Merrimack School District/SAU 26
School Board Meeting
Preliminary Agenda
February 19, 2024
Merrimack Town Hall – Matthew Thornton Room

PUBLIC MEETING

6:00 p.m. **1. CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** — Ken Martin

6:05 p.m. **2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** — Ken Martin

3. RECOGNITIONS — Ken Martin

6:20 p.m. **4. INFORMATIONAL UPDATES** — Ken Martin
- a. Superintendent Update
- b. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Update
- c. Assistant Superintendent for Business Update
- d. School Board Update

6:30 p.m. **5. OLD BUSINESS** — Ken Martin
- a. 2024-2025 Operational Budget
- b. Proposed School District SAU Central Office Building

7:15 p.m. **6. NEW BUSINESS** — Ken Martin, Amy Doyle, Everett Olsen
- a. Declaring Local Critical Shortage in Physics Certification
- b. Review of the Draft 2024-2025 School Calendar
- c. Other

7:35 p.m. **7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** — Ken Martin
- a. January 29, 2024 Public Minutes
- b. February 5, 2024 Bond Hearing Minutes
- c. February 5, 2024 Public Minutes
- d. February 13, 2024 Public and Non-Public Minutes

7:45 p.m. **8. CONSENT AGENDA** — Amanda Doyle
- a. Educator Nominations

7:50 p.m. **9. OTHER** — Ken Martin
- a. Committee Reports
- b. Correspondence
- c. Comments

8:10 p.m. **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS** — Ken Martin

8:30 p.m. **11. ADJOURN**

* These times are estimates and may vary depending on discussion.

MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Administrative Unit #26
36 McElwain Street
Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054
Tel. (603) 424-6200 Fax (603) 424-6229

AMANDA S. DOYLE
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum

EVERETT V. OLSEN, Jr.
Chief Educational Officer

MATTHEW D. SHEVENELL
Assistant Superintendent for Business

To: Ken Martin
Laurie Rothhaus
Naomi Halter
Jenna Hardy
Lori Peters

From: Everett V. Olsen, Jr.

Date: February 19, 2024

Subject: Proposed 2024-2025 School District Calendar

In January, I established a committee to develop a school district calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. The committee included members of our Leadership Team and two teachers representing the MTA. The enclosed calendar is constructed with many considerations that are detailed below:

Philosophy Behind Calendar Development

The development of a school district calendar involves a number of issues for consideration, which include:

- Appearance and Readability of Calendar
- Required Number of Instructional (student) Days and Contract Days
- Professional Development Needs (discretionary and mandatory)
- Holidays/Cultural Observances/Vacation Periods
- High School Graduation Date
- Parent Conferences
- Election Days
- Collective Bargaining Agreements
- Kindergarten Registration
- Transition Day
- School Daily Start/End Times
- Parent and Staff Input
- Sensitivity to Cultural/Religious Observances
- Movement Toward Alignment with Calendars of Regional Career Technical Education Centers (State initiative)

Appearance and Readability of Calendar

Beginning in 2022 the calendar committee developed and presented a calendar (2022-2023) that was more appealing and readable than school calendars prior to 2022. For the 2024-2025 calendar (presented tonight), we have continued with the same format. The calendar template once again includes weekend days which help with the readability of the calendar from one week to the next. We have once again utilized different colors to highlight certain events during the school year, and we have included explanatory comments associated with events occurring within each respective month.

Required Number of Instructional Days and Contract Days and Professional Development Time

The 2024-2025 calendar meets the minimum number of school days (180) required by New Hampshire Statute 189:1; New Hampshire Code Administrative Rule 306.18. The calendars also align with both the Merrimack Teachers Association (MTA) and the Merrimack Educational Support Staff Association (MESSA) union contracts. The MTA contract includes calendar-related language which is addressed below:

- Teacher Work Days: One hundred eighty-seven (187) days, between the Monday before Labor Day of one year and June thirtieth (30^{th}) of the next year.

- In-Service Days: A minimum of seven (7) in-service days in the school year, with at least four (4) days reserved for workshops and building meetings, one (1) day for classroom preparation prior to the beginning of school for students, and the equivalent of two (2) days for parent conferences. The 2024-2025 calendar incorporates five (5) early release days into the school year. These days may be used for staff collaboration time, building meetings, discretionary and mandatory staff training. These early release days are strongly supported in both parent and staff surveys.

Holidays/Cultural Observances/Vacation Periods

The calendar committee is maintaining the traditional school vacation week periods in the 2024-2025 calendar. This will allow us to address the state's legislation that, states the school calendars of Career Technical Education Centers (CTE) member districts may not be out of instructional day alignment (with the CTE) by more than 10 days. Additionally, the major holidays (some with local discretion of observance) are noted in yellow on the calendar. Of special note is the inclusion of a "Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances" that will be included with the 2024-2025 calendar. This guide will be sent to all staff in an effort to enhance our organizational level of cultural competency. It is important for staff to understand the observances of students and their families and demonstrate sensitivity in scheduling events, exams, major assignments, etc.

High School Graduation Date

The state statute with respect to high school graduation is as follows:

"The high school graduation date shall be set no more than 5 school days or 30 instructional hours before the end of the scheduled school year without consideration of making up lost time, pursuant to Ed 306.18 (a) (4)." Therefore, the date of graduation for Merrimack High School seniors will be June 14, 2025.

Parent Conference, Election Days and Kindergarten Registration

These events are listed on the "Important Dates" table at the bottom of the calendar. A Presidential Election will be held in November 2024. There will be no school for students on the day of the Presidential Election and again on April 9, 2025, which is the Town elections.

Transition Time

We will, again, have a transition time during the first two hours on the first day of school. Students in grades K, 5, 7, 9 (and new students) will arrive at school at the normal start time on the first day of school. This transition time is intended to reduce the anxiety of students attending a new school with new and/or additional peers. All other students will be on a two hour delay schedule on that day.

Parent and Staff School Calendar Input

A school calendar survey (enclosed) was sent to staff and parents and we have responses from 1,115 parents and 375 staff. The responses are included with this memo. Of note, is the support by both parents and staff for beginning the school year prior to Labor Day, providing a transition time for students in grades K, 5, 7, 9 on the opening day of school, and the inclusion of five early release days throughout the school year.

Calendar Committee Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the calendar committee that we begin the 2024-2025 school year prior to Labor Day. Most families are ready for a return to school in late August of each year and the instructional days in late August/early September are more robust than the school days in the latter part of June.

I wish to thank the members of the calendar committee for their dedication toward developing a school calendar that, I believe, serves our school district and the community very well. My thanks, also, to the parents and staff who took time to complete the calendar survey. I do hope that you will find this school calendar to be informative and helpful to students, staff, and the community. I look forward to discussing this with you at our upcoming meeting.

