

**INTER-LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING
CENTER HARBOR, MEREDITH, SANDWICH**

March 7, 2022

The Annual Meeting of the Inter-Lakes School District was held on Monday, March 7, 2022, at Inter-Lakes Middle/High School Community Auditorium. At 6:00 pm. Inter-Lakes School District Moderator Patrick Kelly called the meeting to order.

Lisa Merrill, Inter-Lakes School Board Chair shared a brief statement: Sincere appreciation extended to the efforts that all of the administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, maintenance, technology, custodial, and cafeteria staff who helped us manage to keep our schools open so that our students could have in-person learning during most of the COVID-19 Pandemic. This meeting may seem different without former School Board Chair Richard Hanson, who unfortunately left the Board last year; he was a familiar face over many years of service and dedication to the District. Ms. Merrill extended a heartfelt thank you to Richard for all he has done for us during his tenure on the School Board.

This year's budget will show a 2.08% increase from last year; which will be discussed through Warrant Articles that will be presented this evening. The School Board can only make recommendations, it is here at our School District Meeting that the taxpayers have the ultimate authority to vote for those budgetary items. The meeting was turned over to School District Moderator Patrick Kelly.

School District Moderator Kelly offered an invocation.

Riley Towle, the student body representative on the Inter-Lakes School Board led the Pledge of Allegiance. A recording by Inter-Lakes High School Seniors Gabriel Staples, Janney Halperin, Cecily Marietta, and Alexa Lazazzera of the National Anthem was heard.

The Moderator stated that the meeting would not be conducted under Roberts' Rules but rather those listed in the annual report and then read them.

- a. Anyone wishing to make a motion, second a motion, or wishing to speak on an Article must first be recognized by the Moderator.
- b. All speakers must address the Moderator; there will be no cross-floor debates.
- c. When recognized, please go to the microphone. State your name and town of residence before making or seconding a motion, or speaking on an article.
- d. A motion to "call the previous question" can cut off debate and, if seconded, must be voted on immediately. The motion is not debatable and so a two-thirds favorable vote is required.
- e. Voting will be done by a show of voting cards.
- f. Seven voters may challenge the declared vote on any Article, before the next Article is brought up, then a secret ballot must be held.
- g. If a secret ballot is desired on any Article, a written request signed by five voters (in attendance at the meeting) is required and presented to the Moderator.
- h. Any Article may be legally amended; each amendment will be discussed independently and acted upon before the Article is called.
- i. A motion to reconsider any Article may be made at any time prior to the final adjournment and the Article would be taken up again immediately unless protected by a vote to restrict reconsideration.
- j. Five voters (in attendance at the meeting) may request a recount of a secret ballot before the next Article is taken up. (The vote margin must be less than 10% of the total votes cast.)

- k. Only registered voters may vote.
- l. Only registered voters, school officials and district's attorney may speak to questions, unless the meeting votes to allow anyone else to speak.
- m. The Moderator can be overruled by a simple majority vote. Any challenger will be recognized and no second is required. The challenger has the right to state his or her reasons for the challenge.
- n. RSA's (Revised Statutes Annotated), which are state laws, cannot be overruled by the meeting.

Article 1

The Moderator read Article 1.

It was moved by Howard Cunningham, Member-At-Large and seconded by Mark Billings, Meredith to see what action the District will vote relative to the reports of Agents, Committees or Officers chosen.

Article 1 carried in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 2

The Moderator read Article 2.

It was moved by Nancy Starmer, Sandwich and seconded by Lisa Merrill, Meredith to set the salaries of District officers for the coming year as follows:

Moderator	\$100.00
School District Clerk	\$20.00 per hour
School Board Chairperson	\$1,800.00
School Board Members (6) each	\$1,500.00
District Treasurer	\$1,500.00

Article 2 carried in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 3

The Moderator read Article 3.

