

Pittsfield School District

**2019 School District Meeting – Deliberative Session Warrant Articles**

**7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 6 (Snow Date: Thursday, February 7)  
Gym, Pittsfield Elementary School**

**Article 1: School Lunch Program.** To see if the Pittsfield School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$330,000 for the support of the School Lunch Program. This appropriation will be funded by a like amount of revenue from the sale of food and state and federal sources. (Estimated tax impact of this article: \$0.)

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required)

- *YES vote supports allowing the district to operate the food service program for students and staff at no cost to the district, including service to students who qualify for free or reduced price meals.*
- *NO vote supports restricting the district from operating the food service program.*

**Article 2: Receive and Expend Grant Funds.** To see if the Pittsfield School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$850,000 for the support of federal and private foundation grant-funded educational programs of the Pittsfield School District. This appropriation is contingent upon receiving revenue from federal grants and private foundations and will be expended in accordance with federal and state requirements upon approval by the New Hampshire Department of Education or private foundation requirements. (Estimated tax impact of this article: \$0.)

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required.)

- *YES vote supports allowing the district to receive grant funds; these funds are primarily federal funds to support student in need of special education services, Title I services to struggling students, and Title II services to support professional development of educators in the district.*
- *NO vote supports restricting the district from receiving and expending grant funds.*

**Article 3: Operating Budget.** Shall the Pittsfield 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 \$10,399,738. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$10,245,905, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Pittsfield 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. (Estimated tax impact of this article: \$.83/thousand.)

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required.)

- *YES vote supports the proposed budget for district expenses; the proposed budget includes no new programs or services for students; the proposed budget includes a 2% salary increase for non-union district employees.*
- *NO vote requires the district to operate with the default budget; the default budget is \$153,833 less than the proposed budget; the default budget would cause the proposed budget to be reduced by \$153,833; this would likely result in the reduction in services and staff; potential impact would possibly include reduction in the teaching staff, increased class sizes, and reduction of funds for student activities, athletics, and field trips.*

**Article 4: 3-Year Collective Bargaining Agreement.** To see if the Pittsfield School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Pittsfield School Board and the Education Association of Pittsfield which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

- Fiscal Year: 2019-2020
- Estimated Increase: \$144,977
- Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.55/thousand
  
- Fiscal Year: 2020-2021
- Estimated Increase: \$153,308

- Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.58/thousand
- Fiscal Year: 2021-2022
- Estimated Increase: 160,611
- Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.61/thousand

And further to raise and appropriate \$144,977 for the upcoming 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 current staffing levels.

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required)

- *YES vote supports the three-year teacher contract; the contract includes a 2.5% increase of the district salary guide per year and also includes an additional 1% employee share of health insurance per year.*
- *NO vote requires the district teachers to work under the current year contract next year, unless modified by a subsequent district meeting (see Article 5).*

**Article 5: Special Meeting for Defeated Collective Bargaining Agreement.** Shall the Pittsfield School District, if Warrant Article #4 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #4 cost items only?

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required)

- *YES vote supports the calling of a special meeting to consider teacher contract cost items only if Article 4 is defeated.*
- *NO vote restricts the district from calling a special meeting and requires that district operate under the current year contract for the 2019-2020 school year.*

**Article 6: Dumpster Replacement Capital Reserve Fund.** To see if the Pittsfield School District will vote to establish a Dumpster Replacement Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for replacement of dumpsters used at the schools and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Pittsfield School Board as agents to expend from said fund. (Estimated tax impact of this article: \$0.02/thousand.)

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required)

- *YES vote supports the creation of a capital reserve fund to set aside funds for dumpster replacement; replacement will be required in approximately five years; currently, the B.C.E.P. Solid Waste District provides two dumpsters to the district at no cost to the district; B.C.E.P. has advised the district that this service is being discontinued.*
- *NO vote restricts the district from setting aside funds for the eventual replacement of two dumpsters.*

**Article 7: Drake Field Tennis Court Resurfacing and Fence Replacement.** To see if the Pittsfield School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the purpose of resurfacing the tennis courts and replacing the fence surrounding the tennis courts located at Drake Field. (Estimated tax impact of this article: \$0.14/thousand.)

Recommended by the Pittsfield School Board. Recommended by the Pittsfield Budget Committee (10 yes, 0 no). (Majority vote required)

- *YES vote supports expending funds to repair the Drake Field tennis court, including resurfacing and fence replacement.*
- *NO vote restricts the district from expending funds for Drake Field tennis court repair.*

**Article 8: Repeal of RSA 40:13, Known as SB2 – By Petition.** Are you in favor of repealing RSA 40:13, known as SB2, way of voting and replacing it with the original way of voting of assembly of the voters to discuss, debate, and everybody has the right to talk and vote (one article at a time) if registered. (3/5 majority vote required)

- *YES vote supports returning to the former district meeting format in which matters are discussed and voted on in one session rather than the current format of holding a deliberative session that is followed by ballot voting on the March election day.*
- *NO vote supports the current district meeting format in which matters are discussed in a deliberative session and voted on by ballot voting on the March election day.*