Merrimack School District
2024-2025 School Year
Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances

Holiday and How it Is Observed	Date(s) Observed
***Rosh Hashanah* – *begins at sundown (Jewish)** **Holiday with significant work restriction** Rosh Hashanah is the start of the Jewish New Year, day of judgment and remembrance; the Jewish calendar celebrates the New Year in the seventh month (Tishrei) as a day of rest and celebration ten days before Yom Kippur. General Practices: Prayer in synagogue in the evening and following day and festive meals. Date Details: Begins at sundown of prior day. Rosh Hashanah is a two-day holiday, but some members of the Jewish faith may only observe the first day.	*October 2-4, 2024
***Yom Kippur* – *begins at sundown (Jewish)** **Holiday with significant work restriction** Yom Kippur is often considered the holiest day of the year for Jews, and the day is dedicated to atonement and abstinence. General Practices: During Yom Kippur, Jews fast from before sundown until after sunset, refrain from work and light a Yahrzeit memorial candle at sundown on the night of Yom Kippur. Date Details: Begins at sundown of prior day.	*October 11-12, 2024
Diwali (Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain) **Holiday with significant work restriction** Diwali – the Hindu "festival of lights" – is an extremely popular holiday for multiple religions throughout Southern Asia. Diwali extends over five days and celebrates the victory of good over evil. The *Times of India* described Diwali as "a reaffirmation of hope, a renewed commitment to friendship and goodwill, and a religiously sanctioned celebration of the simple." Fireworks, oil lamps, and sweets are common, making this a favorite holiday for children. The lamps are lit to help the goddess Lakshmi find her way into people's homes. General Practices: Lighting oil lamps and candles, setting off fireworks, prayer, gifts and feast. Date Details: Diwali usually falls between mid-October and mid-November.	October 31-Nov. 4, 2024

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2024-2025 School Year
Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances

***Hanukkah/Chanukah* – *begins at sundown (Jewish)** Hanukkah is the Jewish festival of lights, and lasts for eight days. Hanukkah commemorates the Jewish struggle for religious freedom. The history of the holiday involves a historic military victory in which a Jewish sect called the Maccabees defeated the Syrian Greeks. The celebration commemorates a miracle in which a sacred temple flame burned for eight days on only one day's worth of oil. General Practices: On each of the eight nights of Hanukkah, Jewish families light an additional candle of the menorah candelabrum until all eight candles are lit. Jews celebrate with food and song, as well as exchanging gifts for eight days. Date Details: Hanukkah begins at sundown on the prior day.	*December 25, 2024 through January 2, 2025
***Christmas* – *begins at sundown (Christian/Roman Catholic and Protestant) Holiday with significant work restriction** Christmas is an annual celebration commemorating the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah whose message and self-sacrifice began the Christian religion. General Practices: Many celebrate Christmas by giving gifts, attending church services, decorating Christmas trees, and visiting family. Date Details: Begins at sundown on December 24 annually and continues with all day celebration on December 25.	*December 25 Annually
Kwanzaa Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration honoring African heritage in African-American culture. Historian and activist Maulana Karenga developed the holiday in the 1960s. It is not a religious holiday, per se, but is a cultural celebration. Kwanzaa has seven core principles: Unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. General Practices: Families celebrating Kwanzaa decorate their households with objects of art, and colorful African cloth known as kente, and many women wear kaftans. Many families display symbols of Kwanzaa that represent the seven core principals including the candle holder (kinara) with seven candles, and the black, red and green flag (pan-African colors). Kwanzaa ceremonies may include drumming, libation, discussion of the principals, candle-lighting rituals and a feast (karamu). Date Details: Kwanzaa is observed every year from Dec. 26 – Jan. 1.	Dec. 26 to Jan. 1 Annually

Merrimack School District
2024-2025 School Year
Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances

Lunar New Year – (Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist) ***Holiday with significant work restriction*** ***(Also known as Chinese New Year)*** The Lunar New Year is the most important of traditional Chinese and other Southeast Asian holidays and is very important in the Buddhist tradition. General Practices: Families gather together to spend the evening preparing boiled dumplings and festive meals and giving out symbolically decorated "good luck" red envelopes with gift money. This custom is centered on children, but red envelopes are also exchanged between friends, relatives and colleagues. Date Details: Corresponds to the New Moon in Aquarius, which can fall from late January to mid-February	January 29, 2025
Ramadan – *begins at sundown (Islamic) Ramadan is the month on the Muslim calendar in which teenage and adult Muslims are obligated to fast. Fasting requires Muslims to refrain from consuming food and drinking liquids during daylight hours. This is a time for self-reflection and to focus on faith through fasting and prayer and is a time of great significance for Muslims. Ramadan is also revered because the Qur'an (Muslim Holy Book) was first revealed during this month, and Muslims see the Qur'an as God's words. General Practices: Daily fasting is required during the entire month of Ramadan. Muslims refrain from food and beverages from sunrise to sunset. Worshipers break the fasting each night with prayer, reading of the Qur'an, and a meal called the "iftar". In addition, many Muslims also attend night prayers at Mosques. Muslims also believe that their good actions bring a greater reward during this month than any other time of the year. It is customary to many Muslims to give charity to the poor, spend more time in prayer and worship, refrain from bad habits. Date Details: Dates are determined by the lunar calendar. Lunar calendars can vary based on region and practice. The observed date marks the beginning of a 29 to 30-day observation.	*February 28 through March 30, 2025

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2024-2025 School Year
Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances

Holy Friday/Good Friday (Eastern Orthodox Christian) Holy Friday is the Friday before Easter. It commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ; among some sects of Christianity and in many countries marks a day of fasting. General Practices: Prayer, fasting, confession, and church services as well as the wrapping or dying of eggs (often red) in preparation for Easter Sunday. Date Details: Orthodox Good Friday is determined by the Julian calendar which regulates ceremonial cycle of the Eastern Orthodox Christian churches.	April 18, 2025
Good Friday/Holy Friday (Christian-Roman Catholic and Protestant) Good Friday is the Friday Before Easter. It commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ; among some sects of Christianity and in many countries Good Friday marks a day of fasting. General Practices: Prayer, fasting, and services throughout the day in some Christian denominations. Date Details: Always falls on the Friday before Easter Sunday.	April 18, 2025
Easter (Christian/Roman Catholic and Protestant) ***Holiday with significant work restriction*** Easter is an annual commemoration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. General Practices: Church services, celebratory meals, family gatherings, distribution of colored eggs, baskets and chocolate bunnies. It is a celebration of renewal. Date Details: Easter Sunday is determined by the Gregorian calendar (Gregorian calendar regulates ceremonial cycle of the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches).	April 20, 2025

Merrimack School District
2024-2025 School Year
Guide to Religious and Cultural Observances

Eid al-Fitr – *begins at sundown (Islamic) Holiday with significant work restriction Eid al-Fitr means "break the fast" and is a major Muslim holiday. It is the last day of Ramadan, marking the end of a month of fasting. General Practices: An important part of the observance is a morning prayer service at the mosque. The celebration often includes exchanging gifts, giving a monetary gift to the children call "Eidi", enjoying feasts and getting together with family and friends. Date Details: Dates are determined by the lunar calendar. Lunar calendars can vary based on region and practice. Eid al Fitr is observed on the day immediately following the month-long observance of Ramadan. It is a three-day celebration in the Muslim world but is only observed on the first day in North America.	*March 29-30, 2025
Pesach/Passover – *begins at sundown (Jewish) Holiday with significant work restriction Pesach is an eight-day observance commemorating the freedom and exodus of the Israelites (Jewish slaves) from Egypt during the reign of the Pharaoh Ramses II (one of three pilgrimage festivals). General Practices: Family gatherings, ritualized meals called Seders on the first two nights on which the Haggadah (a recounting of the escape to freedom) is read, lighting of Yahrzeit memorial candle at sundown on the last night of Passover. Date Details: Begins at sundown of the prior day.	*April 12-20, 2025
Juneteenth Juneteenth, was named a federal holiday on June 17, 2021, after first being recognized as a state holiday in Texas in 1979 and adopted by other states thereafter. This day marks the official end of slavery in the United States of America and is sometimes referred to as this country's "second Independence Day". General Practices: Communities around the country have traditionally celebrated with prayer services, music, barbecues, and other events.	June 19 Annually

