

# Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District

Hollis Brookline High School, Hollis, NH

19 March 2024

## Hollis Brookline Coop School Board

Holly Deurloo Babcock, Chair

Tom Solon

Kate Stoll

Beth Williams

Cindy Van Coughnett

Krista Whalen

Rob Mann

## Hollis Brookline Coop Budget Committee

Darlene Mann, Chair

Raul Blanche

Matt Maguire

Brian Rater

Tom Enright

David Blinn

Tom Whalen

## SAU #41 Administration

Andrew Corey, Superintendent

Gina Bergskaug, Assistant Superintendent

Kelly Seeley, Business Administrator

## Hollis Brookline High School

Tim Girzone, High School Principal

Yolanda Flamino, Assistant Principal

Amanda Zeller, Assistant Principal

Aisha Weaver, Assistant Principal

## Meeting Officials

Drew Mason, Moderator

Matt Upton, School District Counsel

Diane Leavitt, School District Clerk

## Hollis Brookline Middle School

Patrick West, Principal

Allison Buschmann, Assistant Principal

Kathryn Ransom, Special Education

The Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by the Moderator, Drew Mason at the Hollis Brookline High School gymnasium. The meeting was started with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Star-Spangled Banner, was sung by the HBHS Honors Choir, directed by Matt Barbosa. Moderator recognized all Veterans and serving members of our Armed Forces.

School Board Chair, Holly Deurloo Babcock introduced the School Board. Budget Committee Chair, Darlene Mann introduced Budget Committee. SAU Superintendent Andy Corey, introduced SAU 41 and school staff. Moderator introduced School District Clerk Diane Leavitt, School District Counsel Matt Upton, Supervisors of the Checklist, Ballot Clerks, and assistants.

Moderator went over administrative announcements and Rules of the meeting proposed by Moderator. Raul Blanche motioned to adopt the Rules as presented. Seconded by Darlene Mann.

Joe Garruba motioned to amend the rules before they are approved by striking the Motion to Table from the list of non-debatable motions enumerated in rule 30 and further to restrict its use by declaring that the motion to table is not in order until sufficient debate has occurred on the main motion. In addition, we shall not adopt the motion to suspend rules and postpone. Seconded by Lillian Garruba. Joe Garruba gave a presentation. Discussion ensued.

Moderator brought motion to amend the rules to a vote. **NOT CARRIED** by a majority card vote.

Moderator brought motion to adopt the rules of the meeting as written to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

Nancy Phillips motioned to bring Article 9 before Article 1. Seconded by Ginny Brooks.  
Moderator brought motion to move Article 9 forward to a vote. **CARRIED** by card vote.  
Moderator went over the Articles. Darlene Mann presented the Financial Overview of Articles.

**Article 9. Petition Warrant Article. Adopt SB2**

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on all issues before the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District on the second Tuesday of March? 60% majority vote required. **The school board does NOT recommend this article 0-6-0.**

Judy Cook motioned to suspend and postpone Article 9 indefinitely. Seconded by Mike Harris.  
Moderator brought motion to suspend and postpone Article 9 indefinitely to a vote.  
**YES – 275 NO – 240 NOT CARRIED** by a 2/3 card vote.

Diane Pauer motioned to bring Article 9 to the floor. Seconded by Sue Homela.  
Diane Pauer gave a presentation. Bill Hebden gave a video zoom presentation from his home.  
Discussions ensued. Elizabeth Brown motioned to end debate. Seconded by Mike Harris.  
Moderator brought motion to end debate to a vote. **CARRIED** by a 2/3 card vote.

Moderator brought Article 9 to a vote. Voting will be by secret ballot, polls to remain open for at least one hour, requires a 3/5 vote. **NO – 393 YES – 264 NOT CARRIED BY 3/5** secret ballot vote.

