

**RSU 13**  
**Annual District Budget Meeting**  
**June 8, 2011**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Rockland District High School**

Board Members Present:

Jamie Doubleday	Thomaston
Esther Kilgour	Rockland
Loren Andrews (6:25pm)	Cushing
Sally Carleton	Owls Head
George Emery	St. George
Arvilla Collins	Thomaston
Brian Messing	Rockland
William Pearce	Rockland
Sharon Spaulding	Rockland
Gregory Hamlin	Thomaston
Josiah Wilson	St. George

Others Present:

Judy Lucarelli	Superintendent
Scott Vaitones	Business Manager

Board Chair, Jamie Doubleday, opened the meeting at 6:04 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag was led by Jamie Doubleday. She welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. She explained that at this meeting, residents will vote on the warrant articles on the 2011-2012 budget as approved by the School Board. The Budget Validation Referendum is Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

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

It was moved and seconded that Michael Mayo be elected moderator for the meeting.

There being no further nominations, by unanimous vote of those present, the Chair declared Michael Mayo as Moderator. The Chair administered the Moderator's Oath (*attached*).

Mr. Mayo welcomed everyone and thanked all those involved in the budget process for their hard work on the proposed budget.

Mr. Mayo then administered the Oath of Office (*attached*) to the following ballot clerks: Kathleen Blais, Helen Slocomb, Sue Snow, and Deirdre Thibodeau.

Mr. Mayo outlined the procedures for the handling of the meeting according to the Sixth Maine Moderator's Manual. He said that all registered voters of RSU 13 have the right to speak.

He also explained an unusual situation that the Thomaston Town Clerk was on medical leave and no one else was available to sign in the Thomaston residents. Without objection, he asked for the body's permission for Thomaston residents to have the right to participate by standing and stating their name and residence. (Later in the meeting, the Thomaston Town Clerk arrived and formally checked in all the Thomaston residents.)

It was moved and seconded that Superintendent, Judith Lucarelli, be allowed to speak to the issues. By a unanimous vote of those present, the motion was carried.

Mr. Mayo stated that all articles carrying a School Board recommendation will be considered to have been moved and seconded. Any changes to these articles must be made in the form of an amendment.

**Article 1:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction. **School Board Recommends \$10,353,564.**

An amendment was moved and seconded to increase the amount in Article 1 to \$10,388,191 with the intent to decrease the amount in Article 5 by the same amount. The reason for this amendment was to restore the Band position cuts and eliminate the proposed Volunteer Coordinator position. Several residents shared their views on this amendment. This amendment passed by a majority of hand votes.

An amendment to this amendment was proposed to make it contingent upon the passage of both Articles 1 and 5. Mr. Mayo said that this was out of order, but was overruled by the body.

Another amendment was moved and seconded to reduce Article 1 by \$25,000. The reason for this amendment was to cut the Contingency Fund. This amendment failed by a majority of hand votes.

Article 1, as amended to \$10,388,191, passed by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 2:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education. **School Board Recommends \$3,521,236.**

An amendment was moved and seconded to reduce the amount of Article 2 by \$25,000. The reason for this amendment was to cut the Contingency Fund. This amendment failed by a majority of hand votes.

Article 2 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 3:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education. **School Board Recommends \$905,084.**

Article 3 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 4:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction. **School Board Recommends \$559,057.**

Article 4 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 5:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support. **School Board Recommends \$2,716,135.**

An amendment was moved and seconded to reduce the amount in Article 5 to \$2,681,508. The reason for this amendment was to eliminate the proposed Volunteer Coordinator position.

Another amendment was moved and seconded to further reduce Article 5 by \$109,567. The reason for this amendment was to make cuts in the Technology budget. This amendment failed by a majority of hand votes.

Article 5 as amended to \$2,681,508, passed by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 6:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration. **School Board Recommends \$660,390.**

Article 6 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 7:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for School Administration. **School Board Recommends \$1,565,974.**

Article 7 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 8:**

To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses. **School Board Recommends \$1,271,331.**

An amendment was moved and seconded to reduce Article 8 by \$4,600 (Line Item 1479). This amendment failed by a majority of hand votes.

Article 8 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 9:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance. **School Board Recommends \$3,495,493.**

Article 9 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 10:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments. **School Board Recommends \$819,941.**

Article 10 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 11:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures. **School Board Recommends \$80,000.**

Article 11 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**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 Cushing:	\$2,184,708	Town of Cushing:	\$2,071,431
Town of Owls Head:	\$1,748,172	Town of Owls Head:	\$1,748,172
City of Rockland:	\$8,133,161	City of Rockland:	\$6,086,556
Town of South Thomaston:	\$2,002,074	Town of South Thomaston:	\$2,002,074
Town of St. George:	\$2,973,259	Town of St. George:	\$2,973,259
Town of Thomaston:	\$3,862,734	Town of Thomaston:	\$2,424,388
<b>School Regional School Unit Total Appropriated:</b>		<b>School Regional School Unit Total Raised:</b>	
<b>(Sum of above)</b>	<b>\$20,904,108</b>	<b>(Sum of above)</b>	<b>\$17,305,880</b>

*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.*

Mr. Mayo said that the net result of the prior changes (amendments to Articles 1 and 5) is that the above totals are still the same.

Article 12 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

### **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 \$505,830**

*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 13 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 14:** (Written ballot required). To see what sum the Regional School Unit will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (**Recommend \$3,722,275**), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (**Recommend \$3,238,719.24**) as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Board.

The School Board recommends \$3,722,275 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$3,238,719.24: The Essential Programs and Services funding model does not fully support all of the costs associated with operating a comprehensive K-12 educational program, such as athletics/co-curricular activities, special education programs, alternative education programs, maintenance and transportation, nor does it recognize and account for the costs associated with maintaining small class sizes, operating small elementary schools in each community, operating two high schools and offering a broad level of academic programming.

*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.*

Mr. Mayo explained that Article 14 is required to be voted on by ballot. Article 14 passed as written with the following results: Yes - 53; No - 10

**Article 15:** To see what sum the Regional School Unit will authorize the School Board to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012 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 \$25,948,205.**

Article 15 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**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 16 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 17:** To see if Regional School Unit No. 13 will appropriate **\$155,180** for adult education and raise **\$91,412** 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 17 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 18:** Shall the Regional Vocational Budget, as approved by the Region 8 Cooperative Board, for the year beginning July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 be approved in the amount of **\$2,840,304**?

Article 18 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 19:** Shall the Career and Technical Education Region 8 appropriate **\$332,370** for Adult Education for the year beginning July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 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. 13 raise **\$21,412** as its share of the adult education budget for the Career and Technical Education Region 8?

Article 19 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

**Article 20.** Shall the School Board be authorized to establish a fuel cost stabilization fund under the authority of 20-A MRS section 15008, and to transfer up to **\$200,000** to that fund from year end available fund balances?

Statutory Disclosure Statement: The fuel cost stabilization fund balance is currently zero, and no funds have been expended in each of the three preceding years from the fund proposed to be established by this article. If this article is approved as written, the fuel cost stabilization fund balance will be \$200,000.

An amendment was moved and seconded to reduce this Article by \$100,000. Judy Lucarelli pointed out that as written this Article cannot be reduced or increased.

Article 20 passed as written by a majority of hand votes.

Mr. Mayo thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.