Source Documents:

University of Missouri, Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity
Winchester Multicultural Network, Winchester, Massachusetts

MerrimackSchool District - SAU 26
School Calendar 2024-2025

DRAFT 2-15-2024

Students: 2 days, MTA 5 days, MESSA 4 days
Aug 26 - Classroom Set Up - no MESSA
Aug 27 - District Mtgs/PD - All Staff
Aug 28 - Building Mtgs/PD - All Staff
Aug 29 - First Day of School Transition Day*
*Gr.K,5,7,9 Regular Arrival Time
*All other grades: 2hr delay

August 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Students: 19 days
MTA: 20 days
MESSA: 19 days

Sept 2 - No School/Labor Day
Sept 10-Tchr Wrkshp (no paras)-No School

September 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Students: 22 days
MTA: 22 days
MESSA: 22 days

Oct 11 - Early Release
Oct 14 - Columbus/Indigenous people Day

October 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Students: 16 days
MTA: 16 days
MESSA: 16 days
Nov 5 - No School/General Election Day
Nov 11 - No School/Veterans Day Observed
Nov 27-29 - No School/Thanksgiving Break
*conferences

November 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Students: 15 days
MTA: 15 days
MESSA: 15 days
Dec 11 - Early Release
Dec 23 - Jan 1 - No School/Winter Break

December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

KEY	
	Teacher Workshop, No School for Students
	First/Last Day of School for Students
	No School, Observed Holiday/Vacation
	Early Release
	Summer Break/Weekends (no school)

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Students: 21 days
MTA: 21 days
MESSA: 21 days
Jan 1 - No School/New Years' Day
Feb 5 - Early Release
Jan 20 - No School/MLK Jr Day

February 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Students: 15 days
MTA: 15 days
MESSA: 15 days
Feb 5 - Early Release
Feb 24 to 28 - No School/February Break

March 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Students: 20 days
MTA: 21 days
MESSA: 21 days
March 11 - Workshop Day

April 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Students: 18 days
MTA: 18 days
MESSA: 18 days
Apr 8 - No School/Town Elections
Apr 28 - May 2 - No School/Spring Break
*conferences

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Students: 19 days
MTA: 19 days
MESSA: 19 days
May 14 - Early Release
May 26 - No School/Memorial Day

June 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Students: 13 days
MTA: 13 days
MESSA: 13 days
June 14 - Tentative Graduation Date
June 18 - Tentative last day of school-ER

School Start/End Times

School	Start	End	ER Dismissal
Merrimack Middle School	7:30	2:05	11:00
Merrimack High School	7:30	2:15	11:15
Mastricola Elementary	8:30	2:45	12:15
Reeds Ferry Elementary	8:30	2:45	12:15
Thorntons Ferry Elementary	8:30	2:45	12:15
Mastricola Upper Elementary	8:40	2:55	12:25

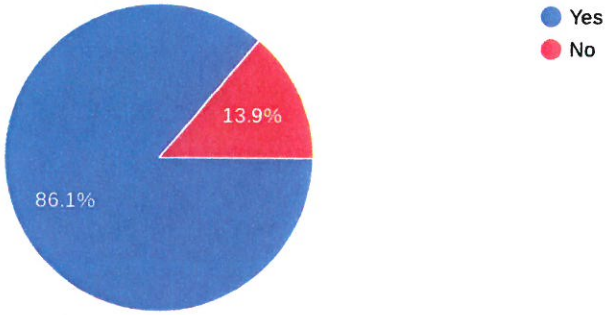
Important Dates*

Event	MES	RFS	TFS	MUES	MMS	MHS
Parent Information Night	9/25	9/25	9/25	9/26	9/14 & 9/15	9/12
Fall Parent Teacher Conferences	11/4 & 11/7	11/4 & 11/7	11/4 & 11/7	10/17 & 10/23	TBD	10/3, 10/8
Kindergarten Registration						N/A
Kindergarten Registration Night	1/22	1/22	1/22			N/A
Spring Parent Teacher Conferences	2/13 & 2/18	2/13 & 2/18	2/13 & 2/18	2/6 & 2/12	TBD	3/6, 3/13
Term/Marking Period End Dates	12/6, 3/21, 6/13	12/6, 3/21, 6/13	12/6, 3/21, 6/13	12/6, 3/21, 6/13	11/1, 1/24, 4/4, 6/18 (last day of school)	
Report Cards	12/20, 4/4, 6/18	12/20, 4/4, 6/18	12/20, 4/4, 6/18	12/20, 4/4, 6/18	11/15, 2/7, 04/18, 6/18 (last day of school)	
Election Dates	State Primary Election September 10, 2024, General Election November 5, 2024, Town Elections April 8, 2025					

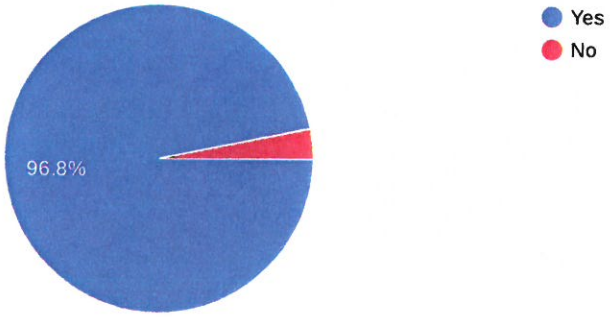
*Dates above are subject to change with notice

2024-25 School Calendar Survey Results (Staff)

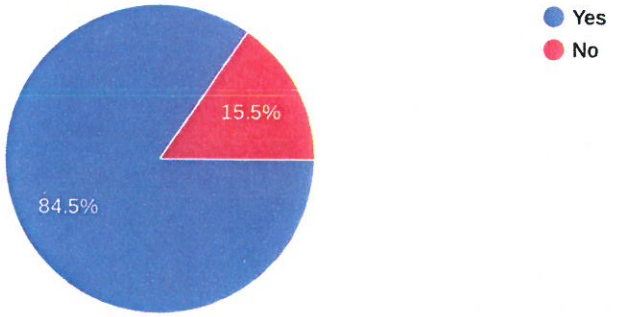
Do you support having NO SCHOOL on Columbus Day (October 14, 2024)?
375 responses



Do you support having NO SCHOOL the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 27, 2024)?
375 responses

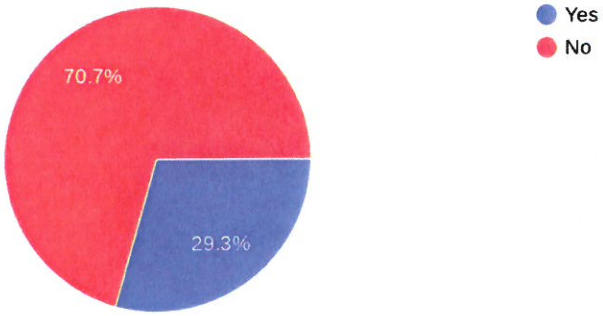


Do you support having NO SCHOOL on Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 20, 2025)?
375 responses



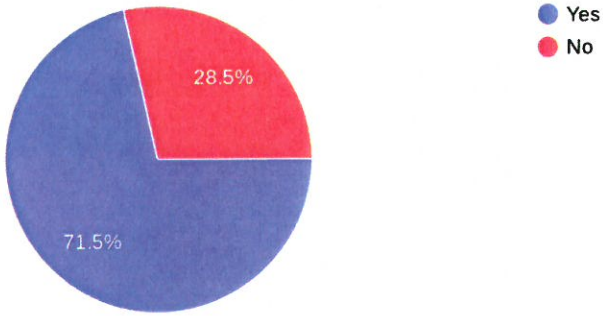
Do you support having NO SCHOOL on Presidents Day (February 17, 2025)? Note that February vacation next year is scheduled to begin the following week (February 24-28, 2025).