Carryl Roy motioned to move Article 2 before Article 1. Seconded by Becky Balfour.  
Moderator brought motion to move Article 2 before Article 1 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

Brandon Buteau motioned to restrict reconsideration of Article 9. Seconded by Mike Harris.  
Moderator brought motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 9 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

**Article 2. Collective Bargaining Agreement with Hollis Education Association**

To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items for the first year of a three-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board and the Hollis Education Association for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years, which calls for the following increases in professional staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Estimated Increase</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Estimated Increase</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Estimated Increase</b>
<b>2024-25</b>	<b>\$1,163,460</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>\$498,861</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>\$478,808</b>

and further to raise and appropriate a sum of **\$1,163,460** for the first fiscal year (2024-25 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in professional staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this appropriation 6-1-0. The budget committee does NOT recommend this appropriation 4-3-0.**

Estimated Net Tax Impact: \$0.28 / thousand for Hollis, \$0.44 / thousand for Brookline

Kate Stoll motioned to bring Article 2 to the floor. Seconded by Krista Whalen.  
Tom Solon, School Board, gave a presentation. Discussions ensued.

Moderator was presented with a secret ballot vote request on Article 2, with signatures of more than 5 registered voters in the district.

Joseph Hartman motioned to end debate on Article 2. Seconded by Mike Harris.  
Moderator brought motion to end debate on Article 2 to a vote. **CARRIED** by 2/3 card vote.  
Moderator brought Article 2 to a secret ballot vote. **YES – 352 NO – 113 CARRIED** by a secret ballot vote.

Darlene Mann motioned to restrict reconsideration of Article 2. Seconded by Mike Harris.  
Moderator brought motion to restrict reconsideration to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

### **Article 1. Collective Bargaining Agreement with Hollis Education Support Staff Association**

To see if the school district will vote to approve the cost items for the fourth year of a four-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School Board and the Hollis Education Support Staff Association for the 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years, which calls for the following increases in support staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Estimated Increase</b>
<b>2024-25</b>	<b>\$82,473</b>

and further to raise and appropriate a sum of **\$82,473** for the fourth fiscal year (2024-25 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in support staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends the appropriation 7-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 6-0-1.**

Estimated Net Tax Impact: \$0.04 / thousand for Brookline, \$0.02 / thousand for Hollis

Kate Stoll motioned to bring Article 1 to the floor. Seconded by Krista Whalen.  
Krista Whalen gave a presentation. Discussion ensued.

Moderator brought Article 1 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

Darlene Mann motioned to restrict reconsideration of Article 1 to a vote. Seconded by Raul Blanche.  
Moderator brought motion to restrict reconsideration to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

### **Article 3. School Operating Budget**

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$28,058,084 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 appropriation does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this appropriation 7-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-0.**

Estimated Net Tax Impact: \$8.17 / thousand for Brookline, \$5.18 / thousand for Hollis

Darlene Mann motioned to bring Article 3 to the floor. Seconded by Holly Deurloo Babcock.  
Darlene Mann gave a presentation.

Eric Pauer motioned to amend the School Operating Budget to 27,323,296. Seconded by Dave Parry. Moderator brought motion to amend the School Operating Budget to a vote. **NOT CARRIED** by a card vote.

Moderator brought Article 3 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

Darlene Mann motioned to restrict reconsideration to Article 3. Seconded by Raul Blanche.

Moderator brought motion to restrict reconsideration to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

#### **Article 4. SAU Budget**

Shall the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,169,828 as the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's portion of the SAU budget of \$2,377,762 for the forthcoming fiscal year? This year's adjusted budget of \$2,356,823 with \$1,159,526 assigned to the school budget of this school district will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit. **The school board recommends this appropriation 7-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-0.**

Estimated Net Tax Impact: \$0.28 / thousand for Hollis, \$0.44 / thousand for Brookline

Kate Stoll motioned to bring Article 4 to the floor. Seconded by Krista Whalen.

Rob Mann gave a presentation. Discussions ensued.