It was moved by Lisa Merrill, Meredith, and seconded by Charles Hanson, Center Harbor to see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$29,446,576 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of the District. *(This article excludes special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately.)*

Jeff Hubbell of Center Harbor asked where the \$2 million that was not spent last year was reflected. Mrs. Temperino responded that the School Board voted to retain \$506,000 which you will see on the revenue page for next year's budget; and they also encumbered money. Funds were returned to offset taxes in the amount of \$240,361 and \$506,793 was retained to move forward to this year's budget.

Karen Sticht of Meredith, thanked the League of Women Voters for hosting the Candidate's Night. Ms. Sticht asked why a full-time educator position was being cut while the budget reflects increases for administration. With an increased budget it seems more money is being put into the administration section of the budget and not so much into teachers and things directly impacting students. What will the position cut entail?

Mrs. Moriarty responded that the position being cut will come from the Middle/High School; the specific position has not been finalized until after a review of course selections and enrollment.

Article 3 carried in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 4

The Moderator read Article 4.

It was moved by Charles Hanson, Center Harbor, and seconded by Nancy Starmer, Sandwich to see if the District will vote to establish a Student Transportation Expendable Trust per RSA 198:20-c, for the purpose of student transportation costs and to raise and appropriate up to \$5,000 to be placed in a fund, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2022 unreserved fund balance for transfer on July 1, 2022, with no amount to be raised by taxation; further to name the School Board as agents to expend from the fund.

Article 4 carried in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 5

The Moderator read Article 5.

It was moved by Mark Billings, Meredith and seconded by Duncan Porter-Zuckerman, Sandwich to see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$150,000 to be placed in the previously established Inter-Lakes School District Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2022 unreserved fund balance for transfer on July 1, 2022, with no amount to be raised by taxation?

Richard Gerken of Meredith asked about funding for Articles 4, 5, and 6; fund balances are unspent funds on June 30th how do we know that we are going to have those funds. Are you confident that the funds are available now, and hasn't been yet been spent?

Mrs. Temperino responded that funds will come from anticipated surplus or monies that were not spent this year. If funds are not available at end of year then the Warrant Articles will not be funded or approved by DRA. The Warrant Articles are funded through available funds in the order through which they appear on the warrant.

Article 5 carried in affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 6

The Moderator read Article 6.

It was moved by Duncan Porter-Zuckerman, Sandwich and seconded by Howard Cunningham, Member-At-Large To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate up to \$15,000 to be placed in the previously established Inter-Lakes School District Special Education Expendable Trust, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2022 unreserved fund balance for transfer on July 1, 2022, with no amount to be raised by taxation.

Article 6 carried in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

Article 7

The Moderator read Article 7.

It was moved by Andi Martin, Sandwich and seconded by Mark Anderson, Meredith to see if the registered votes in the Inter-Lakes School District will vote to approve optional masking, (indoor/outdoor/busing/sports/co-curricular) based solely on parental guidance, for grades Pre-K through 12, during the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

Rick Demark, Meredith feels that this Article and petition while is textually focused on masks, its purpose is anti-mandate. He has a problem with using the word "solely"; "should" and "likely" used to enable the School District to react as they have in the past. Guidance should come from accredited sources that understand and practice medicine, administrators, elected School Board members and parents. Which is actually exactly how the School Board did and is addressing this pandemic.

Keith Champagne of Meredith asked when the COVID Task Force ends for appointed members; will it end will new members be appointed; where is the requirement that is being quoted – is it a Federal or State requirement?

Mrs. Moriarty responded that there is currently a COVID-19 Team in place, part of the Opening Plan was to have a team to review and monitor where we are and what we may do in response to the pandemic. She noted that it is difficult to tell things will look like for next school year; as there are so many uncertainties. Mrs. Moriarty clarified having the COVID-19 Team in place was part of the requirement to receive ESSER 3 Funds. ESSER 3 Funds are Federal funds that are funneled into the state.