375 responses



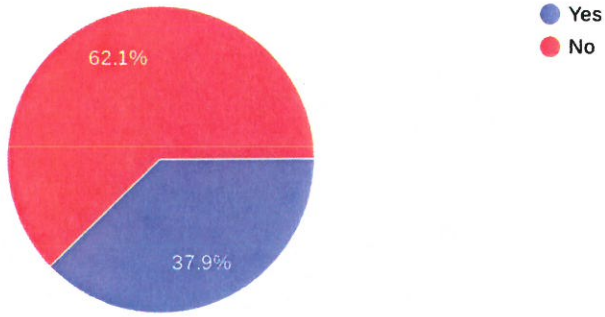
We are planning to begin the 2024-2025 school year prior to Labor Day. Do you support this?

375 responses



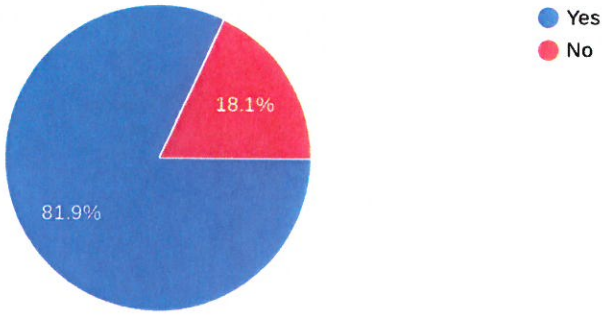
If school is in session on June 19, 2025 (Juneteenth), do you support having no school on this day?

375 responses



Do you support several early release days during the school year for staff training and teacher collaboration?

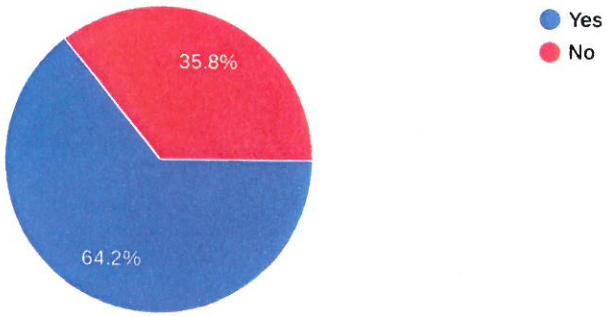
375 responses



2024-25 School Calendar Survey Results (Parent/Guardian)

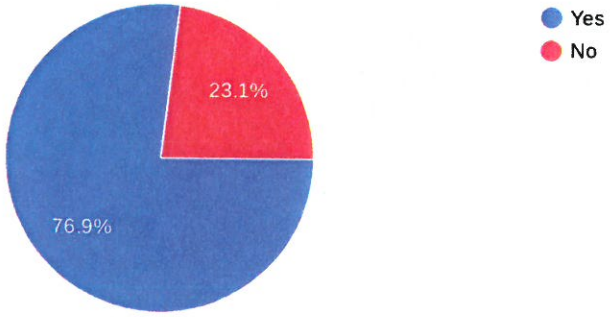
Do you support having NO SCHOOL on Columbus Day (October 14, 2024)?

1,115 responses



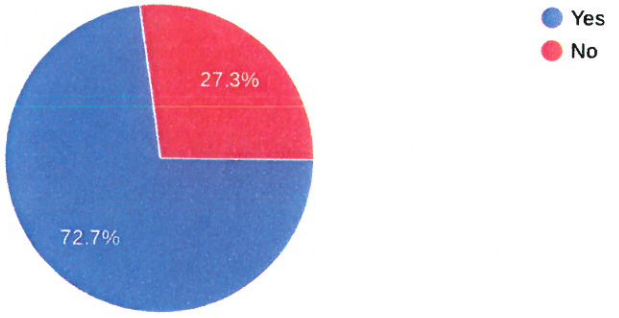
Do you support having NO SCHOOL the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 27, 2024)?

1,115 responses



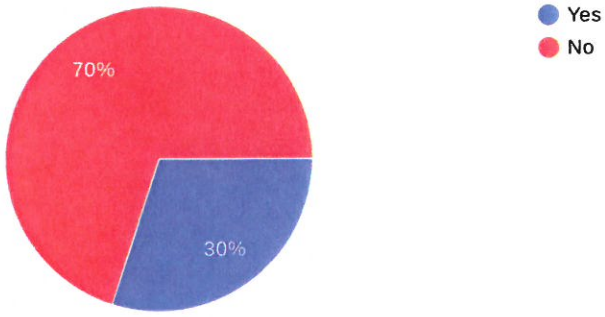
Do you support having NO SCHOOL on Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 20, 2025)?

1,115 responses



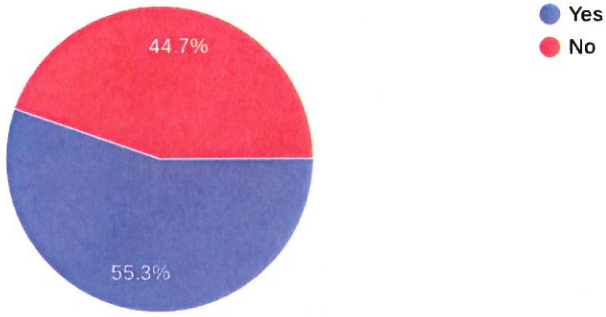
Do you support having NO SCHOOL on Presidents Day (February 17, 2025)? Note that February vacation next year is scheduled to begin the following week (February 24-28, 2025).

1,115 responses



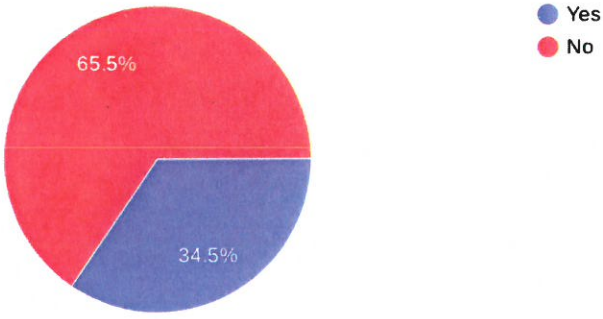
We are planning to begin the 2024-2025 school year prior to Labor Day. Do you support this?

