



Nottingham School District

Year in Review



The purpose of this mailer is to provide you with information related to the proposed Nottingham School District Budget and Warrant Articles on the June 8th ballot for the 2021-2022 school year and to highlight actions and outcomes from the past year.

Year in review

- **School Board and Administration developed and implemented plans for response to COVID-19:**
 - Formed a committee to develop reopening plans based on State Guidelines
 - Began school year in an A/B hybrid model with students returning to face to face instruction 2 days per week, working remotely for another 2.5 days
 - Developed & implemented a fully remote learning model for students and families that requested it which was above and beyond what most schools in our area were able to offer
 - School Board reviewed State recommended data points related to COVID-19 at every meeting to reassess best model for learning at any given time
 - In late October moved to fully in person learning 4.5 days per week, continued our fully remote option for students that needed that option
 - Responded to individual positive cases of the virus within our school and successfully isolated cases to avoid virus spread within school.
 - Installed the iWave Air Purification system in the school.

- **Continued support of technology plan:**
 - Having previous exposure to online platforms such as Google platforms and Seesaw proved useful in adapting to remote learning for both teachers and students
 - Using textbooks' online components allowed for expanding resources and opportunities for students, especially in periods of remote learning
 - Utilized state and federal funding for additional technology to support remote learning
 - Took advantage of a state-sponsored opportunity to utilize fully integrated Canvas learning management platform to enhance remote learning experience at no cost to taxpayers

- **Facility evaluations and building addition/renovation proposal:**
 - The Board worked with Samyn-D'Elia Architects to develop proposed building plans that address space deficiencies within the school.
 - Engaged Eckman Construction as construction managers to further develop the Guaranteed Maximum Price and manage the project should the community vote to proceed.
 - Reviewed plans and associated costs with the Budget Committee and held a public bond hearing with the community.
 - Developed a website to communicate details of the project to the community:
www.nottinghamschoolproject.com
 - Submitted application to the State of NH applying for building aid to potentially offset the cost of the project

- **School Board continued to improve communication -**
 - Provided community outreach via Community Newsletter, emails, new school website, and School Board Facebook page
 - Remote School Board meetings were held on the Zoom platform and streamed live resulting in an increase in public attendance and participation

- **Continuing to evaluate and respond to learning loss due to remote learning and time lost last year**

NOTTINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-2022 BUDGET & WARRANT ARTICLES

Official ballot voting – June 8, 2021 7:00 am – 7:00 pm
Nottingham School, 245 Stage Road

Warrant article #A – *To choose the following School District Officers:*

School Board Member	Term of 3 Years	School District Clerk	Term of 3 Years
School Board Member	Term of 3 Years	School District Treasurer	Term of 2 Years

Warrant article #1 - *To raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,165,490 (gross budget) for the final design, construction and original equipping of additions and renovations to the Nottingham School*

- A facilities committee was implemented in 2018 with the purpose of evaluating the space needs at Nottingham School.
- The committee identified space deficiencies within the school and worked with Samyn-D’Elia Architects to develop building plans to address deficiencies.
- In March 2020, voters directed the Board to continue work necessary to develop detailed plans and apply for State building aid for this project.
- This project would provide enough core classrooms to accommodate 3 classrooms per grade as our programming requires as well as reclaim spaces lost such as a computer lab and space for small group instruction.
- Additionally, this project will create Kindergarten and Music classrooms that meet state guidelines, provide space to allow the opportunity to offer preschool locally, and more.
- For more information on the project visit www.nottinghamschoolproject.com

The estimated tax impact for the first year if this article passes is \$0.19 per \$1,000, which is interest only.

The estimated tax impact for the second year if this article passes is \$0.58 per \$1,000 at current assessment based on a twenty (20) year bond. This amount declines annually over the term of the bond.

The School Board recommends 5-0. The Budget Committee does not recommend 6-5.

Warrant article #2 – *To raise and appropriate \$14,877,018 for the operating budget...Should this article fail to pass, the default budget of \$15,111,035 will be in effect*

- The proposed budget is an 8.0% increase over the prior year budget and the default budget is a 9.8% increase over the prior year.
- K-8 Regular Education costs fund programs that have produced positive academic outcomes.
- SAU costs increased \$180,450 or 36% due to Strafford’s withdrawal from SAU 44.
- The State increased the amount districts must pay for the NH Retirement System resulting in a budget increase of approximately 18%.
- High school tuition costs increased \$545,996 due to higher enrollment and tuition increases.

The estimated additional tax impact if this article passes is \$14.56 per \$1,000.

The tax impact if this article does not pass is \$14.85 per \$1,000.

The School Board does not recommend this by a 3 to 2 vote. The Budget Committee recommends this by an 8 to 1 vote.

Warrant article #3- *To approve the withdrawal from School Administrative Unit #44 currently consisting of Nottingham and Northwood School Districts*

- In March 2020, the community voted to create a committee to study the SAU structure and costs. This committee was formed to make recommendations on the District's options for SAU services including the organization, reorganization or withdrawal of the Nottingham School District from SAU 44 as well as the costs associated.
- The committee included four community members and School Board and Budget Committee representatives.
- The committee voted unanimously to recommend withdrawal from the SAU with estimated cost savings of \$150,000 annually.
- The NH State Board of Education unanimously approved the committee's Withdrawal Plan.
- Committee report is posted at <https://www.nottingham.k12.nh.us/>

Warrant articles # 4, 5, 6, & 7 - *all fund current Capital Reserve Funds*

- Capital Reserve Funds can be thought of as savings accounts that the board can use to plan for and fund future expenditures, as well as cover emergency costs.
- These funds reduce the need for large, one-time requests in the budget or through warrant articles avoiding budget spikes.
- These sums are to come from June 30, 2021 unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2021 and will have no additional tax impact.

Warrant article #4 – *Textbook capital reserve fund for a cost of \$20,000*

- Nottingham School follows a 6-year replacement/ review cycle for textbooks and supporting material. The current balance in this fund as of 12/31/2020 is \$20,742.54.

There is no additional tax impact if this article passes

The School Board recommends this by a 5 to 0 vote. The Budget Committee recommends this by a 10 to 1 vote.

Warrant article #5 – *Building Repair Capital Reserve Fund for a cost of \$35, 000*

- This building repair fund can be used for planned and emergency repairs to the 25-year-old building. Current balance on 12/31/2020 is \$172,148.85

There is no additional tax impact if this article passes

The School Board recommends this by a 5 to 0 vote. The Budget Committee recommends this by a 10 to 1 vote

Warrant article #6 – *Grounds Improvement Capital Reserve Fund for a cost of \$15,000*

- This fund can be used to address unexpected grounds issues as well as those identified in the schools Capital Improvement Plan. Current balance on 12/31/2020 is \$73,124.86

There is no additional tax impact if this article passes

The School Board recommends this by a 5 to 0 vote. The Budget Committee recommends this by a 10 to 1 vote

Warrant article #7 - *Special Education Capital Reserve Fund for a cost of \$20,000*

- The Special Education Capital Reserve fund can be used for special education costs. The current balance of this fund as of 12/31/2020 is \$136,962.55.

There is no additional tax impact if this article passes

The School Board recommends this by a 5 to 0 vote. The Budget Committee recommends this by a 10 to 1 vote