Moderator brought Article 4 to a secret ballot vote. Requires simple majority of all three districts combined. No extended voting; polls open only until all voters attending have voted.

Hollis Brookline Cooperative - YES 196 NO 58

Brookline - YES 350 NO 467

Hollis - YES 76 NO 27

TOTAL: YES 622 NO 552 **CARRIED** by majority of all three districts

#### **Article 5. School Building and Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of **\$300,000** to be added to the previously established School Building and Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund. The sum to come from the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District's June 30, 2024 unassigned fund balance, available on July 1, 2024. Majority vote required. **The school board recommends this appropriation 7-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-0.**

Estimated Net Tax Impact: \$0. Potential foregone tax reduction of (\$0.11) / thousand for Brookline, (\$0.07) / thousand for Hollis

Kate Stoll motioned to move Article 5 to the floor. Seconded by Krista Whalen.

Holly Deurloo Babcock gave a presentation. No discussion.

Moderator brought Article 5 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

#### **Article 6. Retained Unassigned Funds**

To see if the school district will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate up to **\$125,000** to go into the fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance available on July 1, 2024, and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority vote

required. **The school board recommends this appropriation 7-0-0. The budget committee recommends this appropriation 7-0-0.**

Estimated Net Tax Impact: \$0. Potential foregone tax reduction of (\$0.03) / thousand for Hollis, (\$0.05) / thousand for Brookline

Kate Stoll motioned to move Article 6 to the floor. Seconded by Krista Whalen.

Holly Deurloo Babcock gave a presentation. Discussion ensued.

Moderator brought Article 6 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

Mike Harris motioned to restrict reconsideration of Articles 4, 5 & 6. Seconded by Carryl Roy.

Moderator brought motion to restrict reconsideration to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

**Article 7. Petition Warrant Article. Rescind Authorization to Retain Unassigned General Funds**

To reduce the Hollis and Brookline property tax burdens, shall the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District rescind authorization under RSA 198:4-b II so that the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District no longer retains any unassigned general funds under RSA 198:4-b II and returns such funds to the taxpayers? Majority vote required. **The school board does NOT recommend this article 0-6-0. The budget committee does NOT recommend this article 0-7-0.**

Elizabeth Brown motioned to suspend and postpone Article 7. Seconded by Tammy Fareed.

Moderator brought motion to suspend and postpone Article 7 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

**Article 8. Petition Warrant Article. Amend Articles of Agreement**

To see if the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District will vote to amend the Articles of Agreement of the Hollis Brookline Cooperative School District changing Article 8 to the following language:

Article 8: These articles of agreement may be amended by the Hollis/Brookline Cooperative School District, consistent with the provisions of RSA 195:18, III(i), except that no amendment shall be effective unless the question of adopting such amendment is submitted at a Cooperative School District meeting to the voters of the District after reasonable opportunity for debate in open meeting, and unless a 2/3 supermajority of the voters of the District who are present and voting by ballot shall vote in favor of adopting such amendment. The polls shall remain open and ballots shall be accepted by the moderator for a period of not less than one hour following the completion of discussion on the question. Furthermore, no amendment to these articles shall be considered except at an annual or special meeting of the Cooperative School District and unless the text of such amendment is including in an appropriate article in the Warrant for such meeting. Majority vote required. **The school board does NOT recommend this article 0-6-0.**

Elizabeth Brown motioned to suspend and postpone Article 8. Seconded by Mike Harris.

Moderator brought motion to suspend and postpone Article 8 to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

**Article 10. To transact any other business which may legally come before said meeting.**

Elizabeth Brown motioned to dissolve the meeting. Seconded by Tammy Fareed.

Moderator brought motion to dissolve the meeting to a vote. **CARRIED** by a card vote.

Total voters in attendance 677. 197 Brookline 480 Hollis Meeting ended at 11:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Diane T. Leavitt**

Diane T. Leavitt, School District Clerk