1,115 responses



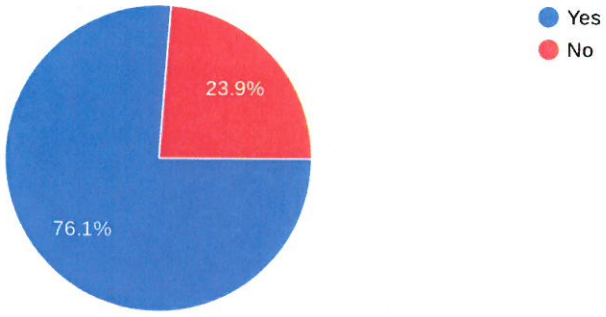
If school is in session on June 19, 2025 (Juneteenth), do you support having no school on this day?

1,115 responses



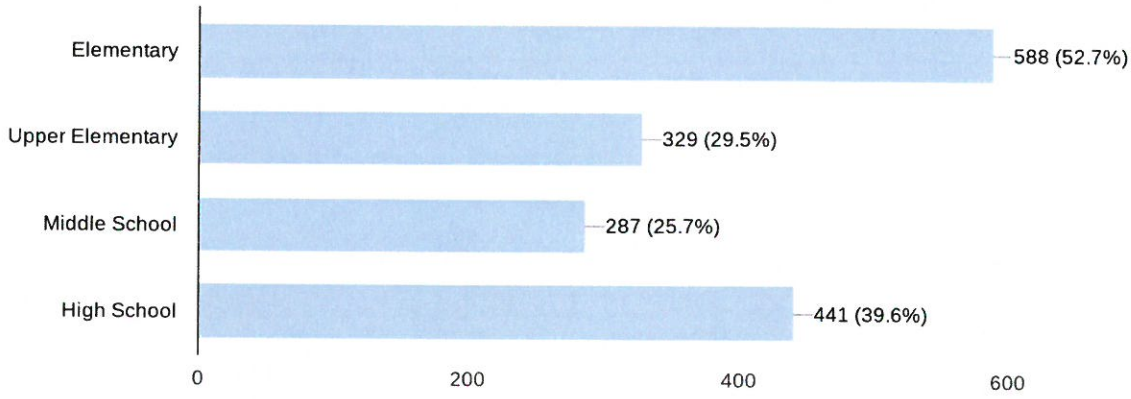
Do you support several early release days during the school year for staff training and teacher collaboration?

1,115 responses



What levels of school are your children attending? (choose all that apply)

1,115 responses



Merrimack School Board Meeting
Merrimack School District, SAU #26
Merrimack Town Hall – Matthew Thornton Room
January 29, 2024

Present: Chair Ken Martin, Vice-Chair Laurie Rothhaus, Board Member Lori Peters, Board Member Jenna Hardy, and Board Member Naomi Halter. Also present were Assistant Superintendent for Business Matt Shevenell, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Amy Doyle.

Not Present: Chief Education Officer Everett Olsen (Excused)

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

3. INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

a. Superintendent Update

There was no update to share.

b. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Update

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Doyle stated that the district's last full professional development day of the school day was held the previous Friday, in which they provided differentiated learning opportunities for the staff. She said there was training from Envisions regarding the updated math program from K – 6, i-Ready training for all teachers in K – 8, and NHLI (New Hampshire Learning Initiative) was on hand to provide some support as the work at the middle school and high school surrounding PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) and competencies continued. She further said that school counselors, SEL (Social Emotional Learning) specialists, homeschool liaisons, and nurses received some training from the Greater Nashua Mental Health and the DOE (Department of Education.) Additionally, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Doyle stated that the Unified Arts Teachers had met to discuss their curriculum in Eduplanet and to have some K – 6 collaboration time; the Title I team had training from "Do the Math," which was a math intervention program that they would be using at the three elementary schools as well as the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School. She said the paraprofessionals received training on proactive training strategies from the 3 2 1 IMPACT program, and they also spent some time with the new Assistant Director for Student Services, Ms. Bridget Pare. She noted that the next professional development day would be held on March 29th, which was a day that would have a two-hour early release.

c. Assistant Superintendent of Business

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell stated that he had applied for a SAFE (Student Awareness of Fire Education) grant, and the Merrimack School District was awarded $300,000, but they had not actually received the money yet, so he had not purchased any locksets or security

cameras. He said the money should be signed off on by the Governor and the Executive Council by the end of February.

d. School Board Update

Chair Martin stated that Student Representative Evidente had stepped down from his position due to time constraints. He said he would contact Mr. Claire, the Principal of Merrimack High School, and let him know there was a vacancy.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Board's Response to the 2024 – 2025 Budget

Chair Martin commented that he felt the two really big items in the proposed budget were the MESSA (Merrimack Educational Support Staff Association) contract and the new SAU building. He shared that he had some concerns with where the budget currently stood and said he would like to find some areas where they could scale the budget back.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell stated that the proposed budget was currently at $94,296,497, which was approximately 3.92% over the previous year's budget. He said the default budget was $91,301,349.

Board Member Peters commented that she felt the leadership team should decide what amendments should be made to the budget.

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to decrease the proposed budget by $1 million from $94,296,497 to $93,296,497 and to allow the administration to decide what items would be deleted. Board Member Hardy seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Board Member Hardy stated that she felt it was very important to pass the MESSA contract and to pass the proposed new SAU building. She added that she felt it was important to improve educational outcomes.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Board Member Halter commented that she agreed that it was most important to provide safe spaces for the district's employees, fair compensation for staff, and a curriculum that improves student outcomes.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus stated that she agreed with her colleagues' comments and the suggested budget cut. She said the Board was listening to the community and did not want to lose the trust that had already been built.

b. High School Football Field Scoreboard

Chair Martin noted that the School Board had said that they would consider supplementing some of the cost if they needed a little push to get it over the line so they could afford their plan for a new scoreboard. He pointed out that there was never a plan to provide the organization with a blank check to pay for the scoreboard.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell stated that he had been in conversations with Mr. Sean Powers, who had attended a School Board meeting and laid out a plan for installing a new, high-tech scoreboard. He said it would take some time to gather the money for it, and in the meantime, the district needed a functional scoreboard. Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell stated if the district could take $45,000 from the $500,000 in retained surplus, they could buy a replacement scoreboard that would be functional, and in the future, they could move that scoreboard to a different location and integrate the higher tech solution.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus commented that she appreciated that it was the best they could do at the time.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Rothhaus moved to approve $45,000, to come from retained surplus, to replace the high school scoreboard. Board Member Hardy seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Board's Vote on the 2024 Warrant Articles:

1. To Elect all Necessary School District Officers for the Ensuing Year. (Vote by Ballot.)

2. Construction and Original Equipping of a new Central Office Building. ($6,900,000)

MOTION: Chair Martin made a motion to accept Article 2, as presented. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Board Member Hardy stated that she would present Warrant Article 2 at the deliberative session. Vice-Chair Rothhaus said she would second it.

3. Shall the Merrimack School Board be Authorized to Accept Gifts, Legacies, and Devises of Personal or Real Property.

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to accept Article 3, as presented. Board Member Halter seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Chair Martin stated that he would present Warrant Article 3 at the deliberative session. Board Member Halter said she would second it.

4. Collective Bargaining Agreement for MESSA (Merrimack Educational Support Staff Association)

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to accept Article 4, with a "to be determined amount," Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Board Member Peters noted that she would present Warrant Article 4 at the deliberative session. Vice-Chair Rothhaus said she would second it.