Andi Martin of Sandwich asked what the Federal Government asked for the District to put in place within the Mitigation Plan to receive those funds.

Mrs. Moriarty responded that there was nothing specific, the requirement was to have a plan in place that was reviewed and approved by the NH Department of Education with certain components in place. Ms. Martin asked if masking was a requirement. Mrs. Moriarty responded that it was not. The Mitigation Plan and ESSER requirements can all be found on the website at interlakes.org

Ms. Martin asked how safety concerns on busses would be addressed regarding how the bus drivers know when picking up students who they are with their faces covered; where to drop them off and who they are being picked up by.

Mrs. Moriarty responded that this concern had not been brought up. A review of the process in place for requesting transportation, assigning seats and the relationship the Bus Driver develops with students and their families. Mrs. Moriarty stated that if any parent has a concern or issue regarding transportation the can and should bring it directly to her.

Karen Sticht of Meredith stated that last spring, many drivers just didn't show up and busses were packed; drivers could not know all kids with the need to combine routes. Ms. Sticht asked if the COVID Task force had the responsibility of making decisions for the Board. Ms. Sticht questioned letter written by Mr. Hanson to the Taskforce mask mandate could be lifted a week earlier than the original date of March 28th; it sounded like the taskforce made the decision. It was not notices that the Board voted on this decision.

Mrs. Moriarty explained that the COVID-19 Team did not make decisions for the Board; they are not a committee of the Board they are a committee of the School District. Within the Mitigation Plan it gives the Superintendent the authority, when there is not an opportunity for the Board to vote to make decisions relative to COVID-19 mitigation. The COVID-19 Team acts as an advisory group in terms of reviewing and talking about the data; and if a decision is made on the interim come from the Superintendent's office. Mr. Hanson's letter was relative to being a citizen.

Garrett Marshall of Sandwich asked what the criteria are you using to decide whether to demand people are to mask up or not.

Mrs. Moriarty responded that the Mitigation Plan posted on the website, voted on by the School Board, has a continuum relative to data points. Mr. Marshall asked if the data looks at the efficacy of masking up, is what you are requiring is doing any good at all. Mrs. Moriarty explained that is not part of the plan the plan references CDC, American Pediatrics Association, and NH DHHS relative to recommended level of mitigation. Mr. Marshall suggested when the time comes to make decisions this data should be looked at.

Keith Champagne of Meredith asked how it was known that Mr. Hanson's letter was as a citizen?

Mrs. Moriarty responded that he indicated that on the letter.

Mark Anderson of Meredith asked if any of the COVID Panel meetings or discussions made public.

Mrs. Moriarty responded that the notes from each COVID-19 Team Meeting are posted on the website; the meetings are not Board meetings but School District meetings.

Mr. Anderson suggested sharing recordings of the meeting would provide a little more clarity to members of the community. Providing more information other than a brief summary would be helpful to better understand decisions.

Cayla Peaslee of Sandwich brought attention to the change in the plan right before school started; masks were not going to be required and then last minute the whole strategy and chart changed to requiring masks. She was surprised by the immediate change; it would be nice for parents to have a say and be able vote on that before changes are made. What's to say that the chart is not going to be changed again, based on what your agenda is.

Article 7 failed by a show of voter cards.

Article 8

The Moderator read Article 8.

It was moved by Lisa Merrill, Meredith and seconded by Mark Billings, Meredith to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Jeff Hubbell of Center Harbor asked what the item was in the Grounds Budget for \$125,000? Mrs. Moriarty responded that those funds were budgeted to do site work for accessibility to make our buildings more accessible and ADA Compliant.

Article 8 carried in the affirmative by a show of voter cards.

It was moved by Lisa Merrill, Meredith and seconded by Mark Billings, Meredith to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn G. Martell
Recording Secretary

I hearby attest that this is a true copy.

Kerri Parker
School District Clerk