuition costs to Marshwood.

Voting "Yes" allows the creation of the fund. Voting "No" does not.