5. Shall the District, if Article 4 is Defeated, Authorize the School Board to Call a Special Meeting, at its option, to address Article 4 Cost Items Only.

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to accept Article 5, as presented. Chair Martin seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus stated that she would present Warrant Article 5 at the deliberative session. Chair Martin said he would second it.

6. Roof Replacement at the James Mastricola Elementary School and the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School. ($797,000)

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to accept Article 6, as presented. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Board Member Halter stated that she would present Warrant Article 6 at the deliberative session. Board Member Peters said she would second the motion.

7. Shall the District Raise and Appropriate as an Operating Budget. ($93,296,497)

MOTION: Chair Martin made a motion to accept the proposed Operating Budget in the amount of $93,296,497. Board Member Peters seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

The Budget Committee will present Warrant Article 7, pertaining to the Operating Budget, at the deliberative session.

b. Review of 2010 Merrimack Athletic Fields Plan

Chair Martin explained that the information in the board's packet was informational. He said there was currently no intention to perform any work but rather to review what had been done with the athletic fields in the past, what the current needs were, and what could be changed.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. January 2, 2024, Public Minutes

MOTION: Board Member Hardy made a motion to approve the public minutes from the January 2, 2024, meeting. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

b. January 8, 2024, Public and Non-Public Minutes

MOTION: Board Member Halter made a motion to approve the public and non-public minutes from the January 8, 2024, meeting. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

c. January 22, 2024, Public Minutes

MOTION: Board Member Hardy made a motion to approve the public minutes from the January 22, 2024, meeting. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 – 0 – 1. (Abstained – Board Member Peters)

7. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Educator Resignation

- Mr. James Harvell, Science Teacher, Merrimack High School

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, as presented. Board Member Hardy seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

8. OTHER

a. Committee Reports

Vice-Chair Rothhaus commented that the joint Planning and Building Committee and School Board meeting had been held, and she appreciated the feedback from Ad Hoc members. She said she felt it was a really productive meeting.

Board Member Halter said that she had attended many Budget Committee meetings over the past month. She added that in some cases, they actually visited the facility to see it and speak with the administration.

b. Correspondence

Chair Martin stated that he received a few emails and phone calls regarding the scoreboard.

Board Member Peters stated that she, too, had received some correspondence regarding the scoreboard, and she also received correspondence regarding paying off the bond at the middle school.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus said she received a correspondence that she sent back through the chain of command.

c. Comments

There were none.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At approximately 7:10 p.m., Board Member Hardy made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Peters seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Merrimack School District
Bond Hearing Minutes
Merrimack Town Hall – Matthew Thornton Room
February 5, 2024

Present: Chair Ken Martin, Vice-Chair Laurie Rothhaus, Board Member Lori Peters, Board Member Jenna Hardy, and Board Member Naomi Halter. Also present were Assistant Superintendent for Business Matt Shevenell, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Amy Doyle.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. BOND HEARING FOR A PROPOSED $6,900,000 BOND TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION AND ORIGINAL EQUIPPING OF A NEW COMBINED SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE AND STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE.

Chair Martin explained the Student Services Building and the Superintendent's Office were constructed as small three-bedroom ranch houses in 1963. The Superintendent's Office building (green house) was acquired in 1973 and the Student Services Office building (blue house) was acquired in 1979.

Chair Martin highlighted issues with the current buildings:

- Building security is non-existent providing no secure entrance or locked vestibule.
- Confidentiality of conversations is non-existent due to the structure and location of the offices.
- The Human Resource Department is located in the basement and accessed via stairs only.
- The only evacuation route from the basement is via the stairwell.
- The buildings are not ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant.
- Emergency evacuation routes are limited.

Proposed New Building

- Designed to serve District needs for now and into the future.
- Centralized and consolidated offices for Superintendent of Schools, Student Services, Student Wellness, Technology, Business Operations, and Human Resources.
- Greater confidentiality for public and staff calls and meetings within the building.
- Public meeting room for both public and District use.
- Energy efficient construction.
- Secure and sufficient storage.
- ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Accessible.
- Compliant with current building codes offering a solution to proper egress routes in case of threat or emergency evacuation.
- Would have a secure entrance constant with school buildings.

Marinace Architects was chosen from the bids to build the proposed construction of the 11,100 square foot building with a 2,000 square foot basement, if approved. If approved, the new building will be constructed on the site of the former Brentwood School.

Chair Martin explained a 15-year bond schedule will be less than the cost of the middle school bond that was just paid off.

3. Public Comments

David Rutzke, 38 Belmont Street, questioned why the consolidated building is being proposed at this time and why the need for many administrative offices within the building.

Marie Berry, 50 Marty Drive, stated that she supports the idea of building a new building but disagrees with the scope of the project. She compared the proposed building to Nashua School District's SAU office. She questioned why the proposed building will have many individual offices rather than shared working space. She questioned why the proposed building is 2,000 square feet larger with an elevator than the previous proposal in 2010. She understood the need for the conference room. She asked if there had been a decrease in the leadership staff to correspond to the decrease in student enrollment.

Jeanne Wagner, 4 Cowan Road, spoke to the security at the current Superintendent's office. She noted that if the vestibule in the Superintendent's office was closed regularly, it would provide some security.

Chuck Mower, 4 Depot Street, spoke in support of the proposed combined Student Services Building and the Superintendent's Office. He emphasized support for additional meeting space. He stated the reasons to pass this proposed bond and construction project are too numerous to particularize.

Vice Chair Rothhaus thanked everyone who spoke. She noted the proposed project has been a passionate project of the Planning and Building Committee for many years. She noted the current environment is not a good working environment for the administrative team.

Vice Chair Rothhaus recalled one administrative position had been eliminated during her time on the School Board.

Chair Martin spoke to the need for the Leadership Team, consisting of 21 people, to have a place to meet.

Chair Martin stated every conversation pertaining to a student is confidential and we have an obligation to maintain that confidentiality.

Chair Martin explained that storage area was needed for the many file cabinets containing records.

Chair Martin noted legal requirements for administrative staff positions have grown in the last 25 years. He added some administrative staff positions were reduced and others consolidated.

Board Member Hardy stated Merrimack School District is an employer and is responsible to provide a safe and healthy work environment for employees. A large number of employees work in a basement without an egress. She cited a situation where an applicant was not able to enter Mr. Olsen's office in their wheelchair for an employment interview. She emphasized the importance of having ADA compliant, safe and healthy work environments.

Board Member Peters explained commercial leases put the cost of expenses on the tenant and there is the possibility of having to relocate at the end of the lease. The expense of leasing commercial property exceeds what the bond would be over time.

Board Member Peters explained modular units deteriorate over time and would cost more over a 20-year period than a 15-year bond for a new building.

Board Member Peters explained that a 15-year bond would not be new dollars out of taxpayer pockets.

Board Member Peters explained the 2,000 square foot basement is needed to house technology equipment that was not needed ten years ago and for storage for records.

Board Member Halter clarified that the voters decide to support this project or not on election day in April.

