

**Maine School Administrative District #51  
Cumberland ~ North Yarmouth**

[www.msad51.org](http://www.msad51.org)

May 29, 2013

Dear Community Members:

As June approaches, our community is entering into the public involvement phase of the annual school budgeting process. I would like to take this opportunity to offer information on the budget process to date. On May 6th, the MSAD #51 Board of Directors voted 8-0 to adopt the Superintendent's proposed budget for FY 2013-2014. The proposed budget for 2013-2014 is \$31,258,083.31, which reflects an overall increase of \$860,106.36 or 2.83%. The budget includes no new hires but re-allocates staff to create a Math Coach position that will support the math program at Mabel I. Wilson and North Yarmouth Memorial School. It also continues our three-year investment in technology with a lease purchase of used laptops for all 6th graders.

In his two-year budget proposed for FY 2014-2015, Governor LePage recommended transferring a portion of teacher retirement costs (MainePERS) to local school districts. MSAD #51's budget includes an allocation of \$422,597 for the cost of our share of MainePERS. Because of decreased health care costs among other factors, we will be able to invest in priority educational initiatives while offering a budget that results in a 1.2% - 1.8% increase to taxpayers. Budget details shared at prior meetings and a Budget Question and Answer document can be found on the District's web site, [www.msad51.org](http://www.msad51.org), by clicking on the "Budget" tab found in the left-hand column.

Validation of this budget is a two-step process that requires participation from the citizens from North Yarmouth and Cumberland. On **Thursday, June 6th at 7:00 pm at Greely High School**, the budget will be presented for a final time and voted on by the public. Voters must be present at the meeting in order to cast a vote. The second vote is a **Budget Validation Referendum on June 11th at the polls**, to validate the budget passed on June 6th.

MSAD #51 continues to deliver strong teaching and learning results in as efficient a manner as possible. We are moving forward on 21st Century Learning initiatives, our Teacher Evaluation program and aligning our curriculum with Common Core Standards. We encourage your participation at the June 6th Public Budget Vote and the Budget Validation Vote on June 11th. We hope you support this budget which provides excellent educational opportunities for our students, while maintaining a reasonable tax increase to community members.

Sincerely,

Bill Dunnett  
MSAD #51 Finance Committee Chair  
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