Board Member Hardy moved to accept the bond article as presented, seconded by Lori Peters.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

The bond hearing adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Merrimack School Board Meeting
Merrimack School District, SAU #26
Merrimack Town Hall – Matthew Thornton Room
February 5, 2024

Present: Chair Ken Martin, Vice-Chair Laurie Rothhaus, Board Member Lori Peters, Board Member Jenna Hardy, and Board Member Naomi Halter. Also present were Chief Education Officer Everett Olsen, Assistant Superintendent for Business Matt Shevenell, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Amy Doyle.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Martin called the meeting to order at approximately 6:40 p.m.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were none.

3. INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

a. Superintendent Update

Chief Educational Officer Olsen said a Frequently Asked Questions document with factual answers had been prepared regarding the proposed new central office.

Chief Educational Officer Olsen also stated that the district was in the process of preparing the school calendar for the 2024 – 2025 school year.

Chief Educational Officer Olsen shared some district highlights that included:

- Merrimack High School's Granite State Challenge team was competing in their 42nd season.

- Two students were recognized by the New Hampshire Scholastic Art Award, Cameron, and Vanessa, who were among two of the best students recognized in the entire state.

- Sophomores Danielle and Lilly from Merrimack High School would attend the New Hampshire Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference.

- More than one dozen Merrimack High School students who had an interest in law, policing, forensics, and community service had begun their first Merrimack Police Department Teen Academy, which would run for eight weeks. He said he hoped the program would be held again in the future and they would earn an elective credit.

- Mia, a member of the gymnastics team, was featured in a "Hometown Heroes" segment on WMUR and was hoping to qualify for the U.S. National Gymnastics Team.

- Six students will perform in the New Hampshire Music Educators Association Jazz All-State Festival, which will be held at Pinkerton Academy beginning at 3:00 p.m. on the following Saturday.

- Ten students from the Merrimack Middle School had been selected to perform in the chorus and band of the New Hampshire Music Educators Association South Central District Middle School Music Festival in May.

- National School Counselor Week – 2/5/24 through 2/9/24. He thanked all of the school counselors in the district.

b. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Update

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Doyle stated that the New Hampshire statewide assessment window for access testing had opened as of February 1, 2024. She said the alternative access assessment was required for all English language learners and assessed reading, writing, listening, and speaking. She added that the results would be sent directly to students' parents/guardians.

c. Assistant Superintendent of Business

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell stated that he had reports regarding the air quality of the central office and the special services office. He said there were situations where mold was in the basement, especially in the special services offices, but it was remediated at the time, but he noted it was important to keep an eye on it. He recommended that those documents be published and made available to the public. He added that they were still waiting for the Fire Marshall's report.

d. School Board Update

Chair Martin stated that a mediation meeting regarding the ongoing MESSA (Merrimack Educational Support Staff Association) negotiations would be held the following week.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2024 – 2025 Budget Update

Chair Martin stated that the School Board had charged the district with decreasing the proposed budget by $1 million at the last meeting.

Chief Educational Officer Olsen said the proposed reductions were very difficult to make but were as follows:

- Equipment/Repairs/Non-Instructional Equipment – Reduction
- Wit & Wisdom – Use Reserve Funds
- Mentors – Reduction
- Curriculum Instruction Assessment – Reduction

- Professional Development – Reduction
- World Language – Reduce by 1 Full-Time Position
- Merrimack High School Teacher (TBD) – Reduce by 1 Full-Time Position
- Reading Interventionist – Reduce by 1 Full-Time Position
- Gifted & Talented – Reduce by 1 Full-Time Position
- ISS in School Suspension - Reduce by 1 Full-Time Position
- Interim SPED – Move to Grant – Reduce by 1 Full-Time Position

Total Cuts: $1,004,981.29

Board Member Peters agreed to use the reserve funds for Wit & Wisdom and appreciated the administration's work in decreasing the budget.

Board Member Hardy also expressed appreciation for the administration's thoughtful work on the amended budget. She emphasized that French was not being cut at the middle school.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus said the School Board and administration had a goals meeting in August, during which they discussed some of the district's top priorities: the central office building and the MESSA contract. She added she did not support the police details at the upper elementary school and thought they could wait on the purchase of the electronic hall pass for the middle school until they had done further research.

Chair Martin commented that enrollment had decreased over the past few years, and the district had hired several needed positions. He also commented that he felt the police detail line item was quite high and questioned whether or not it was the right time to invest in the electronic hall pass.

Board Member Halter commented that she was not in favor of the electronic hall pass, and as a Board, they could vote not to include it in the budget.

Board Member Halter requested further information as to why the Gifted & Talented teacher at the high school was being removed. Board Member Hardy explained that differentiated instruction had already been built into the schedule. She added students could take AP classes and dual enrollment, and the foundational college prep level was always available.

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to decrease line item 100-2730-18-8591-18 (Police Detail) at the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School from $4,503.00 to $1,000.00. Chair Martin seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus commented that she would like to discuss the necessity of police details with the administration.

MOTION: Chair Martin made a motion to eliminate $2,165.00 from line item 100-1128-28-8610-21 (Electronic Hall Pass). Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Board Member Hardy said she felt the Electronic Hall Pass was a good idea and that it would not impact the bottom line enough to eliminate it.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell commented that the line item was included as a free trial, and they did not have any recommendations yet. He said the money could be left in the budget in the event the program was successful, or they could wait an additional year and have the high school study it as well and bundle it.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

MOTION: Board Member Peters made a motion to accept the proposed budget, as amended. Board Member Halter seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell said the proposed budget had gone from 3.92% to 2.8% over the previous year's budget.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Other

Board Member Halter asked the following questions on behalf of the Budget Committee.

1. It appears that Unified Arts is not being offered uniformly at the elementary level but rather in a pattern that does not necessarily provide all grades with equivalent access. What are the School Board's priorities and perspectives regarding the provision of consistent Unified Arts access at the elementary schools? Does the current staffing request in the draft budget reflect those priorities, and if not, in what way?

School Board's Reply: The School Board's priority regarding Unified Arts access is that it should be equitable across the schools and in accordance with any state standards and requirements. The administration is responsible for planning and implementing Unified Arts schedules.

2. What is the Board's perspective, policy, and practice regarding support for gifted or talented students? Do current funding requests accurately reflect those priorities, and if not, in what way?

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Doyle replied that they had reoriented the eligibility process for the students who qualified as gifted or talented. She said each student received 90 minutes per week with a gifted and talented teacher in grades 3 through 6, and whatever time was left over was used to provide enrichment groups in the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grades.

6. POLICIES

a. Annual Review of Investment (DFA) Policy

MOTION: Board Member Halter made a motion to waive the first reading of the annual review of policy (DFA) Investment. Vice-Chair Rothhaus seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell explained that the purpose of the policy was to ensure that the district did not invest in anything considered to be risky.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

7. OTHER

a. Committee Reports

Board Member Halter stated that she had attended the last Budget Committee meeting, where they discussed department reviews and would have a presentation regarding the budget at their next meeting.

Vice-Chair Rothhaus said she, too, had attended the Budget Committee meeting, where they discussed the average cost per pupil.

b. Correspondence

Board Member Hardy commented that she received correspondence from a constituent regarding the proposed reduction of a French teacher.

Chair Martin commented that he also received correspondence regarding the Foreign Language program.

Board Member Peters stated that she received a lot of correspondence regarding the proposed new central office building and budget questions.

c. Comments

Vice-Chair Rothhaus said she wanted the public to know how much the School Board appreciated and valued the administration.

Chair Martin also thanked the staff for all of their hard work in collaborating with the School Board regarding the budget.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Tim Beaulieu, 3 Wildcat Falls, addressed the Board and stated that he was the founder of New Hampshire Poutinefest. He said he had two children in the Merrimack School District and appreciated the introduction of French that was offered at the James Mastricola Upper Elementary

School. He said he felt it was extremely important to include World Language for a well-rounded education.

Ms. Jeannie Wagner, 4 Cowan Road a resident, addressed the Board and stated that she had noticed that the school she worked in, the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School, had windows that were rusting, and she said she did not feel it was a safe environment for students. She added that the upstairs temperatures rose to the high 80s to low 90s regularly on warm days. She asked why a Superintendent's office for adults trumped the safety, health, and learning environment of students.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell commented that approximately $200,000 was in the maintenance budget to address the rusted windows at JMUES.

Mr. Chuck Mower, 4 Depot Street, addressed the Board and stated that he felt the school district needed to move forward, and that included a number of initiatives that were both contemporary and visionary. He said that he felt staying static was not a good option.

Ms. Evelyn Abelleria, 11 Bowers Landing, addressed the Board and said her main language was Spanish, and her children were bilingual in English and Spanish. She said they were also taking French, and she was very in favor of keeping the French program at the high school.

Ms. Ophelia Alfakey, 442 South Baboosic Lake Road, addressed the Board and said she was not in favor of eliminating the high school's French program.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At approximately 8:12 p.m., Board Member Hardy made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Peters seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 – 0 – 0.

Merrimack School Board Emergency Special Meeting
Merrimack School District
School Administrative Unit #26
February 13, 2024
Merrimack High School – Main Office Conference Room
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

PRESENT: Vice Chair Laurie Rothhaus, Board Member Jenna Hardy, Board Member Naomi Halter, Board Member Lori Peters via phone (from Conway, Arkansas) and Ken Martin via phone (from Hampton, New Hampshire). Also present were Chief Educational Officer Olsen, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Doyle and Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell.

Vice Chair Rothhaus called the public meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

This emergency meeting of the Merrimack School Board was called to review the details and consider ratification of the tentative contract agreement, reached through mediation on February 12, 2024, between the Merrimack School Board and Merrimack Educational Support Staff Association (MESSA).

At 6:32 p.m., Vice Chair Rothhaus moved to enter nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II, (a) (b) (c) (seconded by Board Member Halter) due to the likelihood of adverse effect on the reputation of any person.

The motion passed 5-0-0 with a roll call vote.

Yea: Board Member Halter, Board Member Hardy, Vice Chair Rothhaus,
Board Member Peters, Chair Martin 5
Nay: 0

At 6:50 p.m. the Board reentered public session.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Shevenell read the draft warrant article that will be proposed to the voters at the Deliberative Session on March 4, 2024.

Board Member Halter moved to accept the warrant article as presented and revised (seconded by Board Member Hardy).

The motion passed 5-0-0 with a roll call vote.

Yea: Board Member Halter, Board Member Hardy, Vice Chair Rothhaus,
Board Member Peters, Chair Martin 5
Nay: 0

Board Member Halter moved to accept and ratify the MESSA contract as presented (seconded by Board Member Hardy).

The motion passed 5-0-0 with a roll call vote.

Yea: Board Member Halter, Board Member Hardy, Vice Chair Rothhaus,
Board Member Peters, Chair Martin 5
Nay: 0

At 6:53 p.m. Board Member Hardy moved to adjourn the public meeting (seconded by Board Member Hardy).

The motion passed 5-0-0 with a roll call vote.

Yea: Board Member Halter, Board Member Hardy, Vice Chair Rothhaus,
Board Member Peters, Chair Martin 5
Nay: 0

The public session adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

2-7-2024

Warrant Presentations
for
Deliberative Session on March 4, 2024 (Monday)
March 7, 2023, (Thursday) back-up date

Article	Board Member Responsible to Move and Present the Article	Board Member Responsible to Second the Article
2 Bond for New SAU/SS Building	**Jenna Hardy**	**Laurie Rothhaus**
3 Gifts/Property	**Ken Martin**	**Naomi Halter**
4 MESSA Contract	**Lori Peters**	**Laurie Rothhaus**
5 MESSA Contract Trailer	**Laurie Rothhaus**	**Ken Martin**
6 MES/JMUES Roof	**Naomi Halter**	**Lori Peters**
7 Petitioned Article	**Petitioner**	
8 School District Operating Budget	**To be done by the Budget Committee**	

MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT MONTHLY ENROLLMENTS 2023-2024

February 5, 2024

Enrollment On

February 5, 2023	PRE	K	1	2	3	4	Total	5	6	Total	7	8	Total	9	10	11	12	Total	ODP	HSS	TOTALS
MES	36	55	82	83	67	79	**402**														**402**
RFS	49	118	83	91	74	80	**495**														**495**
TFS	39	93	103	96	97	106	**534**														**534**
MUES								272	234	**506**											**506**
MMS											243	265	**508**								**508**
MHS														261	268	260	292	**1081**			**1081**
PR-12 Total																					**3526**
Student Services ODP**																			21		**21**
Home Study (HSS)																				145	**145**
Total	**124**	**266**	**268**	**270**	**238**	**265**	**1431**	**272**	**234**	**506**	**243**	**265**	**508**	**261**	**268**	**260**	**292**	**1081**	**21**	**145**	**3692**

**Out-of-District Placement

MONTHLY ENROLLMENTS 2023-2024

Month	*PRE	K	1	2	3	4	Total	5	6	Total	7	8	Total	9	10	11	12	Total	ODP	HSS	TOTALS
September 11, 2023	110	267	268	266	237	263	1411	273	237	510	244	269	513	263	274	261	304	1102	20	131	3687
October 1, 2023	110	267	269	267	237	264	1414	272	237	509	242	269	511	262	273	260	300	1095	20	130	3679
October 2, 2023	111	267	269	267	237	264	1415	272	237	509	241	269	510	262	272	260	300	1094	20	132	3680
November 6, 2023	121	267	269	267	237	266	1427	272	236	508	240	268	508	262	271	260	299	1092	20	134	3689
December 4, 2023	124	266	268	267	238	265	1428	272	234	506	240	268	508	262	270	262	299	1093	20	139	3694
January 8, 2024	124	265	268	269	236	265	1427	271	233	504	239	267	506	262	269	261	296	1088	21	141	3687
February 5, 2024	124	266	268	270	238	265	1431	272	234	506	243	265	508	261	268	260	292	1081	21	145	3692

BUS SUSPENSIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

	MHS	MMS	JMUES	MES	RFS	TFS
Fighting						
Vandalism						
Disrespect/Disruption			2	4	3	
Unsafe Behavior						
Other						
TOTAL	**0**	**0**	**2**	**4**	**3**	**0**

Merrimack School Board Special Meeting
Merrimack School District
School Administrative Unit #26
Agenda
March 4, 2024
(March 7, 2024 backup date)
James Mastricola Upper Elementary School – All Purpose Room

PUBLIC SESSION – Immediately After the Deliberative Session, if needed

1. Call to Order – Ken Martin
2. Revote on Warrant Article(s) Immediately After the Deliberative Session – Ken Martin